

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 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 #499 – Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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: Joshua 5:9-12

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the

passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Stand*

The Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The Holy Gospel according to _____.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. ²⁵Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**Congregation is seated*

Children’s Sermon

Hymn – Congregation Choice

The Sermon

Hymn #734- Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling – WOV



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,



Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
 par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909
 Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

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). The first staff has a first ending bracket over the first two measures and a second ending bracket over the last two measures. The lyrics are: "Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal - va - tion." The second staff has 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. We gather together in the nourishment of your Word. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and guide us to extend your blessings to those around us, in Jesus' name we pray. 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.

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 #448 - Amazing Grace



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



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



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.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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, 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.

**Thank you to Craig McLaughlin for leading worship today in Medora and Belfield while Pastor Dawn is away.

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

**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.

** Sponsorship Matters: The Parish Visitor is made possible by the generous financial contributions of monthly sponsors and those of you who send gifts as you are able. The average full sponsorship is about \$350-400, but gifts of any size are welcome and help lower our publishing fees. Thank you for your generosity!

Today

8:30 am – Medora Worship

9:00 am – Sunday School at Belfield Lutheran Church

10:00 am – Belfield Worship

11:00 am – Choir Practice at Belfield Lutheran Church

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

Monday, March 28

7:00pm – Faith Foundations Study @ Belfield Lutheran Church or Zoom

Tuesday, March 29

3:30 pm – Pastor’s Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran Church

8:00 pm – AA Meeting at Belfield Lutheran

Wednesday, March 30

5:30 pm – Confirmation at Belfield Lutheran Church

6:30 pm – Lent Worship at Belfield Lutheran Church

Thursday, March 31

7:00 pm – Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran Church

Friday, April 1

8:00 pm – AA Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church

Sunday, April 3

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

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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