



REACH OUT

The Third Sunday after Epiphany
Mission Festival

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church | York, NE

January 24, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship the Lord with us today. Large print hymnals and hearing assist devices are available upon request. Restrooms are located on the north side of the main level and in the lower level. If you have any questions or need assistance with anything please ask one of our ushers.

VISITORS or members with contact information changes, please fill out our online connection card at bethelyork.com, member connect tab, or scan this code.



SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

Worship Materials

The order of service and the hymns for today are printed for you in this folder. "Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal" which is normally in the hymnal rack on the back of each pew has been temporarily removed to help protect against passing the Corona Virus. Watching the theme and passage on the screen may help you prepare for worship.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader
Organist

Pastor Mark A. Haefner
Mr. Quinton Corwin

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Cover www.corissanelsonart.com

MISSION FESTIVAL

- [M] In the name of the Father
[C] whose glory is declared by the heavens,
[M] and of the Son
[C] who calls us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth,
[M] and of the Holy Spirit
[C] who empowers us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Amen.

(CWS 753 v. 1)

**Father, God of grace, you knew us, Chose us, named us as your own,
Through eternal ages planning To redeem us in your Son.
Praise the Father, God who loved us Ere creation was begun!**

CONFESSION OF SINS

- [M] Gracious Lord, we come before you now confessing our sins. Through your Word you have revealed to us again and again the unsearchable riches of Christ, but again and again we have failed to recognize how richly we have been blessed.

(CWS 753 v. 2)

**We, your creatures, sinned against you, And our guilt was crimson red.
Son of God, you came incarnate, Crushed the crafty serpent's head,
Died our death, now live triumphant: Praise the firstborn from the dead!**

- [M] We have often failed to fully appreciate all you have done for us in Christ, and therefore we have failed to share the message of your love and grace with others as we should. Forgive us for the dullness of our faith and love for you. We have overlooked the needs of those who live near us and have shown so little concern for those who are far away. There is always so much more we could do to bring others the Good News of their Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Counselor, you bring as promised From the Father and the Son
Righteousness fulfilled, accomplished, Free forgiveness, heaven won.
Praise the Spirit! He assures us Our salvation's work is done!**

- [M] Gracious Lord, we confess that we are in dire need of your Spirit's help. We need a heart that loves you more, a faith that trusts you more, a life that reflects more clearly the vast riches of your love.

(CWS 753 v. 5)

**Forward lead us; Christ, we follow, Drawn by Word and promise true:
"To all nations preach the gospel; I am evermore with you."
Keep us faithful! Then, Lord Jesus, Quickly come! Make all things new!**

ABSOLUTION

- [M] After his resurrection, Jesus breathed on his disciples and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake has forgiven you all your sins. As a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- [C] Amen.

(CWS 753 v. 6)

**Praise the Father, great Creator. Praise the Son, who took our place.
Praise the Spirit, Sanctifier, God of free and faithful grace!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- [M] The Lord be with you.

- [C] **And also with you.**

- [M] Let us pray.

O Holy Spirit, cause the gospel of salvation to revive and refresh all nations as showers water the earth. Send messengers of your grace throughout the world, that the light of your glory may rise on those who are covered in darkness. Let your good news be proclaimed to every nation, tribe, people, and language, that they may be gathered into your kingdom and confess Jesus Christ as Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Jonah 3:1-5

Jonah did not want to share the word of God with his enemies, but when he did, God used it to bring them, and Jonah to repentance.

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: ²"Get up. Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you."

³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh just as the word of the Lord had commanded.

Now Nineveh was a great city to God. It required a three-day walk. ⁴Jonah walked through the city for a day, and he called out, "Forty more days and Nineveh is going to be overthrown!"

⁵The men of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least. (EHV)

M The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying | **573**

1 Hark! the voice of Jesus crying, "Who will go and work today?
Fields are ripe and harvests waiting; Who will bear the sheaves away?"
Loud and long the Master calleth; Rich reward he offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying, "Here am I—send me, send me"?

2 If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus; You can say he died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked With the Judgment's dread alarms,
You can lead the little children To the Savior's waiting arms.

3 If you cannot be a watchman, Standing high on Zion's wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven, Off'ring life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your off'rings You can do what God demands;
You can be like faithful Aaron, Holding up the prophet's hands.

4 Let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do,"
While the multitudes are dying, And the Master calls for you.
Take the task he gives you gladly; Let his work your pleasure be.
Answer quickly when he calleth, "Here am I—send me, send me!"

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Each Christian has a ministry motivated by what God has done for us in Jesus. We urge everyone we meet to be reconciled to God in Christ.

¹⁴For the love of Christ compels us, because we came to this conclusion: One died for all; therefore, all died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live would no longer live for themselves but for him, who died in their place and was raised again.

¹⁶As a result, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we knew Christ according to the flesh, we no longer know him that way. ¹⁷So then, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. The new has come!

¹⁸And all these things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. ¹⁹That is, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them. And he has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, inasmuch as God is making an appeal through us. We urge you, on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

²¹God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him. (EHV)

M The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:14-20

please stand, if able

[M] The Gospel according to Mark chapter 1.

¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. ¹⁵"The time is fulfilled," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near! Repent, and believe in the gospel."

¹⁶As Jesus was going along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, since they were fishermen. ¹⁷Jesus said to them, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." ¹⁸Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹Going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately Jesus called them. They left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him. (EHV)

[M] This Is the Gospel of the Lord

[C] Praise be to you, O Christ!

be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Christ, Who Called the Twelve | **770**

1 O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and follow you,
Forsaking old, familiar ways For ventures bold and new:
Grant us to hear your call To risk security
And, bound in heart and will to you, Find perfect liberty.

2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for ages sealed,
Whose words and works awakened faith, The ways of God revealed:
Instruct us now, we pray, By your empow'ring Word.
True teacher, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.

3 O Christ, who sent the Twelve On roads they'd never trod
To serve, to suffer, teach, proclaim The nearer reign of God:
Send us on ways where faith Transcends timidity,
Where love informs and hope sustains Both life and ministry.

4 O Christ, th'apostles' Lord, The martyrs' strength and song,
The crucified and risen King To whom the saints belong:
Though generations pass, Our tribute still we bring,
Our hymns a sacrifice of praise, Our lives an offering.

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN

I Hear the Savior Calling | 560

1 I hear the Savior calling! The gospel comes to me.
My eyes once closed in blindness Are opened now to see
That I myself was helpless To live eternally,
But, dying, Christ did save me, And now he calls for me!

2 I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.
The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord's decree
That all have been forgiven—My Savior calls for me!

3 I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me:
To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.
Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key
We spread the gospel tidings—My Savior calls for me!

4 I hear the Savior calling! He changes hearts for me.
From door to door I witness To bring my Savior's plea;
Yet nothing can be added, No word on bended knee,
Beyond the simple gospel—My Savior calls for me!

5 I hear the Savior calling! His call has urgency!
Each moment souls are dying; Soon comes eternity.
And so, my precious Savior, This is my humble plea:
Prepare me for my mission For you are calling me!

OFFERING

1 Corinthians 16:2 (NIV) On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[M] O Almighty God, whose Son died on the cross to redeem all the people of the earth,

[C] **Open our eyes to see that the harvest of souls is plentiful but the workers are few.**

[M] Open our hearts to a sincere concern for the souls of those who will be lost without you.

[C] **Open our wallets to support the preaching of your Word in all the earth, and hear our prayer for your help and blessing.**

[M] Look with compassion on the millions of people who are still sitting in spiritual darkness under the shadow of death – both those near at hand and those far away.

[C] **Wherever your consecrated workers are proclaiming your message of salvation support them in their efforts and bless the labors of their hands.**

[M] O Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit on us that we also might be active in sharing your Word with others.

- C** **Help us personally to speak your message of salvation to others and help us overcome our fear of witnessing to your holy name.**
- M** Bless our Wisconsin Synod and our ministerial education schools to prepare pastors, teachers, and staff ministers who see themselves as missionaries.
- C** **Touch the hearts of many young people with a deep love for you. Move many of them to commit their lives to a career in the public ministry.**
- M** On this Mission Festival we pray that you bless your missions, as you have promised.
- C** **Let the workers be sent out, supported, and sustained. Let the communion of saints grow and expand in all the earth, and use each and every one of us in this blessed harvest.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

- M** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions for the successful sharing of your Word in all the world.

Silent prayer.

- M** These things we ask in Jesus' name, as we also pray:

- C** **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in 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.**

BLESSING

- M** May God the Father, who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light, lead you to let your light shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

May God the Son, who for the glory that was set before Him, endured the cross and its shame to reconcile you to God move you to carry out the ministry of reconciliation.

May God the Holy Spirit, who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light, lead you to call out to all you meet, "Be reconciled to God through Jesus."

- C** **Amen.**

1 I love to tell the story Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, Of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story Because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings As nothing else can do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story, For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting To hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story That I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and his love.



News and Announcements

Today: 10:30 Worship – Mission Festival

Wednesday: 7:00 PM Online Bible Study Lesson 3

Saturday: 10:30 AM BIC

Sunday: 10:30 Worship with Communion
Elders Meet

Mission Festival: The voters have stated that any designated offering given in the special envelope today will be sent to WELS World Missions.

Congregational Meeting/Open Forum: Everyone is invited and welcome to stay after church on February 7 for a congregational meeting/open forum. The voters desire to hear your input on the possibility of sharing a pastor with NELHS and dissolving the dual parish with Grace.

Ms. Laurel Coates has chosen to accept a call to the preschool at our church in Salina KS. The Trinity Board will be meeting to discuss the calling of a teacher for the lower grades. Your prayers, suggestions and comments are welcome.

The latest Bethel News has been sent electronically and a hard copy is in your mailbox.

The Bethel Women's Guild will meet at a new time, 10:30 AM on February 1. All women are welcome, moms are welcome to bring their children with them.

Given to the Lord: Attendance: Worship 76, Facebook: live 6, Clicks 17, Faithlife audio/slides 14. Wednesday Online Bible Study 0 from Bethel. Offerings: For operating expenses, Given 935.40, Needed 2,870.30. **To God be the glory!**

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