



ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 18, 2026

Bethel Lutheran Church - In-person and Online
YouTube: [@bethelmpls](https://www.youtube.com/@bethelmpls)



In gratitude, Bethel Lutheran Church amplifies God's grace, nourishes all creation, reaches out, and builds community.

- We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- Why a Public Church? To impact and enhance the community so that everyone feels a sense of love and belonging.

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18, 2026, 7:00PM

We welcome to the Lord's Table all people, without exception, who desire to receive the blessings of Christ's body and blood in this sacramental meal of bread and wine. If you are online, please prepare your own table with bread, wine, and/or a treat for anyone not receiving communion.

Boldface font indicates congregational response.

Worship leaders will indicate when to stand and sit, as you are able.

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

As we gather, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Investigate my life, O God, find out everything about me;

Cross-examine and test me, get a clear picture of what I'm about;

See for yourself whether I've done anything wrong — then guide me on the road to eternal life.

Acts 13 proclaims this: "My friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through Jesus everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses." You may now live life anew! **Amen.**

Greeting

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

Call to Worship

We are invited—

Into the story, into this place, into this hour of worship.

We are invited—

Into reflection, into community, into our own spiritual journeys.

We are invited—

The broken and bruised, the hopeful, the new, the faithful, the doubting, the wondering, the waiting.

We are invited—

Because God so loved; So listen, trust the invitation, and bring your whole self.

All are invited here.

Opening Hymn ACS 1009

"Come, Bring Your Burdens"

Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom -

Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for

U - ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi - hayi.
Je - sus - will - nev - er - say - no.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our daily lives with confidence in your Son, our Savior. Amen.**

WORD

Lesson

2 Corinthians 6:2-10 *Inclusive*

For God says through Isaiah, "At the acceptable time I heard you, and on the day of salvation I helped you." Now is the acceptable time! Now is the day of salvation! We take pains to avoid giving offense to anyone, for we don't want our ministry to be blamed. Instead, in all that we do we try to present ourselves as ministers of God, acting with patient endurance amid trials, difficulties, distresses, beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger. We conduct ourselves with innocence, knowledge, patience, and kindness in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love, with the message of truth and power of God, wielding the weapons of justice with both right hand and left — regardless of whether we are honored or dishonored, spoken of favorably or unfavorably. We are called imposters, yet we are truthful; we are called unknowns yet we are famous; we are said to be dying, yet we are alive; punished, but not put to death; sorrowful, though we are always rejoicing; poor yet we enrich many. We seem to have nothing yet we possess everything!

Word of God. **Word of Life.**

Children's Message

Children and the young at heart are invited to the front of the sanctuary.

Imposition of Ashes

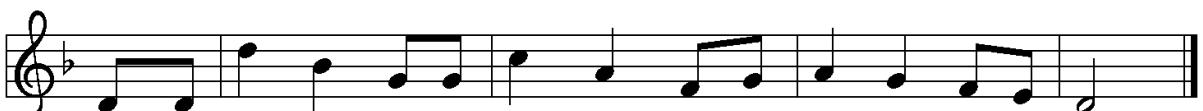
Dear friends, I invite you to receive ashes as a sign of being sorry for your sins. Here we are marked with the dust of the earth to remember that we were made of dust and the breath of God. We pray, God, you create us from the

dust of the earth. Grant that these ashes may be for us a sign of our repentance and a symbol of our life and death; for it is by your grace alone that we receive eternal life in Jesus. **Amen.**

Gospel Acclamation



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 *Inclusive*

The Gospel of the Lord according to Matthew, the sixth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Beware of practicing your piety before others to attract their attention; if you do this, you will have no reward from your Abba God in Heaven. When you do acts of charity, for example, don’t have it trumpeted before you; that is what hypocrites do in the synagogues and the streets, that they may be praised by others. The truth is, they’ve already received their reward in full. But when you do acts of charity, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing; your good deeds must be done in secret, and your Abba God — who sees all that is done in secret — will repay you. And when you pray, don’t behave like the hypocrites; they love to pray standing up in the synagogues and on street corners for people to see them. The truth is, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go to your room, shut the door, and pray to God who is in that secret place, and your Abba God — who sees all that is done in secret — will reward you. And when you fast, don’t look depressed like the hypocrites.

