
BETHEL NOTES

Passion/Palm Sunday

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist: Lynn Ryan

Lay Assistant: Sue Hesse

Usher(s): Mike and Joyce
Harding

Projectionist: Dina Davis

Counters: Jody Arvanetes and
Jenny Will

Readings

Matthew 21:1-11

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 27:11-54



This Sunday's liturgy begins with a palm procession, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Quickly the tone of the service changes as we meditate upon Jesus' passion and death. Because this story is so central to our faith, we hear Matthew's account of the passion today and John's version on Good Friday. Though Jesus is obedient even unto death on the cross, he is exalted by God. We gather to remember his offering for the life of the world, and to be fed by his life-giving mercy. This holy week will culminate in the celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

Source: Sunday's and Seasons, Augsburg Fortress, 2017 Year A

This Sunday At Bethel.

- We will be receiving Greg, Amber, James and John Pinski,, Duane and Lois Docktor and Dean Amor into membership..

Next Week's Events

- Bible Study Tuesday, April 11, at 6:30am at Electric City Coffee.
- Men's Breakfast will meet Tuesday, April 11, in the Fellowship Hall.
- The next council meeting is on Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Maundy Thursday liturgy will be April 13 at 7pm.
- Good Friday liturgy will be April 14 at 7pm.
- Saturday, April 15, will be our Easter Vigil with Holy Communion and the Feast of Milk and Honey

Upcoming Events

- Easter Sunday worship Sunday, April 16 at 10am in the Gathering Place.
- FLBC Sunday is April 23rd. Margie Fielder will be preaching.
- Hope Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 25 at Laurie Turner's home; 3408 Bison Lane.
- On Sunday, April 30th, we will celebrate 8th grade confirmation during worship.



Family Promise Orientation

Bethel is offering Family Promise Orientation to everyone wanting to work directly with our families in need. Starting at 6: on April 19 in the Fellowship Hall, Executive Director Sharon Odden, will lead orientation. There are several Bethel members that have indicated they will be there. If you are interested, please let Dew Elkin or Tami Grosenick know so that we are sure to have adequate orientation materials. If you haven't let us know and you want to come - please do - we are flexible. Your interest and support of Family Promise is greatly appreciated. You will see we do make a difference in the lives of those in our community that are in need. We are doing God's Work with Our Hands. Thank you.



Mission Freedom

Keep an eye on the Notes and our webpages - more information about the Mission Freedom Campaign will be coming soon! You'll be getting a letter in the mail outlining many of the details, and a member of our committee will probably be giving you a call shortly after you get your letter. After Holy Week we will begin holding some informational meetings here at church. Here are the dates: **Lunch meeting on 4/20, noon Evening meeting 4/27, 7:00 PM After church 4/23, about 10:45 After church 4/30, about 10:45 or so Breakfast meeting 4/26, 7:00 AM**



Prayer Concerns

Bob Veitch (husband of LaRae) in Hospice

Nominating Committee & the Call Process for nominees to the Church Council.

Mission Freedom Task Force – for campaign plans, focus groups & congregational participation.

For the family of Fern (and Dik) Myhre as they grieve the death of Dik. Internment will be at Florence Carlson Cemetery.

For Shirley Cayko's family as they grieve the death of her mother, Jesse.

For Joy Tyler who is in hospice care.

For Dina Davis and the Kuntz family as they grieve the death of Paula, Dina's cousin. Also for the family of Brandon Buerkle as they grieve his death.



Pastor Steve's Message

Palm/Passion Sunday

NEW
ITEM

You've heard and experienced it...that there is a fine or thin line between love and hate. Between joy and sorrow. This Sunday in our liturgical year is called Palm/Passion Sunday. It is one of those thin line moments. The thin line of love and hate...joy and sorrow. As a youngster growing up in the life of the church this Sunday was just called Palm Sunday. I remember all receiving our palm branches and then entering the sanctuary waving them while at the same time walking and singing the processional hymn. It was a trick for Lutherans to be able to manage a hymn book in one hand, palm branch in the other and to walk and sing. But we did it ! We celebrated the joy of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, like our favorite parade. Spring forward 20-30 years. Things have changed. Our parade is different.

Over time and a liturgical renewal within the church, this day became known as Palm/Passion Sunday. What was added to the Palm Sunday service was the reading (full or abbreviated length) of the passion of our Lord. This has caused some to question the reasoning for the change. One of the reasons for the change is articulated in a devotional piece *Between Parades* by renowned writer, poet, and liturgist, Ann Weems, in her book *Kneeling in Jerusalem*. She writes, "It's between parades that we don't do so well. From Sunday to Sunday we forget our hosannas. Between parades the stones will have to shout because we don't." The between the parades of Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday (Holy Week) is the time when the church gathers, proclaims and experiences the rejection, suffering, and death on the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. The time between the parades, Holy Week, has seen a drop in worship attendance. The time when Maunday Thursday, Good Friday and the Great Vigil of Easter are celebrated and the whole passion of our Lord is told and experienced. So, the Passion reading was added to the Palm Sunday liturgy so that we might experience the thin line between shouts of "hosanna!" and the shouts of "crucify him!"

