

5th 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 children of light,
ALL: rejoicing in everything good and right and true.
ONE: We worship the Lord who heals, liberates, and raises us from the dead.
ALL: In the dream of the beloved community of God, we are awake, and we stand in the light of Christ.

*Morning Prayer

*Hymn
Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service PH-427

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession
God of compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail to see what you are doing in the world.
We want you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you do what is good, not what is expected. Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles. Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions. Most of all, forgive us when we do not respond to your call, ignoring what we need to do to show the world your love and grace. (Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and personal confession.)
...through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness
Jesus restores our souls and leads us in right paths for his name’s sake. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow

us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.

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

Old Testament Lesson 1 Samuel 16:1-13
Reading ends: A new teaching, with authority!
Thanks be to God!

Responsive Psalm Psalm 23
ONE: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
ALL: The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
ONE: You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.
ALL: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
ONE: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
ALL: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

New Testament Lesson Ephesians 5:8-14
Reading ends: A new teaching, with authority!
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson John 9:1-41
Reading ends: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

We Respond to God’s Word

*Hymn I Danced In the Morning PH-302

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
To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.
Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.31.

We Leave to Serve God

*Hymn Jesus Loves Me! PH-304

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Response Song of Hope PH-432

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's worship leaders: Rev. Lori Kleppe; Martha Bartenhagen, Lay Leader; Farrah Fritz, 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 narthex 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 Victor Schmitz (home).

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Today, March 22

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

Fellowship following

Session Meeting

Wednesday, March 25

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

Thursday, March 26

9:30 a.m. Sewing Circle

Next Sunday, March 29

8:30 a.m. Congregational Care Team Breakfast

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

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 **Holy Week**.

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

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

THE CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM
INVITES YOU TO A BREAKFAST
ON PALM SUNDAY, May 29
Serving from 8:30 to 9:45

Please join us and enjoy breakfast.

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BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A People and a Place where God is made Known



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

**5th Sunday in Lent
March 22, 2026**