# Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

**February 1, 2024** 

# BETHEL NOTES

## THIS SUNDAY

#### **Readings:**

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

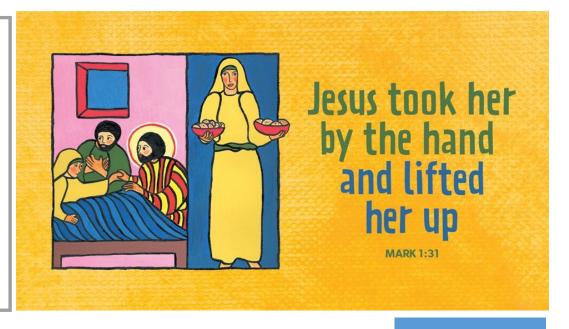
Psalm:

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:29-39



Join us Sunday

9:30 AM

in person or

online at

bethelmt.org

## This Sunday at Bethel...

We celebrate the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.

Thank you to **LOGOs Youth Ministry** for leading worship with Pastor Jessie today.

Accompanist Lay Assistant
Mary Seim, piano Jeremiah Mueller

Ushers Acolyte
Kolton Kupfner Brian Boucher

Jackson Duff

#### Readers

Teagan and Taitlyn Ames, Anna Boucher, Charley Goroski, Ellie and Emmy Kosanda, Greta Graft, Ethan Kupfner, Tesher Reidel, Kendall and Kari Ryan, Sydney and Sierra Rio

Tech Children's Church

Gabe Smith Julia Elkin

Ava Fossen

**Hospitality** Counters

Lynn Ryan Stephanie Cummings

Sara Sexe

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- recovers at home after an auto accident.
- Prayers of healing for Kristin, Bobbie Bowen's daughter, as she continues treatment for cancer.
- Prayers of comfort and healing for Lynn **Klaasen**, sister of Jan Robitaille, they begin in-home hospice care.
- Prayers of healing and strength to continue to fight for Eric Peterson and his family as they seek answers at Mayo for 4 the cancer spreading throughout his body, continue with treatments, and recovering from surgery.
- Prayers of strength and support for **Don** Bisgard as he continues to manage his health.
- → Prayers of strength and healing for Kiera Howard, niece of Dave Scholten, a she prepares for upcoming surgery and treatment.
- ⊕ Prayers of healing for Lindy Coon, sister of former Bethel member Laura (Wandke) Overturf, as she is moving to a long term care facility.
- Prayers of healing for Tim Olson, as he recovers from surgery and begins radiation treatment.
- Prayers of healing for Bonnie Barnes, Debbie McCarty's mother, recovering after a fall.

- Prayers healing of Quentin Kubas as he Prayers of support and comfort for Pat Berkelev.
  - Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he continues regaining his strength.
  - Prayers of healing and answers for An**na Boucher** as they determine a cause and treatment for seizures.
  - Prayers of healing and support for **Diane** Young, Sandy Pepos' aunt, recovering at home after a stroke.
  - Prayers of healing for **Georgia Miller**, cousin of Amber Erickson's, as she has been diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer.
  - Prayers of continued healing for **Travis** Cushman as he continues to manage health issues.
  - Prayers of healing for Kristin, Bobbie Bowen's daughter, as she is manages a cancer diagnosis.
  - Prayers of support for Caleb Pottratz who is struggling with depression.
  - Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
  - Prayers of strength in leadership for Gustavo Driau, Regional Representative of South America.
  - Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.



On behalf of the entire Korpela family a huge thank you to my Bethel family.

To Pastor Jessie for the wonderful Service of Life for John. He would have loved the Skiing theme.

To Tami for putting the music with the video, for putting together the bulletin, for setting up the streaming and overhead slides, for making everything run so smoothly, thank you.

Thank you to our wonderful musicians. To Lynn Ryan for accompanying us. For the men's quartet - Jeff, Steve, Pat and Dave, thank you.

For Gabe for being our technician, thank you.

For our head greeter, Earl, thank you.

For Hope Circle for organizing the reception, and everyone who brought food, helped set up, worked or was on clean up, thank you.

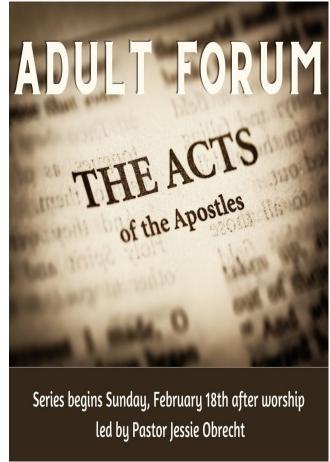
Thank you to everyone who sent memorial gifts to Bethel. The generosity of so many is truly touching.

