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5th Sunday in Lent—March 17, 2024

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

Pastor Ben Squires

Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: pastor@bethelgurnee.org

Cindy Daluga, Disciple Care Coordinator

Cindy.daluga@bethelgurnee.org

Ben Sanders, Mission Facilitator

office@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org



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LANCE RASMUSSEN IN MEMORY OF PAT'S BIRTHDAY

THE STOLTZMAN AND BILLINGS FAMILIES IN CELEBRATION OF MARCH BIRTHDAYS



LENT LECTIONARY

This service carries the themes of the traditional readings for Lent Lectionary, as we gather in sorrow over our sin, recognize our need for a Savior, and anticipate His salvation accomplished through the cross and resurrection.

Opening Hymn

O Savior, Precious Savior

LSB 527



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, Whom yet un - seen we love;
2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, Who won - drous - ly hast wrought
3 In Thee all full - ness dwell - eth, All grace and pow'r di - vine;
4 O grant the con - sum - ma - tion Of this our song a - bove



O name of might and fa - vor, All oth - er names a - bove,
Thy - self the rev - e - la - tion Of love be - yond our thought,
The glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is Thine.
In end - less ad - o - ra - tion And ev - er - last - ing love;



We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
Then shall we praise and bless Thee Where per - fect prais - es ring,



We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our ho - ly Lord and King.
We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our gra - cious Lord and King.
We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our glo - rious Lord and King.
And ev - er - more con - fess Thee, Our Sav - ior and our King!

Invocation and Call to Worship

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

Hebrews 12:2

C: **the author and perfecter of our faith,**

P: who for the joy that was set before him

C: **endured the cross, despising the shame,**

P: and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

C: Now is the time of God's favor; now is the day of salvation.

2 Corinthians 6:2b

P: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

Psalms 85:4, 4:6, 37:6, 113:7

C: that the light of Your face may shine on us.

P: May Your justice shine like the sun;

C: and may the poor be lifted up.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

1 Peter 5:6-11, 1:3-5

P: Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God

so that at the proper time he may exalt you.

Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober-minded; be watchful.

Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion,
seeking someone to devour.

Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering
are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

C: We humble ourselves before the Lord.

**We confess that we have sinned against heaven and earth,
against the Lord, His Creation, and one another.**

Please come to us, Lord, and forgive. Amen.

P: We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

1 John 2:1

C: He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

Mark 10:33

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Psalms 32:1

C: He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

P: We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C: He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people. Amen.

Silence for meditation on our need for Christ's forgiveness.

P: At the command of the Lord, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy God the Father provided a ram as a substitute. We give thanks to the Father that on Calvary He did not spare His only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. The God of all grace has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, and He Himself restores, confirms, strengthens, and establishes you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. According to his great mercy, he has caused you to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Your sins are forgiven in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Anthem***Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus*****Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

*Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, And to take him at his word;
Just to rest upon his promise, And to know, "Thus saith the Lord."
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!*

*Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, Just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking Life and rest, and joy and peace.
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!*

*I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, Precious Jesus, Savior, friend;
And I know that thou art with me, Wilt be with me to the end.
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!*

Today's Narrative Lectionary Reading**Mark 13:1–8, 24–37 (VOICE)**

As Jesus left the temple *later that day*, one of the disciples noticed the grandeur of Herod's temple.

Disciple: Teacher, I can't believe the size of these stones! Look at these magnificent buildings!

Jesus: ² Look closely at these magnificent buildings. Someday there won't be one of these great stones left on another. Everything will be thrown down.

³ They took a seat on the Mount of Olives, across the valley from the temple; and Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Jesus to explain His statement to them privately.

Peter, James, John, and Andrew: ⁴ Don't keep us in the dark. When will the temple be destroyed? What sign will let us know that it's about to happen?

Jesus: ⁵ Take care that no one deceives you. ⁶ Many will come claiming to be Mine, saying, "I am the One," and they will fool lots of people. ⁷ You will hear of wars, or that war is coming, but don't lose heart. These things will have to happen, although it won't mean the end yet. ⁸ Tribe will rise up against tribe, nation against nation, and there will be earthquakes in place after place and famines. These are a prelude to "labor pains" that precede the temple's fall.

²⁴⁻²⁵ As Isaiah said in the days after that great suffering,

The sun will refuse to shine, and the moon will hold back its light.

The stars in heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶ Then you will see (*as Daniel predicted*) “the Son of Man coming in the clouds,” clothed in power and majesty. ²⁷ And He will send out His heavenly messengers and gather together to Himself those He has chosen from the four corners of the world, from every direction and every land.

Note on the Reading

(VOICE)

The disciples can't help but notice that something is in the air during this week between His entry into Jerusalem and His crucifixion. Surely the moment when Jesus is to reveal Himself as the Anointed can't be far off. By repeatedly calling Himself the Son of Man, Jesus has told people His kingdom will be divinely instituted like the one described in Daniel 7. They are also thinking of promises about the coming Anointed One. But for Jesus, everything now is connected to His imminent death and resurrection. Even as He predicts the temple's fall—an event that will occur about 40 years later—and speaks of His second coming, He is still thinking about His death. After all, resurrection can't happen without death. And the old world must die before the world is made new.

Jesus: ²⁸ Learn this lesson from the fig tree: When its branch is new and tender and begins to put forth leaves, you know that summer must be near. ²⁹ In the same way, when you see *and hear* the things I've described to you taking place, you'll know the time is drawing near. ³⁰ It's true—this generation will not pass away before all these things have happened. ³¹ Heaven and earth may pass away, but these words of Mine will never pass away.

