



Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center



4th Sunday of Lent

March 14th, 2021

Welcome to Bethlehem!

What should you expect when you come for in-person worship on the lawn? Below are a few guidelines. If you are joining us virtually, please feel free to skip this section. Above all, we ask that you come with an open mind and a gracious heart as we live into this new way of worshipping together.

- If you have a fever, cough, breathing problems, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of taste or smell – please enjoy our virtual worship service from your home.
- If you have traveled outside of California, flown on a plane, or been exposed to someone with the above symptoms, please enjoy our virtual worship service from your home for 14 days.
- Masks will be required at all times, except for children 2 years and under.
- Please maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet from people not in your household.
- Bring any supplies you might need to survive a 45 min outdoor worship service!
 - **Chairs or blankets** (limited handicap seating will be available)
 - Water, hats, sunscreen, umbrellas, and hand sanitizer
 - Your own communion elements
- Please print the bulletin at home or bring it on your phone or tablet.
 - A scannable QR code will be available when you arrive if you forget.
- There will be one entrance point near the olive trees and benches. Exits will be located near the MU building and Dot's Garden.
- Ushers will guide you to your seating area. Once you are seated, please refrain from leaving your seating area. Children must remain with their household at all times. Ushers will come and dismiss you when worship has concluded.
- Please refrain from using the bathroom if possible. The bathroom in the MU building will be available for one person to use at a time if necessary.
 - Please enter through the door closest to the parking lot.
 - And exit through the door that opens onto the grass.

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion

Silence is kept for reflection

L: Fountain of living water,

C: Pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love.

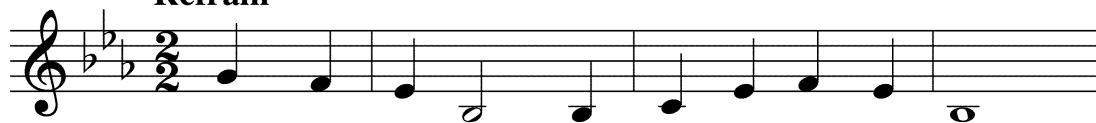
L: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

C: Amen

GATHERING HYMN

Beneath the Tree of Life
(Congregation sings refrain; Cantor sings verses)

Refrain



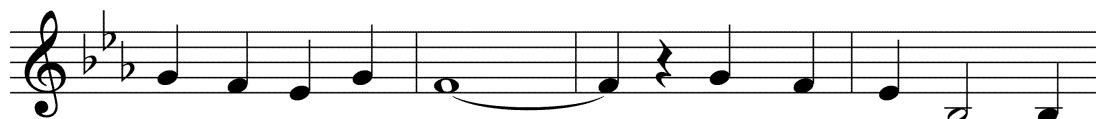
*[Come and gath-er] be - neath the tree of life.
Lay your burdens



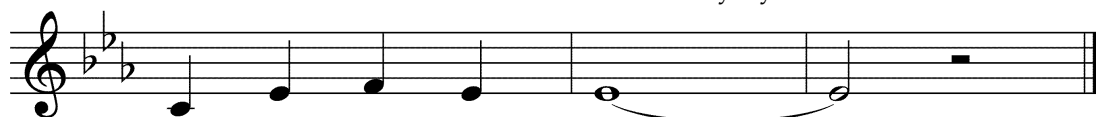
[Come and gath-er] be - neath the tree of
Lay your burdens



life; Root of wis-dom, branch of peace, fruit of



heal-ing and re - lease. [Come and gath-er] be -
Lay your burdens



neath the tree of life.

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

(Leader sings part A, congregation sings part B)



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



B Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all. **A** 1. For the
A 2. For your



reign of God, and for peace through - out the
peo - ple here who have come to give you



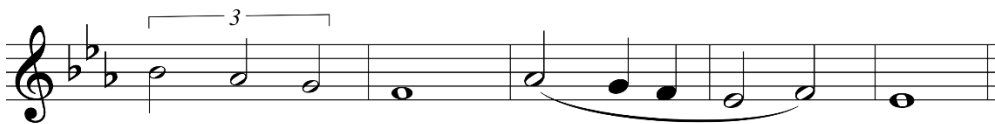
world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the



Lord:
Lord: **B** Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, and de -
Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all.



fend us, O God: **B** A - men.

(Return to Gathering Hymn and sing "lay your burdens")

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

WORD

SHAKESPEARE IN LENT

Richard II, Act 3, Scene 2
Performed by Jamie Newcomb

R: For Wisdom in all its forms ...

