

# Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 10



## Prelude Music

## Announcements

### Call to Worship

P: Come, all who are thirsty.

**C: Come, all who are seeking.**

P: Come, all who are waiting.

**C: Come, all who labor.**

P: Come, all who need rest.

**C: Come, all who dream dreams.**

P: Come—whether you're young or old, confident or curious, lonely or hopeful.

**C: This is God's house. All are welcome here. Let us worship holy God.**



### Call to Confession

A: There is something so healing, so life-giving, about telling our stories. In the prayer of confession, that is what we get to do. The mask comes off. Any pretense of perfection is removed. We let the pressure to perform slip away and we sit here, face to face with God, sharing honestly who we long to be. Friends, there is healing here. There is life to be gained here. So join me in this moment of honesty. Join me in the prayer of confession.

### Prayer of Confession

**C: Holy God, we treat our self-worth like something that can be bought at a store; but you know this even better than we do. Instead of trusting that we are made good, instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are, we stockpile our value in earthly things—in trophies and awards, in likes and follows, in wealth and power. Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick. Heal our open wounds and tell our hearts that we won't be forgotten if we slow down. We won't be forgotten if we rest. Gratefully we pray, amen.**

### Words of Forgiveness

P: Friends, take a deep breath. Release the tension in your jaw. There is good news here. For even when we stumble, even when we take the easy way out, even when we forget our own self-worth, even when we lose our way—we belong to God. Say it with me—

**C: We are loved. We are claimed. We are under God's wing. We are worthy of grace. We belong to God. Amen.**

### Gathering Song:

***I've Just Come From the Fountain***

**WOV 696**

I've just come from the fountain, I've just come from the fountain, Lord, I've just come from the fountain,  
his name's so sweet. O Lord, I've just come from the fountain, I've just come from the fountain,  
Lord, I've just come from the fountain, his name's so sweet.

O brother, do you love Jesus? Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus. Brother, do you love Jesus? His name's so sweet.

O Lord, I've just come from the fountain, I've just come from the fountain, Lord, I've just come from the fountain,  
his name's so sweet.

*(continued on next page)*

O sister, do you love Jesus? Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus. Sister, do you love Jesus? His name's so sweet.

O Lord, I've just come from the fountain, I've just come from the fountain, Lord, I've just come from the fountain, his name's so sweet.

O sinner, do you love Jesus? Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus. Sinner, do you love Jesus? His name's so sweet.

O Lord, I've just come from the fountain, I've just come from the fountain, Lord, I've just come from the fountain, his name's so sweet.

## Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all!

C: **And also with you!**

## Kyrie

p. 203



5203

1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.

We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

C: **Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

*To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.*

1 Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. 3 Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. 4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. 5 See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. 6 Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; 7 let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

L: The Word of the Lord C: **Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 63:1-8

1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.

3 For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

4 So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

5 My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

6 when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.

7 For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

8 My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

## Gospel Acclamation:

## Lenten Acclamation

ELW 176

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

## Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

*Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.*

P: A reading from... **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

1 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? 3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 4 Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” 6 Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7 So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ 8 He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. 9 If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Peggy Burns S.A.M.

## Song of the Day:

*As Rain From the Clouds*

ELW 508

## Prayer for Illumination

P: God of fig trees and foxes, of today and tomorrow, we would like to ask that you scoop us up. Pick us up like a great gust of wind. Startle us awake like a first love. Light a fire in us like tomorrow depends on today. Do all of this to get our attention and then turn us toward you. We are a scattered people, God. The world is moving faster than we can keep up. So we pray—scoop us up. Catch our eye. Open our ears. Capture our attention. We are here. We long to be close to you. Amen.