This Sunday at Bethel we will gather to cry out "Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord ! Hosanna in the highest heaven !" We will wave our palm branches and sing with joy all in the span of an hour. We will experience the shouts of "Let him be crucified!" This is the thin line..the tragedy of how fickle we can be. Evidence of tragedy of how life goes each day in the world in which we live. Yes, we are saint and sinner at the same time. This Sunday we will hear of the humiliation our Lord experienced by his taking on our human form. The author of Philippians writes, "he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.." But through that humiliation/death God would have the final word...and that would be the exaltation of the resurrection. Come be a part of the entire Holy Week story, experience again the greatest story ever told ! Please see the events schedule on the preceding page and/or Sunday's bulletin for times.

Pastor Steve

Thrivent Member Network - Northwest Region,
InFaith Community Foundation & Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp
cordially invite you to attend:

Charitable Gift Strategies for Individuals & Families

Benjamin Boline, J.D., **InFaith Community Foundation** Charitable Gift
Planner, will share ways you can maximize support to charities and causes
reflecting your values.

- Learn ways to save taxes, create an income and achieve your charitable goals;
- Create a donor-advised fund to practice family philanthropy and support multiple charities with one gift; and
- Be strategic in your giving for maximum charitable support and tax deductions.

Hosted by your local Thrivent Financial Representative,

EVENT DETAILS:

What: Luncheon

When: Monday, May 8th, from 12-1:30pm

Where: Bethel Fellowship Hall

Refreshments will be served.

Questions?

InFaith Community Foundation is a national charity with a mission to serve donors, spread joy and change lives.

Charitable giving can result in significant tax, legal and financial consequences. Because the Foundation cannot give legal or tax advice, you are strongly encouraged to consult with your personal legal and tax advisors. InFaith Community Foundation is independent of Thrivent Financial and its financial associates.

Thrivent Financial and its representatives and employees cannot provide legal, accounting, or tax advice or services. Work with your Thrivent Financial representative and, as appropriate, your attorney and tax professional for additional information. Insurance products issued or offered by Thrivent Financial, the marketing name for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Appleton, WI. Not all products are available in all states. Securities and investment advisory services are offered through Thrivent Investment Management Inc., 625 Fourth Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55415, a FINRA and SIPC member and a wholly owned subsidiary of Thrivent. Thrivent Financial representatives are registered representatives of Thrivent Investment Management Inc. They are also licensed insurance agents/producers of Thrivent. For additional important information, visit Thrivent.com/disclosures.

No products will be sold or gifts solicited.

inFaithFound.org | p 800-365-4172

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NEW
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Pacific Lutheran University Choir

The Pacific Lutheran University Choir will be performing a free concert on Friday, April 28th at 7:30pm at Holy Family Catholic Parish located at 2800 Central Ave next to Holy Spirit Catholic School. Bethel will host a potluck supper for the choir at 5pm. We are looking for people to volunteer to bring food for the potluck and if you would like to house one of the choir members, please contact Patrick Ryan at (406) 249-7583. All are welcome to attend.

NEW
ITEM

LOGOS End of Year Party

LOGOS wrapped up their 2016-17 year this week with a Carnival Party. Over 90 children (and many friends) ages Kindergarten to High School shared fun and fellowship with pizza, treats, and games. Thank you to the over 40 parents and caring adults who volunteered their time and energy to making the party (and the entire LOGOS) year a success. A special thank you to the fabulous trio of ladies who worked tirelessly in the kitchen to make and serve meals all year: Marsha Martin, Darci Bernardi, and Tami Grosenick. High School LOGOS continues to meet throughout the spring.



Vacation Bible School 2007 "Just Add Water"

We are excited to start working on this year's vacation bible school with the theme *Just Add Water*. The week of June 26th to the 30th will be a fun, uplifting experience for both campers and staff alike. We are looking for some volunteers this year. If you would like to be a host family to 2 or 3 of our counselors that will be coming to teach the camp or if you would like to teach our Kindergarten group, please email Tami Grosenick at tamigf@hotmail.com or call her at 788-9587.

2018 ELCA Youth Gathering: June 27 - July 1, 2018 in Houston, Texas

The next ELCA Youth Gathering will be held in Houston, TX. Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders gather for a week of faith formation. Days are spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. All youth in grades 9-12 for the 2018-2019 school year are invited to attend. Registration opens September 15, 2017. Pastor Steve will be convening an interest meeting this spring for those who may be interested in attending. In the meantime, if you are interested, please let Pastor Steve know. bethelgf.pastor.steve@gmail.com



FLBC Pottery Barn Build

Do you like getting your hands dirty and enjoy the feeling you get after a hard days work? Help Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp and the FLBC Russell Cluster build a pottery barn. There is a need for a few workers for the week of April 17-21 at FLBC. Thank you for your generous support of \$1000 that has already been raised for the project. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Steph Richardson at 406-579-8897 so she can give you a little more information and to let FLBC know how many volunteers to expect.