



THE STRUGGLE IS RELENTLESS

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church | York, NE

March 21, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship the Lord with us today. Large print hymnals and hearing assisted 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.

Connection cards: 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.

Worship Leader
Organist

Pastor Mark A. Haefner

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Art: corissanelson.com

THE COMMON SERVICE

"The Common Service" is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church. It became the service commonly used by English-speaking Lutherans in America. It is also in CW pg. 15.

OPENING HYMN

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle | 122

1 Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle; Sing the ending of the fray.
Now above the cross, the trophy, Sound the loud triumphant lay.
Tell how Christ, the world's Redeemer, As a victim won the day.

2 Tell how, when at length the fullness Of th' appointed time was come,
He, the Word, was born of woman, Left for us his Father's home,
Blazed the path of true obedience, Shone as light amidst the gloom.

3 Thus, with thirty years accomplished, He went forth from Nazareth,
Destined, dedicated, willing, Did his work and met his death;
Like a lamb he humbly yielded On the cross his dying breath.

4 Faithful cross, true sign of triumph, Be for all the noblest tree;
None in foliage, none in blossom, None in fruit your equal be,
Symbol of the world's redemption, For your burden makes us free.

5 Unto God be praise and glory; To the Father and the Son,
To th' eternal Spirit honor Now and evermore be done—
Praise and glory in the highest While the timeless ages run.

INVOCATION¹

please stand, if able

[M] In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.




¹ These words, which Jesus spoke when he instituted Holy Baptism (Matthew 28:19), remind us that we approach God as his adopted children. The sign of the cross, which the pastor makes also when pronouncing the absolution, is made over people when they are baptized to signify that they have been redeemed by Christ, the crucified and risen Lord.

CONFESSION

M Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, 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: A - men.

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

♪ Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains (CW 103)
Poured for me the lifeblood From his sacred veins.

**Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;
Blest be his compassion, Infinitely kind.**

**Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream
Which from endless torments Did the world redeem.**

**Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹Yes, the days are coming, declares the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah.

³²It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers,
when I took them by the hand
and led them out of the land of Egypt.

They broke that covenant of mine,
although I was a husband to them, declares the Lord.

³³But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days,
declares the Lord.

I will put my law in their minds,
and I will write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

³⁴No longer will each one teach his neighbor,
or each one teach his brother, saying, "Know the Lord,"
because they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord,
for I will forgive their guilt,
and I will remember their sins no more. (EHV)


M The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM OF THE DAY

143

Refrain



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Psalm tone



*

O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;^{*}
in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.

Do not bring your servant into judgment,^{*}
for no one living is righteous before you.

My spirit grows faint within me;^{*}
my heart within me is dismayed.

Refrain

Answer me quickly, O LORD;*
do not hide your face from me.

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,*
for I have put my trust in you.

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;*
may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 5:7-10

⁷In the days of his flesh he offered prayers and pleas with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was the Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. ⁹After he was brought to his goal, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him, ¹⁰because he was designated by God as a high priest, like Melchizedek. (EHV)

M The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE OF THE DAY

M The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

**See all your sins on Jesus laid; The Lamb of God was slain. (CW 340)
His life was once an off'ring made That you might live again.**

**Glory to God and praise and love Be ever, ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.**

please stand, if able

M The Gospel according to John chapter 12.



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." ²²Philip went to tell Andrew. Andrew came with Philip and told Jesus.

²³Jesus answered them, "The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it continues to be one kernel. But if it dies, it produces much grain. ²⁵Anyone who loves his life destroys it. And the one who hates his life in this world will hold on to it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves me, let him follow me. And where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, this is the reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!"

A voice came from heaven: "I have glorified my name, and I will glorify it again."

²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said it thundered. Others said an angel talked to him. ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice was not for my sake but for yours.

³¹"Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be thrown out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate what kind of death he was going to die. (EHV)

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

be seated

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.**

be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing | 121

1 Jesus, grant that balm and healing In your holy wounds I find,
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within Tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,
Show the peril, and from sinning Keep me from its first beginning.

2 Should some lust or sharp temptation Fascinate my sinful mind,
Let me think about your passion, And new courage I shall find.
Or should Satan press me hard, Let me then be on my guard,
Saying, "Christ for me was wounded," That the tempter flee confounded.

3 If the world my heart entices With the broad and easy road,
With seductive, sinful vices, Let me think about the load
You were willing to endure; Then I'll flee all thoughts impure,
Mastering each wild temptation, Calm in prayer and meditation.

4 Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me By your wounds, Lord, is made whole;
When I'm weak, your cross revives me, Granting new life to my soul.
Yes, your comfort renders sweet Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;
For your all-atoning passion Has procured my soul's salvation.