But most of all to each and everyone of you for walking this journey with me. Not only John's Service but his entire four year battle with his cancer. We could not have done this alone. We felt the love, support, prayers, friendship daily. It truly gave us the hope and courage to continue forward.

I am blessed to call you family. I am blessed to call you friends.

May our journey continue, with the help of our Lord, as we know he truly walks along side us each and every day, through the good, the bad, the happy and the sad times.

God Bless each and everyone of you. And once again a huge Thank You from all of us Korpelas.









A sermon podcast from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Missoula, MT, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We follow the Revised Common Lectionary, a series of selections from scripture for each week in the church year that is used by many Christian churches around the world.

For those not familiar with the genre, a podcast is a audio file made available on the internet for downloading to a computer or mobile device, typically available as a series.

A podcast can have many purposes, but the main one is to entertain its audience.

Podcasts are available on a variety of apps such as Spotify, iTunes, Amazon Music just to name a few. Some podcasters make their episodes available on their website or on YouTube.



Our chaperones are Amy and Randy Gilbertson, Colter McCarty and Pastor Jessie.

Our first fundraiser will be free a will offering Brunch after worship on Sunday, February 25th.

A special thank you to Rebekah French for the Thrivent Action Card to cover the cost of the food.

# GOSPEL MESSAGE

# A Fiercely Tender Love

Think of a lioness; perhaps you've seen one in a nature documentary. Her power is palpable, even through the TV screen. She is strong and fierce, able to expertly take down prey and defend her pride from danger. She is also gentle, grooming her tiny cubs carefully in the afternoon sun. With the same strong jaws she is able both to kill an enemy and to carry her young gingerly by the scruff of their neck.



Jesus' power is something like that: just as mighty as it is tender.

Jesus casts out demons relentlessly. In a single evening, he exorcises an entire city's worth! Jesus' power over the demons is so complete that he doesn't even permit them to speak. What are the demons in your own life, or in your community? What forces seek to dominate or control? What systems cause hurt or destruction? Out of God's great love for us, Jesus grapples with each and every source of pain, oppression, and suffering in the world.

With that same power, Jesus gently lifts Simon's mother-in-law by the hand, and her fever is gone. In a tender bedside moment, she is healed personally, intimately, and completely. This woman, ordinary and unnamed in Mark's gospel except by her relation to her son-in-law, is still not so unimportant as to escape Jesus' notice and care. And neither are we.

Jesus bathes us in the waters of salvation and defends us from danger. He feeds us at the table of mercy and carries us tenderly into abundant life. We are protected, healed, and loved by the One who created the cosmos, who possesses power to destroy any earthly power, yet who "gives power to the faint, and strengthens the power-less" (Isaiah 40:29). Like cubs learning from their mother, we rise and follow so that our lives might show forth that same fiercely tender love.

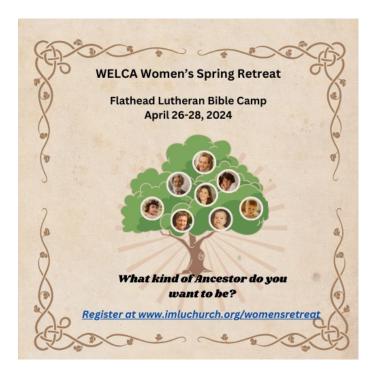
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The 1st Monday Night Quilters will meet Monday, February 5, 2024, 6-8 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran Church, 3125 5th Avenue South. Use the alley entrance. We will continue to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Should be good weather; come and help.



Women's Spring Retreat April 26-28, 2024 For over 50 (or maybe 60?) years, the WELCA women of the Great Divide and Five Valleys Clusters have been hosting a Women's Spring Retreat at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. Each year we look forward to meeting together in this beautiful place with an inspirational speaker, a service project to benefit a non-profit and lots of time for hikes, conversation, worship, and fellowship with women of faith. Join us this year April 26-28, 2024.

Registration will open February 1st at <a href="https://www.imluchurch.org/womensretreat">www.imluchurch.org/womensretreat</a> All are Welcome! Bring a friend, a daughter, a sister! Come spend some time together! Hope to see you there! Questions- contact Nancy Solum at <a href="https://www.imluchurch.org/womensretreat">WomensSpringRetreat@gmail.com</a>





<u>Summer registration is OPEN!</u> – send us an email or call the office if you would like a copy of the brochure sent to you. Adults of former campers can watch their email for a message with reminders of your login information and notes on registering for a new year of camp. Please feel free to contact the camp office with any questions.

