

## **BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Pastor Nita Parker (507-360-7582)**

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**November 20, 2022**

**Christ the King Sunday**

**Music:** Glenda McGaffee

**Lay Reader:** Tim Plimpton

**Deacon:** Deb Warner

**Lay Reader:** Al Top



### **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who redeems us in Christ Jesus, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have ignored voices that call for your justice. We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness. We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community. We truly repent of things we have done and left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness, follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. **Amen.**

Rejoice and be glad! God hears the prayers of all who cry out, and restores us to life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **OPENING HYMN "BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR" #838**

- 1.) **Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**
- 2.) **Fair are the meadows, far are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring. Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**
- 3.) **Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the spar king stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.**
- 4.) **Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!**

## **GREETING**

**P:** 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 (sung) pg. 203**

- 1.) Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.
- 2.) Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.
- 3.) Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart. Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE (Sung) pg. 204**

- 1.) Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:  
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.
- 2.) Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.
- 3.) Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:  
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

## **Reading from JEREMIAH 23:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So, I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

<sup>5</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

**R:** Word of God, Word of Life      **C:** Thanks be to God

### **Psalm 46 (Responsive reading)**

**R:** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

**R:** though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**C: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

**R:** God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

**C: The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

**R:** The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**C: Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

**R:** behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

**C: "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."**

**R:** The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

### **Reading from COLOSSIANS 1:11-20**

<sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup>for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

**R:** Word of God, Word of Life      **C:** Thanks be to God

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia.* Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David. *Alleluia.* (Mark 11:9)

## **Gospel Reading Luke 23:33-43**

<sup>33</sup>When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>[[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." **P: The Gospel of the Lord C: Praise to you, O Christ**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON by Pastor Laura Aasse**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY "Lift High the Cross" #660**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.**

- 1.) Come, Christian, follow where our captain trod, our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.**

- 2.) All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of him who died.**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.**

- 3.) O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.**

- 4.) So shall our song of triumph ever be; praise to the Crucified for victory!**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.**

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P: Lord, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.**

**P: May the peace of the Lord be with you all. C: And also with you Share the peace with one another.**

## **OFFERING HYMN: "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Blessed are you, Maker of all things. As you have entrusted us with all that you have created, now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament, and send us to those who hunger and thirst, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.**

**P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.**

**P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

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



### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**P:** In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints.

### **PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good, who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope, ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN "Jesus Shall Reign" #434**

- 1.) Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2.) To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head; his name like sweet perfume shall rise with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- 3.) People and realms of ev'ry tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song; and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

4.) **Blessing abound where'er he reigns; the pris-'ners leap to lose their chains, the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.**

5.) **Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world. **C: Thanks be to God**

### **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Sam McGaffee, Justine Heintzman, Larry Parker & Christopher Smook family.

Waiting to be baptized, Addison Marie Sandager & Marley Ruth Steensma

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **END OF THE YEAR**

As we approach the end of the year there are some dates that the council has set, and we need to make you aware of. Christmas Eve is on a Saturday this year, so we will have our Christmas Eve worship at 5pm on Sat. Dec.24th, 2022, and there **will not** be a Sunday morning service on Dec. 25th. We are also asking that any end of the year contributions come in at that time too.

Bethlehem's Annual meeting has been set for Sunday Jan. 15th, 2023. With that date set, we are asking that all the Annual Reports be due to the office by **Friday Jan. 6th**. Thank you for your help and consideration as we are preparing for the Annual Meeting!

### **HELP NEEDED! We have some open positions and we are hoping that you will be able to help us out! These are paid positions!**

- 1.) **TV/TECH.** We are looking for someone to help with the TV/Technology production for our Sunday morning worship service. **Contact Dawn Leenderts, Pr. Nita or Dan Ellingson!**
- 2.) **MUSIC** If you know anyone that is willing and able to help even once a month it would be greatly appreciated! Please speak with **Glenda McGaffee, Pr. Nita or Dan Ellingson!**
- 3.) **YOUTH DIRECTOR** We are searching for a person who is willing to help lead the youth of our congregation as they grow in their faith and in their love of Jesus! There is a printed job description, but we are willing to be in discussion and look at new ideas of how to support the young people of this congregation.

**If you are interested, please speak with Becca Spykerboer, Education president, Dan Ellingson, Congregation President, or Pr. Nita.**

### **SHARE**

This Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, **SHARE** of Rock County will be distributing food, clothing, and toys to Rock County families in need. Please join us by celebrating **Undy Sundays, the month of November**. In aiding us in this act of kindness, we are asking for your help in collecting; new, unopened packages of men, women, and children socks, and undergarments. **Collection Basket in narthex.**

## **YOUTH EVENT**

**Youth Event: Friday, Nov. 25:** Parade of Lights in Sioux Falls (All ages welcome!)

## **ANNUAL HILLS AREA APPRECIATION SUPPER**

Monday, November 28 at the Hills American Legion Hall

The night is hosted by the Helping Build Community Stronger Club (H.B.C.S.)

Tree lighting @6:00 pm. – Supper 5:00-7:00 pm.

Santa Claus will be there @6:00 pm.

## **St. John Lutheran Church, Luverne, MN. Festival of Nativities**

Friday, Dec. 2, starting at 4:00 -7:00 pm.

Saturday, Dec. 3, starting at 9:00-3:00 pm.

O come, let us adore Him! Walk through and view nativities of every size and shape.

Refreshments will be served.

## **DOVES**

Doves will be in the fellowship room until **Sunday, Nov. 27.**

If you would like your dove be sure to pick yours up!

## **KITCHEN CLEAN-UP**

Kitchen Remodel is underway! Check out the kitchen if you are in need of some items that you might have left! The kitchen is being packed up to make room for the remodeling which will begin on Saturday Jan 7th at 8am.

If you are able to help out we need you! The demolition will begin on Sat, January 7th and we need your help!

If you have any questions check with **Al Leenderts, Dianna Buffington, Randy Warner, Peggy Goettsch, Dawn Sandager, Becca Spykerboer, Dan Ellingson or Pr. Nita.**