## Affirmation of Faith

C: We believe that the God of the cosmos is at work here. We believe that God is fertilizing the soil. We believe that God is planting roots. We believe that God is growing fruit that is yet to be tasted. But until that promised day when the fig tree stands tall and swords are beaten into plowshares, we believe: when our work does not bear fruit, God still loves us. When our soil grows dry and cracked, God still longs for us. When all seems hopeless here on earth, God holds hope for us. The God of the cosmos is at work here. We believe. Help our unbelief. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

## Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

*(continued on next page)*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Prayers of the Church / Sign of the Peace** *(Let us give one another a sign of peace according to your comfort level.)*

## Offering

Offering Song:

*Zeke Clemons*

Offertory:

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

*ELW 188*

## Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray together.

C: 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.

## 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.

## Final Blessing

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, † bless you now and forever.  
C: Amen.

## Sending Song:

*My Life Flows on in Endless Song*

ELW 763

## Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.



**Bethlehem** March 23, 2025  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1050 Peninsula Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
(231) 947-9880  
[www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3/23—Neal Kibby

3/24—Verna Farley

3/26—Terry Lautner

3/26—Kristine Smith

3/27—Shawn Antol

3/27—Dale Thiel

3/27—Miriam “Beth” Chan

3/28—Paul Ton

3/29—Betsy Morley

3/29—Erin Word

## Worship Servants for March 23

Worship Leader and Preacher: Peggy Burns

Assisting Minister—Barbara Wright

Lector—Pam Reid

Musicians: Zeke Clemons, Denice Bossardet

Today's altar flowers are donated: *No Flowers during Lent*

Hospitality—Jim / Dorene Boyd

A/V—Dale Wentzloff / Paul Ton

Cookies/Coffee—VOLUNTEER / Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—Kristen Rivard

Bell Ringer—Dave Susalski

Front Door Monitors—Kristen Rivard

Altar Guild—NO COMMUNION

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Laura Hahn / Mike McCarty

**WE NEED YOU!!!!** Can you do something more? What about stepping forward to being on council? There will be three-3 year positions and two-2 year positions open because of some unexpected relocations of some council members during the past year. There will also be openings on the Sustaining Endowment and Mission Endowment Committees. Please submit your names to anyone on council, on those committees or in the office. And even if you cannot volunteer, please try to be at the Congregational Meeting on June 8 after the service to learn what's going on and to VOTE.

**THRIVENT FUNDS BENEFIT BETHLEHEM:** Many of you hear about the special grants we receive from Thrivent for action teams. But there are also “Thrivent Choice Dollars” designated by Thrivent members to benefit Bethlehem. As of this date \$1,359 was sent to Bethlehem from 2024 as requested by Thrivent members. If you are a Thrivent member you only have until March 31 to direct any remaining 2024 funds. If not done, the money goes into a general donation “pot”, never to be seen by Bethlehem. It’s as easy as a few computer clicks.

**Dear Bethlehem Family and Friends,** I am writing to thank each one of you for your prayers, cards, calls, notes, flowers, and small gifts. I appreciate them so much! It has also been wonderful for the folks who have stepped up and provided transportation to a myriad of doctor appointments. I am improving since my fall in January, but it seems like a slow process. The doctor granted me permission to drive locally and only for short time spans. The frontal lobe of my brain is still healing and it is hoped I will make a full recovery in about three months. It has been great to know that when I have needed it, an abundance of support and love have made my situation much easier. With love and gratitude, Carolyn Mann

**BOOK CLUB NEWS:** The next meeting will be **Wed, Apr 16 at 5:30.** We will be reading “*Remarkably Bright Creatures*” by Shelby Van Pelt. Please enter the kitchen door and join us in the Fellowship Hall if you like to discuss good books. Any questions can be directed to Cindy Monroe at [cmonroe@chartermi.net](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net).

**The season of Lent is here, and the promise of Easter is just around the corner.**

From the Fellowship Committee’s perspective, that means planning for food and fellowship during this holy season.

- There will be meals before the Lenten services on March 27, and April 3.
- Meals will be at 5:45 followed by the service at 7:00.
- Kitchen help would be greatly appreciated; you pick the dates that work for you. Any questions, please contact Gail Goldsmith [ggoldsmith74@gmail.com](mailto:ggoldsmith74@gmail.com) Or 231-633-2630. Thank you! There will be a sign-up in the Narthex
- There will be a Seder meal at 5:30pm prior to the Living Last Supper presentation on April 10th.