They deliberately neglect their appearance to let everyone know that they are fasting. The truth is, they have already received their reward. But when you fast, brush your hair and wash your face. Don't let anyone know you're fasting except your Abba God, who sees all that is done in secret. And Abba God — who sees everything that is done in secret — will reward you. Don't store up earthly treasures for yourselves, which moths and rust destroy and thieves can break in and steal. But store up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where neither moth nor rust can destroy them and thieves cannot break in and steal them. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be as well.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 608

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"



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

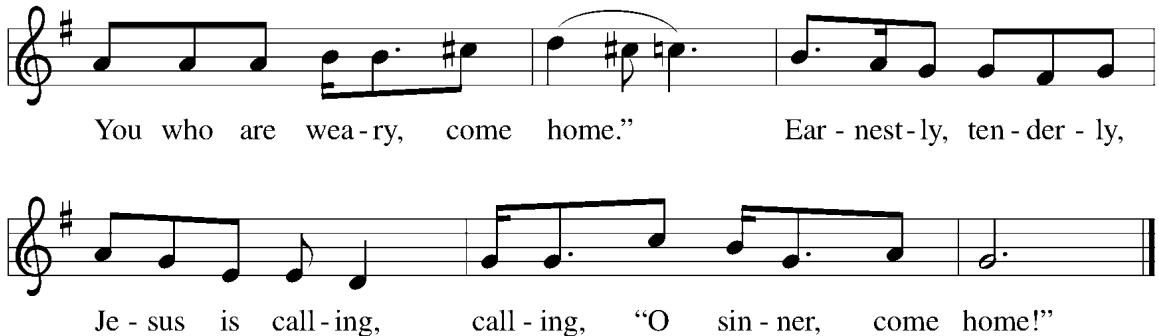


you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



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



You who are weary, 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

Prayers of the People

Holy God, through Jesus Christ you taught us how to pray,

how to give,

how to serve,

and how to live.

Reshape,

restore,

and renew us by the hidden power of your Spirit, so that we may receive the way of life that is the true reward of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace and light of Jesus is with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering

For checks and cash offerings, please place them in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. For members, if you are making a cash donation, place it in an envelope with your name on it. For online giving through PayPal scan the QR code.

Online worshipers, please send checks directly to:

Bethel Lutheran 4120 17th Ave S, Mpls, MN 55407

Thank you for your generosity!



Bethel Vocal Choir

"Prayer of St. Francis" by Todd Price

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true Savior. Amen.

MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the mystery of faith, that **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Bethel Bell Choir

"Steal Away" by Eugene Butler

Communion Hymn ELW 616

"Jesus, Remember Me"



Musical notation for the first half of the hymn. The top staff is treble clef, B-flat key signature, and the bottom staff is bass clef, B-flat key signature. The lyrics are: Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.



Musical notation for the second half of the hymn. The top staff is treble clef, B-flat key signature, and the bottom staff is bass clef, B-flat key signature. The lyrics are: Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community

