



*Founded 1860*

***Lutheran  
Church  
Missouri  
Synod***

*Worship  
in the  
Sanctuary*

Wednesday  
March 17<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.

Pastor  
Rev. Mark  
Moldenhauer  
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PastorMark  
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Organist  
Ann Sommer

AV Tech  
Ian Schroeder

Put on the  
full Armor of God  
Ephesians 6:11



*Pre-Service Music*

*Ringing of the Church Bell*



At Bethlehem Lutheran Church we teach and confess that ***Holy Communion*** consists of four different visible elements: the bread, the wine, the body, and the blood. When the Word of God is added to the bread and wine ***it is*** the body and blood of Jesus Christ, 1 Cor. 11: 23-26. There are many different beliefs concerning Holy Communion so on the basis of 1 Cor. 11: 27-29 we request that you speak with the Pastor or one of the Elders before receiving Holy Communion.

OPENING HYMN

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer*

LSB 918



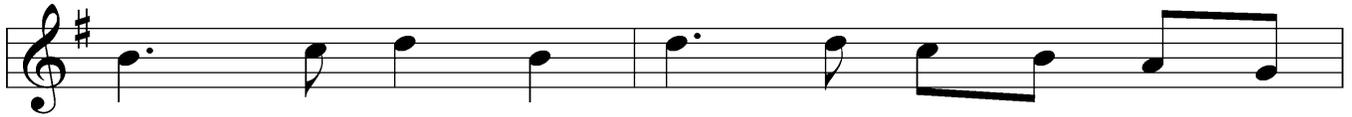
1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;  
stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar  
fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,  
Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,  
Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no  
strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and  
songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more;  
shield;  
Thee;  
Feed me till I  
Be Thou still my  
I will ev - er  
I want no more.  
strength and shield.  
give to Thee.

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## OPENING SENTENCES

**P** O Lord, open my lips,

**C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

**P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C** make haste to help me, O Lord, 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

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Genesis 15:1–6*

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*Ephesians 6:10–17*

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup>and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup>and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -  
 vour us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not  
 fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to  
 self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of  
 o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle  
 of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He  
 hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's  
 we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's  
 child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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## SERMON

*The Shield of Faith – Ephesians 6:10–17*

## 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.

APOSTLES CREED

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

PSALM

*Psalm 3*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, how many are my foes!  
Many are rising against me;  
<sup>2</sup>many are saying of my soul,  
there is no salvation for him in God.  
<sup>3</sup>But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,  
my glory, and the lifter of my head.  
<sup>4</sup>I cried aloud to the LORD,  
and he answered me from his holy hill.  
<sup>5</sup>I lay down and slept;  
I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.  
<sup>6</sup>I will not be afraid of many thousands of people  
who have set themselves against me all around.  
<sup>7</sup>Arise, O LORD!  
Save me, O my God!  
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;  
you break the teeth of the wicked.  
<sup>8</sup>Salvation belongs to the LORD;  
your blessing be on your people!

COLLECTS

**☩ I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.  
Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

### PERSONAL PRAYER

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*LSB 162*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

#### DISTRIBUTION

#### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, since You have called Your Church to witness that in Christ You have reconciled us unto Yourself, grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may proclaim the Good News of Your salvation that all who hear may receive the gift of salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

**C Amen.**

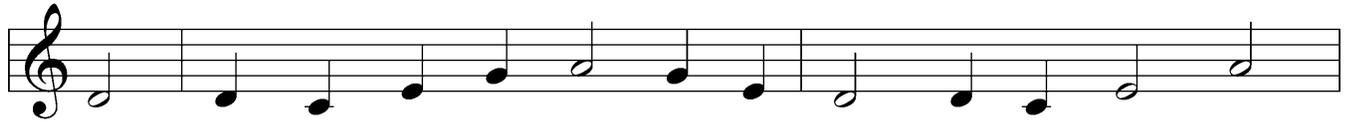
#### BENEDICAMUS AND BLESSING

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

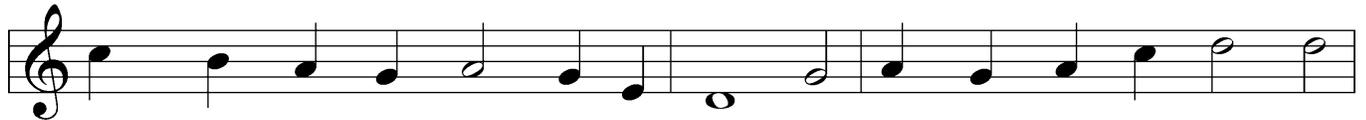
**C Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**C Amen.**



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When I was sink - ing down Be -  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread - ful curse for my  
 neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my  
 is the great I AM, While mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 sing His love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

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POSTLUDE

*Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, where we worship Christ the Crucified. Blessings to you as you celebrate with us today.*

2021 LENT AND HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date		Time	Theme
Feb 17	Ash Wednesday	7:00pm	"Put On"
Feb 24	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	7:00pm	"Belt of Truth"
Mar 3	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	7:00pm	"Breastplate of Righteousness"
Mar 10	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	7:00pm	"Shoes"
<b>Mar 17</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>"Shield of Faith"</b>
Mar 24	6 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	7:00pm	"Helmet of Salvation"
Apr 1	Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	"Sword of the Spirit"
Apr 2	Good Friday	7:00pm	"The Mystery of the Gospel"
Apr 4	Easter	8:30am	"Boldly"
Apr 4	Easter	10:15am	"Boldly"