**Lenten Service Schedule:**

March 27– Holden Evening Prayer, 7:00pm  
April 3—Taize 1, 7:00pm  
April 10—Living Last Supper, 7:00pm

**Lenten Dinners**

**Dinners will begin at 5:45**

- March 27th Laura Hahn’s Beef vegetable soup, salad, bread, Pam Reid’s mystery cupcakes, iced tea and lemonade.
- April 3rd Terry Farmer is making Italian beef, we will have cheese and buns for the sandwiches. Also coleslaw, cheesy potatoes, carrot cake, lemonade and iced tea.
- April 10th will be the Last Supper Reenactment at Bethlehem and we will invite community members and the actors for dinner. We will have foods similar to a Passover Seder. Norm Fred is making matzo ball soup, Terry Farmer is making brisket, the Fellowship Committee will make baked chicken, a vegetable rice dish, salad, Charoset with matzo crackers with macaroons for dessert and drinks. **This dinner will begin at 5:30.**

**Holy Week services – all services are Live Streamed except Easter 8:00am**

April 13 – Palm Sunday, 10:00am  
April 17 – Maundy Thursday, 7:00pm  
April 18 – Good Friday, 7:00pm  
April 19 –Easter Vigil, 7:00pm  
April 20—Easter Brunch 9:00am  
April 20 – Easter Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am (only 10:00am Live Streamed)

**CHAIR YOGA:** Chair Yoga continues every Monday at 3:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5.00 per person. It is slow paced stretches that helps with balance, flexibility and relaxation. Come and try it out.

**NEW MEMBER RECEPTION:** We welcome the following new members on either April 27 or May 4 during the 10:00 service. Please greet them after the service.

Linda Hansen sponsored by Brian and Laura Acker and family  
Fred and Linda Reyelts sponsored by Chris and Renna' Walter  
Brad Schuler sponsored by Zeke Clemons  
Dave and Lindsay Susalski sponsored by Peggy Burns  
Gail Tokie (returning member) sponsored by Jacky Putman

**Scottish Country Folk Dancing at BLC:** Some of you have come to the Contra dance on Sat nights here at BLC. Here is a chance to watch or try something a little different. The first gathering will be held on Sunday Apr 27 beginning at 12:30. You can have "dessert first" with your BLC friends and then meet some friendly Scottish folks in their plaid kilts who will share a potluck meal including haggis and shortbread. Then you can have a chance to try some basic moves in Scottish country folk dancing. This first event will be free for anyone who is interested.

**What IS GRIEVING?** Could it be the loss of a marriage, your home, or community, good health, a dream or something else? The list can go on and on. No matter the loss you have a family here at Bethlehem that loves you, wants to support you, and be here for you! We meet here on the first Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30 and on the third Monday from 5:30-6:30. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Burns 231-392-6913.

**Bethlehem will take the third Tuesday of the month for May, June, July, August, and September to staff volunteer positions at Safe Harbor.** That's tentatively May 20; June 17; July 15; August 19; and September 16. Need four volunteers for each of those nights (Remember, 3 professional staff will lead); one Bethlehem volunteer in the morning.

Volunteer staffing - 4 total in evening and one in the morning; Please sign up; I'll be in touch.

- Facility Manager (6:00 or so to 9:30 or so)
- Shelter Prep/Check-in (6:00 to 8:30)
- Shelter Prep/Floater (runner, guest meds, FM assist) (6:00 to 8:30)
- Check-in Assistant (6:00-8:30)
- Morning Volunteer (7:00AM to 9:30AM) This is the following morning...

