

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 31, 2019 –8:30 & 11:00 AM

Please take this bulletin home with you ... as a reference for this week's calendar of events, a reminder of Bethany family and friends to keep in your prayers and other useful information.

Prelude:

"Sonata No. 14 in C# Minor: I. Adagio sostenuto" – L. V. Beethoven (Zoey Metcalf, 8:30)

"Trio Sonata in C Major" - Gottfried Heinrich Stölzel (11:00)

Temple Talk: Cross + Generational Ministry

Gathering Hymn: *"Sanctuary"* Screen

First Reading Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32 Chanted responsively by verses

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sermon Pastor Jen Henry

Hymn of the Day: *"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"* ELW 608

Offering:

"A Lenten Walk" - Hal Hopson (Choir & 5-6th Grade Weeknight Music, 8:30)

"10,000 Reasons" - Matt Redman (Uke Club 11:00)

Communion Hymn: *"We Place Upon Your Table, Lord"* ELW 467

Sending Hymn: *"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"* ELW 763

Postlude: *"Prelude & Fugue in B Minor"* - Ernst Friedrich Richter

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Welcome to worship at Bethany Lutheran Church! It is our hope that you experience the love of Christ this morning and His presence during our worship service. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest book in the narthex. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew. These can help you get to know the others around you. Also, be sure to mark the pad if you partake in Holy Communion. Thank you for taking time to fill out this information!

Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you would benefit from either of these, please ask an usher. If you have a prayer concern to share, please use a prayer request card located in the pew racks and place in the offering plate.

Purple is the traditional color for the Season of Lent. Through the centuries, purple has symbolized pain, suffering, and therefore mourning and penitence, so it is the appropriate liturgical color for the Church to use in this penitential time of the year.

Many thanks to our worship volunteers helping with services today:

8:30am: Greeters: George & Carolyn Kruger; Reader: Kirby Schmidt; Acolyte:TBD;
Communion servers: Twila Henning, Marla Woelber, Lois Becker; Ushers: Donna Jones, Dale Witt; Recorder: Sandi Schmidt; Projector: Emily Baker; 11:00am: Greeter: TBD; Reader: Dennis Peterson; Communion server: TBD; Projector: Emily Baker;

PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

Health Concerns:

Steve DePauw, Barb Fletcher, Sherri Green, Mary Rose Hemme, Linda Kunzmann, Kim McCune, Sandy Manwarren, Bev Quail, Sally Peterson, Lloyd Senne, Gary Tolzmann; Miles Rohan (*Kevin Rohan's father*); Jaci Hermstad (*Colleen Hermstad's granddaughter*); Sarah Peterson (*Carole Peterson's daughter*); Marian Buckendahl (*Dawn Huntoon's mother*);

Those who mourn:

The families of: Jo Beving; Jamie Huber; Rosana Tittertington (*Sheryl Thu's mother*); Lillian Spiess (*John Spiess' mother, Janell McEntee's grandmother*);

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACTIVITIES BETWEEN SERVICES All are welcome to enjoy fellowship with refreshments in the church parlor between services. Sunday school is in session. Children age 3 years--grade 8 are welcome and encouraged to attend. Preschoolers gather in the nursery in the east wing, Kinder-kids through grade 6 gather in the Dining Room downstairs. Grades 7-8 meet in their room on the lower level.

ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS! Today is the last day to allocate your 2018 Thrivent Choice® dollars. There are several organizations that can benefit from Choice \$\$, including Bethany Lutheran Church. If you haven't already done so, log on to www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice to allocate your 2018 dollars, as all undesignated Choice Dollars are lost.

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP Wednesday evening Lenten activities at Bethany continue this week on April 3. Come for fellowship and renewal in your Lenten journey! Supper is at 6pm (*the Parish Ed Team and Sunday School families are serving subs, chips and Oreo fluff with punch, coffee or water*) followed by worship at 7pm. Our midweek Lenten series is "The Many Names for Jesus" – this week, the "Son of Man". And, we will continue to work on the "H*****H" chorus! You don't want to miss this as we'll need lots of voices for our Easter morning debut!! 😊

EASTER LILIES will beautify our Sanctuary on Easter morning. Would you like to share one in honor or memory of a loved one? Cost is \$9. See details and **sign up at the Welcome Center by April 7.** (*The sign-up sheet really is there now! Apologies for overlooking this last week.*)

A HUGE THANK YOU!!! Bethany Youth Group and Katie Hare would like to thank everyone who donated items *and* bid on the items that were up for grabs at their recent silent auction. There was a terrific response! Proceeds will support their West Virginia Mission Trip coming up in June.

