

Blessed is the one  
who comes in the name  
of the Lord

# Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday Services

Welcome to all!

Welcome to All! We are glad that you are able to worship with us today. Please fill out a connection card in the pews if you like. During the service, we will sit or stand in reverence to our Lord. Please do what is physically comfortable and reverent for you. For those who are unable to receive Communion near the altar and wish to have the Pastor administer it at your seat, please obtain a red and white card from one of the ushers and hold it up at Communion time to alert the Pastor. If you or a little one would like to receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, we invite you to come forward and cross your arms at the time of Communion. Please feel free to introduce yourself to our Pastor and fill out one of the Visitor cards available at our Welcome Table in the Gathering Place

## Our Mission

***"We journey with God to serve with love."***

## Our Vision

***"As a community of believers journeying with God together, we at Bethlehem are called to serve with love by growing a premier youth ministry; enlivening Christian discipleship through lifelong learning, care and spiritual formation; fostering a vibrant and inspiring worship experience; utilizing our natural setting and location for faithful creation care and outdoor ministry; and opening our doors always to be a 'campus at the crossroads' for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ."***

## Regular Worship Schedule

Sunday—10:00 a.m.

Adult Education and Sunday School—9:15 a.m.

Third Thursday Service—7:00p.m. (September – May)

We welcome you to our worship service. Everyone who believes in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please sign our guest book at the sanctuary entrance. In addition, you will find envelopes for your contributions in the back of each pew.



# Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
1050 Peninsula Dr.  
Traverse City, MI 49686

Sunday, March 24, 2024 10:00 am

Evangelical Lutheran Worship—Setting 3, page 138

Bell Ringing



## GATHERING

*(Worship begins in the Gathering Space. Please take a palm before the service begins and congregate by the front doors of the church.)*

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna in the highest.**

## Processional Gospel

**Mark 11:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup> and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" <sup>4</sup> They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup> some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup> They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup> Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! <sup>10</sup> Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" <sup>11</sup> Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Blessing of Palms** (*Please raise your branches*)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**PROCESSION**

*(The procession into the church begins, following the Pastor.)*

**Processional Hymn**

***All Glory, Laud, and Honor***

***ELW 344***

**Refrain:** All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,  
now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One. **Refrain**

The company of angels are praising you on high;  
creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. **Refrain**

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. **Refrain**

To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise.  
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. **Refrain**

Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,  
great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. **Refrain**

+++++

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**C: Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please be seated.*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy God,

**C: ...we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

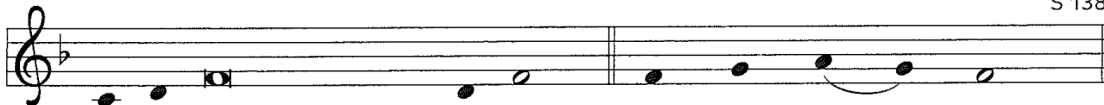
### **Greeting**

A: 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

S 138



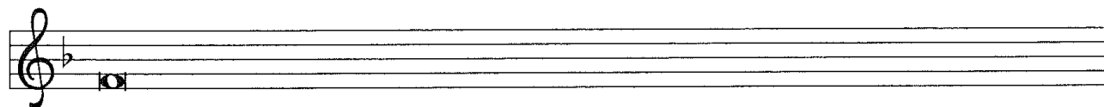
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



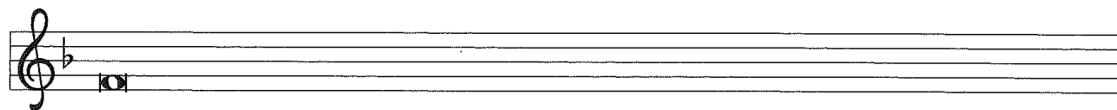
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## Prayer of the Day

A: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

A: Let us pray together...

**C: Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

### First Lesson

**Isaiah 50:4-9a**

*The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens—awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. <sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

- <sup>9</sup> Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.
- <sup>10</sup> **For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**
- <sup>11</sup> I am the scorn of my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.
- <sup>12</sup> **Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;  
I am as useless as a broken pot.**
- <sup>13</sup> For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.
- <sup>14</sup> **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.  
I have said, "You are my God.**
- <sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
- <sup>16</sup> **Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love."**

**Second Lesson****Philippians 2:5-11**

*Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death.*

- <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.
- <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon****Pastor Paul Busekist**



## Gospel Acclamation

## *Return to the Lord*

S 142b

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written on a five-line staff. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff concludes the phrase with a double bar line. The tempo and dynamics are not specified.

