

## Bethel Lutheran Mission Statement

*Bethel Lutheran Church is a community of believers called by God to invite all people into a living relationship with Jesus Christ, build them up in the faith, and send them out to be witnesses in word and deed to the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

### COME AS YOU ARE...

What does it mean when the pastor welcomes us to worship? It means Bethel Lutheran Church family extends a special welcome to those who are single, married, or divorced. It means we want to welcome the filthy rich as well as the dirt poor and all in-between. We want to welcome those children who are crying or soon will be. It means you are welcome if you can sing like an angel or play to lip synch your way through every hymn. You are welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Lutheran than Old Martin or haven't been to worship in who knows how long. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but have not grown up yet as well as to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, and junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion" because we've been there too. If you blew all your offering money at the casino, you are welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because Grandma is in town and guilted you into going to worship. We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We follow a strange and wonderful Lord who welcomes everyone so we at Bethel strive to do the same.

In other words...WE WELCOME YOU!

♥BE.THE.Love

**Pastors:** Rev. Julé Ballinger; Rev. Erika Buller; Rev. Jim Gustafson

**Ushers:** Jason & Danielle Flack & Family

**Reader:** Carmen Tischer

**Coffee:** Amanda Lunsetter

### Worship Band

**Leader:** Rick Hendrickson

**Vocalists:** Emily Hendrickson; Alex Hendrickson; Kelly Voss

Brian Quamme—**guitar** Rick Hendrickson – **guitar**; Carmen Tischer —**drums**

Troy Ballinger – **bass**

### WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

**Sunday, 9:00 — 181 11:00— 79 Wednesday, 6:45 pm —195**

**Next Week's Readings: John 19:1-16a & Psalm 146**

<http://bethelwahpeton.com/sermons/>

# "Come As You Are!"

Contemporary Worship

March 11, 2018

## Gathering Songs

### Welcome and Announcements

**Song:**

*"Come to Jesus"*

*Weak and wounded sinner, Lost and left to die,  
Raise your head for Love is passing by,  
Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus and live.*

*Now your burden's lifted, and carried far away,  
And precious blood has washed away the stain. . .so  
Sing to Jesus, Sing to Jesus, sing to Jesus and live.*

*And when the love spills over, and music fills the night,  
And when you can't contain your joy inside. . .then  
Dance for Jesus, dance for Jesus, dance for Jesus and live.*

## Call to Worship:

L: Come and Worship!

**C: Imperfect, are we welcome?**

L: Yes, come and worship, just as you are.

**C: We come this morning, a wide variety of people, looking to Jesus.**

L: We all know the story well.

**C: Each character stands for something.**

L: Everyone knows what a Judas is.

**C: Everyone remembers Peter's denials.**

L: And the name Pontius Pilate is familiar.

**C: From the vantage point of two thousand years, we can look at the story as we would a play, and see the arc of events, the actors, the conflict.**

L: It seems inevitable, that no participant could have rewritten the script - not even Jesus himself.

**C: Pilate decided not to decide, and so Jesus was condemned.**

L: Jesus' tragedy played out on Calvary, and Barabbas the criminal was set free.

**C: Pilate did not use the power he had to stop Jesus' crucifixion.**

L: But again, was this all destiny? Did it all have to happen this way?

**C: And if so, where does this leave the players?**

L: Judas had to betray, Peter had to deny, Pilate had to wash his hands of the whole thing.

**C: And Jesus had to die.**

L: And while God allowed them all their free will, God knew the eventual outcome.

**C: The death of God's son.**

L: But God also knew the glorious events of Easter morning.

**C: A time when every tear would be wiped away.**

L: God immersed God's own self in our humanity, in good times and bad.

**C: The Creator's ultimate gift of love to the creation.**

L: And God emerged victorious over sin and death.

**C: And so can we. And so will we.**

L: And God's love remains steadfast for us all.

**C: Even the Judases. Even the Pilates.**

L: They too are offered mercy and redemption.

**C: By our limitlessly loving God.**

**All: Thanks be to God! Here we are to Worship!**

**Song**

*“Here I am to Worship”*

*Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness,  
opened my eyes, let me see.*

*Beauty that made this heart adore You, hope of a life spent with You*

**Chorus:** *Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,  
here I am to say that You're my God.*

*You're altogether lovely altogether worthy,  
altogether wonderful to me.*

*King of all days, oh so highly exalted. Glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly You came to the earth You created,  
all for love's sake became poor.*

**Chorus:**

**Bridge:** *And I'll never know how much it cost  
to see my sin upon that cross. (repeat)*

**Chorus:**

*(CCLI #3266032)*

**Greeting**

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

**C: And also with you.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

L: God of all truth, your thoughts are well beyond our own.