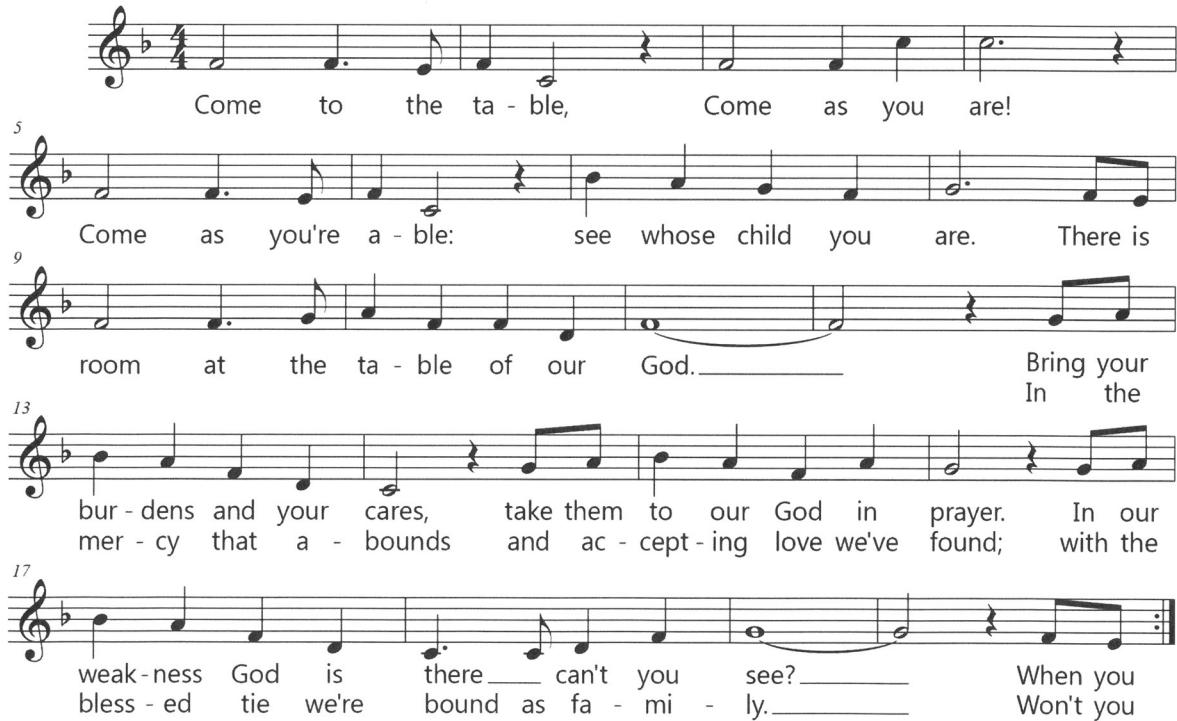
Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

Text and music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

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Communion Hymn

"Come to the Table"



5 Come to the table, Come as you are!

9 Come as you're a-ble: see whose child you are. There is

13 room at the table of our God. Bring your In the

17 burdens and your cares, take them to our God in prayer. In our

mer-cy that a-bounds and ac-cept-ing love we've found; with the

weak-ness God is there can't you see? When you

bless-ed tie we're bound as fa-mi-ly. When you Won't you

Daniel Pederson

Local artist used with permission

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthens you in faith, holds you in God's grace, forgives your sins, and empowers you to love all others.
Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Living One, **in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

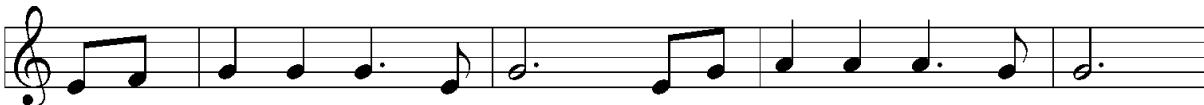
SENDING

Benediction

As you leave this place, let your mouth speak of God's goodness, your arms hold those in need, your feet walk toward justice, your heart trust its worth, and your soul dance in God's grace. You are blessed in the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself. Go with courage, heart, and peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn W&P 46

"Go in Peace and Serve the Lord"



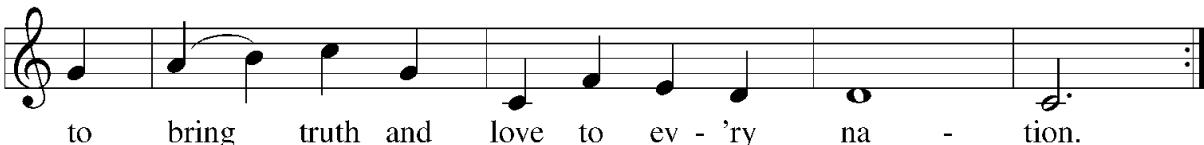
Go in peace and serve the Lord. God is calling you to-day.



Go and tell gospel news every-where.



Go in peace and serve the Lord. God is calling you to-day



to bring truth and love to every nation.

