



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 15, 2020

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



We are glad you are here and we pray God will be real to you as you worship. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Knowing God loves all creation and holds us all, we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We welcome everyone and honor the rich diversity and giftedness that age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

↑ Parts marked with an upward arrow, please stand if it is comfortable for you.

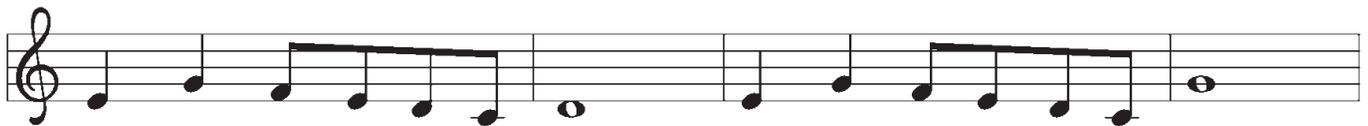
Prelude

Welcome

Preparation for Worship

This time of turning to God begins with the singing of "Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am." It is sung through a few times, even several times, quietly and reflectively.

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. A gender neutral restroom located behind the worship space next to the church office. Please ask the Usher or Greeter for assistance. There is also a rocking chair in the rear of the Sanctuary. Please use it as you wish.

Confession and Forgiveness ↑

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Amen.

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned away from you,
knowingly and unknowingly.**

We have wandered from your resurrection life.

We have strayed from your love for all people.

Turn us back to you, O God.

**Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

Receive good news: God turns to you in love.

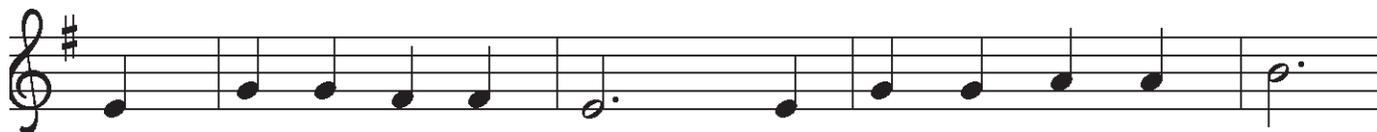
"I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God.

All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn ↑

Lord, Have Mercy (Kyrie)



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Greeting and Prayer of the Day ↑

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

A reading from Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon see page 14

Welcome the Gospel ↑



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Gospel ↑

John 4:5-42

P: The holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!



Hymn of the Day ↑

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." <i>Refrain</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." <i>Refrain</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Prayers of Intercession ↑

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: **Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.**

Peace ↑

Response: **And also with you.** The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say Peace be with you or similar words. Then the assembly is seated.

WE CELEBRATE THE MEAL

Offering

Music is played or the choir sings, as the gifts are received.

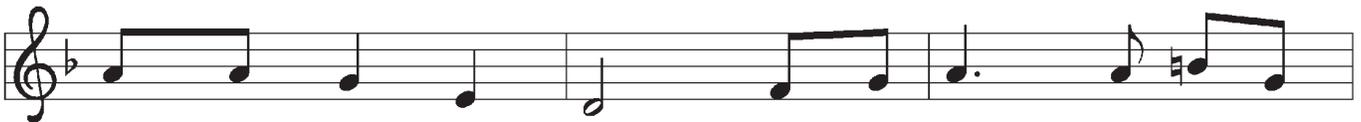
Offertory ↑

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery, Verse 3 and Lent 3

The congregation sings Verse 3 and Lent 3 as the gifts are brought forward:



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed
3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of
on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.
bod - y of our Lord.
riv - er, you the sea.

Lent 3

Living Water of salvation,
be the fountain of each soul;
springing up in new creation,
flow in us and make us whole.



Offering Prayer ↑

Let us pray.

**Holy and generous host,
you set a table where we feast as friends.
Prepare us to witness to your goodness
with every gift you have given us to share,
that all people may know your peace
through Jesus Christ, now and forever.
Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving ↑

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

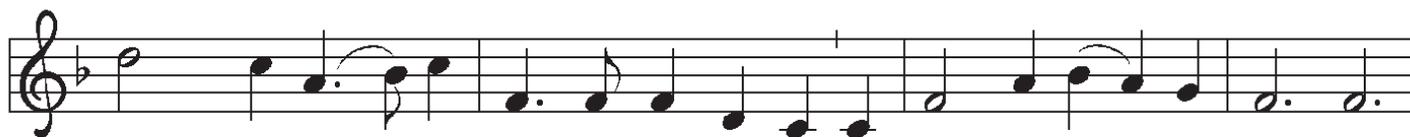
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



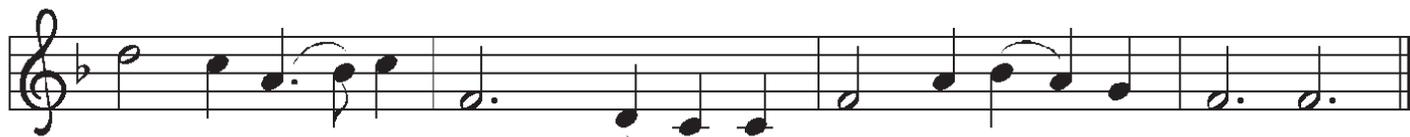
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

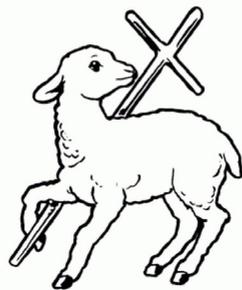
**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion ↑

Return to Christ with all your heart—the source of grace and mercy;
come, seek the tender faithfulness of God.

