

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

Pastor Dawn Busch

Serving the congregations of Medora, Belfield, Daglum

Musical Accompanists

Tami Elefson – Medora Jean Franklin – Belfield

A warm welcome to all visitors and friends.

We hope you are blessed by worshipping with us today.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Announcements

Gathering

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

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who moves with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God's only Son was given, so that all the world may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and strengthens you in the Spirit's power.

Amen.

Hymn #559 - Oh For a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great re-deem-er's praise,
 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
 3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; he sets the pris - 'ner free.
 5 To God all glor - y, praise, and love be now and ev - er giv'n



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
 sings mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 His blood can make the foul - est clean; his blood a - vails for me.
 by saints be - low and saints a - bove, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

Call to Worship

Seek the Lord while he may be found.

Call upon God while he is near.

Wicked, forsake your ways!

Unrighteous, forsake your thoughts!

Come back to God.

Return to the Lord!

Come back to God.

Return to the Lord!

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (*Isaiah 55:6-7; Joel 2:13*)

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Congregation is seated*

Word

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

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews

on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'
¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 130

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

²**O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

³If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.**

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: John 11:1-45

The Holy Gospel according to _____.

Glory to you, O Lord.

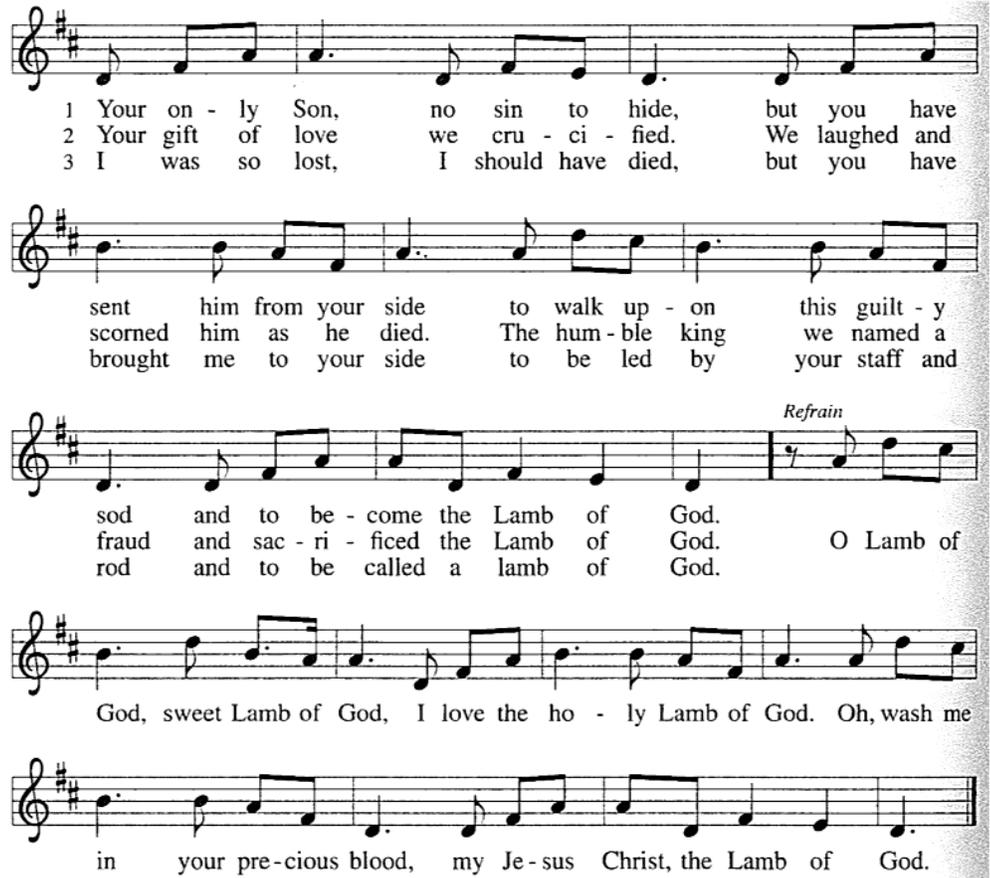
¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister

and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

Children's Sermon

Hymn - Lamb of God



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have

sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and

Refrain

sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod and to be called a lamb of God.

God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me
in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958
Music: Twila Paris

The Sermon

Hymn #385 - What Wonderous Love is This



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who - is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

Prayers of the Church

As we mark these forty days with repentance and forgiveness, let us pray for the renewal of the church and the restoration of the world to the life of God.

Prayer Response: Merciful God,

Receive our prayer.

