

***The Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 6, 2025***

PRELUDE:

“Fairest Lord Jesus”
~Lloyd Larson

Crescendo Bells

WELCOME

OPENING SONG: “United in Christ”

Verse 1

People of the Lord come now and sing
Every nation and tongue to Christ our King
With empty hands His gifts receive

Verse 2

Whether young or old you're a child of God
Whether rich or poor no matter what you got
He gathers all at the foot of the cross

Chorus

His body broken makes this body whole
His resurrection it assures us all
No darkness nor doubting nor pain in this life
Could keep us from being united in Christ

Verse 3

Sinners and saints you have a place
With the Spirit's gifts proclaim His grace
There's nothing too small
To be used by the Living God

Bridge

We are the body Christ is the head
Sealed with the promise through blood He shed
We are the body Christ is the head
His grace the heartbeat our confidence
We are the body Christ is the head
Sealed with the promise through blood He shed
We are the body Christ is the head
His grace the heartbeat our confidence
Our confidence

Tag

No darkness nor doubting nor pain in this life
Could keep us from being united in Christ

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: This is the day which the Lord has made;

P: **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

L: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

P: **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

L: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

P: **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.**

L: Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

P: **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

L: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

P: **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

L: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

P: **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P: **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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

L: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

P: **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.**

P: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

L: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

P: **Amen.**

Bridge

We are the body Christ is the head

Sealed with the promise through blood He shed

We are the body Christ is the head

His grace the heartbeat our confidence

We are the body Christ is the head
Sealed with the promise through blood He shed
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Tag

No darkness nor doubting nor pain in this life
Could keep us from being united in Christ

OLD TESTAMENT: *Isaiah 43:16-21*

The Lord makes a path through the sea
and a road through the strong currents.
He leads chariots and horses, an army and reinforcements.
(They lie down together and do not get up again.
They are extinguished and snuffed out like a wick.)

This is what the Lord says:

Forget what happened in the past,
and do not dwell on events from long ago.
I am going to do something new.
It is already happening. Don't you recognize it?
I will clear a way in the desert.
I will make rivers on dry land.
Wild animals, jackals, and ostriches will honor me.
I will provide water in the desert.
I will make rivers on the dry land for my chosen people to drink.
I have formed these people for myself.
They will praise Me.— GW®

EPISTLE: *Philippians 3:8-14*

It's far more than that! I consider everything else worthless because I'm much better off knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. It's because of Him that I think of everything as worthless. I threw it all away in order to gain Christ and to have a relationship with Him. This means that I didn't receive God's approval by obeying His laws. The opposite is true! I have God's approval through faith in Christ. This is the approval that comes from God and is based on faith that knows Christ. Faith knows the power that his coming back to life gives and what it means to share His suffering. In this way I'm becoming like Him in His death, with the confidence that I'll come back to life from the dead.

It's not that I've already reached the goal or have already completed the course. But I run to win that which Jesus Christ has already won for me. Brothers and sisters, I can't consider myself a winner yet. This is what I do: I don't look back, I lengthen my stride, and I run straight toward the goal to win the prize that God's heavenly call offers in Christ Jesus. — GW®

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: **“Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me”**

Worship Band

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL: *Luke 20:9-20*

Then, using this illustration, Jesus spoke to the people: “A man planted a vineyard, leased it to vineyard workers, and went on a long trip.

“At the right time he sent a servant to the workers to obtain from them a share of the grapes from the vineyard. But the workers beat the servant and sent him back with nothing. So he sent a different servant. The workers beat him, treated him shamefully, and sent him back with nothing. Then he sent a third servant. But they injured this one and threw him out of the vineyard.

“Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What should I do? I’ll send my son, whom I love. They’ll probably respect him.’

“When the workers saw him, they talked it over among themselves. They said, ‘This is the heir. Let’s kill him so that the inheritance will be ours.’ So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

“What will the owner of the vineyard do to them? He will destroy these workers and give the vineyard to others.”

Those who heard Him said, “That’s unthinkable!”

Then Jesus looked straight at them and asked, “What, then, does this Scripture verse mean:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone’?

Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken. If that stone falls on anyone, it will crush that person.”

The experts in Moses’ Teachings and the chief priests wanted to arrest Him right there, but they were afraid of the people. They knew that He had directed this illustration at them.

