



# Second Sunday During Lent

Worship with Holy Communion

February 25, 2024

## Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



We are glad you are here, and we pray God will be real to you as you worship with us. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation; therefore, we invite all people, including those of all races, ethnicities, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, ages, economic levels, and abilities. God loves all creation and holds us all, so we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We honor and appreciate the rich diversity of age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity and expression, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships. We commit ourselves to embracing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care.

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**Communion** - We will celebrate Holy Communion together via Zoom, as well as gathered in person. Please have bread/cracker(s) and a cup of wine/grape juice ready if you and those with you would like to participate. If you do not have access to wine or grape juice, you may receive Communion without the cup—Christ is present in the bread, as Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life.” (John 6:35)

## GATHERING

### Prelude



*Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. An all gender restroom is 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.*

**Address** 5658 North Denver Avenue • Portland, Oregon 97217 • **Email** [bethel@bethelpdx.org](mailto:bethel@bethelpdx.org) • **Website** [www.bethelpdx.org](http://www.bethelpdx.org)

# Confession

*Please stand in body or spirit*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin  
and cannot break free.**  
**We hoard resources while our neighbors  
are hungry and cold.**  
**We speak in ways that silence others.**  
**We are silent when we should speak up.**  
**We keep score in our hearts.**  
**We let hurts grow into hatred.**  
**For all these things and for sins only you know,**  
**forgive us, Lord.**  
**Amen.**



## Gathering Song of Praise      *Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who  
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son  
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we  
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.  
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

**O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

# WORD

## Scripture Reading

## Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Scripture Reading

## Romans 4:13-25

A reading from Romans

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

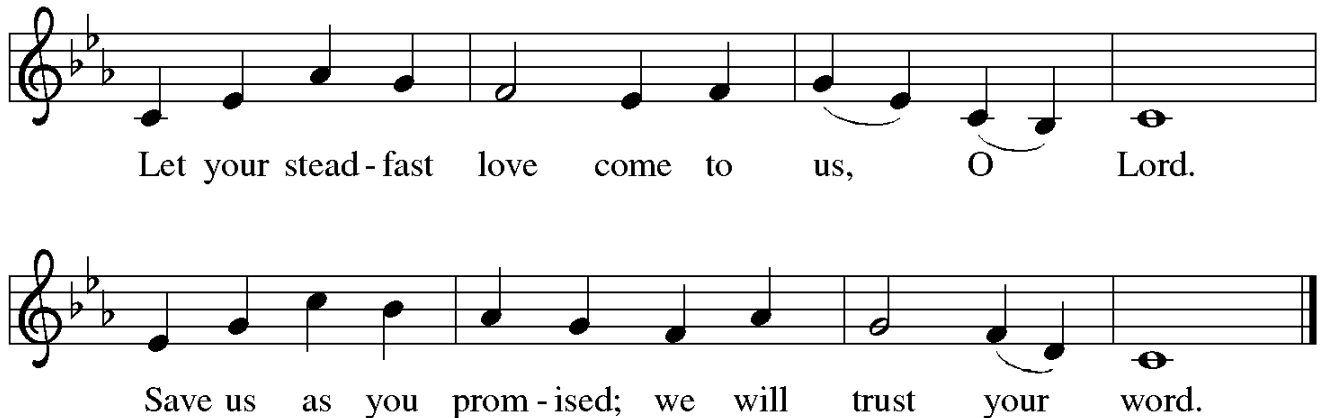
<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

<sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit*



## Gospel Reading

**Mark 8:31-38**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.<sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

# Children's Time

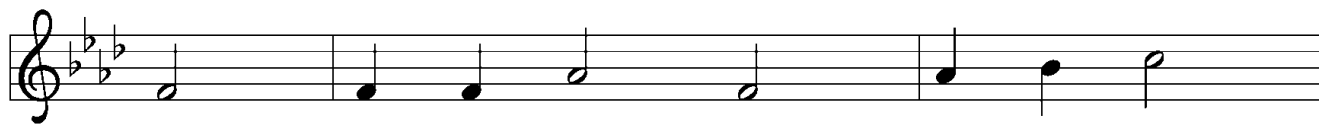
## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day

