



# Second Sunday During Lent

Worship with Holy Communion

March 16, 2025

## 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**



**Andante Op. 12, No. 3**

**By Edvard Grieg**

*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 forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.  
Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you  
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion  
you have shown to us.**

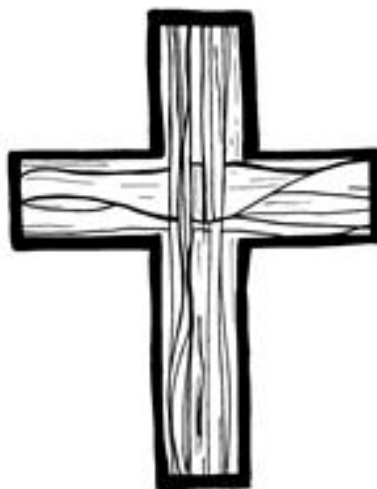
**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,  
even though you have set us free again and again.**

**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.**

**Transform our lives  
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

**Amen.**



# Gathering Song of Praise

# O Living Breath of God



- 1 O liv-ing Breath of God, wind at the be-gin - ning up-on the wa - ters;
- 2 O liv-ing Breath of God, by whose pow'r the Son came to birth a - mong us;
- 3 O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing us to life through bap-tis-mal wa - ters;



- O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing the cre - a - tion to won-drous birth:
- O liv-ing Breath of God, who to the cre - a - tion gives life a - new:
- O liv-ing Breath of God, sigh-ing with cre - a - tion for free-dom's birth:

### *Refrain*



Come now, and fill our spir - its; pour out your gifts a - bun - dant.



O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.

Text: Osvaldo Catena, 1920-1986; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923  
Music: VÄRVINDAR FRISKA, Swedish folk tune  
Tr. © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

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## Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen, amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

**God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in 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 15:1-12, 17-18**

A reading from Genesis

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup> But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup> Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup> But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup> He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup> He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup> And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup> As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup> On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

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

## Scripture Reading

**Philippians 3:17-4:1**

A reading from Philippians

<sup>17</sup> Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup> For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup> He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. <sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

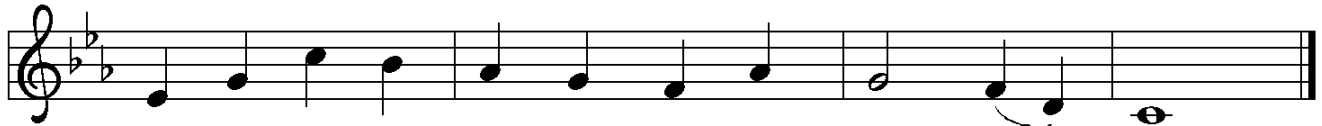
Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit*



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

## Gospel Reading

**Luke 13:31-35**

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

<sup>31</sup> At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." <sup>32</sup> He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup> Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' <sup>34</sup> Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup> See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

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

*Please be seated.*

## Children's Time

## Sermon

*Please stand in body or spirit*

## Hymn of the Day

## Thy Holy Wings



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent-ly o - ver me,  
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down-y breast  
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No-ah's cleans-ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
where I will find sweet com-fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
Oh, take in - to thy keep-ing thy chil-dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with-in thy grace.  
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten-der care.  
and while we sweet-ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite  
Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune  
Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent.

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## Prayers of Intercession

*The response to each prayer is: God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

## Sharing of Peace — *Take time to share the peace on Zoom and in person*

*Please be seated.*

# 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](http://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

Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.  
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**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 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.**

*Please be seated*

## **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

### **Communion Music**

**Cavatina**  
**By Joseph Raff**

# SENDING

## Instillation of Church Council

### Announcements

#### Blessing

God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

#### Sending Song

**Aspiration**  
By A. Croisez

#### The Sending.

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.  
**Thanks be to God.**



Stewardship of Service	This week – Mar. 16, 2025	Next week – Mar. 23, 2025
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Music Director	Shlomo Farber	Shlomo Farber
Reader	TBD	TBD
Zoom Host	<b>Joann Noll</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, all of the Middle East, Ukraine, Georgia, and Yemen** 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 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 2025 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

**Pray for the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center Board in thanksgiving for Elizabeth DeLozier** as she begins as director of the Summer Youth Program and that we receive excellent applicants for our other positions.

