

# Bethany Lutheran Leaders' Guide – DS III

March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 8:30 am

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

## Musical Prelude & Ringing of the Bells

## Welcome and Announcements

## Hymn of Invocation

LSB#798

The God of Abraham Praise (vv. 1-3 & 8-9)

1 The God of Abr'ham praise, Who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of everlasting days And God of love.  
Jehovah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n confessed;  
I bow and bless the sacred name Forever blest.

2 The God of Abr'ham praise, At whose supreme command  
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.  
I all on earth forsake, Its wisdom, fame, and pow'r,  
And Him my only portion make, My shield and tow'r.

3 The God of Abr'ham praise, Whose all-sufficient grace  
Shall guide me all my pilgrim days In all my ways.  
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Himself my God.  
And He shall save me to the end Through Jesus' blood.

8 The God who reigns on high The great archangels sing,  
And "Holy, holy, holy!" cry, "Almighty King!  
Who was and is the same And evermore shall be:  
Jehovah, Father, great I AM! We worship Thee!"

△ 9 The whole triumphant host Give thanks to God on high.  
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!" They ever cry.  
Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine! I join the heav'nly lays:  
All might and majesty are Thine And endless praise!

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–99, alt.

Text: 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** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## Introit

*(From Psalm 105)*

**P** He remembers his covenant forever,

**C** **the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

Seek the LORD and his strength;

**seek his presence continually!**

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

**his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,**  
O offspring of Abraham, his servant,  
**children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**  
He is the LORD our God;  
**his judgments are in all the earth.**

**C**    ♪ **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Kyrie

**C**    ♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us.**  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis (*Omitted during Lent*)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P**    The Lord be with you.

**C**    ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

**P**    Let us pray... O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. 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; 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 12:1-9*)

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people

that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup>From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Handbell Gradual- Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

#### The Epistle Reading

*(Romans 4:1-8, 13-17)*

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup>And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, <sup>6</sup>just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;

<sup>8</sup>blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” . . .

<sup>13</sup>For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup>That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Verse

**P** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,  
**C** and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

*Joel 2:13*

Holy Gospel

*(John 3:1-17)*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.  
**C** ♪ **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**C** ♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**





## Sanctus

**C** ♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

## Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

**P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** ♪ Amen.

Agnus Dei

**☩ ♪ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Distribution

Bells- When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Distribution Hymns

LSB#570

*Just as I Am, without One Plea*

1 Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2 Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, though tossed about With many\_a conflict, many\_a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Text: Public domain

LSB#971

*There Is a Redeemer*

1 There is a Redeemer— Jesus, God's own Son;  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One. *Refrain*

*Refrain* Thank You, O my Father, For giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit Till the work on earth is done.

2 Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names;  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Hope for sinners slain. *Refrain*

3 When I stand in glory, I will see His face;  
There I'll serve my King forever In that holy place. *Refrain*

Text: Melody Green, 1946, alt.

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### Nunc Dimittis

**C** ♪ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of  
all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### Thanksgiving

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** ♪ and His mercy endureth forever.

**P** Let us pray... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us  
through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen  
us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through  
Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever.

**C** ♪ Amen.

### Salutation and Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** ♪ And with thy spirit.

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** ♪ Thanks be to God.

## 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. Amen. Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

LSB#571

God Loved the World So That He Gave

- 1 God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save,  
That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.
- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death;  
All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3 God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh;  
His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.
- 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which you have done;  
And, justified by Jesus' blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.
- 5 If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.
- △ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

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