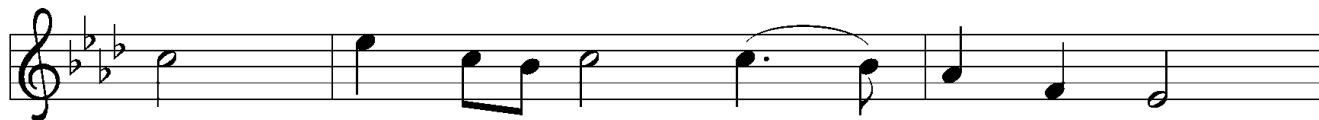
### *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*



1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,  
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,



"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;  
per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;  
nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;  
nor think till death to lay it down;



for - sake the past, and come this day,  
his strength shall bear your spir - it up,  
for you the Lord en - dured the cross  
for those who hum - bly bear the cross



and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."  
sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.  
to save your soul from death and hell.  
one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814–1877, alt.

Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848

*Please stand in body or spirit*

## Prayers of Intercession

*The response to each prayer is: Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.***

**Sharing of Peace** — *Take time to share the peace on Zoom and in person. You may be seated when sharing of peace is concluded.*

## COMMUNION MEAL

*For those worshipping virtually, please gather your bread and wine to participate in Holy Communion.*

### Offering

*You may use one of our options for giving: Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, Paypal, see our website bethelpdx.org for link, online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> Additionally you may donate by mail or, if worshipping in-person, use the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for supporting the many ministries of Bethel!*

### Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

**Jesus, you are the bread of life  
and the host of this meal.**

**Bless these gifts that we have gathered  
that all people may know your goodness.**

**Feed us not only with this holy food  
but with hunger for justice and peace.**

**We pray this in your name.**

**Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand in body or spirit*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

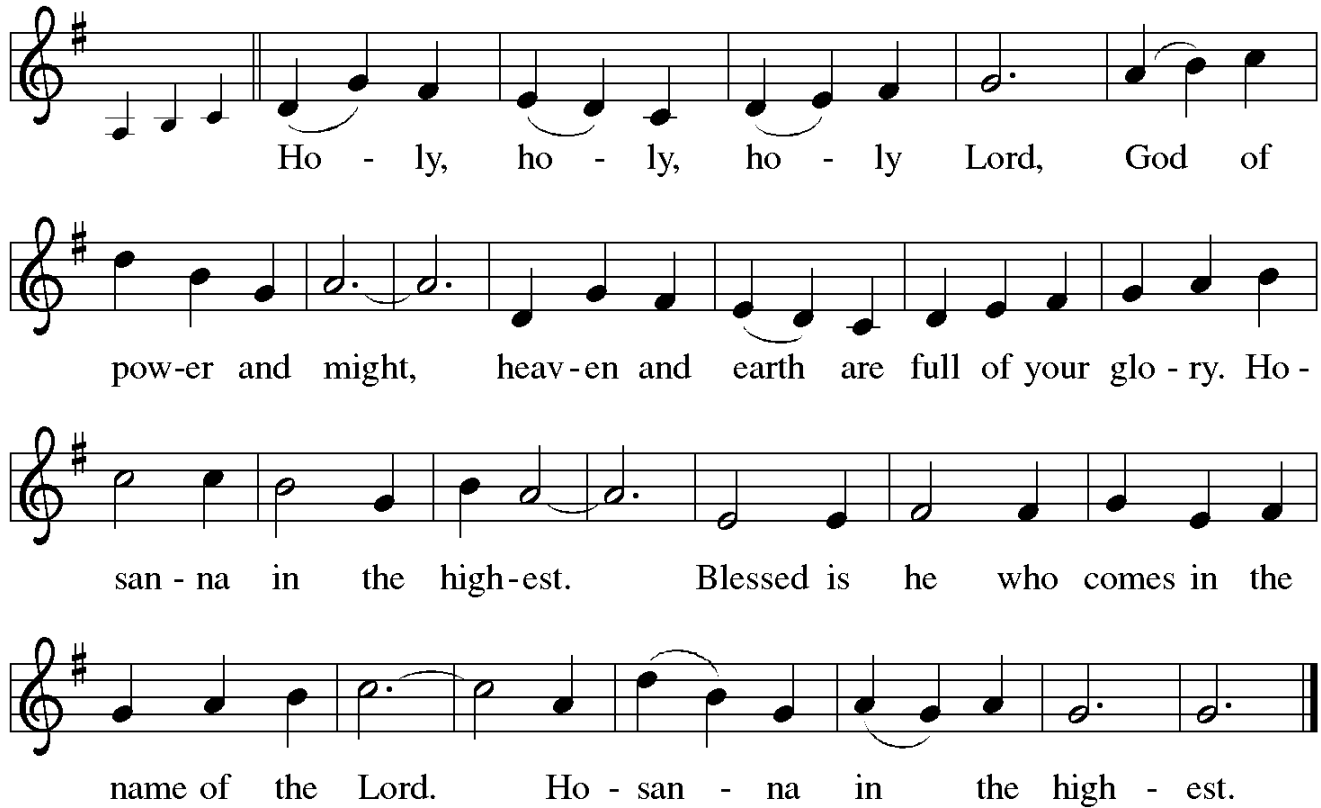
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



