March 2024



Volume 21, Issue 3

Parish Visitor

Belfield Lutheran Church Daglum Lutheran Church Medora Lutheran Church

From the Pastor

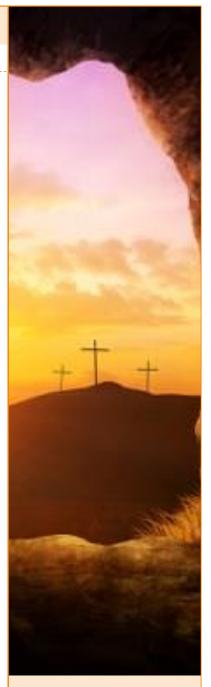
What is worship?

This is a question I have asked several times over the last years. On Wednesday evenings this Lent, we are worshiping together using a worship service from a new hymnal supplement titled "All Creation Sings". This order of worship is titled Service of the Word, and it focuses on Scripture and prayer.

Most of our Sunday morning worship services include four parts: gathering, word, meal, and sending. Some services leave out the meal, but still have a time of prayer and confession of faith. Special services like funerals and weddings celebrate life changes for which we "approach the throne of grace with confidence" (Martin Luther, Small Catechism). We give thanks to God for the promise of forgiveness, for the promise of God's presence in our lives, and for the promise of our salvation. Sometimes, we might just go sit by ourselves and pray. Is that still worship?

The **gathering** time is a time when we arrive and welcome one another, those gathered in person and those joining online. We confess our sins and sometimes remember our baptisms. We sing some music, and we are welcomed in the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit. These are steps which remind us that we are not alone. We are part of a community in Christ.

The part of our worship focused on the **Word**, or Scripture, is a time for us to begin with prayer and hear God's Word from the Bible. We often hear four different readings from different parts of the Bible - most often an Old Testament reading, a reading from Psalms, a reading from the New Testament beyond the Gospels, and then a reading from one of the four Gospel books. Sometimes these readings complement each other, and other times we have weeks in a row from a particular book of focus. In all of these readings, God is speaking to us. I trust God to speak



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Lenten Service
- Easter Services
- Council Members
- First Communion Class





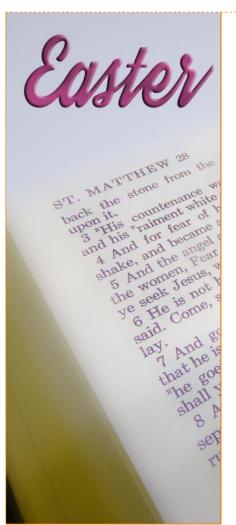
to me as I sit with these texts throughout the week, to preach a sermon of Good News for you. This section of worship usually concludes with a hymn that allows us to settle the scriptures in our minds. The hymns in our hymnals are rich with God's Word put to music. God's word is further proclaimed as we confess our faith together with the whole church. After praying for the whole world, we receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace.

Receiving the gift of God's grace in the **meal** of Holy Communion is a practice that has varied over the years and still varies among different worshiping communities. In this gift, we receive forgiveness and are nourished for the mission God has for us in the world. It is the command of Jesus, "Do this in remembrance of me", and the promise of God,



"for the forgiveness of sins" that encourage us to partake in this meal frequently, rather than occasionally. Is it still worship if we don't include this meal?

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3



Finally, we are **sent** out into the world. We receive a blessing from God, reminding us that we are sent with God's Spirit, not alone. We will often sing a sending hymn with energy to encourage our hearts. We are sent to go in peace, to share the love and peace of Christ with others.

Worship always includes a gathering and a sending, a settling in to focus on God and a time to continue with the work God calls us to do. Whether the time in the middle is prayer, dwelling in God's Word, sharing a meal, or all of the above, let's do it together! I hope you will join us for soup and conversation between 5:30-6:20pm each Wednesday through March 21, followed by worship at 6:30pm. We have the privilege of hearing from other pastors in our conference including Pastor Mike Pretzer, Pastor Lisa Lewton, Pastor Mary Wiggins, and Pastor Beth Parks! On Thursday, 3/28 we will worship for Maundy Thursday and Friday, 3/29 is Good Friday. This Holy Week will conclude with the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday with Sunrise services at Daglum at 6am, followed by an 8:30am service in Medora and 10am in Belfield.

Peace be with you! Wait - did we just worship??
Peace be with you!

+ Pastor Dawn Busch

Church Council: Take Your Seat at the Table

Hello BDM Parish (that's you - Belfield, Daglum, and Medora members)!

Provided are some details about how our Council functions.

Belfield council usually meets on the third Monday of every month, with online options available. Meetings typically last about 1.5hrs. Medora council meets 3-4 times/year, and Daglum meets as needed. The Parish council consists of 3 people from each congregation and they meet 4 times per year to make decisions that affect the entire parish.

The majority of the meetings are:

- a) reviewing church finances
- b) discussing new business which may require Council approval and
- c) going over old business (ie. Outstanding items for review)

Finance discussions might be around new projects the church is proposing like landscaping or building upgrades. Examples of new business would include projects like a sound system or other ideas for building relationships in community.

We start with devotions and finish with prayer. We always have an enjoyable time together and recognize the importance of our role in helping congregations and the parish fulfill the mission to which God calls us.

Thank you to all of our past and present council members for serving on the council.

2024 PARISH Extravaganza

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with and attended the 2024 Parish Extravaganza.