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

**Pray for Julia Rankin** as she continues her education at seminary.

**Pray for Sean Fitzgerald** (Nikki Bucholz), Kim Bucholz's son-in-law who has been deployed to the Middle East.

**Pray for our children**, as spring arrives, that they blossom where ever they find themselves planted.

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

## Pray for the following:

- **Mark Sjostrom**, Svea's uncle, as he recovers from cancer treatments and health complications
- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) and her daughters as Faith moves into assisted living.
- **David Giles** as he discontinues treatment for lung cancer.
- **Leo Lawrence** for recovery from neuropathy surgery.
- **Laura Day**, mother of Natalie Peterson, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- **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.
- **Lorraine Griffey** for health, stamina, and joy.
- **Rick Van Dyke**, brother to Jim Van Dyke, as Rick lives with the uncertainty of his illness and works with his medical team to prepare for treatment.
- **Darin Schmidt**, a former Bethelite, and his wife Jessica, as they navigate a diagnosis of liver cancer.
- **Bob Enke**, cousin of JulieAnn Edman, for healing from a fall and for getting the care he needs.
- **Miles Bard** for health and stamina.
- **Pam Coffman** as she navigates treatment for lung cancer.
- **Karen Anderson** for continued healing of her knee.
- **Marlo Edman** who just had surgery that he heals quickly
- **JulieAnn Edman** for useful MRI results.
- **Dean Peterson** for conditions related to cerebral amyloid angiopathy

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

Especially **Denny Hepp** who passed away on March 2 in the hospital in Great Falls, MT. Denny was Tana Bishop's nephew's farther-in-law. He was a dear part of the family and super friend of Dorothy Bishop (Tana's mother). From a tribute by his daughter: Denny will be deeply missed by all who knew him. We could all strive to love our friends and family as deeply as Denny loved his grandchildren. May his memory live on through the love he shared with his family, and the legacy of excellence he left behind in his work.

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

## **Mark Your Calendars:**

03/16 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
03/16 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom  
03/16 10:00 AM Installation of Council Members  
03/16 11:15 AM Council Meeting  
03/18 5:30 PM Girl Scouts Meet in Hall  
03/19 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Cash Oregon  
03/19 6:30 PM New Horizons Band Practice  
03/20 Pastor Leon's Birthday!!  
03/20 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Cash Oregon  
03/20 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Bethel Happy Hour  
03/22 8:30 AM – Women's Prayer Group meets at Carol Knight's house  
03/23 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
03/23 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom  
03/23 4:00 PM Jazz Concert

**YDIC is hiring staff!** If you know someone who might be interested have them check out our website to see how to apply: [www.bethelpdx.org/summer-program](http://www.bethelpdx.org/summer-program). Questions? Send an email to [ydic@bethelpdx.org](mailto:ydic@bethelpdx.org)



**Time to Order Flowers for Easter to Decorate the Church!  
Deadline to Order is March 26!!**

This year there is a little verity to choose from. You can sign up for Easter Lilies(\$12 each), Azaleas (\$20 each), and Hydrangeas (\$20 each). There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the Church or you can use Sign-Up Genius [www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4CABAC2CA4F49-flowers1](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4CABAC2CA4F49-flowers1). Payments can be made either through Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church #6064 or Paypal (see our website), or by mail, 5658 N. Denver Ave., Portland, OR 97217. Please include your remembrance!  
Thank you!

**2025 Summer Day Camp Program**  
**@ Bethel Youth Drop-In Center**  
Program Dates/Times: June 30 through August 8  
MTWThF, 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
Ages: entering 1st through 6th in Fall 2025  
Register at [www.bethelpdx.org/summer-program](http://www.bethelpdx.org/summer-program)  
Email: [ydic@bethelpdx.org](mailto:ydic@bethelpdx.org)  
Phone: 503-285-4919  
Address: 5658 N. Denver Ave  
Portland, OR 97217

**Registration is open for the Summer Program!**  
**Need a flyer? Download from the website or call the office and we will happily print some up for you!**