

**Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**March 30, 2025 - 10:30 am Worship Service**

**Welcome to Worship!** *"What is your point of view?" means, "What are your thoughts or opinions on a particular matter?". It's a request to understand someone's perspective or viewpoint on a topic. We all have different ways of looking at things. Pastor Bill looks at a snowy, blustery day and has the joy of a child. I, Pastor Alex, look at the same snowstorm with a lot less enthusiasm. Today Paul challenges to see things not from a worldly point of view but to see others through the eyes of Christ.*

**Information about the Worship Service.**

- ✚ *Out of respect for our Lord, His house and those worshipping here today, please silence your cell phones and limit the use of your smart phones to something that will not distract those around you. Looking up a Bible passage is always welcomed!*
- ✚ *We welcome communicant members and confirmed Lutheran guests (or those who have received instruction in the Lord's Supper) to examine their faith and receive Jesus' body and blood in the Lord's Supper. We invite you to read and agree with the statement on Holy Communion printed on the attendance cards. Please speak with one of the pastors or any elder if you have questions. We invite all non-communing guests, especially children, to come to the communion rail and cross your arms to receive a blessing.*
- ✚ *We have gluten free communion wafers available. Request some from an Elder or Usher.*

**Pre-Service Music**

**Ringing of the Bell & Welcome**

*Please rise and face the Processional Cross as it is carried to the chancel.*

**Opening Song**

***Wonderful Merciful Savior***

**Verse 1**    Wonderful merciful Savior  
              Precious Redeemer and Friend  
              Who would have thought that a Lamb  
              Could rescue the souls of men  
              Oh You rescue the souls of men

**Chorus**    You are the One that we praise  
              You are the One we adore  
              You give the healing and grace  
              Our hearts always hunger for  
              Oh our hearts always hunger for

**Verse 2** Counselor Comforter Keeper  
Spirit we long to embrace  
You offer hope when our hearts  
Have hopelessly lost the way  
Oh we hopelessly lost the way **Chorus**

**Verse 3** Almighty infinite Father  
Faithfully loving Your own  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne  
Oh we're falling before Your throne **Chorus**

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Opening Sentences

**P** Behold, God is my salvation;

**C** **I will trust, and will not be afraid;**

**P** for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,

**C** **and He has become my salvation.**

### Confession and Absolution

**P** Beloved in the Lord, Paul reassures us, saying, "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability." Let us with confidence and gladness enter God's presence, confessing our sins and receiving His grace, assurance, and forgiveness.

**C** **Lord God, we are exceedingly glad to enter Your house this day, for we have heard and believe in the invitation of Your loving kindness and redemption through Jesus Christ, Your Son. In the trust and hope of the faith You have given us as Your baptized children, we confess to You all our sins and failures to share Your gifts of mercy with others. Grant us the forgiveness for which we ask and give us a renewed heart and spirit to sing Your praises in worship of You and to the joy of all.**

**P** "Sing to the LORD, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day." Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:1–6

<sup>1</sup>You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
that you might comfort me.

<sup>2</sup>“Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.”

<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup>“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: . . .

"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

Message Song

*By His Wounds*

Message

*"A Whole New View"*

**2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

*(See back page of bulletin announcements for message notes)*

## Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.**

## Offering



## *Right to Life of Northeast Indiana*

## Ministry Moment

*You may place your offering in the plate as it is passed through your pew. If you would like to be part of our online giving community, feel free to scan this QR code for access to our app and giving portal. You may also text "Suburbanblc" to 833-418-8983.*

## Prayer of God's People

### Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

### Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Communion Distribution

### Distribution Song

#### Verse 1

Through the eyes of man it seems  
There's so much we have lost  
As we look down the road  
Where all the prodigals have walked  
And one by one the enemy  
Has whispered lies and led them off as slaves

### *Come Alive*

## **Verse 2**

But we know that You are God  
Yours is the victory  
We know there is more to come  
That we may not yet see  
So with the faith You've given us  
We step into the valley unafraid

## **Chorus**

We call out to dry bones come alive come alive  
We call out to dead hearts come alive come alive  
Up out of the ashes let us see an army rise  
We call out to dry bones come alive

## **Verse 3**

God of endless mercy God of unrelenting love  
Rescue ev'ry daughter  
Bring us back the wayward sons  
And by Your spirit breathe upon them  
Show the world that You alone can save  
You alone can save **Chorus**

## **Bridge**

So breathe oh breath of God  
Now breathe oh breath of God  
Breathe oh breath of God now breathe  
(REPEAT)

## **Chorus**

## **Ending**

We call out to dry bones come alive

## **Dismissal**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

## **Blessing**

## **Closing Song**

***That's Who I Praise***

## Entering the Mission Field

**P** Go in peace; serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Post-Service Music

# LENTEN & HOLY WEEK

Wednesday Services at 1:45 PM & 7:00 PM

This year our weekday Lenten services will focus on the theme  
“PEOPLE WHO DIDN’T...”

Meals will be served from 6:00–6:45pm

APRIL 2 “PILATE WHO DIDN’T CARE ABOUT JUSTICE”

Elders - Zuppa Toscana, Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo, Italian Garden  
Salad, Garlic Bread and Hot dogs

APRIL 9 “THE THIEF WHO DIDN’T REPENT”

Trustees - Pulled pork and potato salad

### **Palm Sunday - April 13 (12)**

5:00 pm Saturday Service

8:00 am Traditional Service

10:30 am Contemporary Service & Lord’s Supper

### **Maundy Thursday - April 17**

1:45 pm Worship Service/Chapel & Lord’s Supper

7:00 pm Worship Service & Lord’s Supper

### **Good Friday - April 18**

Noon Worship Service

7:00 pm -Tenebrae Worship Service

### **Easter Eve - April 19**

Prayer Vigil - The sanctuary and pastors will be available for  
private prayer from 3 pm-5 pm

5:00 pm Easter Vigil Service with Lord’s Supper

### **Easter Sunday - April 20**

6:53 am Easter Sunrise Worship Service (begins in the  
cemetery, weather permitting)

8:30 am Blended Festive Easter Service

10:30 am Contemporary Festive Easter Service

Lord’s Supper will be celebrated at all three services

Easter Breakfast served in the Fellowship Hall from 8 – 10:45 am

## Acknowledgments

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