

BETHEL NOTES

THIS SUNDAY

Readings:

First Reading:
Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm:
Psalm 29

Second Reading:
Romans 8:12-17

Gospel Reading:
John 3:1-17



Serving Sunday

Accompanist

Mary Seim, Piano

Lay Assistant

John Blank

Usher

Walt Nuessle

Tech

Gabe Smith

Projection

Gabe Smith

Children's Church

Addi Carlson

Tyler Grosenick

Hospitality

Sandy Pepos

Counters

Greg Grosenick

Kelsey Johnson

This Sunday at Bethel...

We celebrate the **The Holy Trinity**.

We welcome and thank **Jim Carlson**, **LPA** presiding in worship this morning. Jim has been authorized by the Bishop of the Montana Synod to provide pastoral services in this congregation this Sunday.

Today we lift up and celebrate our graduating seniors. **Mac Carlson, Julia Elkin, Ava Fossen, Kyle Gilbertson and James Pinski**.

After worship today we continue our **Adult Forum** on the third season of The Chosen.

Join us at 9:30 AM in person or online at bethelmt.org.

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*Lord,
in your mercy
hear our prayers.*



- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Charlie Hill**, *friend of Jeanne Rankin*, who has been diagnosed with a brain tumor and is meeting with specialist to determine treatment.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Shannon Obrecht**, *family friend of Karen Lord*, as she experiences complications with cancer treatment.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Don Bisgard** as he has recovers from surgery as part of cancer treatment. ***Don and Kathi wanted express how thankful they are to Bethel for all of the support, prayers and love.***
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Kathleen**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, as she continues medical testing at Mayo Clinic.
- ✠ Prayers of support and comfort to **Jen**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, whose husband just passed from cancer.
- ✠ Prayers of continued healing for **Eric Peterson** as he receives chemotherapy that has slowed the progression of cancer growth.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Georgia Miller**, *cousin of Amber Erickson's*, as she has been going through treatment for breast cancer and is doing well. Hoping to only have a couple more treatments to go.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Sharon Bossie** as she manages chemotherapy treatments.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Broc Cole**, *child of a friend of Ali Morris*, as he battles lymphoma.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Kristin**, *Bobbie Bowen's daughter*, as she continues treatment for cancer.
- ✠ Prayers of support and comfort for **Pat Berkeley**.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he continues regaining his strength.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
- ✠ Prayers of strength in leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.



Bethel Church Council Meeting Highlights

Bethel Church Council met in person on Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Here are some highlights from that meeting.

- Randy reported from the Property Management Committee that they have replaced 4 fixtures with LED lights in the fellowship hall. Council approved \$500 to complete the job, which is minimal, compared to the cost of fluorescents we have been using in there.
- Debbie McCarty says there is no need this year for a spring cleanup crew, as Outdoor Solutions has been doing such a good job. Property is also working on cleaning gutters, trees, signage for the church and TLC. We thank them for all their hard work.
- Planning has started on VBS, anyone interested in helping, please get in touch with Tami.
- Our new HUGS Ministry is underway, with Jim Carlson in the lead, aided by Earl Terwilliger, Jane Mart, Sonja Baumgardner, Colleen Walker-Nelson, Shari Kohoutek, Patty Braget, and Sue Reppe. They will contact everyone on the visitation list in person or by mail. Sanctioned by the Montana Synod, communion will be offered to those we visit. Jim Carlson will continue to do emergency visitation.
- We are in discussion with Boy Scout Troop 1 who are looking for a place to meet and have asked to use our facility on Sunday nights. We will have to draw up a Facility Use Agreement and have the Scouts give their input before a final decision is made. They are not looking for a charter. They need space to meet and store their equipment.
- Tammy Good has planned a Red Cross Blood Drive at Bethel for July 15. We are looking for volunteers to help with the draw that day as well as those willing to donate blood.
- Tammy has also met with Carrie Parker from Helping Hands to see how we can help. The major need is financial, as well as volunteers.
- Due to the increased cost of Bible Camp, we voted to increase the camperships from \$250 to \$400 for Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp summer 2024. Cost will be evaluated each year.
- John Metcalf, the President of Redeemer Lutheran, reports their congregation enjoyed our combined service so much that they were hoping we could do it again; we will try it monthly this summer, starting June 23rd at Bethel with Pastor Sara Branom presiding.

Next Council meeting is June 11th.

Respectfully submitted Laurie Turner, secretary



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive at Bethel

July 15th

**Sign Up to give blood.
More details to come.**

MUSIC - ART - DRAMA

SPARK THE ARTS

GENERATING THE ARTS FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Spark the Arts is a Booster Club for Music, Art, and Drama, supporting these groups in the Great Falls Public School system.

Developed by members of our Great Falls Community and in collaboration with Great Falls Public Schools they devised the need to support the arts in Great Falls.

So many schools across our state and country are canceling the Arts in their school systems due to lack of funding. With a strong Arts community in Great Falls, the need for financial and volunteer support for the future is vital.

Their first fundraiser is coming up June 8th. Consider attending this wonderful event and stay connected by finding them on Facebook at Spart The Arts.

