



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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*“Connecting People to Jesus”*

**VISITORS:** Welcome!! Please sign our Guest Book and introduce yourself to Pastor Mark Griesse.

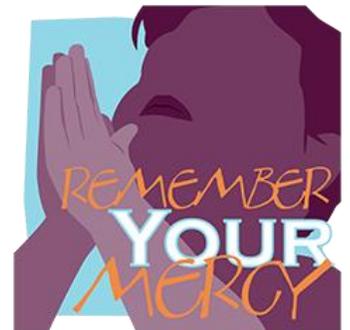
**WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAYS:** Please see our Communion Statement on preceding page.

**A NURSERY AND RESTROOM** are located at the front of the sanctuary on the left hand side. Families with small children are welcome to use the nursery as needed.

**ELEVATOR:** We have an elevator for use as needed to get to the social hall. Please see an usher if you wish to use it.

## THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

February 28, 2021



### AS WE GATHER

The old Latin name for this, the Second Sunday in Lent, is Reminiscere, because the Introit pleads, “Remember Your mercy, O Lord.” Confidently, it continues by encouraging us to trust Him because “He has remembered us; He will bless us.” Indeed, God’s promises to Abram in today’s Old Testament Reading were kept as Jesus moved unswervingly toward the cross, as He does in today’s Gospel. As a result, we can be sure, Paul reminds us in the Epistle, that we have peace with God. Even in suffering, we know that hope will not disappoint us, for we remember that “while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

**+PREPARATION+**

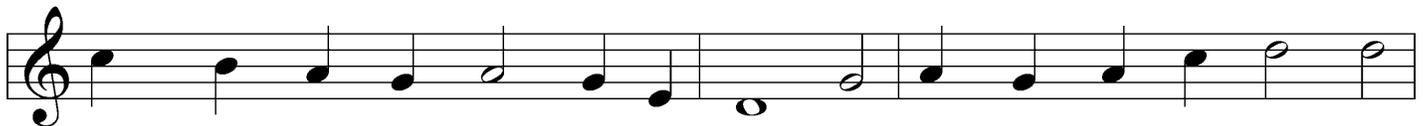
**LSB 543**

**"What Wondrous Love Is This"**

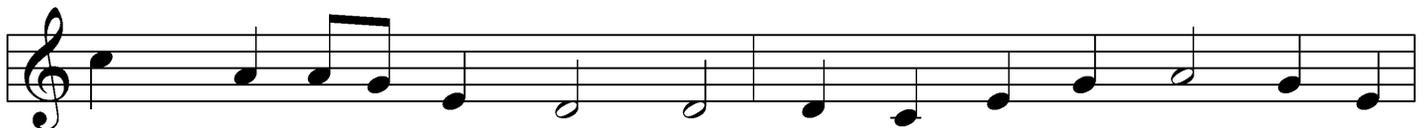
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=acOZB3u5\\_Gk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=acOZB3u5_Gk)



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be-  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my  
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will  
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text and tune: Public domain

**INVOCATION**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P God established an everlasting covenant with Abraham,  
C **but our faith has waxed and waned. O Lord, forgive our forgetfulness of Your unchanging grace.**

P David wrote, “All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,”  
C **but we have failed to remind one another of God’s mercy and love. O Lord, forgive our hesitancy to share the news of Your gracious presence.**

P Paul wrote that because Christ died for the ungodly, we are justified by His blood,  
C **but we have tried to hide our sinfulness. O Lord, forgive our blindness to the necessary sacrifice of our Savior.**

P God sent His Son into the world with one purpose: to save us from the wrath of God. “For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

**+WORD+**

## **INTROIT**

*Psalm 115:11–13; antiphon: Psalm 25:6*

P Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.

You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!  
He is their help and their shield.

C **The LORD has remembered us; He will bless us;  
He will bless the house of Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron;**

P He will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.  
C **We will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.  
Praise the LORD!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.**

## **KYRIE**

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace we have with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace among the families of the nations and in coming generations, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who rejoice here for our access by faith into this grace in which we stand, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P By Your purposeful suffering, rejection, death, and resurrection—help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

## **SALUTATION**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength.

**C By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul;**

**P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16*

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, <sup>2</sup>that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, <sup>4</sup>“Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. . . . <sup>15</sup>And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE**

*Romans 5:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **VERSE**

*Mark 8:34b*

**P** If anyone would come after Me,

**C** **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

*Mark 8:27–38*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>27</sup>And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?”

<sup>28</sup>And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” <sup>30</sup>And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

<sup>31</sup>And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

<sup>34</sup>And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross

and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? <sup>37</sup>For what can a man give in return for his life? <sup>38</sup>For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

**BOB 12**

**"As The Deer"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5rrXC5uKVb4>

As the deer panteth for the water So my soul longs after You  
You alone are my hearts desire And I long to worship You

*[Refrain]*

You alone are my strength, my shield To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my hearts desire And I long to worship You

I want You more than gold or silver Only You can satisfy  
You alone are the real joy giver And the apple of my eye (*Refrain*)

You're my friend and You're my brother Even though you are a King  
I love You more than any other So much more than anything (*Refrain*)

**SERMON THE CROSS IS THE GIFT GOD GIVES HIS FRIENDS**

Romans 5:1-11

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and**

sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

**OFFERING TO THE LORD'S WORK** *Please place your offering in the offering plate as you arrive or as you leave.*

## **OFFERTORY**

**LSB 789**

**“Praise and Thanksgiving”**

**Sts 1-3**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I8Oo-K6gIBA>



1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things  
2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve You That with our  
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for Your chil - dren, By Your wise



liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the  
neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work  
guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -



or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Blos - som and wood.  
with You, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.  
joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know Your care.

Tune: Public domain

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## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for all people in their various circumstances. For the Church around the world, all people who join Peter in professing that Jesus is the Christ, that they trust God's purpose for their lives, take up their crosses, and follow, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who spend their lives serving the physical, mental, social, and emotional needs of the people around them, that God bless and guide them according to His gracious purpose, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For professional counselors and private confidants who alleviate suffering, enable endurance, support character, and encourage hope, that they serve as conduits for God's purposes in the lives of their patients, family, and friends, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who lead the governments of the world, that they find purpose in their positions, using every means to increase harvests, combat global health crises, minimize conflict between nations, and ensure equal justice for all their citizens, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For those near and dear to us, [*especially . . .*], that God bring about the healing, comfort, freedom, and dignity for which they send requests to our gracious Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of the bitter sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

**C Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

**All: 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**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gF3kZG-VajY>



1 “Come, fol - low Me,” the Sav - ior spake, “All in My  
 2 “I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly  
 3 “My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with  
 4 “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your  
 5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your - selves, the world for - sake,  
 life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;  
 love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex - press,  
 soul’s sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - ’ry guile to free,  
 cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -  
 I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and  
 With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My  
 From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge  
 In suf - f’ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e’er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.  
 well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.  
 strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.  
 of the soul And lead you to your heav’n - ly goal.”  
 bat - tle’s strain The crown of heav’n - ly life ob - tain.

Tune and text: Public domain

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**Acknowledgments**

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**News and Notes for February 28, 2021**

*Flowers in the Sanctuary today are to God's glory and in celebration of Tom & Kathy Pemberton's 45<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

**Events this week**

Tuesday	3/1	Women's Bible Study	9:45am
	3/1	Elder's Meeting	11:00am
Wednesday	3/3	<b>Lenten Service @BLC</b>	<b>12:10pm</b>
	3/3	LWML Meeting	1:00pm
Sunday	3/7	Sunday Service-HC	11:00am



**Lenten Mid-Week joint services will be at Bethlehem at 12:10pm.**

**Please call the church office or put yes next to your name.**

**Our Lenten theme this year is "Four Significant Days"**

**Thank you to all who participated in the Life Choices Baby Bottle Campaign.** We will turn in your bottles on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Don't forget** to sign Irene Horst's Birthday Poster—she is celebrating her 101st birthday this Friday, March 5th.

**In Our Prayers we pray especially for:**

- **The Humann Family as they mourn** the death of Doris' mother Fayne Dragoo.
- **Howard Huit continues to heal, Margaret Huit's son** has had a foot amputated.
- **Troy & Laura Rutar as they mourn the death Troy's mother, Carol Riker.**
  - **For our loved ones with cancer:** Karianna, Melanie, Rudy, Becky and Scott Carlisle.

**Celebrating their 45 wedding Anniversary today Tom & Kathy Pemberton**

<b>Celebrating Birthdays this week</b>	1	Dave Geisler
	5	Irene Horst (101)