



A Christ-centered family who serves by sharing God's love and hope with all.

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**Third Sunday of Lent – March 8, 2026 – 9:00 AM**

Prelude: *"Lord of the Dance"* Arranged by Joel Raney

Shaker melody, adapt. Sydney Carter, Performed by Bethany Bells with Piano

Welcome & Announcements

\*Confession & Forgiveness **ELW pg.94**

\*Gathering Hymn: *"Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty"* **ELW #777 vs 1,2,3**

\*Kyrie: *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"* **ELW pg. 138**

\*Prayer of the Day

First Reading Exodus 17:1-7

Psalms (read responsively) Psalm 95

Second Reading Romans 5:1-11

\*Gospel Acclamation: *"Return to the Lord"* **ELW pg. 142**

\*Gospel John 4:5-42

Sermon Pr. Erma Wolf

Hymn of the Day: *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"* **ELW #611**

Nicene Creed

\*Prayers of Intercession Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Offerings Received: *"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"* Jason W. Krug  
Tune: LAND OF REST - American Melody

\*Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving ELW pg. 144, "Holy, Holy, Holy" ELW pg. 144,  
Words of Institution, Lord's Prayer ELW pg. 145, Communion Song -  
"Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world" ELW pg. 146,  
Distribution

Communion Music: *"As the Deer"* Music by Martin Nystrom,

Arranged by James Koerts

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: “Bless Now, O God, the Journey”

ELW #326

Dismissal

Postlude: “Mighty Are Thy Works, O Lord” Gary Davidson

## WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome to worship at Bethany Lutheran Church! It is our hope that you experience the love of Christ and His presence during our worship service this morning. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest book in the narthex. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew.

Large-print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you benefit from either of these, please speak with an usher.

In today’s gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God’s grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God’s mercy and forgiveness. (Sundays and Seasons v.20240130.1140 Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)

Please take this bulletin home with you as a reference for this week’s calendar of events, as a reminder of Bethany family and friends to keep in your prayers, and for other useful information.

*Each worship service comes together through the help of many people. Please consider being a worship volunteer. Find schedules at the Welcome Center and help fill in the blanks. Thank you for volunteering!*

### **Today’s worship leaders are:**

Pr. Erma Wolf & Elina Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist

### **Many thanks to our worship volunteers:**

Greeter: People of Bethany; Reader: Deb Mechler

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Jody Volmer and Jaci Schreier

Usher: Kent Baker; Fellowship Hosts: Bethany Shiefelbein Burns & Family

Count: Francis Hiemstra; Everyone in the Audio/Visual Booth

***Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:***

*Tuesday-5pm, Wednesday-10am*

*or can be found on YouTube® (Search Bethany Lutheran Church, Spencer IA)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FELLOWSHIP** will be after worship in the parlor. This gathering time is a great time to chat over a cup of coffee and sweet treat. All are welcome for fellowship and lively conversation! Hope to see you there!

**MARCH HERALD** is now available. The newsletter was emailed out Wednesday, March 4. If you did not receive this email and would like to, talk with Elizabeth in the office or leave your email address for her. There is a basket of printed copies at the Welcome Center.

**WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES** Our midweek Lenten services & suppers will be held on Wednesdays through March 25<sup>th</sup>. Supper is served beginning at 6:15 pm and the “Joyous Light” service begins at 7:00 pm. We hope you will join us!

**THE WEEKLY ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICE** held on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> will be at Grace United Methodist Church with the meal beginning at 11:30 am and Worship to follow. All are welcome!

**EASTER LILIES** Help beautify the sanctuary on Easter morning with an Easter lily. Consider sharing a lily in honor or remembrance of a loved one and take it home with you afterward. The cost is \$13. Look for a sign-up sheet/order form at the Welcome Center. Thank you!

**MUSIC REHEARSALS DURING LENT** Bethany Bells rehearse at 4:00 pm Wednesday afternoons. The vocal choirs of Bethany Lutheran Church & First Congregational Church will be joining together for a cantata that will be sung on Palm Sunday, March 29. Cantata rehearsals take place on Wednesdays as well at 5:45 at First Congregational Church. Young or old, lend your voice and join us!

**UDMO FOOD PANTRY** Bring food and hygiene items to Bethany – we’ll deliver to UDMO. Not sure what to get/give? Get a shopping list at the Welcome Center.

**ST. LUKE HOMES AND SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING TODAY AT 2:00 P.M.** We are asking more than delegates to come this year, to learn about the upcoming capital campaign for updates and improvements to our campus. This is an exciting “next chapter” for our mission meeting the needs of our elderly friends and loved ones! Plan to join us *TODAY* for information, refreshments and fellowship around our shared mission in Christ!

## PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

### Health Concerns

Kirk Andersen, Cindy Heiter, Lucille Huber, Donna Jones, Carolyn Kruger, Jill Meyer, Sylvia Moore, Liz Vulk, Betty Lee, Bruce Iverson, Lee Youde LuAnn Becker (Bob Becker's sister), Lois Sanchez (Deb Mechler's sister), DeAnna Bensen (Bill Bensen's mother), Loren McIntire (Jaci Schreier's uncle)  
Peace in All Nations

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, March 8 – Third Sunday in Lent

#### **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS**

- 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
- 10:15 am Fellowship
- 10:15 am KIDZ TIME
- 2:00 pm St. Luke Annual Meeting

### Tuesday, March 10

- 4:00 pm Faith in Action

### Wednesday, March 11

- 9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group
- 4:00 pm Bethany Bells Rehearsal
- 5:45 pm Choir at First Congregational
- 5:45 pm Confirmation Class
- 6:15 pm Lenten Fellowship Supper
- 7:00 pm "Joyous Light" Lenten Service

### Thursday, March 12

- 9:00 am Fun & Fellowship

### Saturday, March 14

- 7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study (in person & via ZOOM)

### Sunday, March 15 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
- 10:15 am Fellowship

**NO KIDZ TIME – spring break**



#### **ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE**

If you would like to give online to support the ministries of Bethany Lutheran Church, scan this code for giving page on our website.