



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

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**Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 15, 2026 – 9:00 AM**

Prelude: *"I Will Arise and Go to Jesus"* Faye Lopez,

Tune: RESTORATION, Southern Harmony

Welcome & Announcements

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

\*Gathering Hymn: *"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"* **ELW #553**

\*Prayer of the Day

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalms (read responsively) Psalm 23

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14

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

\*Gospel John 9:1-41

Sermon Pr. Erma Wolf

Hymn of the Day: *"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"* **ELW #334 vs. 1-4**

Baptism

Baptism Hymn: *"Jesus Loves Me"* **ELW #595 vs. 1**

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

Offerings Received: *"O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee"* William Ringham,  
Tune: MARYTON, by H. Percy Smith

\*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: *"Be Thou My Vision"* Brad Nix,

Tune: SLANE, Traditional Irish Melody

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

ELW #803

Dismissal

Postlude: "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" James Mansfield,

Tune: RATISBON

## 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.

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives. (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: Judy Hiemstra

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Jody Volmer and Twila Henning

Usher: Kent Baker; Fellowship Hosts: Dave and Carol Anderson

Count: Sue Boblit; 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 18<sup>th</sup> will be at Foundation 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.

**EASTER EGG HUNT – DONATIONS NEEDED!!** Join us on Sunday, April 5th for Bethany’s Easter Egg Hunt!! This will follow worship at approximately 10:15 am on the south lawn, weather permitting. This is for children age 10 and under. Bring your own basket (we will have some available). If inclement weather, the hunt will be held indoors. Candy donations are being accepted (small pieces of candy that will fit in a plastic Easter egg) and can be put in the container in the Welcome Center.

## 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, Lois Sanchez (Deb Mechler's sister), DeAnna Bensen (Bill Bensen's mother), Loren McIntire (Jaci Schreier's uncle),  
Peace in All Nations

### Prayers of Thanksgiving

Baptism of Brynlee Madison Mitchell

## CALENDAR

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

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:15 am Fellowship

### ***NO KIDZ TIME – spring break***

### Tuesday, March 17

4:00 pm Planning Council Meeting

### Wednesday, March 18

9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group

11:30 am Community Lenten Service and Lunch at Foundation Church

4:00 pm Bethany Bells Rehearsal

5:45 pm Choir at First Congregational

6:15 pm Lenten Fellowship Supper

7:00 pm "Joyous Light" Lenten Service

### Saturday, March 21

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

### Sunday, March 22 – Fifth 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.