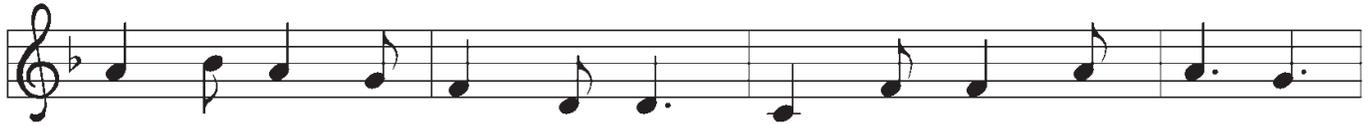
Our welcome extends to the Communion Table. We recognize that this is Christ's Table and Christ's invitation. Please come forward as you are invited. If you prefer not to receive Communion at this time, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – just fold your arms across your chest so that we know you prefer a blessing. Wine and grape juice is served in individual cups. We also offer gluten-free wafers.





Communion Hymn

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross



- 1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
- 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
- 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
- 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

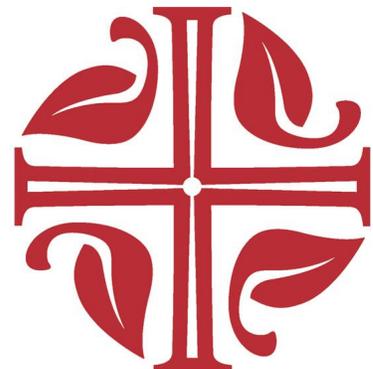


till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together.

**We thank you, living God,
for the body and blood of your Son,
which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike.
As Christ has loved us in this feast,
so send us to love Christ in our neighbors.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**



WE ARE SENT IN JESUS' LOVE

Announcements

Blessing

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation.

Holy God, Creator, Word, and Spirit,

† bless you, unbind you,

and send you in love and in peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



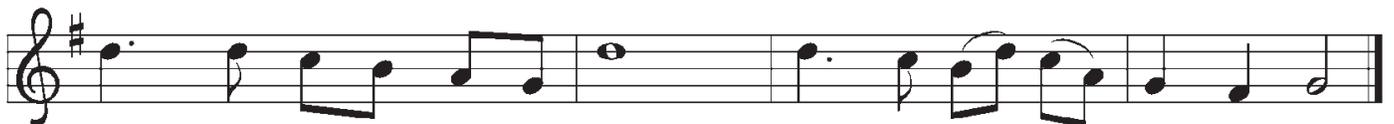
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Walk with Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prayer Requested For:	Prayer Concern:	Prayer Contact:
For the world	Prayers for assurance of God's love and healing as we work together during this global pandemic.	Staff
For the people affected by the collapse of Concordia	As they deal with loss and grief as they suddenly have to restructure their lives. May wisdom prevail in how the property is used as the Concordia Neighborhood will be affected by the change.	Bethel Care Team
For the People of Bethel Lutheran	May the wisdom and counsel of the Holy Spirit abide within the people of Bethel during this time of change and transition.	Staff
For the environment and all those working to bring about live-giving change	Grant us wisdom to care for earth and energy to act now for the good of future generations	Staff
Katie Reitel & Family	Prayers for peace & assurance of God's love.	The Bentleys
Faith St. John	Healing and support as she undergoes treatment for cancer.	Staff
Jennifer Nevills, former YDIC director	Struggling with heart disease.	Karen Anderson
David Gyles	Continued prayers for David and Sandy as David continues to struggle with his lung problems	Bethel Care Team
Joan Barber	Peace and comfort and freedom from discomfort as she begins palliative care.	Pastor Core
Mary Rix	Prayers for continued healing after a successful surgery.	JulieAnn Edman
The Fletcher Family	Prayers for the Fletcher family as the trial moves toward its completion	Bethel Care Team
Marlo Edman	Prayers of continued healing for Marlo as he recovers at home. He will be wheelchair bound for at least 2 1/2 months.	JulieAnn Edman
Our prayers continue for many among us: for Timothy Collins, Elizabeth, Rob, Jacob Bard, Miles Bard, Annalu Lingnau, Ben Lingnau III, David Lingnau, Patricia Connor.		



