

BETHEL NOTES

Sunday, March 13

Second Sunday in Lent

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

Readings

First Readings

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm

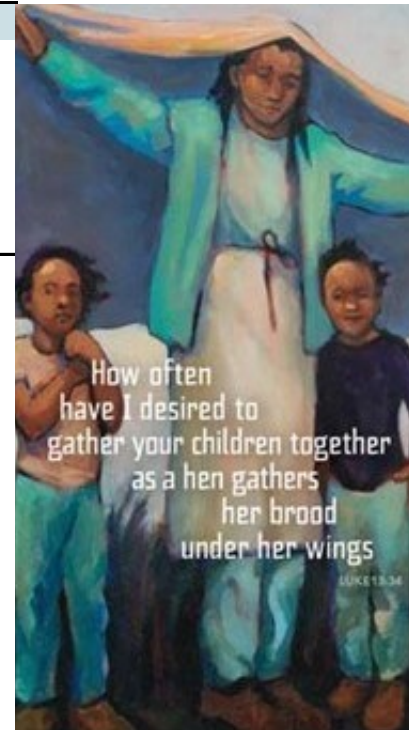
Psalm 27

Second Reading

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Gospel

Luke 13:31-35



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Join us Sundays
9:30 AM in-person or online at bethelmt.org.
Adult Education in the Fellowship Hall After Worship. Walking through the stations of the heart with Pastor Jessie

SERVING THIS SERVICE

Accompanist	Connie Titcomb, piano
Lay Assistant	Judy Statham
Usher	Mary Gernaat
Tech	Adam Elkin
Counters	Tim Lightbourne and Jeanne Rankin
Children's Church	Allison Marr, Abbie Virts and Maya Stringer



OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 AM TO 4:30 PM CLOSED FRIDAY

OFFICE: (406) 761-1543

WEBSITE: www.bethelmt.org

EMAIL: bethelgf.church@gmail.com



Let Us Pray...

- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Mim Mikulecky** as she recovers from knee surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and support for **Karla Wagner**, *Dena Wagner-Fossen's mother*, as she manages health issues.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Abby Bisgard-Clegg**, *daughter of Don and Kathi Bisgard*, as she begins treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Rev. Inge Williams**, *friend of Pastor Jessie*, as she has surgery preceding cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and understanding for **Jeannette Rankin**, *Jeanne's mom*, as she is at home managing health issues.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Eric Peterson** as he ends treatment for cancer and begins immunotherapy.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and healing for **Lisa Leland**, *niece of Sandy Bechard*, as she completed treatment for breast cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Gordon Lord** as he recovers from surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Arlene Sexe** as she undergoes new treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Shirley Cayko**.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Heath Poser**, *nephew of Connie Titcomb*, who has been diagnosed with brain tumors and awaiting treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and strength for **John Korpela** as he continues chemotherapy treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Sharon Bossie** as she manages a health issue.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Cody Buus**, *Cindy Considine's nephew*, who is undergoing medical treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of strength & leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America
- ✝ Prayers of thanks and continued healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and recovery for **LaRae Veitch** as she rehabs after knee surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Tony Marcson**, *brother-in-law of Jessica Crist*, who is undergoing treatment for lung cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Bob Walker**, *brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson*, who is managing kidney disease.



AMEN

UPDATED Covid Guidelines for Worship

- Masks are welcome, but not required.
- Our chairs will resume full rows, please continue to physical distance to your comfort level.
- Coffee Hour on hold
- If you have a fever or are feeling unwell, please take care of yourself and join us online for worship.

A LOOK AHEAD AT HOLY WEEK

The last couple of years our Holy Week has been different to say the least. A combination of meeting and online only worship to keep our congregation healthy.

This year too, will look somewhat different, but good news...some services will be back to “normal”. We will be live streaming all worship services for Holy Week.

- ♦ **Maundy Thursday**, April 14th 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary, this will be a communion service with special presentation by our Youth Ministry and music by the Jubilate Choir.
- ♦ **Good Friday**, April 15th 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary, non-communion service led by the Jubilate Choir.
- ♦ **Easter Vigil**, April 16th 7:00 pm, a communion service followed by the feast of milk and honey after worship as we enjoy an Ice Cream Social.
- ♦ **Easter Sunday**, April 17th will offer two services 9:00 am and 11:00 am, both in the Sanctuary.

Traditionally we have held our Easter Sunday service in the Gathering Place, however we are still working on the technology for live streaming from that location. Our desire to give those joining from home the best production of service we can, led to the decision to remain in the Sanctuary for worship this Easter.

We thank you for your patience and understanding at this change as we take 2022 to work on updating the sound board and integrating the sound system with the live stream for quality production.



