

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 1, 2026



Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

PEGGY TERHUNE, S.A.M., MINISTER
Cathy Williams, Organist

355 East Ridge Road Salisbury NC 28144
Phone: 704-636-0331

CHURCH WEBSITE
WIFI Bethel Guest

Bethelsalisbury.org
password **Lutheran**

ENTER TO WORSHIP – LEAVE TO SERVE

“Holy Communion / Setting Ten”

**Congregation Stands*

Congregation responses are in bold

WELCOME

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk

One Church One Child

Donna Beaver

Prelude

“Ah Holy Jesus”

arr. by Young

Call to Worship

Tell me something good!

God loves you more than you could imagine.

Tell me something good!

God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

Tell me something good!

God’s love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.

This is good news indeed!

Let us worship our compassionate God.

Call to Confession

Family of faith,
we long to love others as God loves us,
but that work is easier said than done.
We lose our way.
We become distracted.
We grow fearful.
We need God’s grace.

Fortunately for us, God’s grace is freely and abundantly given.

So join me in the Prayer of Confession.

Join me in being transformed.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
did we see you hungry and give you something to eat?
Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink?
Did we see you alone and offer you compassion?
Or did we cross the street?
Did we avert our eyes?
Did we come up with every excuse in the book?
God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with
the same overwhelming love that you have for them.
But we must admit, we have a long way to go.
Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love.
Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again.
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

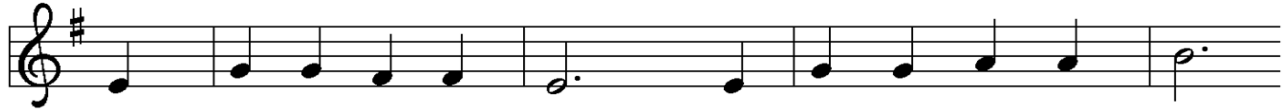
Words of Forgiveness

Faith family,
even when we act with judgment,
even when we are guided by fear,
even when we turn our back on a neighbor in need,
God does not turn God's back on us.
So join me in this good-news declaration:
We are seen.
We are forgiven.
We are invited to try again.
Thanks be to God for this unending love.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

* Kyrie



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

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***Prayer of the Day** O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation is seated.

THE WORD

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4

A reading from the twelfth chapter of Genesis

¹ The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a} So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121 *congregation will read responsively*

¹ I lift up my eyes [|] to the hills; from where is my [|] help to come?

² **My help comes [|] from the LORD, the maker of heav- [|] en and earth.**

³ The LORD will not let your [|] foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you [|] fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keep- [|] er of Israel will neither slum- [|] ber nor sleep;**

⁵ the LORD watches [|] over you; the LORD is your shade at [|] your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike [|] you by day, nor the [|] moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will preserve you [|] from all evil and will [|] keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your [|] coming in,
from this time forth for- [|] evermore.**

Second Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from the fourth chapter of Romans

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

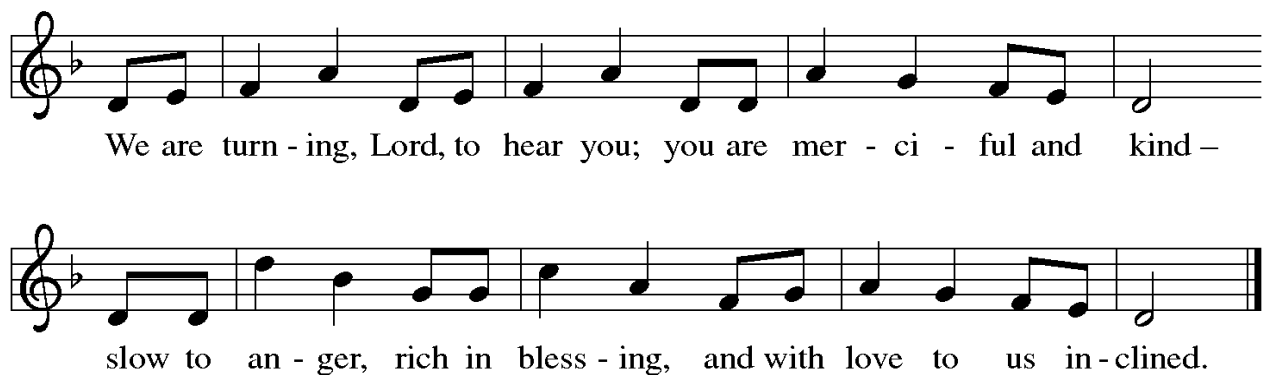
¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



