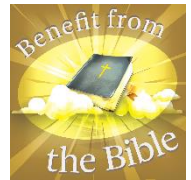




Bethlehem Lutheran Church – 2024

Truth – Forgiveness – Assurance – Peace – Guidance

Saturday, 3/23 at 4 pm; Sunday, 3/24 at 9 am



The Holy Week Journey

**Jesus Before
the Council
Peter Denies
Jesus**

Based on the Booklet
Days 30-32

Thanks for Putting Jesus First: Whatever we put first is what we are worshipping, *so may the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit always hold the first-place position in our lives* (Mt. 6:33)!

Church Year: **Palm Sunday**, which is the beginning of Holy Week. Since we are preaching through The Holy Week Journey booklet this year, we celebrated Palm Sunday on 2/18.

Divine Service: **Setting Four**, LSB 203-212.

Today: We are focusing on the Good Friday section of The Holy Week Journey.

- ☺ **Visitors:** *Welcome! Please complete an attendance slip and let us know how we can help!*
- ☺ **Prayer Request:** *Use a “yellow” card (Narthex).*
- ☺ **Young Children:** *Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex).*
- ☺ **All Children:** *Children’s Message (join us).*
- ☺ **Phone:** *Please put on silent.*
- ☺ **Hearing Assistance:** *Available in the Narthex.*
- ☺ **Service Folder:** *Available on your smartphone: www.BLC7500.com/ServiceFolder*
- ☺ **Worship From Your Car:** *Receive at our main entrance; then listen from your car (FM 89.9).*

BELL and CANDLELIGHTING – *Please be seated!*

PRELUDE – Sunday: All Glory, Laud, and Honor
We listen in silence...

↑ **CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION:**

Based on Psalm 32:1-5, 10-11 ESV

- L: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**
- L: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
- C: **whose sin is covered.**
- L: Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
- C: **and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**
- L: For when I kept silent,
- C: **my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.**
- L: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
- C: **my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**
- L: Let us pray:
- A: **Dear LORD, I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

L: Because of the work of the Holy Spirit – *we have godly sorrow*; because of God’s mercy – *we have uncovered our sins*, and by God’s grace – *we trust in Jesus as our Savior*.
Therefore, let us be certain that ♦our sins are forgiven, ♦we have God’s gift of eternal life, and ♦heaven is open for us.

C: **Amen.**

L: Many are the sorrows of the wicked,

C: **but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.**

L: Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,

C: **and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Saturday ➡ Hymn

Sunday ➡ Entrance Hymn and Procession

HYMN: *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*
See the words below / LSB 849

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris’ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
Healing ev’ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
With the very Bread of peace.
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

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KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47

L: Lord, C: **have mercy.**

L: Christ, C: **have mercy.**

L: Lord, C: **have mercy.**

SALUTATION and COLLECT:

L: The LORD be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God,
You sent Your Son, *our Savior Jesus Christ*, to
take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer
death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that
we may follow the example of His great
humility and patience and be made partakers
of His resurrection; through the same Jesus
Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

C: **Amen.** ↓ Children! *Please come forward!*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: Relationships –
Which One Is Most Important?



WELCOME OF NEW MEMBER: Lisa Woodward

Note: As we take The Holy Week Journey, those readings will be the basis of 14 sermons. Each week we may have some additional readings that relate to our section of Mark from the booklet.

RELATED SCRIPTURE READINGS: NAS-95

Deuteronomy 17:6 [*The Jewish leaders failed to bring two consistent witnesses against Jesus:*]
“On the evidence of two witnesses or three witnesses, he who is to die shall be put to death; he shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness.”

Jeremiah 26:8-9 [*This scene with Jeremiah pointed ahead to Jesus being on trial before the Sanhedrin:*]
When Jeremiah finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded *him* to speak to all the people, the priests and the prophets and all the people seized him, saying, “You must die! Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD saying, ‘This house will be like Shiloh and this city will be desolate, without inhabitant’ ?”
And all the people gathered about Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

John 2:19 [To prove His authority to cleanse the temple, Jesus said to the Jewish leaders:] “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

Isaiah 53:7 [These words pointed ahead to Jesus:] He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth.

Hebrews 1:3 [The awesomeness of Jesus:] ...He is the radiance of [God’s] glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...

Leviticus 21:10 [During Jesus third trial, the high priest sinned:] “The priest who is the highest among his brothers... shall not... tear his clothes...”

Leviticus 24:16 [Jesus was falsely accused:] “...the one who blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death...”

