

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022

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

Confession and Forgiveness

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

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us!

Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

Amen.

Hymn #343 – Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious
 bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me with your
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on
 pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es,
 feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

Call to Worship

Come to the water, all you who thirst.

We come to drink deeply from the river of life.

Come to the water, all you who are weary.

We come to rest in the quiet pools of God's love.

Come to the water, all you who long for justice.

We come to be renewed in God's everflowing stream.

For God is here among us, washing away the dust and grime of our lives, and pouring out the Spirit on all who thirst. Let us worship God together. – Inspired by Isaiah 55:1-3

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, 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*

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and

eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 63:1-8

¹O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
²**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**
³For your steadfast love is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.
⁴**So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**
⁵My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
⁶**when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**
⁷For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
⁸**My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. ⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not

let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Stand*

The Holy Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

The Holy Gospel according to _____.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²[Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?"³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them – do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." ⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.' "

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**Congregation is seated*

Children's Sermon

Hymn - Congregation Choice

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.

Brief silence

Prayer Response: Lord of the journey

Walk with Us

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.

Offering

Offertory - Now is the Time of Grace

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff has two measures marked with '1' and '2'. 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

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Offering Prayer

Extravagant God,

you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Words of Institution

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

Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.
Amen.

Blessing

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✠ bless you this day and always.
Amen.

Hymn #O Living Bread from Heaven



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
 2 My Lord, you here have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
 4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
 and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
 And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
 my course on earth is length - ened, to serve with ho - ly fear.



Oh, won - drous food of bless - ing, oh, cup that heals our woes!
 for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
 My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
 And when you call my spir - it to leave this world be - low,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, with prais - es o - ver - flows!
 the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
 and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
 I en - ter, through your mer - it, where joys un - min - gled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1606–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt.
 Music: AURELIA. Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Remembering those in our prayers

The family of Marian Crook, The family of Elizabeth (Betty) Kuntz, Amanda Johnson, Lanie Nichols, Noah Hoon, Delores Roy, Margaret Braun, Rene Praus, Johnny Syminow, Mark Hinrichs, Nicole Koegl, Lincoln Lee Johnson, Lance Waller, Madella Brinkman, Duane Davis, Carmen Ruud, Page Myers, Becky Yadon, Carol Johnson, RoseMarie Andreas, Monica Hushka, Mark Trechock, Janeen Nichols, Sharleen Stigen, 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, those with Covid illness and exposure, all troops & those working for peace in our world.

**Pastor Dawn will be on vacation beginning today following Daglum Worship through 3/27/2022. Contact Pastor Mike Pretzer at 701-681-1306 for emergencies.

**The Belfield Knights of Columbus Council 6310 will host a Lenten Supper of beef, fish and shrimp tacos from 5-7 p.m. Friday, March 25, at the St. Bernard Parish Hall in Belfield. A free will offering will be taken with all proceeds going to the Ukrainian Solidarity Fund. If one is not able to attend and would like to support Ukraine, donations can be sent to the Belfield Knights of Columbus, PO Box 38, Belfield, ND.

**If you wish to donate to help support Ukraine and prefer not to attend an event, donations can be given at <https://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response>.

**Badlands Ministries is one of our valued ministry partners. They offer faith-filled summer camp and year-round retreat programming. They are in the process of planning for the future, and they would like your input, whether you have participated in their programs or not. If you are a camper parent or retreat leader, you may have already completed this survey. Please do not complete it twice. If not, please take a few minutes to offer your feedback and input of how they can better serve God's people in these changing times. Deadline to complete the survey is March 25, 2022. Click here to offer your input: <https://www.research.net/r/BadlandsMinistriesChurches>

**The Spring 2022 WELCA Badlands Conference Gathering is being held at Badlands Ministries on Saturday, April 30. 9:30 - 10:00 am is Coffee and Registration. The registration fee will be determined soon and if you are a member of the Badlands Conference, your dues are due at the conference. You do not have to belong to the Badlands Conference to attend this gathering. It is meant to be a fun day for all women. To register, please call Debbie Patterson 701-523-6482 or Rita Freitag 701-275-8730 by April 18th.

Today

8:30 am – Medora Worship

9:00 am – Sunday School at Belfield Lutheran Church

9:00 am – Choir Practice at Belfield Lutheran Church

10:00 am – Belfield Worship

11:45 am – Daglum Worship

6:00 pm – Bible Study at Dwelle’s home – please RSVP

Tuesday, March 22

No Pastor’s Bible Study this week

8:00 pm – AA Meeting at Belfield Lutheran

Wednesday, March 23

5:30 pm – Confirmation at Belfield Lutheran Church

6:30 pm – Lent Worship at Belfield Lutheran Church

Thursday, March 24

7:00 pm – Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran Church

Friday, March 25

8:00 pm – AA Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 27

8:30 am – Medora Worship

9:00 am – Sunday School at Belfield Lutheran Church

9:00 am – Choir Practice at Belfield Lutheran Church

10:00 am – Belfield 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

Pastor Dawn Busch

701-575-4703

pastordawn@ndsupernet.com