You can email them at SparktheArtsGF@gmail.com

THE SOIRÉE
PRESENTED BY:
SPARK THE ARTS
JUNE 8TH, 2024
JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN
NO HOST COCKTAIL HOUR · CATERED DINNER
SILENT AUCTION · DESSERT AUCTION
50/50 RAFFLE · ART SHOW / SALE
THE SHOWCASE
PERFORMED BY STUDENTS, ALUMNI, & FACULTY
MANSFIELD CONVENTION CENTER
DOORS OPEN AT 5 PM
DINNER STARTS AT 6 PM
TICKETS:
INDIVIDUAL - \$85
TICKETS FOR TWO - \$150
SPONSOR A TABLE OF 6 - \$600
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
FOLLOW SPARK THE ARTS ON FACEBOOK
CONTACT
MANDY @ (406) 868-9315
SPARKTHEARTSGF@GMAILCOM



A Prayer for Memorial Day

Heavenly Father, on this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the example of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with your strength and peace. In union with people of goodwill of every nation, embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

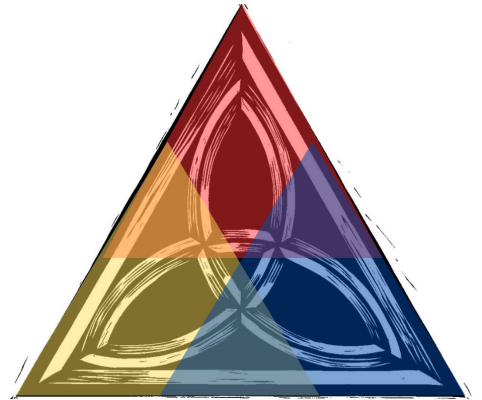
Amen.



GOSPEL MESSAGE

How Can These Things Be?

Given the many heated encounters between Jesus and Pharisees, the term *Pharisee* has become, for some, another word for “enemy of truth” or “opponent of God’s promises for the world.” In communities where divisions over what is true and false, good and bad, have become iron-clad, often rankling relationships, it may seem familiar—even honorable—to hiss at Pharisees. But that wasn’t Jesus’ way.



Think first about people like the Samaritan woman at the well, or a centurion in Rome’s brutal occupying army, or a scandalous prostitute, or an executioner driving nails into Jesus’ flesh—people that might have been easily discarded. Yet Jesus related to them in compassion and mercy, not exclusion.

Then think of Nicodemus, meeting Jesus at night, calling him “a teacher who has come from God.” Nicodemus is a Pharisee but he is hardly an enemy of truth opposing God’s way in the world. Moreover, with one word, “we,” he includes other Pharisees like himself who wish to accompany Jesus in God’s kingdom.

The perplexing nighttime conversation that leaves Nicodemus in a state of wonderment—“How can these things be?”—leads to Jesus’ climactic revelation: “God so loved the world . . .” In the gospel’s original Greek, “world” (*kosmos*) indicates that literally every bit of the universe receives God’s mercy and compassion, saving us all from perishing into iron-clad division between who is in and who it out.

How can these things be? On this Sunday that celebrates the wonder of the Trinity, the answer comes from God the Creator, saying that creation is good; from God the Redeemer, teaching us to love the world as God loves it; and from God the Spirit, continuing to draw us into wonderment. That’s how this can be.

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Redeemer
Lutheran Church




JUST 4 YOUTH

Nicodemus was puzzled about the things Jesus taught him. Solve this puzzle to find a very famous Bible verse. One letter has been done for you.


_____ R _____



















_____ R _____



_____ _____



(JOHN 3:16)

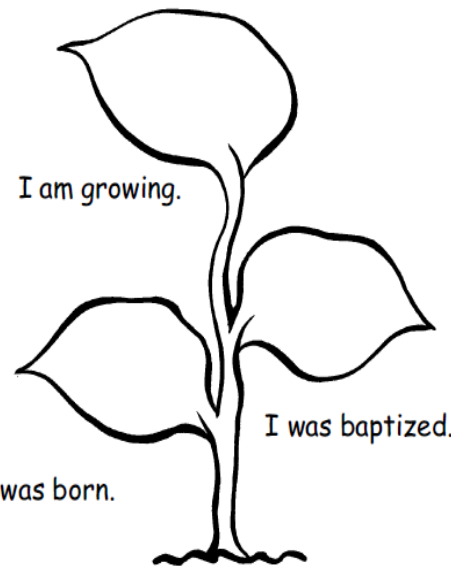
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Thinking in threes

Today is Trinity Sunday. These brothers Thomas, Tim, and Tyler are looking for ways to bring God's love to others in their neighborhood. How could they use the items pictured? Make up stories that tell how the triplets could help people. What other sets of threes could they use to serve others?



Welcome to worship. Easter has passed and we are all growing in God's love. We are children of God at any age. Draw pictures in the leaves below to match what it says next to each leaf. You are a child of God!



Today is Trinity Sunday. Color in a set of leaves each time you hear "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" spoken in today's worship.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

Monday 5/27

- * Memorial Day, Bethel Office is closed

Tuesday 5/28

- * Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am

Friday 5/31

- * Bethel office is closed

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 6/2

- * Hymn Sing Worship service led by Patrick Ryan in person and live stream at 9:30 am
- * Adult Forum The Chosen Season 3 in the Fellowship Hall following worship

Tuesday 6/4

- * Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am

Friday 6/7

- * Bethel office is closed.
- * Aitz Chaim Friday worship 6:00 pm.

Fellowship Ministries

Electric City Bible Study—online

What a great way to connect with one another! Join our bible study via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Laurie Turner at lolli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting.

Men's Breakfast

Join us for a fun and engaging conversation, and insightful discussion of each week's lectionary texts as we meet in the Fellowship Hall Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for more information.

On hold until September

Hope Circle—in person

This group meets once a month usually on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons. Bible study and fellowship are celebrated with this group of ladies. Contact Terry Korpela to be on the group email for meetings and prayer requests terry.korpela@gmail.com.

On hold until September

Preaching And Presiding at Bethel

May 26th	Jim Carlson, LPA
June 2nd	Hymn Sing led by Patrick and Lynn Ryan
June 9th	Jim Carlson, LPA
June 16th	Dave Scholten, LPA
June 23rd	Pastor Sara Branom
June 30th	TBD
July 7th	TBD
July 14th	Jim Carlson, LPA
July 21st	TBD