Family Promise Announces a New Executive Director

Greg Grosenick started work last week, Feb. 17, as full-time Executive Director of Family Promise of Great Falls as the program revamps its efforts to help homeless children and their parents land on their feet. It's an exciting time for the program that's going through "an entire reboot" with mostly new board members, expanded hours and a new trial residential program for families, Grosenick said. Cari Yturri, who served last year as Family Promise's Executive director as the program restarted after a one-year hiatus, will continue as the Development Director with the organization, drawing on her vast experience in marketing, fund-raising, and grant-writing.

Grosenick, who grew up in Great Falls, retired late last year From the Montana Air National Guard. As a Chief Master Sergeant at the MANG, he worked primarily with airmen and their families. He hopes to parlay the organizational and administrative skills he learned while working with MANG maintenance families to help homeless children and their parents succeed. "I still have a strong desire to serve and mentor others in our community," he said. Greg and his wife Tami are long time members of Bethel Lutheran Church, one of the founding churches of the local Family Promise Program. A few hundred families have passed successfully through the rotational model during the program's first five years, but it was placed on hold when Covid struck in 2020 because of health concerns for volunteers and the homeless families.

Last year, Family Promise started aiding families again at the program's office and day center, known as the "Hub", in the Central Christian Church at 1019 Central Ave. Homeless families were provided referral services and a safe place to stay a few hours, offering children's' activities, snacks, showers, laundry facilities, computers and shuttle services.

In mid-February, Family Promise launched a new static model called Promise Place Shelter, in which up to two homeless families at a time are accepted to live in a rented duplex for up to 90 days. The furnished duplex on the northside serves as a home while parents work jobs, complete training, and find permanent housing. The Promise Place Shelter Support Team is seeking continued support from volunteers and church congregations to supply hot meals to families residing in the duplex at 6 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Family Promise also provides donated Food Bank food that the families can use to make other meals.

Support services will continue to be offered at the Hub in an expanded, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., timeframe, Grosenick said. Family Promise is currently advertising a full-time Family Advocate position that will assist homeless families at the Hub and help them find programs to get their families back on track, he said. In addition, the program is looking for volunteers to undergo training to serve at the Hub, providing daily help for homeless families there, including shuttle driving.

For additional information, contact Family Promise at 406-564-5267 or send an email to Greg at gregg@familypromisegf.org.

Family Advocate Position Open with Family Promise

Manage the day-to-day operation of the Day Center. To assist the Case Managers with intake screening, comprehensive case management, social service navigation and referrals. To recruit and schedule volunteers to assist at the Day Center and shelters. To assist the Executive Director with program development and implementation.

Approximately 32 hours per week. Wage based on experience.

Lenten Soup Supper Schedule!

Mid-Week Lenten Soup Suppers (6:15pm) & Worship (7:00pm)

Holden Evening Prayer will begin next Thursday evening, March 10th and will be held in the Gathering Place and Sanctuary. All are welcome.



2022 Mid - Week Lenten Schedule

March 10 - Guest Speaker: Rev. Jessica Crist

March 17 – Guest Speaker: Shirley Cayko

March 24 – Guest Speaker: Rev. Steve Nelson

March 31 – Guest Speaker: Dave Scholten

April 7 – Pastor Jessie

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE EASTERN EUROPE CRISIS RESPONSE

MARCH 2022

[ELCA.org/disaster](https://elca.org/disaster)

On Feb. 24, Russian forces invaded Ukraine, launching land, sea and air attacks. Airports are now shut, and few railway lines are operational. Civilians fleeing the violence are heading toward Ukraine's western districts and such neighboring countries as Poland, Moldova, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary. Hundreds of thousands of people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter, basic necessities and pastoral care.

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits.

Your gifts designated for “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region.



Calling All Bell Ringers!

If you would like to join the Bell Choir and play for worship now is the time to join! Practice is Saturday, March 19th from 10:00 am to Noon and we will play for the 9:30 am worship on the 20th. If you are interested, contact Bell Choir Director, Sharon Mueller at oboeclar@gmail.com



Peer Ministry Leadership Training with Lyle Griner
April 1-2, 2022 \$100/person (Fri - Sat.) / \$85 for Saturday only

Join us April 1-2, 2022. Peer ministry is about the practical life skill that empowers us to become Good Samaritan leaders who care for every neighbor, every day, everywhere in every relationship. This retreat is for adults and youth (Jr high & up).