*The Thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The presiding minister continues with the Thanksgiving at the Table. At the end, all say: **Amen.***

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

## **Communion Music**



# SENDING

## Announcements

### Blessing

Beloved,  
we are God's own people,  
holy, washed, renewed.  
God bless you and keep you,  
shower you with mercy,  
fill you with courage,  
and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

### Sending Song

### The Sending.

Go in peace. Share your bread.  
**Thanks be to God.**



Stewardship of Service	This week – Feb. 25	Next week – Mar. 3, 2023
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Musician/Music Director	Jamie Vandenberg	Shlomo Farber
Reader	TBD	TBD
Zoom Host	<b>Joann Knoll</b>	<b>Volunteer needed!</b>

*Hymns shown on this bulletin are licensed via Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number SAS10330*

*All other music used with the artist permission*

## Pray For:

**Pray for the people in Israel, Palestine, and all of the Middle East** as they suffer war, violence, terror, and retribution. Show the world a path to peace and justice.

**Let us continue to pray for all victims of gun violence.**

**Pray for peace and justice in Ukraine, Holy Land, and Yemen.**

**Pray for peace and justice and safety among our houseless neighbors.** Help us understand how we can share your love with them.

**Pray for Bethel leaders**, including Pastor Leon LaCross, Music Director Shlomo Farber, Admin Assistant Kerry Czuba, the 2024 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

**Pray for the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center Board as they prepare for the Summer 2024 Day Camp.** Send us excellent applicants for Director and Staff.

**Pray for Shlomo Farber**, that his family and friends in Israel may be safe.

**Pray for our children**, who have returned to classes and studies. Pray they are safe on wet, dark streets. Give them stamina and joy!