CHURCH SOFTBALL *Interested in playing?* See details on bulletin board by the church office!

RUMMAGE SALE It's that time of year again! Bethany Youth will hold their annual rummage sale May 3-4. Please consider donating gently used items to sell. Bring your "stuff" to the storage room across from the Youth Room downstairs by Thursday, May 2. If that room is full, leave items by the door and we will put them away. If you have questions, please contact Katie Hare, Director of Youth & Family. Proceeds will be used for the West Virginia mission trip.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY The Western Iowa Synod Mission Endowment Committee is accepting grant applications through **April 20, 2019**. Past grant recipients have included congregation community meal programs, food pantry, gardening projects, mission trips, backpacks for kids, and other similar ministries. Grants have ranged from \$500 to \$1500. The application form is available on the home page of the Western Iowa Synod website (www.wisynod.org) or pick one up at the church office. Return applications to Julie Cook, Western Iowa Synod, ELCA, 318 E 5th St, Storm Lake, IA, 50588 or email: julie.cook@wisynod.org **no later than April 20, 2019.**)

HABITAT HOUSE The Northwest Iowa Corridor Habitat for Humanity's newest build in Milford is fast approaching and **April 19, 2019** is the deadline for families wishing to be considered. Applicants must meet criteria based on their current housing situation, demonstrate the ability pay mortgage payments and be willing to partner with Habitat by working their required "sweat equity" hours before and during the build. Applications can be found at Spirit Lake, Arnolds Park, and Milford's public libraries or on the national Habitat website (www.habitat.org). Mail completed apps to HFH, PO Box 754, Spirit Lake, IA 51360. Please direct questions to 712.336.4700.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS – TAKE NOTE! Following the success of other churches who have utilized the assignment of opportunities for participation in worship services, we will begin a rotation of volunteers starting with May and June. Watch your mail for an envelope with detailed info and a schedule of worship volunteer assignments for services in May & June.

LDR – CONSIDER A GIFT Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people everywhere whose lives have been disrupted by disasters. Your gifts make it possible for this church to provide fast and effective support to communities in need, whenever and wherever a disaster may strike *and* 100% of your gift is used for the disaster that you specify. Please consider a donation to Lutheran Disaster Response today, either through your "directed giving" offering envelope or mail your gift directly to them. Thanks!

SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER EGG HUNT In anticipation of Easter, our Sunday School children will gather together on Palm Sunday, April 14 for a special time of fellowship which will include our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Kids will meet in the parlor at 8:45am that morning. Everyone is welcome to attend. Following the hunt, a single Palm Sunday worship service will be held at 10am. Bethany Youth will serve an egg-bake brunch after worship. Join us on this special day!

FUNDRAISER & LUNCH A benefit fundraiser for Jaci Hermstad will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 11am-1pm at Spencer Ag Center (1901 E 8th St.). In February 2019, Jaci was diagnosed with ALS Disease, which her twin sister Alex died of in 2011 at the age of 16. Jaci is the granddaughter of Colleen Hermstad, a member of Bethany Lutheran Church.

Do you REALLY know the meaning of the word *prodigal*?

Adjective: wastefully or recklessly extravagant giving or yielding profusely; lavishly abundant

Noun: a person who spends, or has spent, his or her money or substance with wasteful extravagance;

spendthrift. <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/prodigal?s=ts>

Use the adjective prodigal to describe someone who spends too much money, or does something very wasteful. <https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/prodigal>

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 31

8:30 am Worship

9:45 am Fellowship, Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

Monday, April 1 – No Fooling!! 😊

1:30 pm Stonecroft Bible Study

2:30 pm St. Luke Auxiliary Meeting

6:30 pm Parish Education Committee Meeting

6:30 pm Cub Scout Den Meetings

7:00 pm Companions in Christ

Tuesday, April 2

2:00 pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 3

10:00 am Bible Study & Prayer Group

11:30 am Community Lenten Lunch & Worship

4:30 pm First Communion Class

6:00 pm Mission Trip Meeting

6:00 pm Lenten Supper – Parish Ed hosts

7:00 pm Confirmation, Lenten Worship

7:45 pm **Bethany Youth Group (BYG)**

Thursday, April 4

9:30 am Spencer Ministerial Association @ Bethany

6:30 pm Cub Scouts Pack Meeting

Friday, April 5

7:00 pm Disability Awareness Event (parlor)

Saturday, April 6

7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study

Sunday, April 7

8:30 am Worship

9:30 am St. Luke Round Up (at St. Luke) *(Thank you Marilyn, Rita, Carole & Laurie!!)*

9:45 am Fellowship, Sunday School

11:00 am Worship