Stewardship of Service	Today -- Mar 15	Next Week -- Mar 22
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Larry Jorgenson	Pastor Scott Dunfee
Music Director	Kathleen Hollingsworth	Kathleen Hollingsworth
Musician		
Usher		
Reader		
Communion		
Preparation of the Altar		

BETHEL NEWS

† SERVICE SCHEDULE:

- ~~3/15~~ Pastor Larry Jorgenson cancelled
- ~~3/22~~ Pastor Scott Dunfee cancelled
- ~~3/29~~ Pastor John or Joan Beck

Holy Week

- Palm Sunday Worship – Sunday, April 5, 10 am
- Easter Worship – Sunday, April 12, 10 am

COMING UP:

- ~~Canceled Lenten Services cancelled~~
- ~~Canceled Woman's Spirituality cancelled~~
- **3/13 - Bethel Drop-In Center Summer Day Camp (7/13 - 8/21)** Registration is now open - details online at <http://bethelpdx.org/summer-program/>

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Sept. 11-13 | All Bethel members and friends are invited to the 2020 Annual Bethel Camp-Out**
Contact Scott Burris, Tana Bishop or one of the other Campers Extraordinaire.

BETHEL COVID-19 PLANS

Services Canceled Through Lent

It is with prayerful discernment that Bethel Council has announced we are cancelling church services for the next three Sundays, March 15, 22 and 29, as well as the Wednesday Lenten soup suppers and services. This decision was not made lightly and is the recommendation of the ELCA.

We will reevaluate start-up of services the week of March 23rd. Please watch the Blast for more information or if you have any questions please feel free to contact anyone on the Council or Cate Milburn at 971-269-9899 or catemilburn@yahoo.com.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| • Carolyn Beck | • Shirley Kolpin |
| • PJ Bentley | • Cate Milburn |
| • Stephanie Burdick | • Joann Noll |
| • Ryan Burghard | • Ryan Olson |
| • JulieAnn Edman | • Holly Redfern |
| • Sonia Fornoni | • Marjorie Strieff |

Food Ministry Service Modifications

In addition to services we are modifying our support beginning this week for Food Ministry. This Sunday we will be serving breakfast in to go containers and asking people to move along quickly once they receive their breakfast and lunches. We will be serving from outside under our tent so no one will be in the building. We will evaluate the next step with Food Ministry after this Sunday and will communicate the decision through the Bethel Blast. If you have questions or concerns please contact Shirley Kolpin at 503-285-1245.

For the the rest of the News please see the [blast](#).

<https://mailchi.mp/879284d541f0/bethel-news-3-13-2020>

Sermon from Pastor Jorgenson

The book of Exodus records the frequent unhappiness of the Hebrews as they trekked across the wilderness. They directed many of their complaints toward Moses. Why had he led them out of Egypt? Was it to starve or, in this Sunday's reading, to die of thirst? Moses himself complained: "These people want to stone me." Ah, the joys of leadership!

Like Moses and the children of Israel, we live in "interesting" times. We might also call them "difficult" times. Or even "weird" times. A while back a tornado touched down near Vancouver (the city just across the river). A resident made the observation, "This is not normal." Then she said, "Nothing's normal anymore." How true!

So, I awoke today, Friday the 13th of March, ready to expand my list of complaints. I will spare you my list. Some of you awoke this morning to far worse than what I had on my plate. News that schools were closed, causing a scramble for childcare. Or word that a family member in a nursing facility had likely been exposed to COVID-19. Or a need to balance the demands of the workplace with a suspicion about the common cold you felt coming on.

To add to the misery here in Gresham, the snow flies. Big, wet flakes! Is that normal for this time of year? In the words of the philosopher from Vancouver, nothing's normal, anymore. And as the snow flies people crowd the supermarkets, mingling prudence with panic.

But back to Exodus—Moses and the elders go to a place designated by God; Moses raps on a stone; water flows. The pertinent verse reads: "He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?" (Exodus 17:7)

Now, back to us—I must admit moments of skepticism, where I might well find myself blurting out the Hebrews' question, "Is the LORD among us or not?" What about you, as persons of faith, as the children of God who bear the name, "Bethel Lutheran Church"? You seem to have had many challenges of late. Do you ever want to ask, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

One of the great things about Scripture is that its power comes not only through answers given but also through questions asked. It would be easy enough, while watching snowflakes through a living room window, to rush to an answer and say, "sure, the LORD is among us." Maybe what we need, though, is to linger a while with the Hebrews' question. Or to ask it in a different way. How IS God among us? And, how do I take part?

As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America often asserts: "God's work, our hands." Also, our smile. Also, our feet. Now more than ever.

Generations after the Exodus the children of Israel looked upon their years in the wilderness as their finest hour. Which may have surprised the people who actually experienced the Exodus. Crisis had clarified much, and called forth amazing things. Like those people of old, we, too, have an Amazing God; we, too, live in amazing grace; we, too, may just learn that we can do amazing things.