

# Bethany Lutheran Church

4644 Clark Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90808

[www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org)

(562) 421-4711

5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

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APRIL 3, 2022

8:00 and 9:30 AM

+ *God Gathers Us In His Presence* +

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN:

*"Sing"*



3. You are the one who's made us ho-ly and set a - part.

Claimed as Your peo - ple. We wor-ship You the One True God. And You sing

o - ver us You sing o - ver us And we'll

sing of Your great mer - cy, sing of Your great grace Be-

cause of Your great love, We'll sing a - loud Your praise.

As we sing As You sing

As You sing,

o - ver us You sing o - ver us

sing of Your great mer - cy, sing of Your great grace Be-

cause of Your great love, We'll sing a- loud Your praise. And we'll

## OPENING SENTENCES / INVOCATION:

Leader: By wisdom a house is built,  
and by understanding it is established. (*Proverbs 24:3*)

**People:** **As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.** (*Joshua 24:15*)

Leader: By knowledge the rooms are filled  
with all precious and pleasant riches. (*Proverbs 24:4*)

**People:** **As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.** (*Joshua 24:15*)

Leader: In Christ you are being built together into a dwelling place for God  
by the Spirit. (*Ephesians 2:22*)

**People:** **As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**  
**Amen!** (*Joshua 24:15*)

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: (*Based on Deuteronomy 6 & Ephesians 2*)

Leader: Lord, You are One,  
and You have called us to love You with all of our heart, soul and might;  
and You have commanded that Your Word should be on our hearts.

**People:** **O Lord our God, the One and only**  
**by our own actions our households have not been filled with love.**  
**We confess before You our lack of love.**  
**We have not loved You as we should.**  
**We have not loved others as we love ourselves.**  
**We have been self-centered and self-satisfied.**  
**Yet, out of Your eternal love for us You sent Your Son**  
**to show us how to love and to love us even unto death.**  
**In His name we ask Your forgiveness**  
**and pray that You would fill us with His Spirit,**  
**so that we may truly love and serve You.**  
**Loving others as You have loved us.**  
**Loving not just those who love us, but those who count us as enemies.**  
**Through Your lavish love, forgive us and help us to forgive others.**  
**Write Your love upon our hearts.**  
**Use our hands to bring that love to others.**  
**Keep Your love before our eyes that we may see You in others.**  
**Make our households places of love and forgiveness once again.**  
**Amen.**

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for His sake God forgives us all our sins.  
For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.  
So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,  
but you are fellow citizens  
with the saints and members of the household of God,  
built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,  
Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone,  
in whom the whole structure, being joined together,  
grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

People: Amen!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Leader: Lord, You call us to give of our food to feed those who are hungry and to satisfy the needs of those who are humble. May our households be places with open doors so that Your light may rise in the dark and all will see the joy of your salvation won in Christ.

People: Amen.

+ *God Gives Us the Gift of His Word* +

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Deuteronomy 10:12-22***

*I*srael, what does the LORD your God want you to do? He wants you to fear Him, follow all His directions, love Him, and worship Him with all your heart and with all your soul. The LORD wants you to obey His commands and laws that I'm giving you today for your own good. Remember that the sky, the highest heaven, the earth and everything it contains belong to the LORD your God. The LORD set His heart on your ancestors and loved them. Because of this, today He chooses you, their descendants, out of all the people of the world.

So circumcise your uncircumcised hearts, and don't be impossible to deal with any longer. The LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, powerful, and awe-inspiring God. He never plays favorites and never takes a bribe. He makes sure orphans and widows receive justice. He loves foreigners and gives them food and clothes. So you should love foreigners, because you were foreigners living in Egypt. Fear the LORD your God, worship Him, be loyal to Him, and take your oaths in His name.

He is your glory. He is your God, who did for you these spectacular and awe-inspiring deeds you saw with your own eyes. When your ancestors went to Egypt, there were 70 of them. Now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky. – GW®

## **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *Romans 12:9-21***

**L**ove sincerely. Hate evil. Hold on to what is good. Be devoted to each other like a loving family. Excel in showing respect for each other. Don't be lazy in showing your devotion. Use your energy to serve the Lord. Be happy in your confidence, be patient in trouble, and pray continually. Share what you have with God's people who are in need. Be hospitable.

Bless those who persecute you. Bless them, and don't curse them. Be happy with those who are happy. Be sad with those who are sad. Live in harmony with each other. Don't be arrogant, but be friendly to humble people. Don't think that you are smarter than you really are.

Don't pay people back with evil for the evil they do to you. Focus your thoughts on those things that are considered noble. As much as it is possible, live in peace with everyone. Don't take revenge, dear friends. Instead, let God's anger take care of it. After all, Scripture says, "I alone have the right to take revenge. I will pay back," says the Lord." But,

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him a drink. If you do this, you will make him feel guilty and ashamed."

Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil with good. – GW®

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 14:7-14***

**T**hen Jesus noticed how the guests always chose the places of honor. So He used this illustration when He spoke to them: "When someone invites you to a wedding, don't take the place of honor. Maybe someone more important than you was invited. Then your host would say to you, 'Give this person your place.' Embarrassed, you would have to take the place of least honor. So when you're invited, take the place of least honor. Then, when your host comes, he will tell you, 'Friend, move to a more honorable place.' Then all the other guests will see how you are honored. Those who honor themselves will be humbled, but people who humble themselves will be honored."