Isaiah 50:6 [A prophecy that pointed ahead to Jesus being abused:] I gave My back to those who strike Me, And My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting.

2 Corinthians 7:10 [Two kinds of sorrow:] For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

This year, at Bethlehem, we celebrated Jesus’ triumphal entry on February 18. The following hymn will remind us that today is Palm Sunday.

SERMON HYMN: *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*

Please use a maroon hymnal: LSB 441

SERMON: Mark 14:53-72

NAS-95

Day 30 (Tu, 3/19) – Jesus Before the Council –

Part 1: 14:53 They led Jesus away to the high priest; and all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes gathered together. // From other gospel accounts, we know that Jesus was...

⁵⁴ Peter had followed [Jesus] at a distance [and because he was with John, who knew the high priest (John 18:15-16), they went], right into the courtyard of the high priest; and [Peter] was sitting with the officers and warming himself at the fire.

⁵⁵ Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, and they were not finding any.

⁵⁶ For many were giving false testimony against Him, but their testimony was not consistent. // The Jewish leaders had already decided to...

⁵⁷ Some stood up and began to give false testimony against [Jesus], saying, ⁵⁸ “We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.’” ⁵⁹ Not even in this respect was their testimony consistent. // **Two things: (1)** When Jesus said “destroy” and “build” He...

Day 31 (We, 3/20) – Jesus Before the Council –

Part 2: 14:60 The high priest stood up and came forward and questioned Jesus, saying, “Do You not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against You?” ⁶¹ But [Jesus] kept silent and did not answer [to fulfill the Isaiah 53:7 prophecy]. Again the high priest was questioning [Jesus], and saying to Him, “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?” ⁶² And Jesus said, “**I am**; and you shall see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN.” // Jesus was saying: Realize this...

⁶³ Tearing his clothes, the high priest said, “What further need do we have of witnesses? ⁶⁴ You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?” // What blasphemy? Jesus confessed...

^{64b} And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death [*because He said He was the Christ*]. ⁶⁵ Some began to spit at Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him with their fists, and to say to Him, “Prophecy!” And the officers received Him with slaps *in the face*. // **Think:** Jesus suffered...

Day 32 (Th, 3/21) – Peter Denies Jesus: [*See the 3/16 sermon to learn about Jesus’ prediction of Peter’s denial.*] **14:66** As Peter was below in the courtyard [of the high priest], one of the servant-girls of the high priest came, ⁶⁷ and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Nazarene.” ⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, “**I neither know nor understand what you are talking about.**” And he went out onto the porch, and a rooster crowed. // Remember what Jesus told Peter: “**...before a rooster crows twice, you yourself will deny Me three times**” (14:30). So far, *one denial and one rooster crow.*

⁶⁹ The servant-girl saw him, and began once more to say to the bystanders, “This is one of them!” ⁷⁰ But again **he denied it**. // That was the *second denial*.

And after a little while the bystanders were again saying to Peter, “Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean too.” ⁷¹ But he began to curse and swear, “**I do not know this man you are talking about!**” ⁷² Immediately a rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had made the remark to him, “**Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.**” And he began to weep.

- Confessing Jesus is critical: ^{NAS} **Matt. 10:33** [*Jesus:*] “...whoever shall deny Me before men, I will also deny him before

My Father who is in heaven.” **2 Tim. 2:11** [*Paul:*] “If we deny [Jesus], He also will deny us...”

- What have we vowed as Lutherans? “...to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, **even to death...**” // **Faith, word, deed, death!**
- The right attitude: ^{NIV} **Hebrews 10:39** “...we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.”

Holy Thursday: Jesus **to** Pilate, **to** be crucified, and **is** mocked!

Get a Full and Sharable Copy of the Sermon

NartheX / Website / YouTube / Facebook / Email

SERMON RESPONSE: *Create In Me*

LSB 192

Sung By All

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

NICENE CREED: *See back of either hymnal.*

Offering: Plates are available in the center aisle.

Thanks for Honoring the LORD!

How Does Giving Work? “...he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully” (2 Cor. 9:6 NAS).

God’s Ways Can Be a Mystery: “One person gives freely yet gains even more...” (Proverbs 11:24 NIV).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

1 Timothy 2:1-4

Request a Prayer: Complete a PRAYER REQUEST card (available in the Narthex). Want a prayer sent through our prayer chain, call or text Kathy G at 440-785-3802.

Prayer List Procedure: Names on our list with a (3) need to be renewed by Wednesday at 3:00. Contact your person to see how he/she is doing; then give Kathy an update. For non-members on our list, *share their address with Kathy* (secretary@blc7500.com).