C: **Thanks be to God**

SCRIPTURE READING

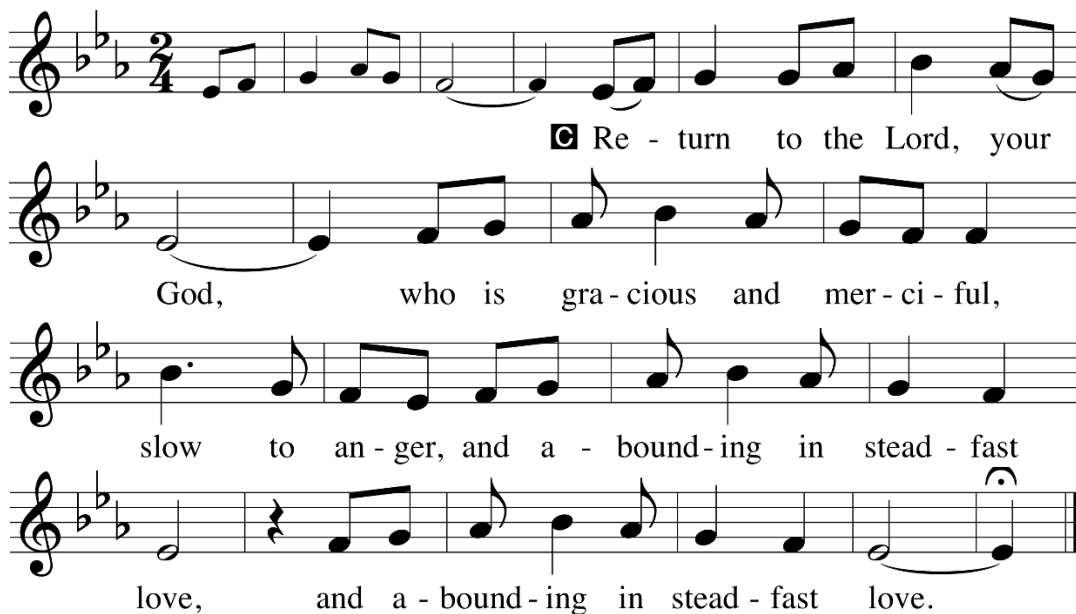
Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your
God, who is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast
love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL READING

John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

R: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Sam Nelson

HYMN OF THE DAY

Gather Us In – ELW 532 vs. 1, 2, & 4



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you!

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

During the offertory response you are invited to prepare your communion elements.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

We are an Offering – ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to You: we are an offering Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our
hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we
give to you, we give to you. We lift our
voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You: we are an
offering. We are an offering.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you,

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts,

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 112

**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.**

If you have prepared communion elements, you are invited to commune during the hymn saying: "The body of Christ, given for you." & "The blood of Christ, shed for you."

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty – ELW 777



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev-ers bur - dened; find re - fresh-ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen-tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*
- 6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

How Great Thou Art – ELW 856 vs. 1, 3, & 4



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God!

For in-person worshippers – during the postlude, please pack up your belongings and wait for the ushers to come and dismiss you. We hope to see you again soon!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

From **Holy Communion, Tree of Life Setting** including: “**Gathering,**” “**Kyrie,**” and “**Return to the Lord**” - Text: Susan Briehl, Tunes: Marty Haugen. Both © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc. “**We Are an Offering**” - Text and Tune: Dwight Liles, b. 1957, © 1996 Lorenz Publishing Company. “**Gather Us In**” - Text and Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. “**How Great Thou Art**” - Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940, tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989, © 1953 Hope Publishing Company; Tune O STORE GUD: Swedish folk tune, adapt. Stuart K. Hine, © 2003 Jubilate Music. For copyrighted selections, all rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net License No. A-706214. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-706214.
Photo Credit: <https://thescripturesays.org/2020/11/07/bible-art-john-3-4-for-god-so-loved-the-world-that-he-gave-his-only-son/>

STAFF

Pastors

Laura Ziehl
Sam Nelson

Family Ministry Director

Constance Mithelman

Early Childhood Center

Debi Carr – Full Day Preschool Director
Kelly Perez – Half Day Preschool Director

Office Administrator

Judy Foland

Music Ministries

Mona Goetsch – Director
Judy Collier – Pianist/Organist

Ministries & Programs

Laure Reynolds – Stephen Ministry
Rose Moldenhauer – Parish Nurse

All Are Welcome!

We live in a diverse world. We are hurting, broken and heavy hearted. We are loving, celebrating, and above all — we are welcoming. Regardless of the color of your skin or the color of your hair, regardless of your gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, or political affiliation — you are welcome here.

If you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker after Christ — you have a place here.

If you own, rent, or have nothing at all — you are welcome here.

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person of differing abilities, if you have regrets, fears, addictions, or afflictions — you have a place here.

All who are wise and all who are confused, all who have found love and all who have lost it, all who celebrate this welcome statement and all who fear it — are welcome here.

For these are all of the things that make you who you are: the person God loves. Come as you are and be celebrated for who you are. The time is now. Your place is here. Bethlehem Lutheran Church is an all-inclusive church.

**The Mission of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is
to announce boldly the love of God through Christ.**



Reconciling in Christ



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

925 Balour Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Center**

Electronic Giving Options

- Give Plus+ App
 - Using your smartphone or tablet, download the “Give Plus+” app from your App Store
 - Search Bethlehem Lutheran Church by name or zip code
 - If you already have an online giving account from the BLC website you can login with that or you can create a new one in the app
- BLC Website
 - Go to BLCENC.org and select the “[Contribute](#)” tab from the top menu
 - Click the “Give Now” button

- With either option you can:
 - Use a checking account, or credit & debit cards
 - Choose to cover the credit card transaction fee
 - Make recurring, or one-time donations
 - Give to general, or various special funds
 - All donations appear on your giving statement

Thank You for Your Support of BLC!