*Holy Gospel

Luke 7:36-50

The holy gospel according to Luke & Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked Jesus^[a] to eat with him, and when he went into the Pharisee's house he reclined to dine. ³⁷ And a woman in the city who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. ³⁸ She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. ³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner." ⁴⁰ Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." ⁴¹ "A certain moneylender had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus^[b] said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴ Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little." ⁴⁸ Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹ But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰ But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Matthew 25: 35-40

³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon
Children's Church

Jerry Trier
Linda Trier

Sermon

Peggy Terhune

*Hymn of the Day

“I Come with My Devotion”

I come with my devotion to love and serve my God
Whose loving cosmos formed me before I ever sought
The glory of the heavens or praise on earth below
So every gift I have now I lay before the throne

I hear my Savior's calling to serve the lost and least
The hungry and imprisoned, the broken ones like me
For in each act of kindness it's Christ for whom we care
All worthy of our love since it's God's face they bear

God made us in God's image each person whom we meet
Extravagantly loving all of humanity
So I'll return the love which has formed me from the start
Loving my creator, myself, and every heart

***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 the People**

Jesus of Nazareth,
your love for this world is so strong.
It's like a jar of perfume broken in a crowded room—
it permeates everything it touches.
God of Good news, **Hear our prayer.**

God, we long to love like that.
We long to love you with the same extravagant abundance
that the woman with the alabaster jar displayed.
However, we often get in our own way.
God of Good news, **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, today we pray:
when it comes to our neighbors,
give us eyes to see as you see.
Give us hands to serve as you serve.
Give us arms to hold.
Give us feet to journey alongside.
Give us hearts of compassion, just like yours.
In particular, today we pray for. . .
God of Good news, **Hear our prayer.**

God, our love does not stop with our neighbor.
We also long to love you.

So when we pass a field of purple, remind us to say thank you.

When we hear the sound of laughter, remind us that there is good in this world.

When music or birdsong moves our soul, remind us that you are always present with us.

In all of these moments, turn our hearts toward you.

May we be the next ones to love boldly, to sing praise, to say thank you.

God of Good news, **Hear our prayer.**

With gratitude for the woman and her alabaster jar,
we pray together using the words your son taught us to pray, saying. . .

***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

The Peace is Shared

The Peace of Christ be with you always **and also with you.**

*Christian Fellowship is one of the most blessed gifts given to us by our God.
Please take a moment to greet those around you and extend to them the peace of Christ.*

The congregation is seated.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Meditation for Lent”

by Bedford



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

***Offering Prayer** O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Invitation to Communion All who desire to receive are invited to communion. Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Feast on God's goodness and mercy. Come to the table; taste and see.

The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.
We lift them to the Lord.
It is right to give our
thanks and praise.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... Proper Preface (concluding)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Words of Institution**

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. **Amen**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

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Communion Music “What Wondrous Love is This” by Gaspard
“For the Bread Which You Have Broken” ELW #494

***Prayer after Communion** God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ’s body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***Blessing** Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ☩ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

***Sending Hymn**

“Blessed Assurance”

Intro by Carlson

ELW #638

***Dismissal**

When you meet anger, speak with love. When you meet fear, speak with hope. When you meet pain, speak with gentleness. But no matter what, speak this good news. For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all. It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms. The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speak. For if you won't, then who will. **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

***Postlude**

*Our worship service has ended.
Our worship thru service begins.*

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The Good News is...

**Great love for God
And
Neighbor!**



HOMEBOUND/HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME

Betty Shuping	Home of Daughter, 336-513-4035
Katrina Kurfees	Home of Daughter
Linda Plummer	Trinity Oaks Health & Rehab., Memory Unit
Peggy Swicegood	Continue prayers
Brenda Dwiggin	Continue prayers
Carolyn Hicks	Continue prayers
Marcia Miller	Continue prayers
Elaine Stiller	Recovering at her home
Eric & Dawn Leach	Continue prayers
Danny Norman	Continue prayers (brother of Ellen Webb)
Robert & Gathel Meachem	Brookdale, Room 34, 2201 Statesville Blvd.
Cody McDowell	Continue prayers
Wayne Chaffin	Recovering at his home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome everyone to Bethel Lutheran Church. We are glad you have joined us for worship and bid a special welcome to guests in our midst. May you find peace, comfort, strength, and hope as our Lord comes to us in his word. Please take a moment to register your attendance by signing your name on the fellowship pad as it is passed in each pew.

Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for TODAY, March 1, 2026. There are open spots available, Signup sheet is available in the narthex on the table. Please share this opportunity with your family, friends, and neighbors. Blood donations are in critical supply!

Thank you all for your continued supplies of food for the Blessing Box. It is amazing how this box is being used in the community. Please continue with your contributions. These may be put in the box (assuming there is room) or bring to the office. The black cart in the narthex is only for RHM food donations, NOT blessing box.

Peggy Terhune, Synodical Approved Minister, (S.A.M.) will be installed on Sunday, March 15 by Wendy Roberts from the NC Synod. A covered dish meal will follow worship in the fellowship hall. Plan to stay and welcome Peggy!

Bethel's 175th Anniversary – We Need Your Ideas! Drop your anonymous suggestion for a **theme** for our 175th anniversary year in the box in the narthex. The anniversary committee is looking for the perfect **phrase, slogan, or short verse** to serve as our anniversary theme. This theme will also appear on a t shirt, so please keep submissions brief, memorable, and faith centered. Then vote for your favorite theme on Sunday, March 22nd and the final theme will be revealed on Palm Sunday.

SAVE THE DATE Saturday, March 14th, 5 p.m. Matthew Weaver with Clay Lunsford in concert, performing traditional Appalachian Mtn. Gospel and old-time country music. Fellowship following the performance; bring a finger food to share. Canned and cupboard foods will be collected at this event and all donations will be given to Rowan Helping Ministries to help their depleting family assistance food pantry.

QR Code for quick access to our website: Bethelsalisbury.org



Be sure to check your mailbox in the narthex!

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Second Sunday in Lent March 1st

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Choir practice

10:30 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion

Temple Talk from Donna Beaver, One Church One Child

MONDAY 6:00 p.m. Minnie Williams Circle mtg.
(Fellowship hall; Linda Trier, hostess)

TUESDAY 6:30 p.m. LMIM dinner mtg. (Carroll's shop)

WEDNESDAY 1:00–2:30p.m. Bible Study in the fellowship hall

7:00–8:30p.m. Bible Study *ZOOM format

THURSDAY 9:30 a.m. JOY Ringers practice

Third Sunday in Lent March 8th

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Choir Practice

10:45 a.m. Worship

Church Council meets following worship

MONDAY 7:00 p.m. Mission & Outreach ZOOM mtg.

WEDNESDAY 1:00–2:30p.m. Bible Study in the fellowship hall

7:00–8:30p.m. Bible Study *ZOOM format

THURSDAY 9:30 a.m. JOY Ringers practice

Attendance/Contribution Information for 2/22/2026

Worship Service 62

	Given Given 2/22/2026	Given Year to Date	Needed Weekly to Attain 2026 Budget
Current	\$2,052.00	\$19,460.00	\$2,630.00
Benevolence	\$75.00	\$1,040.00	\$ 77.00
Building Imp. Improvement	\$45.00	\$640.00	

BETHEL'S MINISTERS

PASTOR:	Peggy Terhune, Synodical Approved Minister
CONTACT INFO	Phone - 704 305-0752 Email - peggy.terhune@gmail.com
MINISTERS:	All Members of Bethel Lutheran Church
ORGANIST:	Cathy Williams
CHOIR DIRECTOR:	Kara Thurston
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR	Martha Graham 704 202-3962
2026 COUNCIL CHAIRMAN	Todd Corriher 704 433-6729
ONE CHURCH/ONE CHILD COORD:	Dave Hincemon and Lora Owen
CHURCH PHONE:	704-636-0331
CHURCH E-MAIL:	parishadmin@bethellutheranofSalisbury.com
CHURCH WEBSITE	Bethelsalisbury.org
WIFI Bethel Guest	Password Lutheran

ASSISTING MINISTERS

LECTOR:	Dave Hibbard
ACOLYTE:	Maddie Shock
CRUCIFER:	Dorian Easling
COMMUNION ASSIST.	Mike and Monica Raney
COUNCIL HOST:	Mike and Monica Raney
ALTAR GUILD:	Jennifer Spry, Jo Simmons, Crystal Shock
USHERS:	Winfred Kluttz, Capt.; Krista Monroe, Monica Raney, Dave Hibbard