³² *Take heed:* no one knows the day or hour when the end is coming. The messengers in heaven don't know, nor does the Son. Only the Father knows.

³³ So be alert. Watch for it [and pray,] for you never know when that time might approach.

³⁴ This situation is like a man who went on a journey; when he departed, he left his servants in charge of the house. Each of them had his own job to do; and the man left the porter to stand at the door, watching. ³⁵ So stay awake, because no one knows when the master of the house is coming back. It could be in the evening or at midnight or when the rooster crows or in the morning. ³⁶ *Stay awake;* be alert so that when he suddenly returns, the master won't find you sleeping.

³⁷ The teaching I am giving *the four of you* now is for everyone *who will follow Me:* stay awake, *and keep your eyes open.*

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put upon ourselves the armor of light now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son, Jesus Christ, came to visit us in great humility, so that in the Last Day, when He shall come again in glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Responsory

John 4:23a; 3:16

P: The hour is coming, and is now here,

C: **when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.**

P: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,

C: **that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.**

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.


C: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day

My Lord, What a Morning

LSB 968

Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; My Lord, what a
morn-ing; Oh, my Lord, what a morn-ing, When the
stars be-gin to fall, When the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You'll hear the trum-pet sound, To wake the
2 You'll hear the sin-ner cry, To wake the
3 You'll hear the Chris-tian shout, To wake the

na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right
na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right
na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right



hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.
hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.
hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.

Sermon

Song of Response

Once Again



Je - sus Christ, _ I think up-on Your sac - ri - fice; You be-came noth - ing,



poured out to death. _ Man - y times _ I've won-dered at Your gift of life, and



I'm in that place _ once a-gain. _ I'm in that place _ once a-gain. _



Once a-gain I look up - on the cross where You died. _ I'm hum-bled by Your mer-cy and I'm



bro - ken in - side. _ Once a - gain I thank You,



once a - gain I pour out my life. _



Thank You for the cross.

Thank You for the cross.



Thank You for the cross, my Friend.

Friend.

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory

Create in Me

LSB 192

Sung as our Offerings are brought forward to the Altar

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men."

Prayers

The Lord's Supper: What We Believe

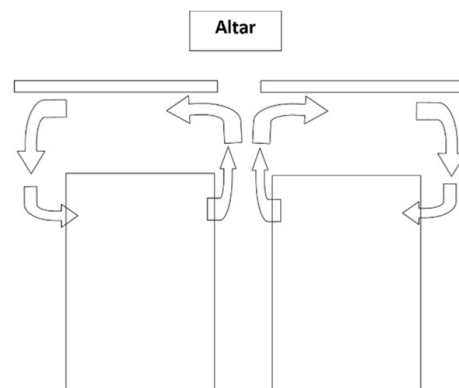
All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



Communion Distribution

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



Preparation for the Lord's Supper

Preface Verses Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed LSB 560 sts. 1,2

1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing
 2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -

gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my
 bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with

life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: ***And also with you.***

(We greet one another in peace saying “God’s peace” or “The Lord be with you.”)

First Distribution Hymn

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

LSB 515



1 Re - joice, re-joyce, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride-groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride-groom is at hand.
In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Acknowledgments

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires.
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Second Distribution Hymn *Christ Be My Leader*

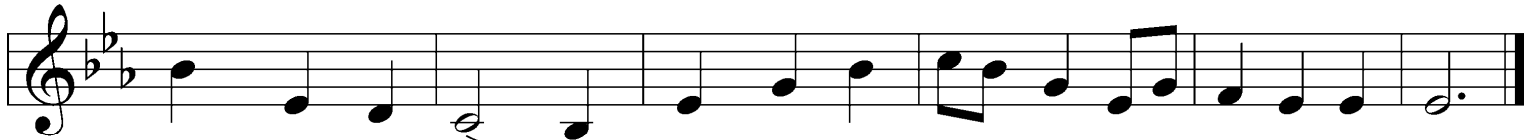
LSB 861



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926 **Tune:** Irish

Common Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and true blood of our Lord....

C: Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, enable us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. You overcame the assaults of the devil and gave Your life as a ransom for many so that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the eternal feast when You come again with Your Kingdom. **C: Amen.**

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

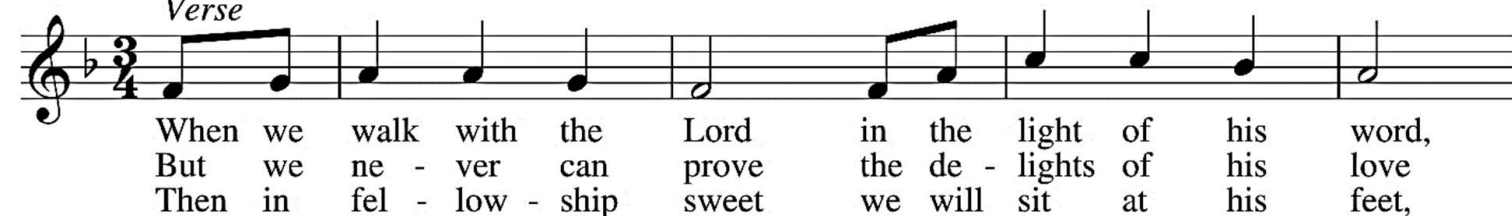
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Trust and Obey

UMH 467

Verse



Refrain



Announcements

Holy Week @ Bethel
Bethel Lutheran Church
5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee www.bethelgurnee.org

March 24 - Palm Sunday - 9AM
March 28 - Maundy Thursday - 6:30PM
March 29 - Good Friday
1 & 6:30PM

**March 31
Easter Sunday
9AM** *with Special Fellowship following*