

First Sunday in Lent

February 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 - O Lord, Throughout these Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and
 prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
 fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
 all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal
 for our sin, and free us from our past.
 skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
 ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
 Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930
 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816
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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

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, 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: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." ^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 32

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸**I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰**Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned — ¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Stand

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to _____.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*Congregation is seated

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

YOUR ONLY SON
 LMD

The Sermon

Hymn - When We are Tested



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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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 Dick Schuhrke, Family of Audrey Kuntz, Damon Hall, Rosemary Walter, Halle Blain, Kwirt Johnson, Pastor Beth Parks, Randy Mosser, Maurice Obrigewitch, Craig McLaughlin, Al Urban, JoAnne Suomala, Dale Oyhus, Mary Knotts, Bryce Wigert, Norma Newton, Lanie Nichols, Margaret Braun, Johnny Syminow, Mark Hinrichs, Nicole Koegl, 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

Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va - tion.
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
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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

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

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 #660 – I Want Jesus to Walk with Me



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

** Our Parish is hosting a blood drive tomorrow, February 27 from 2:00pm-6:00pm at Belfield Lutheran Church. Sign up at vitalant.org or call the church office at 701-575-4703.

** The BDM Parish Extravaganza will be held on March 26 at St B's Parish Center in Belfield. New or very gently used Auction items and baked goods for the Harvest Table are needed. If you want help at the event, please contact Sherri O'Brien, 701-290-9826 or Nita Northrup, 701-290-9595.

** Coats For Kids - If you know of a kid in need of a winter coat, please contact Carmen Waldo at 701-590-3934. The only information needed is the size and whether it's for a boy or girl. The coats will be provided (free of charge) back to the requestor.

Today

8:30 am – Medora Lutheran Worship
9:00 am – Sunday School at Belfield Lutheran Church
10:00 am – Belfield Lutheran Worship
11:15 am – Choir Practice at Belfield Lutheran Church
6:00 pm – Bible Study at Dwelle's home – please RSVP

Tuesday, February 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 1

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

Thursday, March 2

7:00 am – Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran Church

Friday, March 3

8:00 pm – AA Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 5

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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