Volunteer Application is OPEN! Pastors and volunteers-get your first choice of weeks for summer 2024! Go to our website at www.flbc.net for the application. We are excited for this summer's theme "Created to Be," a curriculum based on the same verses as this summer's ELCA Youth Gathering.

It's all about God's Love! FLBC's <u>Valentine</u>
<u>Tea Party</u> will be held on February 10th.
Come spend the day at camp with crafts,
snacks, and a special princess visitor! Registration is open on the FLBC website now
- Register today!

on March 15-17, 2023 titled, "Guides for the Way: Three Biblical figures and what their stories can teach us about God, life, and everything!" This will be a kick-off for the "campfirmation" program that FLBC is forming, which will launch in September of 2024. Call the camp office for more information or to register.

For more information or register for any of these events, go to flbc.net

# JUST 4 YOUTH

#### Jesus heals

Mark 1:29-39

After a day of teaching in the Jewish meeting place, Jesus went home with Simon and Andrew for dinner. When they arrived, they found Simon's mother-in-law sick in bed with a fever. Jesus went to her, held her hand, and helped her stand. The fever left her and she was well! After dinner, a large crowd of sick people gathered outside Simon and Andrew's house. Jesus healed them.



Draw a large crowd of sick people outside the door of Simon's house.





#### Mark's gospel

Many of the stories heard during this Epiphany season come from the gospel of Mark. Discover more about this book in the statements below. **Use the secret code at the bottom of the page to uncover the clues!** 

Mark is the 
$$\frac{19}{19}$$
  $\frac{5}{5}$   $\frac{3}{3}$   $\frac{15}{15}$   $\frac{14}{14}$   $\frac{4}{4}$  book in the  $\frac{14}{14}$   $\frac{5}{5}$   $\frac{23}{23}$  Testament.

What page does the gospel of Mark start on in your Bible? \_\_\_\_

Secret Code: 1 = A 2 = B 3 = C 4 = D 5 = E 6 = F 7 = G 8 = H 9 = I 10 = J 11 = K 12 = L 13 = M 14 = N 15 = O 16 = P 17 = Q 18 = R 19 = S 20 = T 21 = U 22 = V 23 = W 24 = X 25 = Y 26 = Z

#### Jesus prays—we can pray

The morning after Jesus healed an entire town of sick people, he went away by himself to pray to God. What do you think he prayed about? What do you pray about? When do you pray at home? At church?

Trace your hand in the space below and draw a picture of you praying, or write your own prayer inside of it.



Welcome to worship. It's still the season of Epiphany and we are covered with the light of Jesus!

The words below describe two of the things Jesus does in today's gospel story. Use the letters of the words to make a cross. [Hint: Both words have an A in the middle.]

PRAYS HEALS



# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### THIS WEEK

#### Tuesday 2/6

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- NO Men's Breakfast

#### Wednesday 2/7

- Bible Study on Zoom led Pastor Jessie Obrecht
- LOGOs Youth Ministry 5:30 pm; HS LOGOs 6:30 pm

#### Thursday 2/8

- Executive Board Zoom meeting 6:30 pm
- Electric City Chorale rehearsal in the sanctuary
   7:00 pm

#### Friday 2/9

Bethel office is closed

#### Saturday 2/10

Jubilate Choir retreat 9:00 am

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### Sunday 2/11

- Worship service led by Pastor in person and live stream at 9:30 am
- World Hunger Sunday
- Worship Planning Committee meets after worship

#### Tuesday 2/13

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

#### Wednesday 2/14

- Bible Study on Zoom led Pastor Jessie Obrecht
- NO LOGOs Youth Ministry
- Ash Wednesday Worship service 7:00 pm

#### Thursday 2/15

- Hope Circle at Laurie Turner's home 2:00 pm
- Electric City Chorale rehearsal in the sanctuary
   7:00 pm

#### Friday 2/16

Bethel office is closed.

# Fellowship Ministries

#### **Electric City Bible Study—online**

What a great way to connect with one another! Join our bible study via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Laurie Turner at lolli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting.

#### Men's Breakfast

Join us for a fun and engaging conversation, and insightful discussion of each week's lectionary texts as we meet in the Fellowship Hall Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for more information.

#### **Hope Circle—in person**

This group meets once a month usually on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons. Bible study and fellowship are celebrated with this group of ladies. Contact Terry Korpela to be on the group email for meetings and prayer requests terry.korpela@gmail.com.

February 15th 2:00 pm, Laurie Turner's

# Weekly Text Study with Pastor Jessie

Wednesdays, 10:00 am via Zoom, Pastor Jessie will be leading discussion on the text readings for the upcoming Sunday. Dig deeper in the interpretation of the readings and discuss ways they give us guidance in our daily lives. If you would like to join this meeting, email bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.