↑ Please Arise; Let Us Pray

After Each Petition: L: LORD, in Your mercy.
C: Hear our prayer.

Nation

- ➔ **USA:** Let us be thankful for our blessings and pray for repentance wherever it is needed!
- ➔ **Armed Forces:** Guidance, courage, and safety for all who serve, including Chris Sala, Nick Riviotta, Jacob Smith, Hayden Sweeny, Drew Tenney, and Chris Weseloh.
- ➔ **God's Saving Truth:** May it be clearly proclaimed in all Christian Churches throughout the world and, by God's grace, may the Holy Spirit move many to repent and believe unto eternal life!

Congregation

- ➔ **Holy Week:** Since we are eternally blessed through Jesus, let us give Him our full devotion during Holy Week – *by spending extra time reading, thinking, attending, and praising!*
- ➔ **Care:** People who normally cannot attend and are struggling with chronic issues: Wally A, Helga B, Roger D, Carole G, Lois K, Edmund & Christl K, Bill M, Regina M, Bonnie M, Connie P, June R, Jean S, Gertrude S, Mike & Susanna T. (They receive mailings and visits.)
- ➔ **Stephen Ministry:** Pray for Norma S (leader), Linda B, Alan C, Klara S, Rhonda S, Bill S (ministers), and their care receivers.

- ➔ **Grief Share:** Pray for the new program that began, 2/27; guidance for the facilitators and comfort for the participants.

Temporary Health Issues:

- **Doris Chmielewski** (3) strength, balance.
- **Mike Dickau** (1) dislocated disc, healing.
- **Jim Jenni** (2) stroke, rehab success.
- **Bonnie Moyer** (2) broken collarbone, ribs.
- **Harold Weseloh** (2) eye issue; cough – proper diagnosis; lung tumor surgery 4/1.
- **Lisa Woodward** (2) broken ankle, pain relief.

For Others

Temporary Health Issues:

- **Ali** (2) heart bypass, stroke: peace, healing.
- **Mikey Beauchesne** (2) pneumonia, hosp.
- **Wylene Hendryx** (3) (sister of Lynda T) abdominal aortic aneurism, surg. pending.
- **Melanie Himmelberger** (2) bone cancer.
- **Diesel McCoy** (1) pneumonia, hosp.
- **Ed Stash** (2) chest cancer, chemo.
- **Mark Woodward** (2) recovery, strength.

Celebrate and Give Thanks

Physical Birthdays:

3/28 Alan Carlson
3/28 Hilda Kaderle
3/28 Bill Sweeny
3/28 Kendra Weekley
3/29 Wallie Amels

Spiritual Birthdays:

3/24 Sandy Crites

Wedding Anniversaries:

3/30 Chuck & Judy Woidke (50th)

Conclusion:

L: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen. ↓

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

SUPPER PREPARATION – 11AM: Just as I Am

LORD'S SUPPER SELF-EXAMINATION:

"Let a person examine himself" (1Cor. 11:28 ESV).

Should I receive the Lord's Supper today?

Yes – if I can answer "Yes" to the nine questions!

More details, pick up the brochure by our entrance.

Part 1: Am I a Christian?

1. **Do I believe the Bible is true?** Y N *John 17:17*
2. **Am I sorry for my sins?** Y N *2 Cor. 7:10*
3. **Am I trusting in Jesus alone for my entrance into heaven?** Y N *Acts 4:12*
4. **Am I baptized?** Y N *Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38-39; Tit. 3:5*
5. **Do I desire to live for Christ?** Y N *2 Cor. 5:15*

Part 2: Am I right with others?

6. **Am I reconciled with others?** Y N *Rom. 12:18*
7. **Am I forgiving others?** Y N *Mark 11:25*

Part 3: Do I believe what the Bible says about the Lord's Supper?