So they watched for an opportunity to send out some spies. The spies were to act like sincere religious people. They wanted to catch Him saying the wrong thing so that they could hand Him over to the governor. — GW®

SERMON SONG: “The God Who Bleeds”

Verse 1

O my soul
Who could ever know
How deep my sins go
O my soul
All the gold
On the earth could never pay
For the debt that I have made
On my soul

Chorus 1

Now I see
Just how great my need
In His hands and in His feet
Lamb of God
Oh my soul shall sing
All glory to the God who bleeds

Verse 2

Oh what love
Knew I'd never have enough
So He chose to pay in blood
Oh what love
I'm in awe
Every earthly gain is lost
At the wonder of the cross
Oh what love

Bridge 1

See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow down for me
Forever all my praise will be
Glory to the God who bleeds
See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow down for me
Forever all my praise will be
Glory to the God who bleeds

Tag 1

All glory to the God who bleeds

SERMON: *“Yearning to be received and to give”*

Luke 20:9-20

SONG OF THE DAY: “Cornerstone”

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name (REPEAT)

Chorus

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all

Verse 2

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

Interlude

He is Lord Lord of all

Verse 3

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

CONSECRATION OF GIFTS:

L: Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a tribute far too small;

P: love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

THE APOSTLES' CREED (**catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day He rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: Almighty and eternal God, because it was Your will that Your Son should bear the pains of the cross for us and thus remove from us the power of the adversary, strengthen us by Your Spirit to trust in Your mercy and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

L: I cry to You, O Lord;
P: in the morning my prayer comes before You.

L: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
P: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

L: My mouth is filled with Your praise,
P: and with Your glory all the day.

L: Every day I will bless You
P: and praise Your name forever and ever.

L: By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness,
P: O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul;
P: **and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**
L: He redeems your life from the pit
P: **and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.**
L: Hear my prayer, O Lord;
P: **let my cry come to You.**
L: Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,
P: **have mercy and hear us.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**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.**

✠ Holy Communion ✠

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are **alcohol free**.
The wafers on the stand next to the pillar pulpit side (when kneeling for communion) or on the
stand in front of the baptismal font (when processing for communion) are **gluten free**.*

*In our 9:30 am service, we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not
kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain
standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to
return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.*

DISTRIBUTION SONGS: “Chief of Sinners”

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.
- 2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought!
Found me when I sought Him not.
- 3 Only Jesus can impart
Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.
- 4 Chief of sinners though I be,
Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known,
All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life
Safe with Him from earthly strife.
- 5 O my Savior, help afford
By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

“Faithful”

Verse 1

We had chosen the kings of this world
All the glory and glitter and gold
Though our kingdoms fell down
We keep asking for crowns
We'd reject you to sell our own souls

Verse 2

When you showed us the wonders we wanted
We laid palms down and shouted your praise
But when you weren't the king
That we thought you should be
We mocked you and spat in your face

Chorus

You are faithful faithful
Though your people turn away
You are faithful faithful
You are faithful every day

Verse 3

When you gave us the choice we took Caesar
And set a murderer free
We put nails in your hands nails in your feet
Then we hung you to die on a tree

Verse 4

When like Thomas it's hard to imagine
And we still want to see to believe
You don't scoff at our doubts
You hold your hands out
All your kingdom is ours to receive

Tag

You are faithful every day
You are faithful every day

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

L: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

P: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG: “Glory be to Jesus”

Verse 1

Glory be to Jesus who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood from His sacred veins
Grace and life eternal in that blood I find
Blest be His compassion infinitely kind

Chorus 1

We lift our voices singing praise to Your name
For the mercy that flows from the Lamb who was slain

Verse 2

Blest through endless ages be the precious stream
Which from endless torment did the world redeem
Abel's blood for vengeance pleaded to the skies
But the blood of Jesus for our pardon cries

Chorus 2

We lift our voices singing praise to Your name
For the mercy that flows from the Lamb
We lift our voices singing praise to Your name
For the mercy that flows from the Lamb who was slain

Bridge 1

Praise You I will never cease to praise You
Praise You I will never cease to praise You

Bridge 2

We'll not be silent we'll shout it aloud
Letting all the world know of this Love
We'll not be silent we'll shout it aloud
Letting all the world know of this Love

POSTLUDE

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"United in Christ"

CCLI Song #7226512; Blake Flattley, Kyle Borcharding, Michael Verburg

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"Yet Not I but Through Christ In Me"

CCLI Song# 7121852

Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson

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"God who Bleeds"

CCLI Song # 7256772

Benji Cowart | Cara Berg | Jon Gruen | Matt Preston

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"Cornerstone"

CCLI Song #6158927

Words: Edward Mote| Jonas Myrin |Reuben Morgan |Eric Liljero

Music: William Bradbury |Jonas Myrin |Reuben Morgan

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"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" LSB 425 Stanza 4 Text only; Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Text: Public domain.