**Pray for the teachers, school staff, parents, guardians, and grandparents** who teach our children and keep them safe.

**Pray for those who are ill:**

- **Mark Sjostrom**, Svea's uncle, as he recovers from cancer treatments and health complications
- **Neil Marshall** (Nash's Portland family) as Neil undergoes treatment for a brain tumor.
- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) as Faith enters her second century!
- **David Gyles** for his improved lung health.
- **Leo Lawrence** for recovery from neuropathy surgery.
- **John Knight and family** as John continues in memory care.
- **Laura Day**, mother of Natalie Peterson, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- **Gary Andeen** as he receives treatments for lung cancer.
- **Amy Bishop McDonald** for her diagnosis and surgery for breast cancer.
- **Chuck Huntley**, brother of Marjorie Strieff, for his ongoing health.
- **Glenn Chase**, in thanks for his continued good health.
- **Jackie Calder**, in thanks for healing and health that allows her to travel and to accomplish loving volunteer work.
- **JulieAnn Edman** for continued healing as she undergoes her treatment.
- **Lorraine Griffey** for health, stamina, and joy.
- **Betty Jean Iacono**, sister of Marjorie Strieff, as she heals from recent heart difficulties.
- **Laurie Peterson**, as she recovers from breast cancer surgery.
- **Rhonda Pederson**, after a liver cancer diagnosis.

**Pray for all those who have passed away that they experience the loving embrace of God's love.**

**Especially for Meghan Cyr and Jesse Alvey** as they mourn the loss of Jesse's son, Meghan's stepson, **Jacob Alvey**. Jacob died unexpectedly at his Marine base in Hawaii on Saturday, Jan. 27. Funeral will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral on February 26 at 11:00 AM. Please hold them in your prayers and thoughts as they grieve.

**Diane Waters**, the mother of a friend of Pr. Leon's, who recently passed away. For the family and friends who are grieving her passing.

**Continuing prayers for well-being for our loved ones Timothy, Elizabeth, Faith, Jim, Rob, Jacob, Miles, Andrew, Nash, Matthew, and Patricia--may they walk in light and peace.**

**Pray in thanksgiving for all the blessings received this week.**

**Pray we know that God is close and that we are open to receiving and sharing God's love.**

### **Mark Your Calendars...See what's happening at Bethel and Beyond this week:**

02/25 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
02/25 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom  
02/25 4:00 PM Jazz Concert  
02/28 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Cash Oregon  
02/29 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Cash Oregon  
02/29 Noon Crafternoon w/Pr. Leon  
02/29 4:30-5:30 PM Happy Hour on Zoom  
03/03 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
03/03 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom  
03/03 11:15 AM Bingo and Games w/Pizza and Prizes



**Correction: Next week will actually begin the opportunity to purchase lilies for Easter. There will be a link to sign-up genius and payments can be made by mail, Paypal or Venmo. Sorry about the delay.**

**Thank you for bringing the sanctuary to new life.**

# Bethel Lutheran Church Presents

## A Jazz Concert with Northwest Tempo

February 25  
at 4:00 PM

Donations accepted:  
Use Venmo QR Code  
(in corner) or cash

5658 N. Denver Ave.  
Portland, OR 97217  
bethelpdx.org



## Bingo & Board Games

Date:  
March 3, 2024

Time:  
11:15 AM,  
after Church Service

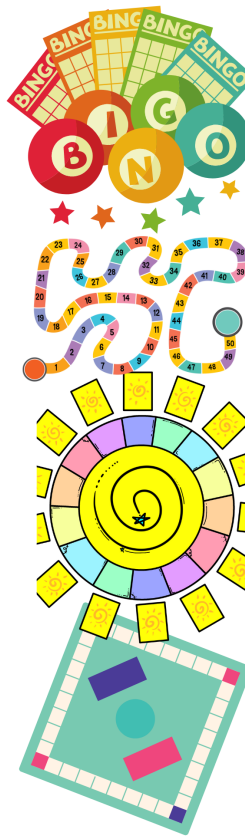
Place:  
Bethel Lutheran Church

5658 N. Denver Ave, PDX, 97217

Pizza & Prizes

Feel free to invite Friends  
and family

call 503-285-4919 or  
email: bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org  
for more info.



Send



At the end of worship, a pastor says a special blessing that often includes the words *Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*. Make the sign of the cross over your body any time your pastor says those words and remember God's promise to always be with us!



Thank you, God, for your promises.  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

**This week**

Make a Lenten cross by tying two sticks together with purple ribbon. Place it outside or on a windowsill.

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gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the second Sunday in Lent.



The cross is one of many symbols that remind us of God's promises. Connect the dots and find three other symbols of God's promises.

