

## MIDWEEK LENT 6

Wednesday, April 9, 2025



# Bethlehem

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Gathering – Welcoming – Serving – Restoring*

### WHO WE ARE

*As forgiven children of God, Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
shows Christ's love through acts of service  
so that we can share the hope of the Gospel with others.*

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*We are so glad you're here! Bethlehem is a caring community of believers committed to being a birthplace of hope in southeast Fort Wayne. We are a congregation of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, where Christ's sacrificial love shapes who we are and how we serve.*

*Our worship centers on God's gifts to us in His Word and Sacraments. Here, Jesus meets us through His promises of forgiveness, life, and salvation, and we respond with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. Whether this is your first time worshiping with us or your spiritual home, you are part of our family today.*

*Thank you for joining us as we rest in God's grace and grow in His love. May you be refreshed by the beauty of Christ's sacrifice and sent out to reflect His light in the world!*

### **BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3705 South Anthony Boulevard  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46806-4329

[www.bethlehemlcms.org](http://www.bethlehemlcms.org)

Church Office, (260) 744-3228      Fax Number, (260) 744-3229

Office Hours: 10:00am – 4:00pm (Monday – Friday)

#### ***Our Worship Schedule:***

*Saturday Afternoon Worship Service at 4:00pm*

*Sunday Morning Worship Service at 9:00am*

# + SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING +

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

## WELCOME

## RINGING OF THE BELLS

## HYMN

LSB #420

### CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVING



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a  
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might  
4 Heart - less scow - ers did sur-round Thee, Treat - ing Thee with



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,  
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,  
shame - ful scorn And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned Thee.



To the dark - est depths of woe; Through Thy suf - f'rings,  
O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my  
Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of  
All dis - grace Thou, Lord, hast borne, That as Thine Thou



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.  
might - est own me And with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

## 5

Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,  
 That from pain I might be free;  
 Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:  
 Thence I gain security;  
 Comfortless Thy soul did languish  
 Me to comfort in my anguish.  
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

## 6

Thou hast suffered great affliction  
 And hast borne it patiently,  
 Even death by crucifixion,  
 Fully to atone for me;  
 Thou didst choose to be tormented  
 That my doom should be prevented.  
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

## 7

Then, for all that wrought my pardon,  
 For Thy sorrows deep and sore,  
 For Thine anguish in the Garden,  
 I will thank Thee evermore,  
 Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,  
 For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,  
 For that last triumphant cry,  
 And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; (sts. 1–2, 5, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 3–4, 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis

Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt

Text and tune: Public domain

(Stand)

## OPENING VERSICLES

LSB pg.260

Pastor This is the day which the Lord has made;

**Congregation let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**Congregation the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

Pastor Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

**Congregation slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.**

Pastor Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

**Congregation let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

Pastor Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

**Congregation He was bruised for our iniquities.**

Pastor From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**Congregation the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE

LSB pg.261

*Refrain*



■ The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

With joy will you draw wa - ter from the

wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that

day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,

make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -

claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done

glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the

earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -

hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the

Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son

and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will

be for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

(Sit)

## READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 27:27–31

<sup>27</sup>Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. <sup>28</sup>And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup>and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup>And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup>And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

## RESPONSORY

LSB pg.263

Pastor We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**Congregation He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

Pastor Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**Congregation He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

Pastor We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**Congregation He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

*(Stand)*

## APOSTLES' CREED

LSB pg.264

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

*(Sit)*

## SERMON

*“The Mocking of Christ”*



## MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN

1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to  
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and  
me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly  
spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their  
be. sight. Oh, who am I That for my sake  
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these  
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683

Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962

Text: Public domain

Tune: © John Ireland Trust. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001608

## OFFERING

*(Stand)*

## PRAYER

LSB pg.265

Pastor In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**Congregation Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## **COLLECT FOR THE WORD**

LSB pg. 265

Pastor Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Congregation Amen.**

## **EVENING PRAYER**

LSB pg.266

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son,  
that You have graciously kept me this day;**

**and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong,  
and graciously keep me this night.**

**For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things.  
Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.**

**Amen.**

## NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

LSB #422

### ON MY HEART IMPRINT YOUR IMAGE



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.

Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758

Text and tune: Public domain

## BLESSING

LSB pg.267

Pastor

Let us bless the Lord.

**Congregation**

**Thanks be to God.**

Pastor

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

**Congregation**

**Amen.**

## **MINISTRY TEAM**

### **The Reverend Ben Ahlersmeyer**

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### **Janelle Deal, Organist**

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President – Greg Shediack**

**Vice President – Evans Branigan**

**Secretary – John Stafford**

**Treasurer – Brian Bates**

## **At Large Members:**

**Dan Bates**

**Rachelle Dance**

**David Schult**

**Blake Sebring**

## **SCHOOLS**

**Lutheran South Unity School.....**[lsusfw.org](http://lsusfw.org).....**744-0459**

**Concordia Lutheran High School.....**[clhscadets.com](http://clhscadets.com).....**483-1102**

## **COUNSELING NEEDS**

**Please talk to Pastor Ben Ahlersmeyer for a referral for counseling to Cross Connections.**

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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