Easter Sunrise Service
 April 17th, 2022 - at the lake, 6AM at FLBC

Adult Education/ Spirituality Retreat with Dr. Andrew Root

May 1-3, 2022 \$225/person Monday only: \$175

Join us for this special retreat with the professor of youth and family ministry at Luther Seminary. Expect insightful sessions such as "Living after a pandemic...why are we exhausted?" and time for fun and relaxation at camp, too - quiet time, reading time, worship, hikes, pottery, and great food. This retreat is for all adults. Pastors, LPA's, Lay people, youth workers.

Memorial Day Work Retreat

May 27-30, 2022 FREE (registration required!)

Thank You

Dear Bethel Congregation,

In gratitude we would like to thank all the people of Bethel for your love and support during Bob's illness and the celebration of his life. We are especially appreciative of Tami Grosenick and all those who participated in the celebration of life service, as well as those who arranged and served the luncheon creating a time of fellowship with those who mean so much to us. The expressions of support and your willingness to walk with us in a difficult time are a great blessing to all of us.

**In Christ's love,
 The Vander Aarde and Scholten families**

Just for Youth

Hear & Celebrate

God's promise to Abraham and Sarah

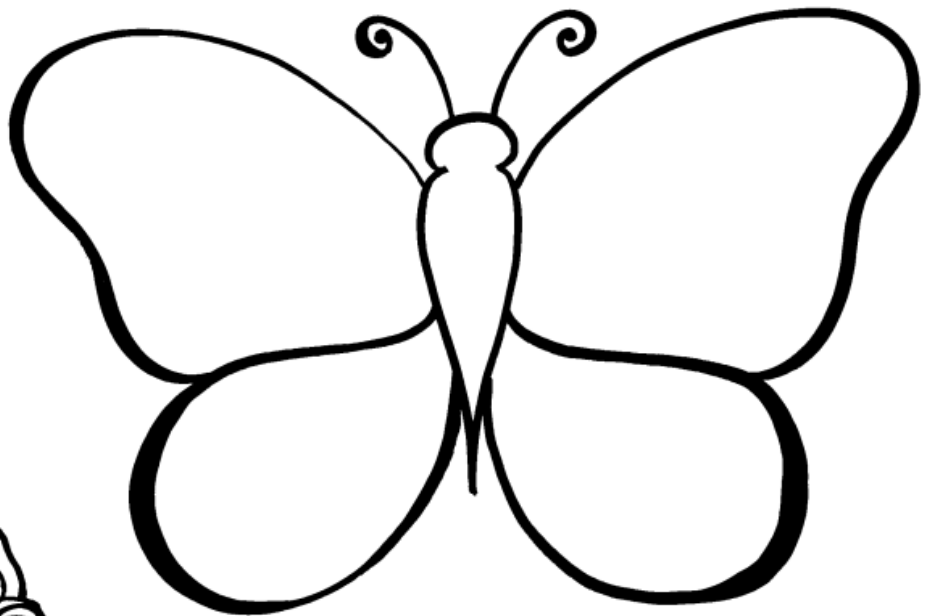
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Abraham and Sarah had no children. One night God spoke to Abraham, saying, "Look at the sky and try to count the stars. You will have more children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren than the stars." Abraham trusted in God's promise. God kept the promise. Later, Sarah and Abraham had a son of their own.

Write down the word inside each star in order in the blanks. Then read the message.



Signs of God's promises

We can trust God's promises. God has promised to love us always. One way we feel God's love is through creation. New life at springtime reminds us of God's promises.



Butterflies are a sign of spring.
Decorate this butterfly's wings.

If you have someone who may be interested in attending Logos, we always have room. Call the Office for more information 406-761-1543 or go to bethelmt.org/youth ministries.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 3/15

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

Wednesday 3/16

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos 5:30; High School 6:30

Thursday 3/17

- Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- Lenten Soup Supper in the Gathering Place 6:15 pm
- Holden Evening Prayer Service in the Sanctuary 7:00 pm

Friday 3/18

- Bethel office is closed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 3/20

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie, in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- Adult Education in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

Tuesday 3/22

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

Wednesday 3/23

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos 5:30; High School 6:30

Thursday 3/24

- Lenten Soup Supper in the Gathering Place 6:15 pm
- Holden Evening Prayer Service in the Sanctuary 7:00 pm

Friday 3/25

- Bethel office is closed.

Online Ministries

Electric City Bible Study

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 loli51gus@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 both in person and via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for a link to join the meeting or for more information.

Hope Circle

This group meets once a month usually on Thursday evenings. Bible study and fellowship are celebrated with this group of ladies. Contact Laurie Turner at loli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting and Terry Korpela to be on the group email for meetings and prayer requests terry.korpela@gmail.com.

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.

Pastor Jessie Obrecht

Contact information

Email: bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com

Phone: 406-761-1543 ext. 202