**Challenge us to look beyond our narrow assumptions, into a wider vision of how the world could be. For the sake of Jesus Christ,**

**Amen.**

### **Remember to Pray for . . .**

**Grieving:** Family and friends of Fern Anderson

**Healing:**

Adam Loepp	Lynn Rovig	Martha Manikowske
Cora Lovdokken	Dale DeVries	Inez Eckre
Dale Johnson	David Luna	Dave Kocher
Deloris Compson	Emma Streyle	Yoshiko Tollefson
Jamie Hendrickson	Connie Sletten	Chuck Kaim
Bill Braun	Jeff Homes	Pam Hendrickson
Paul Nelson	Linda Kocher	Sharon Wixo
Steven Retzlaff	Anne Retzlaff	Warren Retzlaff
Al Romereim	Neal Folstad	Wynne Hendrickson

**Gary Miller** (brother of Lois Perkins)      **Jacob Peterman** (friends to many)

**Sara Henderson** (sister of Randy Hoerer)      **Preston Young**

**Pat Holdeman** (sister of Cyndy Gustafson)      **Bill Woehrmann** (brother of Judy Oren)

**Kathryn Bernotas** (mother of Tom Bernotas)      **Jan Townsend**

**Karen Knudson** (mother of Wanda Sherven)

**Cameren Nelson** (grandson of Charlie & Jan Bellmore)

**Amelia Rossow** (granddaughter of Pam Braun)

**Leslie Cose** (sister-in-law of Jean & Randy Hoerer)

**Robert Weise** (brother in law of Char Oehlke)

**Jim Oliver** (brother in law of Darren Prochnow)

Serving in the Military: **Major Joseph (Joe) Zabaldano** – Kuwait (son-in-law of Gail and Harvey Link)

Add or update prayer list by notifying the church office (642-4472). Thanks.

**Altar flowers  
In memory of Walt Nosek  
Given by Norma Nosek**

## The Lord's Prayer

**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

*(Children are welcome to come up front and play instruments)*

## Sending Song "God is Good/ All the Time"

*God is good All the time He put the song of praise in this heart of mine. God is good All the time through the darkest night His light will shine. God is good God is good all the time. (repeat)*

### Bridge:

*If you're walking through the valley and there are shadows all around, Do not fear He will guide you. He will keep you safe and sound. He has promised to never leave you nor forsake you And His Word is true.*

*God is good All the time He put the song of praise in this heart of mine. God is good All the time through the darkest night His light will shine. God is good God is good all the time. (repeat)*

*(CCLI# 1729073)*

**L:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Be the love.

**C:** Thanks be to God!

## Children's Message

Pastor Jim Gustafson

## Song

**"We Fall Down"**

*We fall down, We lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus.  
The greatness of mercy and love at the feet of Jesus.  
And we cry, Holy, Holy, Holy  
And we cry, Holy, Holy, Holy  
And we cry, Holy, Holy, Holy Is the Lamb (repeat)*  
*(CCLI#2437367)*

## Gospel

John 18:28-40

## Message

Pastor Jim Gustafson

## Song of the Day

**"Jesus Messiah"**

*He became sin, who knew no sin;  
that we might become His righteousness;  
He humbled Himself and carried the cross.*

### Chorus:

*Love so amazing, Love so amazing.  
Jesus, messiah; Name above all names;  
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.  
The Rescue for sinners, the Ransom from heaven;  
Jesus messiah, Lord of all.*

*His body the bread, His blood the wine  
broken and poured out, all for love.  
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn.*

### Chorus:

*(CCLI #5183443)*

**Offering:** (We will receive the offering during the Song of the Day)  
(The "noisy offering" will benefit the Food Pantry)

## Offertory

**"Give Thanks"**

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son (repeat)*  
*And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich,"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us. (repeat)*  
*(CCLI#20285)*

## Prayers of the People

**"Remember Me"**

*Jesus remember me, When you come into Your kingdom. (repeat)*  
*(CCLI#845611)*

## The Lord's Prayer

**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.

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