## Gospel

**Mark 15:1-39**

*The passion story in Mark's gospel presents Jesus as one who dies abandoned by all. He shows himself to be the true Son of God by giving his life for those who have forsaken him.*

## **C: ...Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. <sup>2</sup> Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." <sup>3</sup> Then the chief priests accused him of many things. <sup>4</sup> Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." <sup>5</sup> But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. <sup>6</sup> Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. <sup>7</sup> Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. <sup>8</sup> So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. <sup>9</sup> Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" <sup>10</sup> For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. <sup>11</sup> But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. <sup>12</sup> Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" <sup>13</sup> They shouted back, "Crucify him!" <sup>14</sup> Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" <sup>15</sup> So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

<sup>16</sup> Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. <sup>17</sup> And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. <sup>18</sup> And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup> They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. <sup>20</sup> After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. <sup>21</sup> They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. <sup>22</sup> Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). <sup>23</sup> And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. <sup>24</sup> And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. <sup>25</sup> It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. <sup>26</sup> The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." <sup>27</sup> And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>29</sup> Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, <sup>30</sup> save yourself, and come down from the cross!" <sup>31</sup> In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. <sup>32</sup> Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. <sup>33</sup> When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. <sup>34</sup> At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" <sup>35</sup> When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." <sup>36</sup> And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." <sup>37</sup> Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. <sup>38</sup> And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. <sup>39</sup> Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Hymn of the Day**

*Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land*

**ELW # 333**

**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. 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 Intercession:** response after each petition, **"Your mercy is great."**

*A: (Before prayer) Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need...P: (Conclusion) Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior..*

**C: Amen.**

## Sharing the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## MEAL

Offering

Offering Song

Zeke Clemons

Offertory

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

*ELW #185*



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 to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me  
 with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,  
 and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

### Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

**C: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

## Preface

### *Holy, Holy, Holy*

S 144b



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

### 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.**

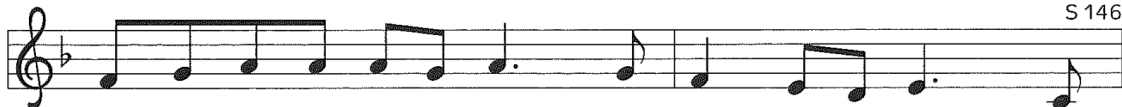
P: All who thirst, all who hunger, come and be filled with the goodness of God.

*\*\*Please note: Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

## Communion

### *Lamb of God*

S 146



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

**Communion Hymns**

*Were You There*  
*Let Us Break Bread Together*

*ELW #353*  
*ELW #471*

**Post Communion Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

**Post Communion Canticle**

*Thankful Hearts*

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.  
 Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and bear Christ's ho-ly name.

Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with  
 shouts of thanks - giv - ing. A-a-a-men. A-a-a-men.

**Prayer after Communion**

A: Let us pray. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **C: Amen.**

**Announcements**

**SENDING**

**Blessing**

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ☩ give you peace. **C: Amen.**

**Sending Song**

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

*ELW #351*

**Dismissal**

A: Go in peace. Share your bread.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**Easter Brunch**  
**Sunday, March 31, 2024, 9:00am**

The Fellowship Committee will supply beverages.

Please consider donating food to be shared at the meal.

Suggested items: Breakfast casseroles, hardboiled eggs, deviled eggs, quiche, pastries, rolls, bread, muffins, bagels, fruit, yogurt.

A sign-up sheet will be located in the Narthex

All food must pre-cooked.

Ovens will available to keep food warm as needed.

We hope to see you there!





