

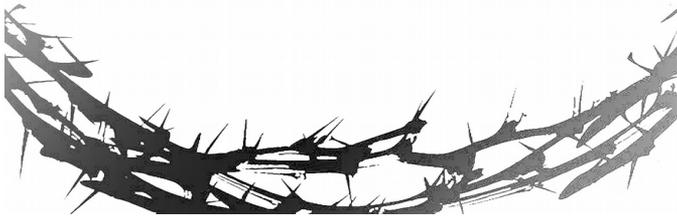
CHRIST
IS OUR
Corner  stone  **Bethel**
Lutheran Church



“I am the
resurrection and the

Life.”

John 11:25



Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church

22 Brook Street, Morris, MN 56267

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www.morrislutheran.org

Sunday Worship: 10:00am - Bible Class 11:15am



A member congregation of the *Church of the Lutheran Confession*

✠ Fifth Sunday in Lent ✠

March 18, 2018

Pre-Service Meditation – Psalm 43

¹ Vindicate me, O God, And plead my cause against an ungodly nation; Oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man! ² For You are the God of my strength; Why do You cast me off? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? ³ Oh, send out Your light and Your truth! Let them lead me; Let them bring me to Your holy hill And to Your tabernacle. ⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy; And on the harp I will praise You, O God, my God. ⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

Hymn #1 – Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Invocation – p. 5

[We invoke (call upon) the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit]

Confession & Absolution – pp. 5-6

[We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness]

Introit – Psalm 43:3-5; antiphon: vv. 1-2a

[Having received the Lord's forgiveness, we are glad to enter into His courts with praise and thanksgiving. This entrance is made in the Introit with the Lord's own Word, often from the Psalms.]

- P** Vindicate me, O God,
C And plead my cause against an ungodly nation;
P Oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man!
C For You are the God of my strength.
P Oh, send out Your light and Your truth! Let them lead me;
C Let them bring me to Your holy hill And to Your tabernacle.
P Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy;
C And on the harp I will praise You, O God, my God.
P Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me?
C Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.
P Vindicate me, O God,
C And plead my cause against an ungodly nation;
P Oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man!
C For You are the God of my strength.

Gloria Patri – p. 6

[Latin for “Glory to the Father” ~ We glorify the Triune God]

The Kyrie – p. 7

[Greek for “O Lord” ~ We approach our Lord with a cry for help and mercy]

Gloria in Excelsis (Hymn #237 v. 1)

[Latin for “Glory in the Highest” ~ A hymn glorifying and praising our God]

All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again;
Oh, thank Him for His goodness!

The Collect for the Day – p. 9

[The main thoughts for the day are “collected” together in this prayer]

Old Testament Reading – Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. ² Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. ³ And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” So I answered, “O Lord GOD, You know.” ⁴ Again He said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!’” ⁵ “Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: ‘Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.’” ⁶ “I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.” ⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Also He said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.”’” ¹⁰ So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹ Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’” ¹² “Therefore prophecy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.’”” ¹³ “Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened

your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. ¹⁴ “I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it,” says the LORD.’ ”

The Gradual – Psalm 143:9a, 10a; 18:48a, c; 129:1-4

[A liturgical response of Scripture verses.]

- P** Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies;
- C** **Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God!**
- P** You deliver me from my enemies.
- C** **You have delivered me from the violent man.**
- P** “Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth,”
- C** **Let Israel now say–**
- P** “Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth;
- C** **Yet they have not prevailed against me.**
- P** The plowers plowed on my back;
- C** **They made their furrows long.”**
- P** The LORD is righteous;
- C** **He has cut in pieces the cords of the wicked.**

Epistle Reading – Romans 8:11-19

¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. ¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. ¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

Confession of Faith – Apostle’s Creed – p. 12

[We boldly confess what we believe]

Hymn #144 – Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing

Sermon Text – John 11:17-27, 38-45

¹⁷ So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. ¹⁹ And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. ²⁰ Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. ²¹ Now Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² “But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. ²⁶ “And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to Him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” ²⁸ Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ²⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. ⁴² “And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.” ⁴³ Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth!” ⁴⁴ And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let him go.” ⁴⁵ Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him.

Sermon – Jesus Destroys Death

Offertory – p. 12

[In this prayer we offer God our hearts, asking Him for the best of all gifts: the Holy Spirit]

Offering of Thankful Hearts

[With thankful hearts, we offer our gifts to God]

General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

[We offer our petitions and thanks to God]

Hymn #151 – Christ, the Life of All the Living

Prayer for the Church – p. 14

[We ask God to bless what we have heard and learned today]

The Benediction – p. 14

[We receive God's blessing for another week]

Hymn #45 – Now, the Hour of Worship O'er

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✠ Announcements ✠

Sunday Bible Class – In our Sunday Bible Class hour, we will continue our study of Luther's Large Catechism. We are studying Baptism.

Midweek Lenten Series – Our Midweek Lenten worship services continue this Wednesday. These worship services are held at the parsonage and available live online. This year the CLC Worship Committee has put a series together a series that we are following. The series is entitled "Keep Your Eyes on Jesus Who Endured the Cross." This Wednesday, we will focus our attention on Hebrews 13:12 and see how Jesus is our Endurance. Come join us at 7:00 pm from the parsonage or online on our youtube site: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BethelLutheranCLC/live>.

Holy Week Worship Schedule – Services are scheduled for both Maundy Thursday (3/29) and Good Friday (3/30). The Maundy Thursday service will be held at 7:00 pm from the parsonage and online. The Good Friday service will be held at Bethel at 7:30 pm.

Easter Brunch – Our annual Easter Brunch will be held on Easter Sunday (4/1) at 8:30 am. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board with items that will be needed for the brunch.

Nominations for CLC offices at this summer's Convention – There is a new process which will be used for nominating CLC officers and board members this summer. Any voter from a CLC congregation may submit one or more nominations, with a deadline of March 31. Voters may submit nominations online at the CLC website, www.clclutheran.org (look for the link on the right-hand column marked "2018 CLC Officer Nominations.") There are also printed copies of nomination forms, with instructions, available on the information table.

Fruits of Faith: 3/11/18

Worship Attendance: 22

Bethel Home: \$421.00