Remembering those in our prayers: Family of Nicole Koegl, Kathy Malkowski, Glenda Buckman, Rosemary Walter, Halle Blain, Kwirt Johnson, Pastor Beth Parks, Randy Mosser, Dale Oyhus, Bernadette Obrugewitch, Maurice Obrugewitch, Craig McLaughlin, JoAnne Suomala, Mary Knotts, Bryce Wigert, Norma Newton, Lanie Nichols, Margaret Braun, Johnny Syminow, Mark Hinrichs, Lincoln Lee Johnson, Duane Davis, Carmen Ruud, Becky Yadon, Carol Johnson, Monica Hushka, Mark Trechock, Janeen Nichols, Marilyn Oyhus, Mindy O'Brien, Chandler Nichols, Bennette Mansfield, those who have lost their jobs, those with mental illness, those seeking Sobriety, those struggling with infertility, all troops and their families & those working for peace in our world.

Into your hands we trust all these things and whatever you know we need, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen

Sharing of God's Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Offertory - Now is the Time of Grace

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a first ending bracket over the first two measures. The lyrics are: "Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va - tion." The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "Turn now, and seek God's face, now be-hold God's in - vi - ta - tion."

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on 2 Corinthians 6:2 and Isaiah 58:6-9
Music: TIME OF GRACE, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

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Offering Prayer

Compassionate God,

we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labor. Receive the offering of our lives, and feed us with your grace, that, in the midst of death, all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Stand*

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

It is indeed right and salutarywe praise your name and shout with the angels:

Holy, holy, holy Lord God,

God of might and power; holy is the Lord.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God,

God of might and power; holy is the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

Words of Institution

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Remembering Jesus' command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving as we sing of your command and invitation:



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

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With your Word and Holy Spirit, bless us, your servants, and these your gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be changed to live as your holy people and may be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.

Communion Distribution

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward and hold out your hands in the form of a cross or a cradle to receive the body of Christ. Choose a cup of red wine or white grape juice. If you are only able to receive one of the two elements, please know that you receive the fullness of Christ in one element. You may choose to receive a simple blessing if you prefer. Please notify an usher or the pastor if you have difficulty coming forward and communion will be brought to you.

Prayer after Communion

God of Grace and Mercy,
At your table, we have tasted your goodness and received nourishment for our journey. With our hearts open to your promise, open our ears to hear the needs of our neighbors and open our hands to touch the world with your love.
Amen.

Sending

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

Blessing

Hymn #296 – Just as I Am, Without One Plea



- 1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
- 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my soul of one dark blot,
- 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict, man - y_a doubt,
- 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,



and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
yea, all I need in thee to find,

- 5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.
Thanks be to God.
Postlude

**The parsonage is in need of new windows on the main floor. The current windows are original to the house and frost up in the winter. 10 windows are needed at an average cost of \$2000 per window for a total of \$20,000 for all of them. If you would like to donate to this project, please do one of the following: Online donations can be given at: medoralutheranchurch.org or belfieldlutheran.org then click "Support" for either website. If you prefer to give by check, please put "Parsonage Fund" in the memo. Thank you.

**Worship Dates to remember:

Maundy Thursday - 4/6/2023 7:00 pm at Belfield Lutheran
Good Friday - 4/7/2023 7:00 pm at Belfield Lutheran
Easter - 4/9/2023 6:00 am at Daglum Lutheran
8:30 am at Medora Lutheran
10:00 am at Belfield Lutheran

Today

8:30 am - Medora Lutheran Worship
9:00 am - Sunday School at Belfield Lutheran Church
9:30 am - BDM Parish Extravaganza begins at St B's Parish Center, Belfield
10:00 am - Belfield Lutheran Worship
6:00 pm - Bible Study at Dwelle's home - please RSVP

Monday, March 27

7:00 pm - Faith Foundations Study at Belfield Lutheran Church

Tuesday, March 28

3:30 pm - Pastor's Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran or on Zoom
8:00 pm - AA Meeting at Belfield Lutheran Church

Wednesday, March 29

5:30 pm - Soup Supper at Belfield Lutheran Church
6:30 pm - Worship at Belfield Lutheran Church

Thursday, March 30

7:00 am - Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran Church

Friday, March 31

8:00 pm - AA Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church

Sunday, April 2

8:30 am - Medora Lutheran Worship
9:00 am - Sunday School at Belfield Lutheran Church
9:00 am - Choir Practice at Belfield Lutheran Church
10:00 am - Belfield Lutheran Worship
11:45 am - Daglum Lutheran Worship
6:00 pm - Bible Study at Dwelle's home - please RSVP

Announcements - Please send any announcements by Wednesday evening to Tami Elefson: call or text 701-290-4107 or email: belfieldlutheran@gmail.com or medoralutheranchurch@gmail.com

Belfield, Daglum & Medora Lutheran Churches

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