Then He told the man who had invited Him, “When you invite people for lunch or dinner, don’t invite only your friends, family, other relatives, or rich neighbors. Otherwise, they will return the favor. Instead, when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the handicapped, the lame, and the blind. Then you will be blessed because they don’t have any way to pay you back. You will be paid back when those who have God’s approval come back to life.” – GW®

**SERMON HYMN:**

***“Lead Me to the Cross”***

**VERSE 1:**

**Saviour I come quiet my soul  
Remember redemption's hill  
Where Your blood was spilled  
For my ransom**

**PRE-CHORUS:**

**Ev’rything I once held dear  
I count it all as loss**

**CHORUS:**

**Lead me to the cross  
Where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees  
Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself  
I belong to You  
Oh lead me lead me to the cross**

**VERSE 2:**

**You were as I tempted and tried human  
The word became flesh  
Bore my sin in death  
Now You're risen**

**BRIDGE:**

**To Your heart, To Your heart  
Lead me to Your heart, Lead me to Your heart**

**SERMON: “The Spiritually Vibrant Home: A Place with Open Doors!”**

**Text: Deuteronomy 10:17-19**

**HOUSEHOLD HUDDLE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**SHARE** your highs and lows

*Ask each person in your household to share something positive that happened or an encounter that brought them joy over the past day or week. It could be a connection with a friend or co-worker, it could be a book they are reading or something fun that happened at the grocery store. After sharing a high, each person can share a low. These might include things that were hard, sad, or difficult. It might be a strained relationship or a disappointment at school. Highs and lows are shared in confidence and should not be shared outside the huddle unless expressly permitted. Often time what is shared during the highs and lows can inform the prayer that you will share together later in the huddle.*

**READ** A Bible verse or story

*Readings for this week: Deuteronomy 10:12-22; Romans 12:9-21; Luke 14:7-14*

**TALK** about the readings

- *What makes a party great?*
- *When have you experienced great hospitality?*  
*How did that make you feel?*
- *What barriers to hospitality do you or others in your household currently have?*

**PRAY** for one another

*Thinking about what has been shared already in your household huddle, how can you pray for one another today?*

**BLESS** one another in words and actions

*Have someone read the following blessing aloud to the members of your household.*

*May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give us all the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice we may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*  
**AMEN!**

## HYMN OF THE DAY:

## "Just As I Am"

1. Ju - st as I am with out one plea but  
 2. Ju - st as I am and wai - ting not to  
 3. Ju - st as I am though tossed a - bout with  
 4. Ju - st as I am Thou wilt re - ceive. Wilt

that Thy blood was shed for me. And that thou  
 rid my soul of one dark blot to thee whose  
 many a con - flict man - y a doubt figh - t - ings and  
 wel - come par - don cleanse, re - lieve. Be cause Thy

bidd'st me come to thee O  
 blood can cleanse each spot O  
 fears with - in with - out O  
 pro - mise I be - lieve O

lamb of God I come I come.

## + *We Give Thanks for God's Word* +

**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](mailto:mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org) or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



## 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.

## + *The Service of 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

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

+ *God Sends Us Forth for Lives of Love and Service* +

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE BLESSING:

Leader: Peace be to you, and peace be to your house,  
and peace be to all that you have. (*1 Samuel 25:6*)  
People: Amen!

# CLOSING HYMN:

## "Glory Be To Jesus"

Glo - ry be to Je - sus who in bit - ter pain  
Blest through end - less a - ges be the pre - cious stream  
poured for me the life blood from His sa - cred veins.  
which from end - less tor - ment did the world re - deem.

Grace and life e - ter - nal in that blood I find  
A - bel's blood for ven - gence plea - ded to the skies  
Blest be His com - pass - ion in - fi - nit - ly kind.  
But the blood of Je - sus for our par - don cries.

We lift our voi - ces sing - ing praise to Your name for the mer - cy that flows from the Lamb (who was) slain.

We lift our voi - ces sing - ing praise to Your name for the mer cy that flows from the Lamb who was slain.  
Praise You I will ne - ver cease to praise You!  
We'll not be si - lent we'll shout it a - loud, let - ting all the world know of His love  
We lift our voices singing praise to Your name for the mercy that flows from the Lamb (who was) slain.

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“Just As I Am, without One Plea” LSB 570

Text: Charlotte Elliott. Tune: William B. Bradbury. Text and music: Public domain

“Glory Be to Jesus”

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## **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday – Thursday from 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Closed Fridays.**

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## **ARE YOU RECEIVING THE BETHANY BULLET?**

The ***Bethany Bullet*** is a weekly capsule of worship highlights, and important information about events taking place at BLC. If you would like to receive the ***Bethany Bullet*** please email Aimee Coleman ([acoleman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:acoleman@bethanylutheran.org)) with your name and email address.

The purpose of the ***Bethany Bullet*** is to bolster you in faith, build you up in the key Biblical themes shared the previous Sunday in worship, to bring to mind the important issues on Bethany's plate, and to broaden your awareness of opportunities of service to your Lord, your church, and your community. Tell a friend about the ***Bethany Bullet!***

## **LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES**



### **Luke in Lent on Wednesday, April 6**

Living Way Bible Study at 7:00 PM at **Holy Cross** in the **Parish Hall**

### **Palm Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> Worship Service**

Worship at 8:00 and 9:30 AM at **Bethany**

Zoom Worship at 10:00 AM with **The Gathering**

Worship at 11:00 AM at **Holy Cross**

### **Maundy Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Worship Service**

Worship at 1:00 and 7:00 PM at **Bethany**

*(The 1:00 PM Worship Service will be **Live Streamed**)*

### **Good Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> Worship Services**

Worship at 1:00 PM at **Bethany** *(This Worship Service will be **Live Streamed**)*

Evening Worship at 7:00 PM at **Bethany**

Worship at 7:00 PM at **Holy Cross**

### **Easter Festival, April 17<sup>th</sup> Worship Services**

Worship at 8:00 and 9:30 AM at **Bethany**

Zoom Worship at 10:00 AM with **The Gathering**

Worship at 11:00 AM at **Holy Cross**