Text: Handt Hanson

Music: GO IN PEACE, Handt Hanson

Text and music © 1996 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

Dismissal

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sending Music

Ministers:	All Believers	Musicians:	Anne Phillips,
Presiding Ministers:	Rev. Brenda Froisland and Rev. Dr. Catrina Ciccone	Sacristy:	Bethel Vocal and Bell Choirs
Lector:	Aaron Warwick	Ushers:	Marilyn Newborg
Cantor:	Bernie Asher	Live Streaming:	Dean Anderson
Music Director:	Bernie Asher	Altar Guild:	Gene Rodi and Ted Allison
			Janet Anderson and Norma Lanning

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Garden of Memories



**LILIES AND HYDRANGEAS WILL BE ORDERED
TO REMEMBER OUR LOVED ONES THIS EASTER.**

To add your loved ones to our list, please complete the form using the QR code, complete a Garden of Memories envelope before or after worship, or email the office at bethel@bethel-mpls.org. Checks for memorials can be made to Bethel Lutheran Church.



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH'S
2ND SATURDAY

CONCERT SERIES

Join us at 3pm every 2nd Saturday
November 2025 - March 2026
for an afternoon of beautiful music.

Suggested \$10 Donation.

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
4120 17th Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN | bethel-mpls.org



ALL ARE WELCOME

without exception!





Easter

AT BETHEL

EASTER BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 5 at 9am

Please RSVP to reserve your spot:

bethel@bethel-mpls.org

(612) 724-3693

or complete
the form here:



EASTER SERVICE

Sunday, April 5 at 10am

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 4 at 10am

Join us at Bethel for an Easter Egg Hunt!
Kids up to 5th grade are welcome to join.

Lent

WITH BETHEL

Joint services with St. Peder's and BOLD

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 18 at 7pm

At Bethel

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 29 at 10am at Bethel

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 2 at 6:30pm

We will worship at St. Peder's

4600 E 42nd Street, Minneapolis.

SOUP AND WORSHIP WEDNESDAYS

February 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25

5:30pm Soup | 6:15pm Worship

At Bethel

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 3 at 7:00pm

We will have a Service of Darkness at Bethel.



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH | 4120 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN | bethel-mpls.org

PRAYER list...

PRAY FOR BETHEL MEMBERS

Barb Saunders	Karen McBride
Alice Evenson	Laurel Jorgensen
Dave and Libby Krogh	Gloria Condon
Hoover Family	Hundt Family
Leonard Phillips	Puckett Family
David and Sue	Darrell Dahl
Dorumsgaard Ayers	Walker Family
Joyce Hughes	Cannon Family
Jerry Johnson	Warwick Family
Gert Carlson	Pikkarainen Family

PRAY FOR OUR RELATIVES

AND FRIENDS

Vince and Carrie (Kelly Chilvers' friends)
Andrea and Sage (Candy Hickenbotham's family)
Ethylmae Ross (Gloria Condon's aunt)
The family of Nick (Ann Allison's nephew)
Ian (Pr B's friend)
Eric (Pr B's and Mary's family friend)
Julian (Jan Walker's friend)
Kevin Johnson and family (Les' brother)
Beth (Dan Hauge's sister)
Kristian (Pr B's friend)
Steve (Pr B's brother)
Michael (Marilyn Newborg's brother)
Donovan (Angel Cannon's father)
Rita (Sharon Phillips' friend)
Calvin (Angel Cannon's godfather)
Laura (Lisa Chovan Spence's sister)
Wayne (Karen Warwick's dad)
Trent and Michelle (Norma's family)
Darlene (Jeff Alberts' mom)
Susan (Mike Condon's sister)
John (Kathy Hundt's brother-in-law)
Andrea (Mona Falk's daughter)

MORE PEOPLE OF GOD

- Renee Nicole Good and Alex Pretti's families, friends, and community members
- Victims of natural and human disasters
- People of Ukraine, Israeli Citizens, Iranian Citizens, and Palestinians in Gaza
- All of us regarding COVID, RSV, Flu, Mpox
- Black, Brown, Indigenous, and Asian Lives
- People without homes
- Refugees, Migrants and Asylum Seekers
- People affected by gun violence

MEMBERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN THE SERVICE

Katrel Bishop (Pr B's nephew)
Adam Froisland (Pr B's nephew)
Evan Harrison (Pr B's great nephew)

BETHEL'S MISSION PARTNERS

❖ Bancroft Neighborhood Association ❖ Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran Church (BOLD)
❖ ReconcilingWorks ❖ Casa de Oracion - Pentecostal
❖ Mpls Area Synod ❖ Nokomis Healthy Seniors ❖ CANMN