(I have noted 6:00PM for all positions- until 8:30PM- Facility Manager may run an hour later)

This costs us nothing but our efforts... Sign up in the Gathering Space. Please call BLC Safe Harbor Coordinator Tom Rockne with questions...and your commitment! 231-631-0040... Yes, also planning a BLC Hot Dog Picnic at Safe Harbor on June 25... Check with Tom on this... Make a green salad? Potato salad? Macaroni salad? A pot of beans? Cheesy potatoes?

**First Communion Classes continues.** The upcoming dates are March 30 and April 6 at 9:00am. For any questions, please see either Pr Paul or Sherri Helman.

**SAVE YOUR PAPER SACKS:** Please check the nooks and crannies of your home for paper sacks. The Baby Pantry fills requests from preschool teachers for their students whose parents cannot make it to the pantry. Paper sacks are the perfect size to place the needed items for each child. Just place your bags on the Care table in the coat room. Thank you!!

**HOW DO WE CARE AND SERVE?** John 12:26 "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me". YOU ARE LOVED BY YOUR CHURCH FAMILY. If you would like to have a visit and you would like to receive Communion, Christian Care Giving is here for you! Please let Peggy Burns at 231-392-6914 know and we will have one of our Care Givers come and see you.

**Coffee and Cookies on Sunday:** Remember that treats and a drink on Sunday are appreciated by all. The sign-up sheet has many BLANK spaces so please take a moment to sign up to bring cookies or some other tasty treat on the Sunday that works best for you. Or sign up to prepare the coffee to give our loyal volunteer Mary Ann Tanis a day off.

**DRIVING VOLUNTEERS?:** Thanks to those who have already said “yes” to being a regular or substitute driver to transport a delightful member couple to church. They have good mobility but due to other health issues currently cannot drive. They live at the east end of 14th street so it should be an easy pick-up and drop off for any members coming from the south or west side of town. They will be out of town with their family during the months of Feb and March, so rides will need to be lined up as of the beginning of April. If you would like to be added to the list of volunteers please contact Cindy Monroe at [cmonroe@chartermi.net](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net) or 231 631 0887.

**PROTECT OUR CARPET:** spills always happen, but we now have TWO consistent ways to deal with them. Thanks to an anonymous donor we now have an actual carpet cleaning machine stored in the maintenance closet. **If you cause one or see a spot, please grab the spot cleaner in the squirt container below the sink in the fellowship hall ASAP. Just follow the directions on the bottle and we should be able to keep our carpet in good condition. But, if the stain is too big or too resistant, please use the carpet cleaning machine. The longer the stain sits, the harder it is to clean. Thank you!!**

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** TC Groups are holding their Open Talk here at Bethlehem on three Saturday nights of each month from 8:00-9:00pm. They will not meet here on the second Saturday due to Contra on that night where they will meet at their TC Group office across from Sara Lee.

**Looking for A/V Volunteers!** Would you be interested in volunteering to help with audio/visual up in the choir loft during services? We are looking to add a few more A/V volunteers to our list! Our current volunteers are absolutely fantastic! We would love to add a few more people to the rotation and have a few more people on the list. If you would be interested in learning, please contact Barbara Oster.

**Volunteers for Watching the Front Door During Worship:** The Safety and Security Committee has the new sign up sheets available. We need volunteers who can be available to stay in the Gathering Space to lock the doors and let in late comers for Sundays. We appreciate all of the volunteers. If you have any questions, the committee members are Gail Goldsmith, Maureen Bauer, and Jana Rockne.

**The March issue of the STAR is now available.** If you receive the weekly email, your March issue was emailed on March 1st. The shut-ins will receive an issue by mail. There will also be a few copies available on the counter by the mailboxes. You may also contact the office at 947-9880 to request that mail delivery continues. For current issues of the Star, feel free to check online at [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org) < About Us > “The Online Bethlehem Star” or type this URL to get these directly: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter>.

#### **Wednesday Bible Studies:**

The Adult Bible Study meets from 9:30am—11:30am with the topic of the Book of 1 Corinthians

The Zoom Bible Study meets from 1:30pm—3:00pm -- They are studying the Book of Isaiah. Contact either Pr. Paul or Barbara with questions.

**Food pantry news:** In last week’s message Pastor reminded us that God's love is abundant and urges us to truly live into God's word and share our abundance with others. We can give God's love to others and help others find their way out of the desert. We urge you to continue donating non-perishable goods to stock our food pantry. With food prices on the rise, your help is more important than ever. Now that the weather is getting warmer, we can again make canned goods available. Remember, you can use a Thrivent grant for up to \$250 to help us restock our supplies. We appreciate your continued support. In God's love, Suzanne and Kathie

**You are Invited to Sunday Morning Adult Education:** it is that time again, time to power up our learning and sharing of Scripture. Adult Education has resumed. **We will meet in the Youth Room from 9:15 to 9:45 each Sunday** to discuss the lessons for the day. This is a relaxed venue, with inquisitive sharing, practical application, and an opportunity to get better acquainted with your brothers and sisters in Christ! We hope you will join... All Are Welcome!!!!



**Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday. Office Phone #: 231-947-9880**

**Offerings:** Even though the offering plates are passed during the service, you may use the vase in the back of the Sanctuary if you prefer not to touch the offering plate.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** We often find the front door and/or the kitchen door unlocked when there is no one in the building. Please be sure that the doors are locked when you leave.

**Please Note:**

Barbara Oster/Administrative Assistant works 9:00am-2:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

Phil Anderson/Bookkeeper works 8:30am-12:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Alanna Steffunick-Boomer/Ministry Coordinator works 9:00am-2:30pm – in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday and from home on Thursday – Please note that this is a new schedule

**Looking for a link to last month's full Council minutes?** Type this address/url into your web browser to get the latest approved minutes from Council: [bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes](http://bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes) OR you may call the office to request a copy.

**Prayer Requests:**

- Prayer Chain: Please contact Jan Stretlien at [jstretlien@gmail.com](mailto:jstretlien@gmail.com) or 231-947-3265
- Prayers read from the altar: Please call Administrative Assistant in the church office 231-947-9880 or [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org)

**Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font!** Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at [beo6475@yahoo.com](mailto:beo6475@yahoo.com) or 231.668.7038.

**Norm Fred has helped a previously homeless couple for a few years.** They are proud people and do not like to be given charity but they will accept help in the form of donated cans that they can recycle for money. Please bring in your recyclables in for them. **Leave them in plastic bags by the garage.** These are nice people. There, but for the Grace of our God, go we.

**Are you looking for the Caring Table for your donations?** It is now located inside the coat room to the right. Your donations are very much appreciated.

**LOST AND FOUND:** If you lose something in the church building, please check our new Lost and Found box located in the Coat Room. Also, if you find something, please put it in the box.

**Yarn Available:** There is yarn available free for the taking located in the cabinets located under the mailboxes in the Narthex. Take what you need.

**Name tags:** Your name tags are in your mailboxes. Please retrieve them so you can proudly wear them on Sunday mornings. We often have visitors and with so many recent new members it helps them if they can see a friendly face and attach a name to it.

**A big thank you to all who have turned in Olesons' slips.** On January 7th, we received a check from Olesons for \$317.06. Olesons' slips never expire. Please continue to turn in your Olesons receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks so much!!! **Also, the area for the Oleson receipts is in the lower cabinets below the mailboxes (under the A-B-Cs...).** **The cabinet door is marked with the receptacle inside. Unfortunately, we are no longer collecting the receipts from Family Fair.**

**Have something important going on at Bethlehem that you'd like others to know about?** Maybe a Small Group? A Club Event? Feature it on the Screen Announcements, weekly emails and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included in any of these, please reach out to [alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org)  
**If you are not getting the weekly emails for any reason, please contact Alanna.**

**Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service.** NOTE: There are no altar flowers during Lent. Please use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$40 (payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the offering plate on Sunday morning (Preferable) or during the week, in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance. You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday.