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3/24—Verna Farley      3/27—Shawn Antol      3/28—Paul Ton      3/30—Erin Word  
3/26—Terry Lautner      3/27—Miriam “Beth” Chan      3/29—Betsy Morley      3/31—April Kurkowski  
3/26—Kristine Smith      3/27—Dale Thiel

### **Worship Servants for March 24**

Assisting Minister—Sherri Helman  
Lector—Mary Ann Tanis  
Musicians: Rick Church, Zeke Clemons, Phil & Denice Bossardet, Pr Paul  
Hospitality—Dan/Laura Hahn  
A/V—Dale Thiel/Acker Family  
Cookies/Coffee— Gail Goldsmith/Mary Ann Tanis  
Welcome Table— Gail Goldsmith  
Bell Ringer— Gail Goldsmith  
Altar Guild—Mary Ann Tanis/Gail Goldsmith  
Tech Support—Julia Acker  
Counters—Laura Hahn/Mike McCarty

### **Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.**

**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/Ministry Coordinator works 9:00am-2:30pm – in the office on Tuesday and Thursday and from home on Wednesday

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

March 24 – Palm Sunday service, 10:00am

March 28 – Maundy Thursday service, 7:00pm

March 29 – Last Words of Christ at Central United Methodist 1200pm (Pr Paul will preach on the 1st Word)

March 29 – Good Friday, 7:00pm

March 30 –Easter Vigil service, 7:00pm

March 31 – Easter Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am

March 31 – Easter Brunch 9:00am

**Offerings:** The offering plates are now passed during the service. The vase in the back of the Sanctuary is still available for those who prefer not to touch the offering plate.

**The April issue of the STAR is now available.** 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>.

**The April/May/June *Christ In Our Home* is now available.** Please take a copy for yourself and also for friends and family.

**Sunday School and Adult Education (Youth Room)- every Sunday at 9:15am.**

**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

**Adult Bible Study**: meets on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30am in the Youth Room, with a study of the Acts of the Apostles.

**The Zoom Book and Bible Study**: meets on Wednesdays from 1:30-3:00pm. Now that the *Red Letter Challenge* is complete, the group will continued with the Book of Mark on April 3rd.

**The next Third Thursday service will be a Holden Evening Prayer service on April 18th at 7:00pm.** The service will be livestreamed. The BLC Fellowship Committee will be providing a meal at 5:45 p.m. Please come early and share in fellowship and stay for the service.

**DIRECTORY UPDATE**: Our correction list for the 2nd proof has been submitted. Once received, we'll review it, hopefully finding no other mistakes. We will then sign off on it and wait for final print. We have not been given any wait-time estimate for its printing.

**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 by the garage. These are nice people. There, but for the Grace of our God, go we.

**April's XYZ Potluck & Presentation will be on Friday, April 12th at 12pm noon.** While primarily geared toward seniors, the group is open to any adult who would like to attend! XYZ meets monthly September through May for a potluck lunch, followed by a program or presentation. April's presenter is Lori Kroger, RN. Lori and her daughter Karla are co-owners of Northern Elderberry, a local business focused on natural, healthy living and sharing wellness with others. Their elderberry products are distributed by several local business, including Oryana and Fresh Coast Market.

**FOR BOOK CLUB MEMBERS:** The book club will discuss *Mad Honey* by Jodi Piccoult at 5:30 on Tues Mar 26 at **The Cottage**. We have not read a novel by this author for some time. All of the books from the book club kit have been dispersed, but you can probably obtain a copy from the library. Please come if you'd like to share in the discussion of a good book.

**Food Pantry:** It will be SPRING by the time you read this so hopefully we will not need to be concerned about the cold damaging any of our food. Please start looking for staple items when they are on sale and bring your extras to the coat room. Your generosity is so appreciated.

**A big thank you to all who have turned in Olesons' slips.** On January 14, we received a check from them for \$255.85. Olesons' slips never expire. Please continue to turn in your receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks so much!!!

**Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. Altar flowers will return on Easter Sunday, March 31st.** 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.

**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 or 231.668.7038.

**Spotlight on Zeke:** So many of us enjoy Zeke's talents with religious music, but did you know that he plays other kinds of music at various locations in the Traverse City area? Here is a list of his engagements in the next month that are close to TC:

**Sat 04/13**—Hotel Indigo 6:00pm

**The church council is looking for a male and female member who would be willing to serve as Bethlehem's delegates to this year's synod assembly.** This year is a virtual meeting on Sat May 11 so you can participate from the comfort of your own home as long as you have a computer or smartphone. If you are interested. please talk to Pastor Paul, council president Cindy Monroe, or contact the church office.