"Chief of Sinners Though I Be" LSB 611

Text: William McComb, 1793-1873, alt.

Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820-1901; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941.

Text and music: Public domain.

"Faithful"

CCLI Song # 7208291

Blake Flattley | Kip Fox

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"Glory be to Jesus" LSB 433

Edward Caswall | Friedrich Filitz;

CCLI Song # 706406

Arr. Blake Flattley | Brian T. Murphy | Jay Foote

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SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Lector 8:00...Ruth Lopez

Liturgist...Pastor Kevin Kritzer

Artist in Residence...Blake Flattley

Crescendo Bells Director...Sara Cerulle

Lector 9:30...Greg Goebel

Preacher...Vicar John Alwood

Keyboard...Pat Gagan

Children's Message...Gina Bertania

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If You're a Visitor, WELCOME! We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. If you would like more information about Bethany and its ministries, please scan the QR code to the right. You will be directed to Bethany's fillable information form.



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Mid-Week Lenten Worship: “The Prophet & the palate”

In both prophetic utterance and descriptive reflection The Prophet, Isaiah, employs meal metaphors when speaking of the rebellion of the Lord's people and the redemption and deliverance He has worked on their (our) behalf. So that we might again taste and see the goodness of the Lord, this Lent we will gather together, connect over a meal and conversation, and hear the Word of the Lord through the mouth of Isaiah:
The Prophet & the palate.

Wednesday Lenten Worship

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm—in the gymnasium

April 9 - “Belly Up to the Well of Salvation” - Isaiah 12:1-6

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HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES:

PALM SUNDAY Worship Services

Sunday, April 13 at 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY Worship Service

Thursday, April 17 at 6:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY Worship Services

Friday, April 18 at 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm

EASTER FESTIVAL Worship Services

Sunday, April 20 at 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am



Please visit our websites to find out more about our Church, School and Preschool. Get weekly updates by signing up for the **Bethany Bullet**—our weekly capsule of worship highlights and campus-wide information.

Bethany Lutheran Church and its Ministries are found at: www.bethanylutheran.org

Bethany Lutheran School information can be found by visiting their website at:
www.bethanylutheran.org/school/

Bethany Preschool's website: www.bethanylutheran.org/preschool/

To sign up for the weekly **Bethany Bullet**: <https://bit.ly/BethanyBulletSignUp>



DONATE TO BETHANY'S FLOWER FUND!

Flowers are used to decorate the altar every Sunday, for special seasons such as Christmas and Easter, as well as other important dates during the church calendar. You are able to make two types of donations to the Altar Flower Fund: a general donation and a special request with recognition.



- **A SPECIAL REQUEST WITH RECOGNITION*** is a special type of Altar Flower donation. This request will be printed in the bulletin. For example, it could be given in memory of a person who has gone before us, for a wedding anniversary, baptismal birthday or a birthday celebration, etc. **This recognition has a suggested donation of \$75.**
- **A GENERAL DONATION TO THE ALTAR FLOWER FUND** enables Bethany to have flowers in worship and for our shut-in and hospitalized members to receive flowers from our flower ministry team, even when no one has ordered flowers for specific purposes on Sunday. **This General Donation is for any amount you wish to give.**

*If you are making a **Special Request with Recognition**, please use this form to let us know of your donation **for a specific Sunday date** and what the significance of that donation is towards. **IMPORTANT:** Please complete this form at least **2 weeks prior** to that date, so that information regarding your donation can be printed in the Sunday bulletin for the date requested.

Sign up to donate to Bethany's Altar Flower Fund, please use this URL:

<https://bit.ly/BLCAltarFlowers>



Or scan Bethany's Flower Fund QR code to the right: