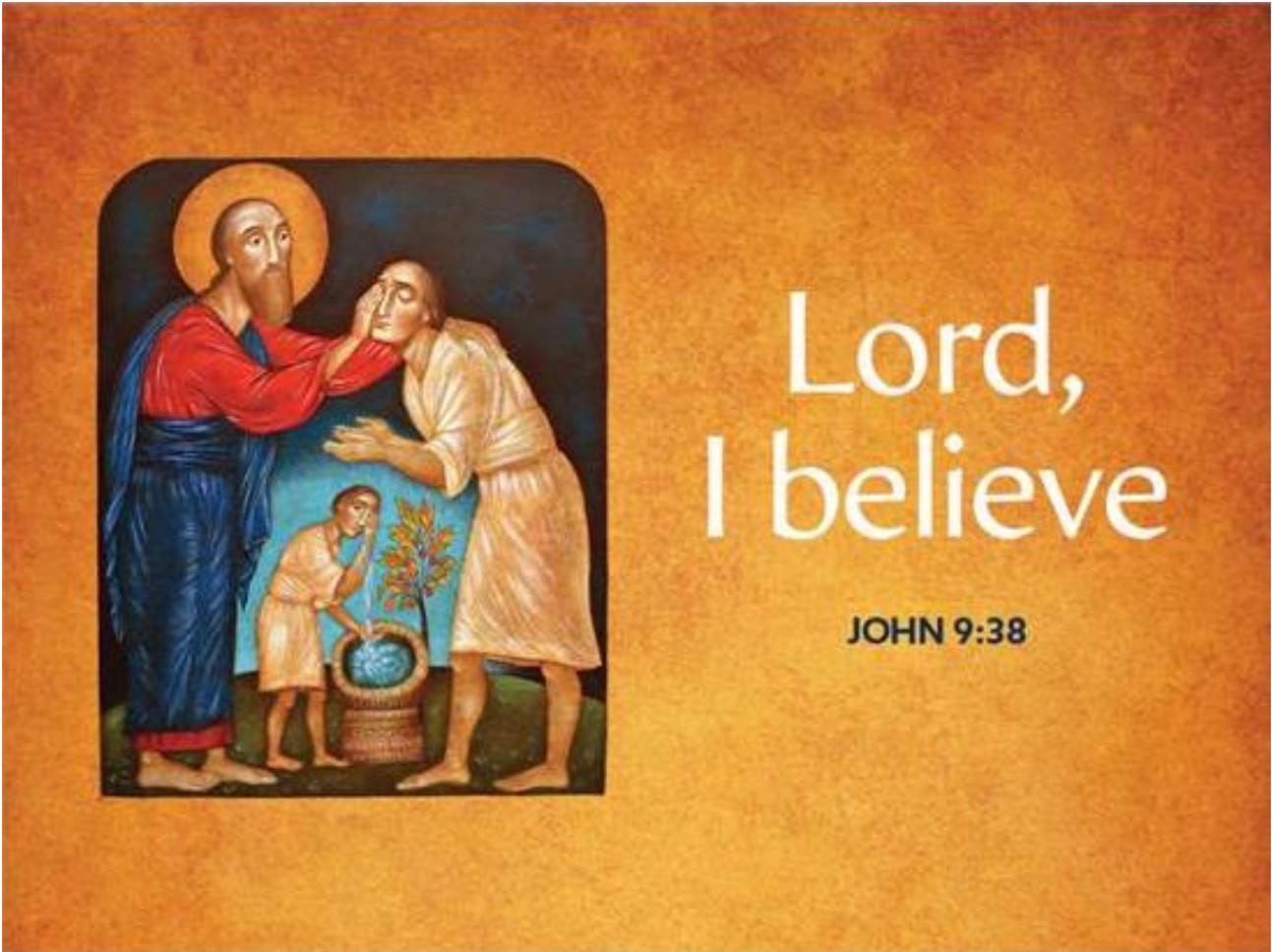


Fourth Sunday in Lent

ELW Holy Communion Setting Four
Installation of Music Ministry Director
Sunday, March 15, 2026

Faith-Bethany Partnership

One partnership, two campuses within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Introduction to the day

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. “I was blind, now I see,” declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God’s beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

www.bethanyishpeming.org | www.faithishpeming.weebly.com

715 Mather Avenue | 180 County Road PPO

Ishpeming, Michigan 49849

906-486-4351 | 906-486-9083

Faith-Bethany Partnership — One Partnership, Two Campuses

Serving Ishpeming | ELCA, Northern Great Lakes Synod

WELCOME

We are **one partnership, worshipping across two campuses** – Bethany Lutheran Church and Faith Lutheran Church – serving Ishpeming and its surrounding neighborhoods. Rooted in Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we believe God’s grace is for all people and all creation, calling us into lives of compassion, justice, service, and hope.

You are welcome here.

Whoever you are, whatever your story or questions, you are free to listen, to join in as you are able, and to be met by the living presence of God.

ONE PARTNERSHIP, ONE BODY

From the earliest days of the Church described in Acts, God’s people gathered in different places while sharing one faith, one mission, and one Spirit. We claim that same invitation today.

Our life together as one partnership is not something entirely new. In the early decades of the 20th century, Lutheran congregations in this region often lived as shared or multi-point ministries, shaped by geography, population, and mutual care. Within that wider pattern, Bethany and Faith share a remembered history of cooperation and pastoral connection, reflecting a long-standing trust that the Spirit’s work was not limited to a single building or neighborhood. What we are living into now is a faithful renewal of a way of being church that has served this place before.

SERVING THE EDGES TOGETHER

As one partnership with two campuses, we serve the edges of Ishpeming; east and west, long-established neighborhoods and changing communities. We understand these “edges” not as margins to be forgotten, but as holy places where God is already at work.

Across both campuses, we seek to be present with our neighbors, attentive to local needs, and open to partnership; trusting that Christ’s body grows not by centralizing power, but by sharing life.

OUR SHARED CALLING

Together, we live a simple and faithful commitment:

Serving God, Community, and Individuals

by developing, strengthening, and sharing a **witness to the message of the Gospel**; through an increased understanding of **our ministry and our daily living**, both individually and as a congregation.

ROOTED IN PLACE, OPEN TO THE WORLD

Our partnership is shaped by generations of people who built lives, families, and faith in Ishpeming; across changing industries, cultures, and seasons of challenge and renewal. As part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Northern Great Lakes Synod, we also join the wider church in ministries of mercy, justice, and accompaniment both within, and beyond, our local context.

A PLACE FOR YOU

Whether you are new to church, returning after time away, carrying faith or doubt, or seeking community; there is space for you here.

One partnership.

Two campuses.

Many gifts.

One body in Christ.

Grace and peace to you: welcome.

HONORING THE LAND

With gratitude and humility, we acknowledge that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg — the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples — who have stewarded this region since time immemorial. We honor their enduring presence and commit ourselves to walk gently on the earth and seek right relationship with all our neighbors.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)
by Mark Hayes

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand, as you're willing and able, in body or in spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

*Our confession is that we have forgotten
whose we are and therefore who we are
– created and lovingly made to walk in
God's way of peace and live in God's
peace; we confess as an opportunity to
begin reconciliation, with one another
and with God.*

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our
guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection. Confessions may be named in the moments of silence.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**
For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**
For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**
For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**
For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ
offers:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**
For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in
the world:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of **✝** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate (ELW 722)



- 1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
- 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
- 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
- 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

This greeting, based on 2 Corinthians 13:13, is a call-and-response between the worship leader (often the pastor) and the congregation. This greeting is more than a simple salutation; it is a blessing and a recognition of God's presence, here and now, and of God's grace.

The Kyrie, from the Greek "Kyrie eleison" (meaning "Lord, have mercy"), is a prayer of supplication, a plea for God's grace and forgiveness. In many ELCA traditions, the Kyrie is a threefold repetition of "Lord, have mercy" (Kyrie eleison), often followed by "Christ, have mercy" (Christe eleison) and then "Lord, have mercy" (Kyrie eleison) again.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



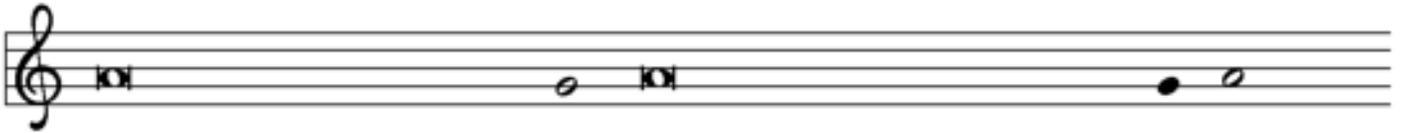
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, 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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray, together.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, **and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day is born out of the lectionary (texts), and is the primary invitation to the radical love offered through the Gospel of the day, focused on the primary themes we might experience together, across the church and traditions.

Please, be seated.

SERMON FOR THE YOUNG, AND YOUNG AT HEART

The People are invited forward for an invitation to see themselves in God's story with us anew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our youth are invited to depart the sanctuary for a time of learning dedicated to them, returning for communion.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

A reading from first Samuel.

¹ The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ² Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

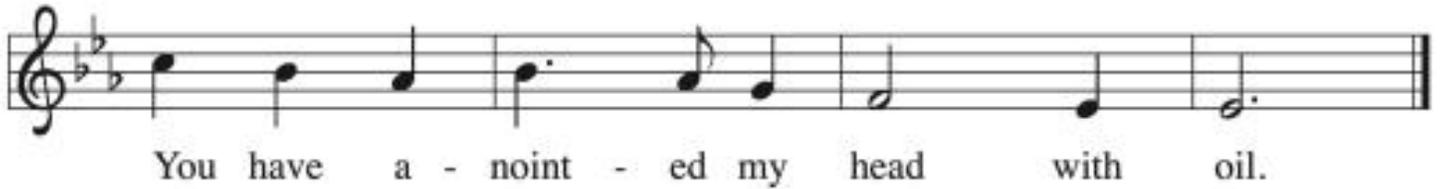
⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

121

Spoken responsively, with the congregation following the lector, in the bold print, until the sung refrain.



- ¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
- ² **The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**
- ³ You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- ⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. Refrain**
- ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- ⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Refrain**

ANTHEM

Psalm 23

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from Ephesians.

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, as you are willing or able, in body or in spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.

GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY

Dearest Jesus at your Word (ELW 520)



1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



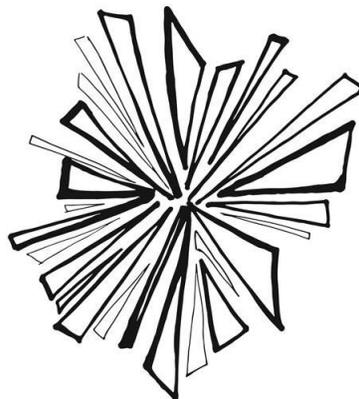
gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
 God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:



and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
 all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on



es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.



INSTALLATION OF MUSIC DIRECTOR

After prayerful deliberation, we, in partnership with the Personnel Team and affirmed by the partnered Council, have appointed Donna Poirier, to serve in the position of Music Ministry Director.

Please be seated.

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

Our Lord Jesus, who came among us as a servant, calls us to faith and a life of loving service to our neighbor. You come among us as one invited to render a particular service, a gift from God to inspire us to love and good works.

Donna, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church and in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Trusting in God's care, will you seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and adorn the gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

The assembly responds: Amen.

Please stand, as you are willing or able, in body or in spirit.

People of God, will you receive Donna into this ministry as one sent to serve in the church of Jesus Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for her, help and honor her for her work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

Donna, I now declare you installed as Music Ministry Director. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be a faithful servant of Christ.

Amen.

Let us pray, together.

O God of majesty, **whom saints and angels delight to worship: Strengthen and bless your servant Donna, who, through your gift of music and liturgy, seeks to enliven our praises and proclaim your word with power. Through this ministry give us new awareness of your beauty and grace, and join our voices with all the choirs of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

Prayers of intercession, or Prayers of the People, are prayers that ask God to intervene on behalf of people and causes in need. They can be used in worship services and for personal prayer.

God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name's sake.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day. We lift up those Siblings who have invited us to walk with them, in Prayer, either silently or aloud... .. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please, be seated.

"Passing the peace" is a ritual where members share God's peace with one another, typically through a handshake or other gesture, symbolizing unity and reconciliation before receiving communion. The practice of "passing the peace" is rooted in scripture, where Jesus greets his disciples with "Peace be with you" and the apostle Paul begins his letters with "Grace and peace be with you".



MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Ways to support the ministry here at in Ishpeming with either Faith, or Bethany, or both:

- Certainly, you are welcome to take part in our “noisy offering” collection, by placing your gifts **in the containers passed** by our Usher Team, each Sunday during this time. Noisy Offering supports the work and outreach of the Social Ministry Team.
- You are invited to set up a one-time or recurring donation by **texting ASSIST to 844-920-4105**; be sure to have your preferred method of sharing ready.
- Use this **QR Code** (to the right). Open your camera app on your phone, place the QR code in the center of your camera’s view-field, and select the Vanco link that appears!
- Offerings will be assigned to the campus you name, or by the affiliated envelope you use. You may designate a specific partnership building online; or designate offerings by applying a note of intent, or reaching out to the office, by phone or email, and expressing your intent with your name and amount offered.



We give thanks for your sharing of gifts and generosity!

Please stand, as you’re willing and able, in body or in spirit.

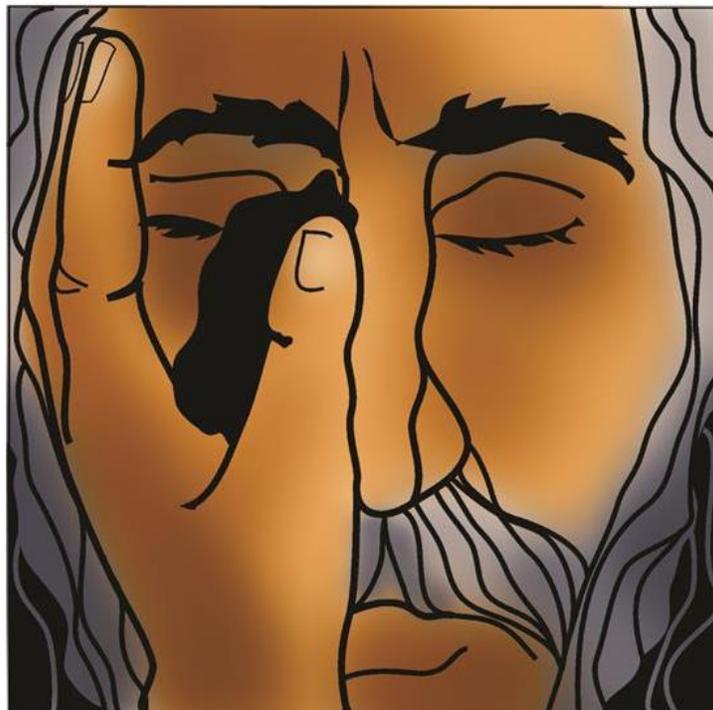
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Create in Me' (ELW 186). It consists of four staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff begins with a quarter rest followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar rhythmic patterns. The third staff features a long eighth-note run followed by a quarter rest and then more eighth and quarter notes. The fourth staff concludes the phrase with a quarter rest and a final quarter note.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, together.

God our provider, **you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



The service of Holy Communion is at the heart of Christian faith and life. In this sacrament, two essential realities occur for the benefit of God's people. First, God gives us his Son's true body and blood, through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Second, the people of God's church are joined with one another as we share a mysterious and intimate bond as fellow members of Christ's body. This sacrament, together with the proclamation of God's Word, lies at the core of Christian worship. We Lutherans often describe our ministry as "Word and Sacrament". Both elements of worship are essential. There have been periods in the history of the Lutheran church where the frequency of Holy Communion waxed and waned. In the late 19th century, a liturgical renewal began, and one of the results was the restoration of weekly Communion. At Bethany, we follow that cadence.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

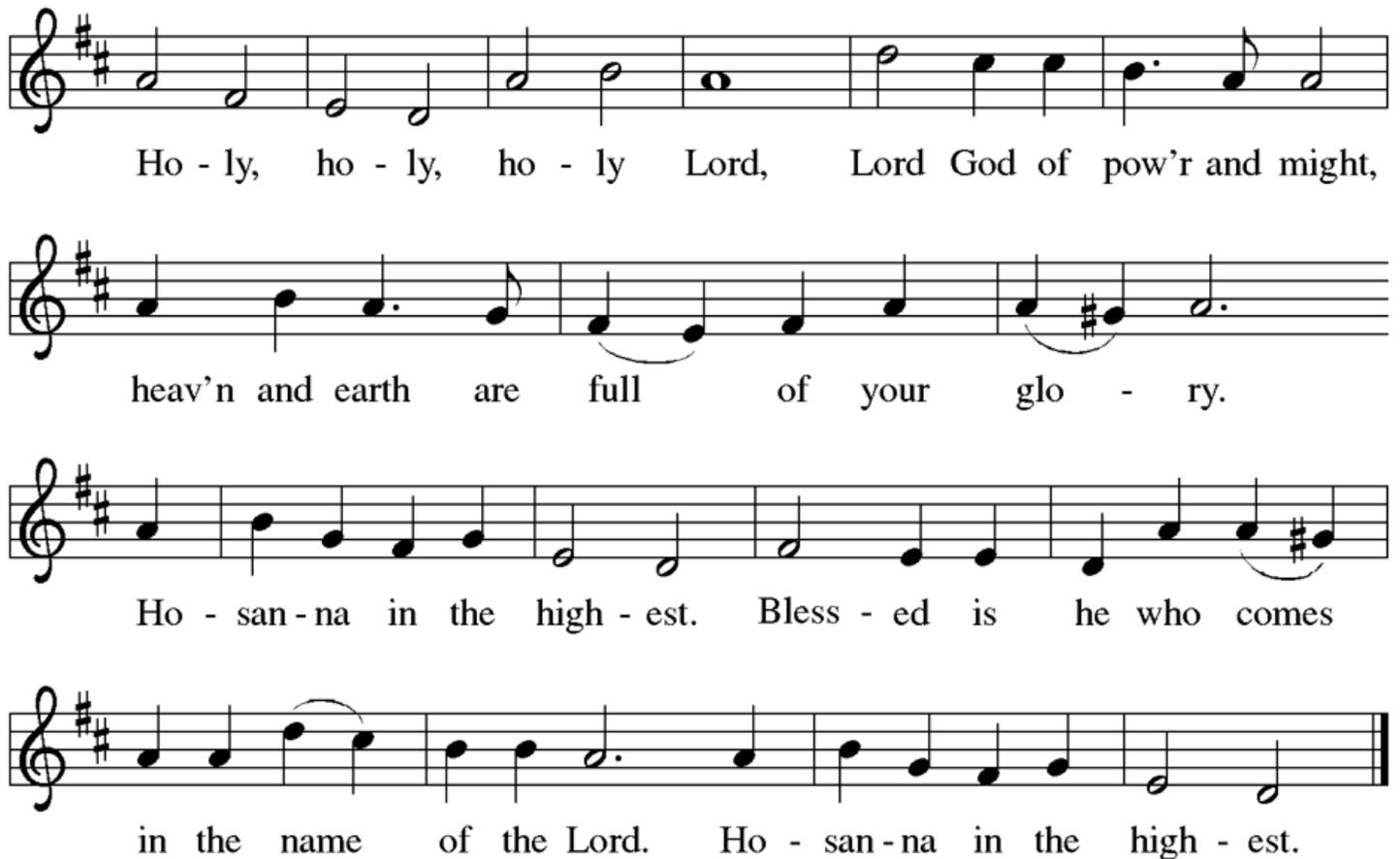
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Preface introduces us to the next part of the service, where we are invited into God's presence for the sharing of the meal. It is an ancient aspect of Christian liturgy. St. Hippolytus mentions that in the early 3rd century, Christians were using a preface in worship. This exchange has survived for centuries almost word-for-word in our liturgy!

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God most mighty...

...Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal...

...the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

We invite you to use the words of the Lord's Prayer that speak loudest to you, and experiencing the rhythms of the Spirit that speak to each of us, creating both dissonance and resonance. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

**Isä meidän, joka olet taivaissa
Pyhitetty olkoon sinun nimesi
Tulkoon sinun valtakuntasi
Tapahtukoon sinun tahtosi
Myös maan päällä niin kuin taivaassa
Anna meille tänä päivänä
Meidän jokapäiväinen leipämme
Ja anna meille meidän syntimme anteeksi,
Niin kuin mekin anteeksi annamme niille
Jotka ovat meitä vastaan rikkoneet
Äläkä saata meitä kiusaukseen
Vaan päästä meidät pahasta
Sillä sinun on valtakunta
ja voima ja kunnia
iankaikkisesti. Amen.**

**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.**

**O Great Spirit, our Father from above,
we honor your name as sacred and holy.
Bring your good road to us, where the
beauty of your ways in the spirit-world
above is reflected in the earth below.
Provide for us day by day—the elk, the
buffalo, and the salmon. The corn, the
squash, and the wild rice. All the things
we need for each day. Release us from the
things we have done wrong, in the same
way we release others for the things done
wrong to us. Guide us away from the
things that tempt us to stray from your
good road, and set us free from the evil
one and his worthless ways. Aho! May it
be so!¹**

¹ Wildman, Terry M.. First Nations Version: An Indigenous Bible Translation of the New Testament (p. 10). InterVarsity Press. Kindle Edition.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.
Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

Holy Communion, also known as the Lord's Supper, or Eucharist, is a central practice where the crucified and risen Christ is believed to be truly present, offering his body and blood as food and drink, and is celebrated every Sunday and festival. We believe that the presence of Christ is in, with, through, around, and under the elements of bread and wine. We hold that there are two Sacraments (sacred acts of divine institution), Communion and Baptism, both outward and visible signs of an inward and spiritual grace coupling earthly elements with divine command.

At the invitation of an usher, you may come forward for the Eucharist or a blessing. We offer gluten-free bread for the whole community. Both grape juice and wine are available in each passed tray; please take the option that best suits your expression and embodiment of this celebration at God's Table. All are welcome here.

LAMB OF GOD



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, grant us peace.

SONG DURING DISTRIBUTION

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (ELW 779)



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

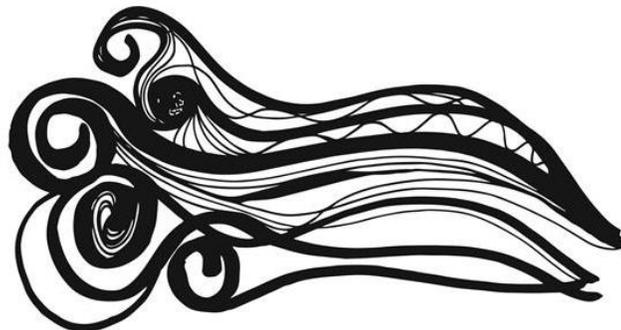


now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Please stand, as you're willing and able, in body or in spirit.

POST-COMMUNION COMMENDATION

May the body and blood of Christ, God with Us, strengthen ✚ and keep us. **Amen.**



POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now Lord (S135b, ELW)



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray, together.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

In the Cross of Christ I Glory (ELW 324)



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace-filled partnership; sharing the good news in all you are!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

*We have chosen to omit a postlude, during Lent.
Please join us for fellowship through the rhythm of our
movement from this shared sacred ground to the next.*

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, died 461

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

A native of Britain, Patrick was kidnapped by pirates at age sixteen and sold into slavery in Ireland. After a few years, he escaped, returned home, and entered the ministry. Returning to Ireland, he successfully served as a bishop and missionary there.

Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.

Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, died 1556

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Cranmer's lasting achievement is contributing to and overseeing the creation of the Book of Common Prayer, which remains (in revised form) the worship book of the Anglican Communion. He was burned at the stake under Queen Mary for his support of the Protestant Reformation.

From sundaysandseasons.com

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PARTNER COUNCIL UPDATE

The partnered Council (Faith and Bethany elected leaders) unanimously supported the affirmation of the Personnel Team's work with Donna Poirier on 27Feb. They are very excited about the affirmation of student support and recognize the hope and aim of Donna's offer of greater-community stewardship and gifts:

- a. Motion APPROVED: to affirm the work of the Personnel Team on 27Feb with Donna Poirier in the offering of the Music Director position for the budgeted compensation in the Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church approved 2026 Budget.
- b. Motion APPROVED: for the months of April (after Easter) and May, specifically (and perhaps beyond), we understand, and welcome, student directors to work with the Choir and Music Ministry as Donna, Music Minister, has need and availability. We celebrate the opportunity to join in education partnership with students across the region and look forward to offering a facet of religious music appreciation to new generations.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

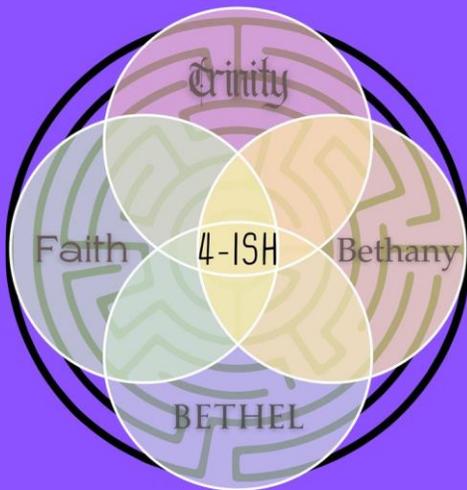


Easter is April 5-Donations Appreciated

We will offer over 160 Easter bags to offer to registered Free Store families. Please consider donating:

- Crayons and coloring books for the younger children
- Colored pencils or markers for the older children
- Beanie baby size Easter "stuffies" and other small toys
- Wrapped Easter candy
- Small gift items of interest to teens

Donations are accepted every Tuesday from 11:00 – 3:00 and during open shopping hours first 3 Wednesdays (12-4) and the fourth Monday (5-7pm) of each month.



Lenten Midweek

Wednesdays beginning February 25th
March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th

4-ISH ELCA Partnership

Home at Bethel Lutheran Church
333 E. Ridge St., Ishpeming MI

Soup Supper and Labyrinth

Soup served from 5:30 to 6:45PM

Labyrinth open from 5:45 to 7:30PM

a forty-day journey toward Easter with days of fellowship and meditation

There is a sign-up sheet for the **Lenten Soup Supper** on the kiosk. Lenten Soup Supper, 5:30 PM, on Wednesdays, at the Bethel Campus, through Lent (March 25th).

The 2-ISH partners will rotate serving, providing food, and cleaning up. Bethany and Faith will serve and provide food on March 18.

Easter Garden



We would like to invite our community to sponsor potted flowers, in honor of or in memory of someone you love (or some people; one plant per person, please and thanks!). Please enclose \$10.00 for one potted flowering plant in the provided envelope and include those that you would like to honor or memorialize. Deadline is our Palm Sunday worship, Mar 29, held at the Bethany Campus at 10AM. Names will be included in Easter Sunday's bulletin held at the Faith Campus, at both 8AM and 10AM. We invite you to take one of the plants home, for planting in your garden, after the final Easter Service on April 5th. Additional questions can be directed to Dede Caplett.



Sharon Eklund Memorial **COMMUNITY DINNER**

Join us for an evening of joy
and togetherness at our
FREE Community Dinner!

Pulled Pork Sandwiches,
Coleslaw, Desserts, Beverages

19
MARCH

AT 6:00 PM

180 COUNTY RD PPO
ISHPEMING

906-486-9083

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH





Singing Bowls

When? Thursday, March 19, 2026
7:00 – 9:00 PM

Where? Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, 715 Mather Avenue, Ishpeming

Join us for an evening of meditation and relaxation with singing bowls and gongs.

A peace offering can be made, supporting this and other community invitations. For information, please contact Craig at 906-362-9934 or at ckitchenmqt@gmail.com

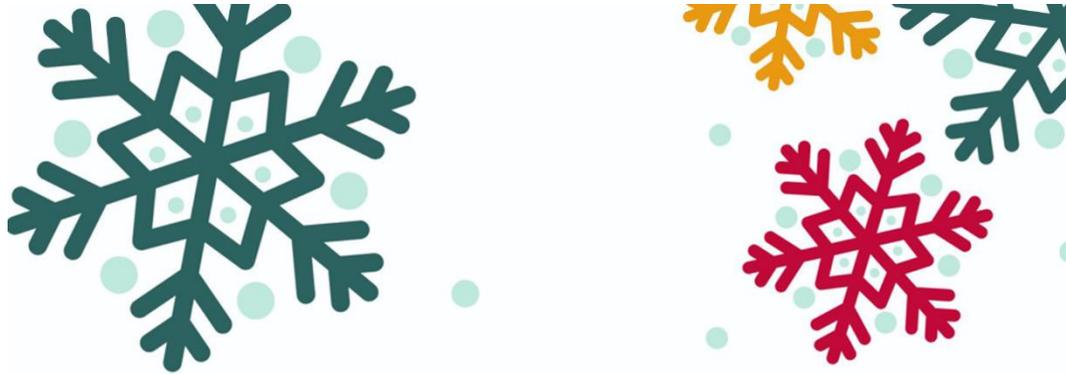


COME JOIN THE FUN!

Friday, March 20, 2026
5:00 – 8:00 PM
715 Mather Avenue

Fortune Lake “Camperships” – Interested in attending camp this year? Need some financial assistance? We’re proud to announce that “camperships” are available starting at 50% assistance for children or families that would like to attend FLLC this year. The Spiritual Education Team is fielding requests and can be reached via email at FaithSpiritualEducation@BethanyIshpeming.org. When you register for camp, before the summer deadline (5Mar), you will be prompted to submit a campership form (available on the kiosk, or by email). After the registration deadline, we can offer assistance on a case by case basis. We celebrate our Partnered Leaders’ affirmation through action the opportunity for everyone to experience the joy and spirituality of the Fortune Lake gift.

Social Ministry – Interested in being part of the outreach ministries of this partnership? Looking for a way to make our gifts work to the benefit of our home-bound, neighbors in need, or collecting resources to make that manifestation of God’s Call to us happen? Have we got a deal for you! The Social Ministry Team meets on the second Tuesday of each month, 10:30AM, at the Bethany Campus and is always looking for additional voices to assist in ministry that loves our neighbor. Join us whenever you can *and* get coffee and sweet treats with the quilters if you arrive early! 😊



Deck your Halls!

WITH A UNIQUE BIRCH TREE PAINTING

Gather for a creative afternoon painting autumn birch trees!

Sunday, March 29, 1:00 PM at
Bethany Lutheran Church. Fee: \$20.
For info, call JoAnn at 906-361-2523.

A sign up sheet will be at each church



THE MINISTERS OF THE DAY

Presiding Minister: Pastor J. Michael Mills

Communion Assistant: JoAnn Manty

Music Director: Dona Poirier

Usher: Susie Hamel and John Hamel

Lector: JoAnn Manty

Organist(s): Carol Cox, Linda Hurrell

CALENDAR

Today	Fourth Sunday in Lent
	9:00A Choir practice, Faith campus
	10:00A Partnership Worship/Online – Faith campus
	12:00P Choir practice – Bethany campus
Tuesday	9:00A Quilters, Bethany campus
	11:00A Quilters, Faith campus
	11:00A Bible Study at Bethel campus
Wednesday	9:30A Weight Watcher Support Group, Bethany campus
	5:30-6:45P Lenten Soup Supper, Bethel campus
	5:45-7:30P Labyrinth open, Bethel campus
Thursday	6:00P Sharon Eklund Memorial Community Dinner-Faith campus
	7:00P Singing Bowls, Bethany campus
Friday	5:00P Parents’ Night Out, Bethany campus
Sunday	Fifth Sunday in Lent
	9:00A Choir practice, Bethany campus
	10:00A Partnership Worship/Online at Faith campus
	12:00P Choir practice – Bethany campus

Church office hours Bethany Campus

Monday	10:00A – 11:00A, 1:30P -6:00P
Tuesday	10:00A – 2:00P
Wednesday	10:00A – 11:45A, 1:45P – 3:45P
Thursday	10:00A – 1:30P, 2:00 – 2:45P 3:30P - 5:30P

Church Office hours Faith Campus

Tuesday	10:00A – 2:00P
Thursday	10:00A

Please contact the office if you would like to make an appointment to see Pastor J.