**Are you looking for something to do on Tuesday mornings?** If so, the LWR Quilters could sure use some help in tying portions of the quilts. You don't have to know how to sew just know how to tie. They meet every Tuesday from 9:00-11:00am in the fellowship Hall. For questions, please call Betty Rutila 231-947-1013.

**Council Nominations open for council 2024.** We have been blessed! Many of the council members have agreed to continue with another term. Have you been thinking this would be a good place for you to increase your involvement at Bethlehem? It involves a 3 year commitment to attend a meeting on the 3rd Tues of the month and perhaps one other meeting per month. The current members are hard-working and dedicated, and always ready with an intelligent question or a quick quip. If this sounds like your kind of people please contact the office at 947-9880 or contact any of the following: Pastor Paul, Cindy Monroe, Paul Wiermerslage, Jana Rockne, or Gary Ancinec. WE would love to have you on the TEAM!

**New member gathering to be scheduled:** Please contact Pastor Paul, the office at 947-9880 or Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net if you are considering membership at Bethlehem. The next gathering will be scheduled for April or May.

**Are you grieving something from a death or something else?** It could be any kind of loss, and it hurts. We have a place for you here at Bethlehem on the 3rd Monday of the month from 6:00 to 7:00 in the library. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Burns at 231 392-6913.



**Safety and Security: Locking the Doors** BLC has started locking the front door during Worship Services for a three month trial. The Safety and Security Committee is asking for volunteers to be in the Gathering Space during services. We would like to ask 1 member of each family to volunteer. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. We lock the door 10 minutes after the service begins and unlock the doors as the service ends. The volunteer is there to let latecomers into the church. The volunteer will not miss the service as there is a way to listen to the service or if you have a smart phone you are able to live stream the service. Also you may leave the Gathering Space to go into the sanctuary for communion or you can choose to have communion at the end of service. (The musicians and people working the audio/visual in the choir loft receive communion right after services.) If you have any questions please talk to a Safety and Security Committee member: Gail Goldsmith, Maureen Bauer, Jana Rockne or Jan Stretlien. Thank you for assisting in keeping our members safe.

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

**Sunday, March 24**

**PALM SUNDAY**

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

**Tuesday, March 26**

**Bulletin articles due today**

9:00am—Property Work Group  
9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)  
5:30pm—Book/Supper Club (Offsite)  
7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal (S)

**Wednesday, March 27**

9:30am—Adult Bible Study (YR)  
1:00pm—Johnson SG (Offsite)

**Thursday, March 28**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)  
5:30pm—ACA (FH)  
7:00pm—Maundy Thursday Service (S)

**Friday, March 29**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

7:00pm—Good Friday Service (S)

**Saturday, March 30**

7:00pm—Easter Vigil Service (S)

**Sunday, March 31**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

8:00am—Traditional Easter Service (S)  
9:00am—Easter Brunch (FH)  
10:00am—Traditional Easter Service (S)



# Easter at Bethlehem

## Palm Sunday

March 24th  
10am service (livestreamed)

## Maundy Thursday

March 28th  
7pm service (livestreamed)

## Good Friday

March 29th  
12-3pm service at Central United Methodist  
(Pastor Paul preaching 1st of 7 "Last Words of Christ")

7pm service at BLC (livestreamed)

## Easter Vigil

March 30th  
7pm service (livestreamed)




## Easter Morning

March 31st  
8am service (NOT livestreamed)  
10am service (livestreamed)

## Easter Breakfast

March 31st  
9am breakfast  
*Between worship services!*

*All are welcome!*

   @baysidetravellersdance baysidetravellersdance@yahoo.com

Bayside Travellers

# Contra Dancing

**SATURDAY**  
**April 13th**

**Workshop 7pm**  
**Dances 7:30 - 10:30pm**

**Live Music**  
by  
**Last Minute String Band**

**Featuring calling by**  
**Dave Goodwin**

**Dance by Donation**

**\$10 / person suggested**

**Thank you for supporting**  
**traditional music & dance!**

**LOCATION:**  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
1050 Peninsula Drive  
Traverse City MI 49686



*Palm  
Sunday*