

Third Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020



Area Churches Together ACT Parish

DeGraff/Murdock Area

Bethesda Lutheran
Buffalo Lake Lutheran

Pennock Area

Mamrelund Lutheran
St. John's Lutheran

Sunburg Area

Hope Lutheran
Monson Lake Lutheran

Brief Order For Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

ELW 618 Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Romans 5:1-11

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare

to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

John 4:5-42

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." ²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" ³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you

have entered into their labor.” ³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 772 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Offering

Offertory

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

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.

Benediction

Announcements

Sending Hymn

ELW 335 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Pastoral Staff Contact Information

Pastor Daniel Croonquist **Pastor Michelle Kleene**
Email: croondw7@gmail.com **Email: mkleene89@gmail.com**
Cell Phone: 220-3055 **Cell Phone: 226-3535**

If you would like a pastoral visit please contact Pastor Dan or Pastor Michelle

Remember in Prayer

Kelly Rodenberg, Beverly Johnson, Easton Rood, Angie Rudningen,
Lori Torkelson, Steve Kleene, Harriet Stai and The Family of August Grothe

First Communion ~ Pastor Dan and Pastor Michelle will be offering First Communion class at Hope on **Tuesday, March 24** beginning at 6:00 p.m. for those who would like to begin receiving Holy Communion. We will serve pizza and a beverage for supper.

If you have not signed up to attend please do so ASAP by texting or emailing either Pastor. We ask that one or both parents or a guardian attend with the student. If you have any questions please contact us.

Visitation Ministry ~ We want to expand our ACT Parish Visitation Ministry to a team of people who feel passionate about this ministry in our church. If you are interested in finding out more about this, there is a one-day skills workshop, *Becoming a Visiting Congregation*, being offered on Sat. April 4, from 9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Redwood Falls. Pastor Dan and Pastor Michelle will join you for this informative training day. Please contact either Pastor to get more info or to sign up.



Today, Sunday, March 15

8:30am – Bethesda's Sunday School

9:30am – Bethesda's Worship

5-7pm – Mamrelunds Annual Spring Churchmen's Fish Fry! Adults \$10, Kids 6-12 \$5 and Under 6 free!



Tuesday, March 17

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda

1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

Wednesday, March 18

6-6:45pm – Lenten Supper at St. John's and Hope

7pm - Lenten Worship at St. John's and Hope

Sunday, March 22

8:30am – Bethesda's Sunday School

9:30am – Bethesda's Worship

Tuesday, March 24

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda

1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

6pm - First Communion class at Hope. Pizza and beverage will be served for supper.

Wednesday, March 25

6-6:45pm – Lenten Supper at Mamrelund and Hope

7pm - Lenten Worship at Mamrelund and Hope

Saturday, March 28

9am Registration-9:30am Lakeland Conference Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering-“This Is Livin’”, will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 600 Washburn Ave., Belgrade. *The guest speaker is Gaye Lindfors from St. Paul, MN. Gaye is a speaker, author and blogger who isn't afraid to laugh at her own mishaps. Her connection with the hearts of women is engaging and authentic. She high-fives you when you do your happy dance and whispers “You are not alone” when the messiness comes.* There will be two door prizes given and lunch will be served at the end of the Gathering. Cost of the Gathering is \$10, which includes lunch. Please make checks payable to: Lakeland Conference. **Registration is due by March 20th** and can be mailed to Laurie Rothers, Treasurer, 20181 County Rd. 8, Glenwood, MN 56334.

Sunday, March 29

8:30am – Bethesda’s Sunday School

9:30am – Bethesda’s Worship

9am -1pm – KMS FFA Pancake Breakfast at the KMS High School. Menu: Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs Sausages, Coffee & Juice. Free will donation, with proceeds going to the chapter service projects! Noon-1 Easter Bunny –*pictures available*. 12:30-1pm Easter Egg Hunt-*bring your own basket or bags for the hunt!*

Tuesday, March 31

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda

1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

Thursday’s April 2, 9,16,23,30 & May 7

3-4pm – The Carris Health, Rice Hospice Program will be offering “Healing Hearts Bereavement Support Groups” for individuals who have experienced the death of a loved one. Will be held at the Lakeland Health Center (lower level) seminar room 1, 502 Second St. SW, Willmar. Enrollment is open to anyone in the community. But you’re asked to please pre-register at least two days before April 2nd by calling Kathy Tweten at 320-231-4764.