8. **Are the elements of the Lord's Supper bread, body, wine, and blood?** Y N *1 Cor. 10:16*
9. **Is the main benefit of the Supper the assurance of the forgiveness of sins?** Y N *Matt. 26:26-28*

↑ PREFACE and PROPER PREFACE:

- L: The Lord be with you. *2 Tim. 4:22*
- C: And also with you.**
- L: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.** *[Col. 3:1]*
- L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.** *[Ps. 136]*
- L: It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the

tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS ~ Holy

LSB 208

Is. 6:3; Mt. 21:9

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim
shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest,
sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes
in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

- L: Blessed are You, O LORD our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.
- C: In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life.**
- L: Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.
- C: We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.**
- L: Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER: See back of either hymnal:

- A: Our Father who art in heaven...** *Matt. 6:9-13*

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD:

Combining: Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1Co 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI (Latin): *Peace of the Lord*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29

See the words below / TLH 388, Second Tune / **LSB 570**

- 1 Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 2 Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

DISTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONS:

- ♦ If you are ready to receive: Come forward now.
- ♦ Receiving at your pew: Please inform an usher.
- ♦ Alcohol-Removed Wine: Center of each tray.
- ♦ After the Agnus Dei: Come forward to the railing.
- ♦ Receive. Go in peace. Return via the side aisle.
- ♦ Main dismissal: After everyone has returned.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

LORD'S SUPPER DISMISSAL

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

See the words below / TLH 309 / LSB 632

- 1 O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.
- 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart:
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:

L: Father in heaven, *with sorrow* we came to the Supper, *with faith* we have received Your gift of forgiveness, and *with peace* we have returned to our places; *help us now* – by the instruction of Your Word and the power of Your Spirit – to live unto Your glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION:

L: Let us bless the Lord.

[Ps. 103:1]

C: **Thanks be to God.**

L: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord look upon you with *favor* and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

C: **Amen.**

CANDLE EXTINGUISHING and POSTLUDE

Want a Personal Prayer?

Ask Any Stephen Minister: Linda B, Alan C, Klara S, Rhonda S, Bill S, or Norma S.

Special Thanks to Will Mild

For building and installing a shelf next to our organ to make the area more functional and organized – *check it out!*



His Only Son – Food and Movie

See the signup sheet in the narthex – Join Us on Sat., 4/6 at 5:30 or Sun., 4/7 at 11:45!

HOLY WEEK: 3/25/24 – 3/31/24

Monday

6:30 – Youth Confirmation

Tuesday

6:30 – Grief Share

HOLY THURSDAY

10:00 – LTLL: Preview of Upcoming Readings

11:00 – Divine Service

7:00 – Divine Service

GOOD FRIDAY

11:00 – Divine Service

7:00 – Divine Service

HOLY SATURDAY

10:00 – Easter Brunch Preparation. *Help!* 😊

4:00 – Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 – Divine Service

10:30 – Easter Brunch

Education Hour resumes next Sunday!

Thanks For Serving on 3/24 & 3/25

Altar Guild: Heather H

Saturday: Organist: Jim V Usher: Matt K
Pastor Team – Welcome: Alan C
Distribution – Alan C

Sunday: Organist: Martha C
Pastor Team – Welcome: Harold W
Distribution – Harold W
Ushers: Rand S, Nevin S
Refreshments: The Hilliker Family & others
Sunday School: Stacey J, Cedrick/Harold

Financial Team: Natalia F, Linda W

Thanks For Serving on 3/30 & 3/31

Altar Guild: Kathy G

Saturday: Organ: Kathy G Usher: Matt K
Pastor Team – Welcome: Alan C
Distribution – Alan C

Sunday: Organ: Kathy G
Pastor Team – Welcome:
Distribution – Harold W
Ushers: Rand S, Nevin S
Refreshments: The Hilliker Family & others
Sunday School: Resumes 4/7

Financial Team: Natalia F, Ken H

Numbers From Last Week

Received God's Gifts – Services:

- Saturday at 4:00 – Inside: **30**; car: **4**
- Sunday at 9:00 – Inside: **59**; car: **1**
- Wednesday – Inside: **49**; car: **0**

Studied God's Word – Classes:

- Saturday at 3:00: **14**
- Sunday at 10:30: **36**
- Thursday at 10: **7**

Supported God's Work:

- Needed Each Week (budget): **5,134**
- Received Last Week (actual): **6,865**
- Gross Surplus YTD – as of last week: **2,926**
- Net Surplus YTD – as 2/29/24: **-7,393**



Connect With Us

➡ **Website:** BLC7500.com ➡ **YouTube:** Benefit from the Bible ➡ **Facebook:** Bethlehem Parma

Regular Services: **Saturdays** at 4:00; **Sundays** at 9:00

Studies: **Wed 1; Thurs 10; Sat 3; Sun 10:30**

Church Office: Wed & Thu: 9:30-3:30; Sat: 2:00-6:00

Pastor Green: RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915

Festivals: Website > Important Links > Festivals

Address: 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134

Kathy Green: Secretary@blc7500.com; 440-845-2230

Church Body: lcms.org District: oh.lcms.org