

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; “Lord, help us learn,”

People: “the secret of being content.”

Pastor: Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the Almighty God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—who led His people through the wilderness satisfy you with every good and perfect gift.

People: His steadfast love endures forever!

All: Amen and Amen!

HYMN

LSB #921

“On What Has Now Been Sown”

Silent Prayer: Thank you Jesus for your loving desire to acquire me, now and forevermore! Amen.

(The offerings will be collected at the doors as you leave this evening.)

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

3705 South Anthony Boulevard
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46806-4329

www.bethlehemlcms.org

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

Office Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Monday – Friday)

Our Worship Schedule:

Saturday Worship Service at 4:00pm - Sunday Morning Worship Service at 9:00am

MIDWEEK LENT 4

Wednesday, March 13, 2024



Bethlehem

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.

✠ WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS ✠

Theme of the Day

When we don't conquer coveting, coveting conquers us. Every time! Coveting drives a stake into every relationship we have. But don't despair! There is hope for us today in God's Word.

HYMN

LSB #420 (stanzas 1–3)

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

(During the sermon series on Exodus we are using psalms that celebrate Israel's deliverance from Egypt. Today we use selected verses from Psalm 136.)

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The LORD brought Israel out of Egypt.

People: His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: He acted with a strong hand and outstretched arm.

People: His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Give thanks to Him who parted the Red Sea.

People: His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: He led Israel safely through.

People: His steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: He hurled Pharaoh and His army into the Red Sea!

People: His steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: Give thanks to Him who led His people through the wilderness!

All: His steadfast love endures forever!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Hear me, merciful and mighty Father, as I confess my bondage to sin and death.

People: I know that nothing good lives in me.

Pastor: That is, in my sinful nature.

People: I have the desire to do good.

Pastor: But I cannot carry it out.

People: What I do is not the good I want to do.

Pastor: No, the evil I do not want to do, this I keep on doing.

People: I find this law at work—

Pastor: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me.

People: In my inner being I delight in God's law.

Pastor: But I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war and making me a prisoner of the law of sin and death.

All: Who will rescue me from this body of death?

(You are invited silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)

Pastor: Hear the good news! The same God who delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage also delivers you from your body of sin and death! Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed and His blood forgives you and sets you free! Give thanks to Him who led His people through the wilderness.

All: Making the waters flow like a river!

HYMN

LSB #420 (stanza 7)

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, send us Your Holy Spirit so that we affirm with St. Paul, “I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.”; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

(Today's scripture lessons are about quenching our thirst.)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 20:1-17

EPISTLE LESSON

Philippians 4:11-13

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 20:20-28

HYMN

LSB #730

“What Is the World to Me”

SERMON

“Mine”