

1st Sunday in Lent

*Indicates that all who are able are invited to stand.
Bold type invites the people to respond.
PH by hymns denotes the large hymnal &
STF is the blue soft sided hymnal

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Lighting the Candles and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship:

ONE: We are the body of Christ, and we depend on God's grace.
ALL: We pray to God in times of distress, knowing that we are freed from sin and preserved from trouble.
ONE: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.
ALL: We will be glad in the Lord and shout for joy!

*Morning Prayer

*Hymn *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me* PH-363

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Installation of Julie Aanes

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful One, we are so easily tempted. We turn away from your word so quickly. We seek anything that claims to save us from discomfort, inconvenience, pain, fear, and emptiness. But these are false idols, dissolving in the wind. You are our true hope and salvation, our hiding place, our guide, our guardian. We confess our transgressions to you: forgive our sins. *(Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and personal confession.)*
...through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice! God does not count our sins against us, but offers us a free gift of righteousness. Thanks be to God!

Words of Peace

Since we have received the peace of Christ, let us share that peace with one another. The peace Christ be with you all!

*Congregational Response *Glory Be to the Father* PH-579

We Listen For God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Speak to us, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Reading ends: A new teaching, with authority!
Thanks be to God!

Responsive Psalm Psalm 32

ONE: Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!
ALL: Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!
ONE: While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.
ALL: For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
ONE: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
ALL: Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
ONE: You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
ALL: "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.
ONE: Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
ALL: Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
ONE: Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

New Testament Lesson Romans 5:12-19

Reading ends: A new teaching, with authority!
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 4:1-11

Reading ends: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes STF-2138

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Response: hear our prayer.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

Thank you for your gifts of financial support of Bethel's ministries which may be placed in the offering plate near the main entrance to the sanctuary either before or following worship. A Cross Reflection will be shared during this time.

*Congregational Response *Doxology*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

*Affirmation of Faith

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21

We Leave to Serve God

*Hymn *Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace*
PH-374 vs 1-4 (alternate tune from PH-335)

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Response *Song of Hope* PH-432
Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's worship leaders: Rev. Lori Kleppe, Gregg Kleppe, Lay Leader; Linda Johansen, Musician

Pastor Kleppe would welcome visiting you in your home or at a coffee shop in town. Her contact information is 563-380-8187 or lori.kleppe@gmail.com

Beverages are available in the kitchen and may be enjoyed during worship. You are invited to help yourself.

Members and friends of Bethel who seek healing and wholeness in their lives are kept in prayer during worship.

Today we are remembering – Cathy Bemiss, Teri Brockway, Don Durscher, Sarah Updegraff Murray, Kirk Bruso, Rose Marie Knight (Julie Larson's mom), Darwin Schrage, Mike Schroyer, and Gary Franzen family upon his death (Bruce's brother)

Stoney Brook - Kate Ewing, Kathy Meyer
Good Samaritan Center - Peggi Pape
Eastern Star Decorah – Doyle Gorden
Maple Crest – Tex Heyer
Copper Creek – Sandy Schnor

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Today, February 22

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship w/Noisy Bucket
Fellowship following

Wednesday, February 25

6:00 p.m. Meal and Lent Bible Study

Thursday, February 26

9:30 a.m. Sewing Circle

Next Sunday, March 1

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship w/the Lord's Supper
Fellowship following

Welcome to Worship at Bethel Presbyterian Church!

-The order of service is found in your bulletin and projected on the screen.

-An * shows the time when the congregation stands. If it is more comfortable to remain seated, please do so.

-Restrooms are found on each level of the church. An usher will help you find your way. Fully accessible restrooms are located in the basement.

-A nursery room is available but we welcome hearing the sound of small children.

-Communion is offered on most first Sundays of the month. All are welcome to receive the elements of the meal. An usher will invite you forward or servers may come to you in the pew.

-We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. If your schedule allows, please join us for a time of fellowship following the service.

Join us as we partner with WU United Methodist Church during **The Season of Lent**. Besides our special worship services, we will share in a weekly Wednesday night Lenten Study. A light meal will be served beginning at 6pm. We look forward to this time of fellowship with our Methodist friends. (Note the host site for each event)

Wednesday Lenten Study

Meal at 6:00 pm (provided by host church)

Study at 6:30 pm (or as close as possible)

Conclude by 7:30 pm

February 25 @ Bethel

March 4 @ WU UMC

March 11 @ Bethel

March 18 @ WU UMC

March 25 @ Bethel

Maundy Thursday worship - April 2nd @ Bethel - 7:00 pm

Good Friday worship - April 3rd @ WU UMC- 7:00 pm

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**Welcome to worship at
Bethel Presbyterian Church,
where everyone is welcome.**

**1st Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026**