5 O my God, my Rock and Tower, Grant that in your death I trust,
Knowing death has lost his power Since you crushed him in the dust.
Savior, let your agony Ever help and comfort me;
When I die be my protection, Light and life and resurrection.

SERMON

¹LORD, hear my prayer.

Give ear to my cry for mercy.

In your faithfulness, answer me in your righteousness.

²Do not bring charges against your servant,
because no one living can be righteous before you.

³For the enemy pursues my soul.

He crushes my life to the ground.

He makes me dwell in dark places like those long dead,

⁴so my spirit grows faint inside me.

Within me my heart is devastated.

⁵I remember the days of long ago.

I meditate on all your works,

and I consider what your hands have done.

⁶I spread out my hands to you.

My soul thirsts for you like a weary land.

⁷Hurry! Answer me, LORD.

My spirit fails.

Do not hide your face from me,

or I will be like those who go down to the pit.

⁸Let me hear about your mercy in the morning,
for I trust in you.

Teach me the way that I should go,

for I lift up my soul to you.

⁹Rescue me from my enemies, O LORD,

for I hide myself in you.

¹⁰Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God.

May your good Spirit lead me on level ground.


¹¹For the sake of your name, O LORD, preserve my life.

In your righteousness, bring me out of trouble.

¹²In your mercy, wipe out my enemies,
and destroy all who threaten my life,
for I am your servant.

please stand, if able

OFFERTORY



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

be seated

OFFERING *The offering will not be gathered – please place your offering in the plate located in the entry or make use of our options for online giving.*

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 Lord God: for the revelation of your matchless love in the gift of your Son; for the gift of eternal redemption through his sufferings and death; for the promise of an eternal inheritance through his resurrection; and for his sanctifying grace,

C **We give you thanks and praise each day.**

M Help us at all times to be faithful to your Word, to be obedient to your will, and to honor you by our faith and life.

C **Lift up your Church, O God, that we may be saved from all weakness and failure, and empowered for holy service.**

M Govern the nations of the earth that people everywhere may live in peace and safety. Give your grace to our homes and schools that youth may be trained for usefulness in this life and for entrance into the life eternal.

C **Empower our youth to turn to you in every time of temptation.**

M Bless all who labor with mind or hand in providing the necessities by which we must live, and give them understanding that in all human toil we are accountable to you.

C **Forgive us all our sins and deliver us from the power of the devil.**

M Be the comforter of the suffering and afflicted, the support of the aged, the supply of the needy, the protector of the fatherless, and the Savior of all people.

Special prayers of thanksgiving or intercession may be spoken.

M Bless your people, O Lord, and let your kingdom come that we may delight in the endless glory you have prepared for us. In the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, we pray.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

HYMN

Jesus, Lead Us On | **422**

- 1 Jesus, lead us on Till our rest is won;
And although the way be cheerless, We will follow, calm and fearless.
Guide us by your hand To our fatherland.
- 2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near,
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us; Let not faith and hope forsake us,
For through many a woe To our home we go.
- 3 When we seek relief From a long-felt grief,
When temptations come alluring, Make us patient and enduring;
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.
- 4 Jesus, still lead on Till our rest is won.
Heav'nly Leader, still direct us; Still support, console, protect us
Till we safely stand In our fatherland.

PRAYER

- M** Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

- M** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and \oplus give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me | 439

- 1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way;
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.
Without your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.
- 2 Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;
For you, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.
Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when your hand is guiding, In peace I go.
- 3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,
I know that you will strengthen My steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: 10:30 AM Worship
4:00 PM NELHS Easter Concert

Monday: 6:30 AM Catechism online

Wednesday: 6:30 PM Lenten Worship

Saturday:

9:00 AM NELHS Workday
10:30 AM Bible Information
1:00 PM Easter Invitation Door Hanging

Sunday: 10:30 AM Worship with Communion
Elders

Easter invitation cards are in your boxes. Extras are set out in the entry. Invite a friend or neighbor to join us for Easter!

Weather permitting, Pastor Haefner is planning to put out Easter invitation door hangers in some new areas in York. Let him know if you want to help.

If you want to provide flowers for the altar on Easter please bring them to church by Good Friday.

Maundy Thursday worship is at Grace in Seward, Good Friday worship is at Bethel in York. Both services are at 6:30 PM.



Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bethelyork



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

Given to the Lord: Attendance: In Person 55, Facebook live 7, Post clicks 30, online slides 30, Offerings General Fund needed 2,870.30, Given 2,266.80, Trinity 45.00. Lent: Attendance: 46, Facebook Live 6, Offerings: 340.00. **To God be the glory!**