**The church calendar is below. Please be sure to notify the office ([admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is of the calendar.**

**Sunday, March 23**

9:15am—Sunday School  
9:15am—Adult Education (YR)  
10:00am—Worship Service (S)

**Monday, March 24**

2:30pm—Choir rehearsal (S)  
3:00pm—Chair Yoga (YR)

**Tuesday, March 25**

**Bulletin articles due today**  
9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)  
9:00am—Property Work Group

**Wednesday, March 26**

9:30am—Adult Bible Study (Library)  
11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)  
1:30pm—Zoom Bible Study (YR and Zoom)

**Thursday, March 27**

5:30pm—ACA (Library)  
5:45pm—Lenten Meal (FH)  
7:00pm—Lenten Service (S)

**Saturday, March 29**

6:00pm—LifeRing Recovery Group (Library)  
8:00pm—AA (FH)

**Sunday, March 30**

9:00am—First Communion (YR)  
9:15am—Sunday School  
9:15am—Adult Education (Library)  
10:00am—Worship Service (S)

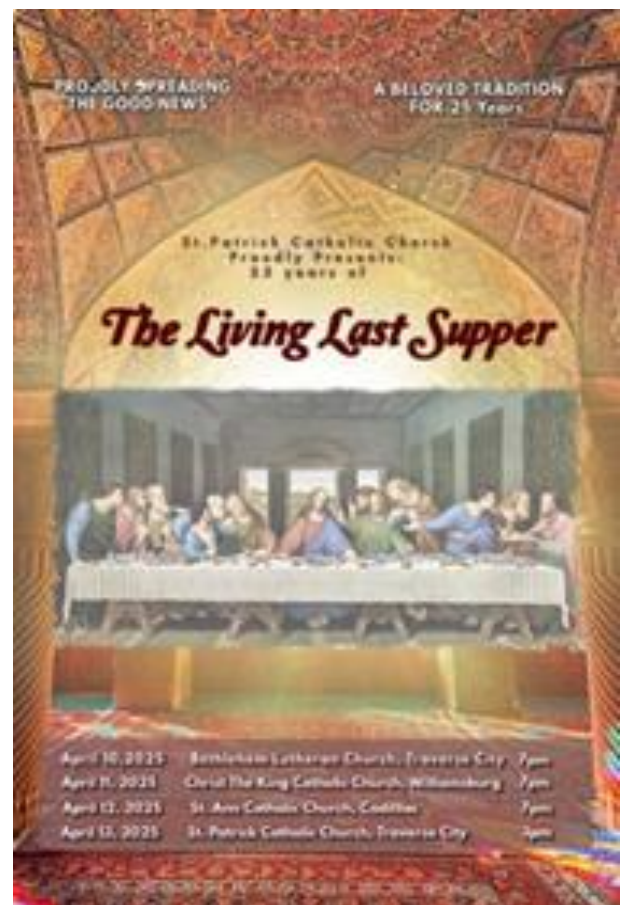


**Holy Week Services**  
*at Bethlehem* ✠

April 13 – Palm Sunday, 10:00am  
April 17 – Maundy Thursday, 7:00pm  
April 18 – Good Friday, 7:00pm  
April 19 – Easter Vigil, 7:00pm  
April 20 – Easter Brunch 9:00am  
April 20 – Easter Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am

*All services are livestreamed except Easter morning 8am service.*

The poster features a purple background with a golden crown of thorns on the right side.



PROUDLY SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS | A BELOVED TRADITION FOR 25 YEARS

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
Friendly Presence:  
33 years of

**The Living Last Supper**

April 10, 2025 - Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Freeport City 7pm  
April 11, 2025 - Our Lady the King Catholic Church, Williamsburg 7pm  
April 12, 2025 - St. Ann Catholic Church, Coalfield 7pm  
April 13, 2025 - St. Patrick Catholic Church, Freeport City 7pm

The poster features a central image of the Last Supper painting set within a stone archway.