The food was delicious, the auctions a hit and the fellowship fulfilling.

Also, thank you to those who donated auction items and baked goods for the bake sale and auction.

See you again in 2025!



Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26

First Communion

If anyone is interested in First Communion class, please contact Pastor Dawn before March 17th, 2024. If there is interest, there will be a

class after worship in Belfield on Palm Sunday, March 24th, 2024.







Do you know how to use a cell phone?!?

We simply turn on the sound system, add batteries to the microphone(s), and then turn on the appropriate microphone during worship.

There are 10 easy steps to starting the video, and if you can use a cell phone, you have all the skills it takes!

Are you already trained to help? Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the back table of the fellowship hall so the same person doesn't have to do it every week.

We need YOU!

Medora Church Council

Craig McLaughlin**, President
Scott Wagner, Vice President
Tami Elefson**, Secretary
Deane Rodne**
Sue Mosser
Carol Kostka

Belfield Ch<mark>urch</mark> Council

Marty Braun**, President
Darnyl Malkowski, Vice President
Dana Wanner, Secretary
Ryan Hugelen
Kwirt Johnson
Heidi Kukowski**

Daglum Church Council

Delores Smith**, President
Donna Sandvik**, Treasurer
Kim Howie**, Secretary
Janeen Nichols
Mark Trechock

**Denotes Parish Council Members. Additional Parish Council member: Sherrie O'Brien

Belfield Lutheran Attar Guild

Thank you to Linda Weiss and Sherri O'Brien for serving in February

Serving in March Darnyl Malkowski & Alexis Malkowski

Anyone Can Join the Altar Guild!

See Jean Franklin for details.

March

202	Saturday 2	2024 WNO Synod Assembly Roughrider Center Watford City		23	30	
	Friday	Roughrider Center National Assemination of National Assemination of National City		22	Worship 29 7:00pm – Good Friday Worship @ Belfield Lutheran	
	Thursday	7:00pm – Bible Study © Belfield Lutheran	14 7:00pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	21 7:00pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	Worship 28 7:00pm – Maundy Thursday Worship @ Belfield Lutheran	
	Wednesday	Worship 6 5:30 pm – Soup Supper © Belfield Lutheran 6:30 pm – Mid-Week Lenten Worship © Belfield Lutheran 8:00 pm – AA Meeting © Medora Lutheran	Worship 13 5:30 pm – Soup Supper © Belfield Lutheran 6:30 pm – Mid-Week Lenten Worship © Belfield Lutheran 8:00 pm – AA Meeting	Worship 20 5:30 pm – Soup Supper © Belfield Lutheran 6:30 pm – Mid-Week Lenten Worship @ Belfield Lutheran 8:00 pm – AA Meeting © Medora Lutheran	8:00 pm – AA Meeting © Medora Lutheran	
	Tuesday	5 3:30 pm – Pastor's Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran 8:00 pm – AA Meefing @ Belfield Lutheran	3:30 pm – Pastor's Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran 8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	3:30 pm – Pastor's Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran 8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	26 3:30 pm – Pastor's Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran 8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	
	Monday	4	11	6:30 pm – Belfield Council Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	25	
	Sunday	Worship 3 8:30 am – Medora 9:00 am – Sunday School 10:00 am – Belfield 11:00 am – Choir Practice 11:45 am – Daglum 6:00 pm – Bible Study ® Dwelle's Please RSVP	Worship 10 8:30 am – Medora 9:00 am – Sunday School 10:00 am – Belfield 11:00 am – Choir Practice 6:00 pm – Bible Study @ Dwelle's Please RSVP	Worship 17 8:30 am – Medora 9:00 am – Sunday School 9:00 am – Choir Practice 10:00 am – Belfield 11:45 am – Daglum 6:00 pm – Bible Study ® Dwelle's Please RSVP	Worship 24 8:30 am – Medora 9:00 am – Sunday School 10:00 am – Belfield 11:00 am – Choir Practice 6:00 pm – Bible Study @ Dwelle's Please RSVP	Easter Worship 31 6:00 am - Daglum 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

In our ongoing prayers...

The Family of Kathryn Malkowski, The family of Jordan Binstock, Roger Malkowski, The Durgin triplets, Rena Olheiser, Linda Wagner, Duane Tessier, Jackson Busch, Noah Hoon, Madella Brinkman, Gerry Suomala, Shirley Olson, Monica Hushka, Julie Augusto, Josephine Shypkoski-Thompson, Bambi Mansfield, Barbara Hurt, Shelly Dukart, Brady Thompson, Todd Corneil, Delores Roy, Cord Kessel, Halle Blain, Mary Knotts, Lanie Nichols, Mark Trechock, Glenda Buckman, Marilyn Oyhus, JoAnne Suomala, Mindy O'Brien, Craig McLaughlin, Bernadette Obrigewitch, Maurice Obrigewitch, Johnny Syminow, Lincoln Lee Johnson,

those who have lost jobs, those seeking Sobriety, those struggling with infertility, all troops, including SPC Cole Potter, and their families and those working for peace in our world.

Please help us keep this prayer list active.

To add a loved one to the prayer list for next month's issue, please fill out a prayer request slip during worship, making sure to indicate your desire to have the request published in the newsletter, and place it in the offering basket or email us at newsletter@belfieldlutheran.org



Belfield Lutheran Church Daglum Lutheran Church Medora Lutheran Church

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TO:



