

Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday, February 28, 2021



Psalms 1:1-3

“READING SCRIPTURE”

Bethel Christian Reformed Church

Pastor Rick Vanderwal
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9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Services

Welcome to Bethel Church today. Whether in person, or online, we hope your time spent worshipping the Lord will be a blessing. Psalm 95 calls out to God’s people: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation! Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all “gods”. Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker, for he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. We encourage you to give God the glory this morning in worship and song!

Our Lenten Sermon Series: "Rhythms of a Deeper Faith" explores things like Prayer, Reading Scripture, Fasting, Confession, Worship, Silence, and Gratitude as those biblical practices that can bring us closer to God. On this second Sunday in Lent we reflect on “Reading Scripture”. What is it about reading the Bible that is so important? Is there a way to read that helps us hear God’s voice more effectively? During the 5 p.m. Worship Service, we will be continuing with Mark’s gospel, Mark 8:1-21, as we read about yet another feeding miracle. Another feeding miracle? Yes. With yeast, signs and bread being all a part of the discussion.

Next week, Lord willing, we will be celebrating the sacrament of the **Lord’s Supper** during the morning worship service. May God use this gift he has given through his Son Jesus to affirm our faith and draw us closer to him. We will be using pre-packaged communion cups that you will be able to pick up prior to entering the sanctuary.

Next week Sunday we hope you will join us for a Combined **MISSION EMPHASIS SERVICE at 5:00 pm here at Bethel**. The focus will be on the work of Renee (Holwerda) and Tim Aupperlee and their work with Barnabas International in partnership with Resonate Global Ministries. The message will be given by Rev. Tim Holwerda, currently serving in Byron Center, MI. The Aupperlees and Rev. Holwerda have served in overseas missions. Renee and Tim attended Bethel when they were younger. The offering will be for Barnabas International for Aupperlee support.



Sunday School and Catechism “**SHOW ME JESUS**” for all children PK (4 yr.) – 6th grade meet downstairs immediately after the morning service. **Pastor Rick’s CATECHISM** for all 7th thru 12th grades meet in the room next to the kitchen. Visitors are welcome!

SERVING TODAY

Nursery
Piano
Usher AM:
Media Shout
Offering

February 28

Jori Jansma, Heidi Dunham
Dan Zylstra
Wes VanBruggen
Todd Nanninga
Ministries of Bethel and Tuition Assistance

No offering will be taken during the service, but offering boxes are available by the sanctuary doors to place your gifts. Also, you can use our online giving at www.bethelcrcdemotte.org. Thank you!

MORNING WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Leader: As we gather today, the Word reminds us that God is Spirit, and they who worship God should do so in spirit and in truth.

People: With our joys and concerns, our worries and dreams, our questions and longings, we come together in faith seeking answers in God's holy word.

Leader: So, in faith we pray. And in love, we praise...

People: And with hope in Christ, the Living Word, we worship God who is our refuge and strength.

Opening Song – “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Prayer

God's Greeting

Time of Praise

- “Goodness of God”
- “Speak, O Lord” (v. 1-2)
- Scriptural promises of love and grace
- “Speak, O Lord” (v. 3)

Scripture Memory – 1 John 4:7-9

Song of Response: “Ancient Words”

Ministry Report from Eric and Penny

Prayers of the People

Children's Message

Scripture: Psalm 1:1-3

Sermon: **Rhythms of a Deeper Faith: Reading Scripture**

Prayer

God's Blessing

Closing Song: “Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet”

SERVING NEXT WEEK March 7 (Communion AM/Combined Mission Emphasis PM)

Nursery Laura Visscher, Stephanie Konvalinka

Piano Amy Dekker

Usher AM: Duane Jansma

Media Shout Schaafsma

Offering Ministries of Bethel and DMCS Inc.

PM offering will be for Barnabas International for Aupperlee support.

EVENING WORSHIP 5 PM

Welcome and Prayer

Song: “Come, Christians Join to Sing”

Scripture: Psalm 89:1-8

Songs

- “I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord”
- “Great Is thy Faithfulness”

Prayers of the People

Song: “Break Now the Bread of Life”

Scripture Study: Mark 8:1-21

Sermon: **Do you still not understand?**

Prayer

Closing Song: “Lord, Speak to Me”

CHURCH FAMILY:

Continue to keep Ted and Donna Hoekstra, Frances Kros, and Elmer VanderMolen in prayer with their health struggles each day.

I would like to thank our church family for your prayers and expressions of Christian love and care. God has blest our family through each off you. God is good, His love endures forever. Frances Kros

THIS WEEKS MEETINGS

Sunday	10:50am	Sunday School & Catechism
Tuesday	1:30pm	Ladies Afternoon Bible Study
Wednesday	9:30am	Coffee Break
	7:00pm	GEMS & Cadets

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LIFT is operational, and has passed inspection and is ready to use!! Finishing touches are still being made to certain areas but it is ready to allow people to get to the basement if needed. If you need to use it and would like someone to show you how, please ask Gary DeVries, Dianne DeVries, Pastor Rick, or consult the instructions on the music stand just outside the lift doors.

LADIES AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY will meet this Tuesday, March 2, at 1:30 pm. We will be studying lesson 4. We look forward to using our new elevator and meet together downstairs. All ladies are invited; we'll have plenty space to socially distance. Looking forward to meeting together.

COFFEE BREAK meets on Wednesday at 9:30am. Nursery is provided!

GEMS & CADETS will meet this week Wednesday from 7pm – 8:30pm.

This Tuesday Pastor Rick and Larry Ouwenga will be attending the Classis Illiana meeting in Munster as delegates of Bethel CRC. Pray for safe travel for all delegates, as well as good deliberations and discussions that will allow Classis to stay attuned to our shared ministry together. The council of delegates has already determined that Synod will NOT meet again this year due to Covid-Related realities, especially including the strong restrictions on traveling outside of Canada, which would exclude so many churches and delegates.

WAYS THAT YOU CAN SERVE AT BETHEL!

1.) **Join the Outreach Team** and help us focus on the “GO” part of our Mission Statement. Council President Russ VanderMolen wants to increase Bethel’s focus on the **GO Part of our Gather, Grow, Go** motto. The reorganized Outreach Team met to review our current work with such things as Phil’s Friends and nursing home services. We also talked about ways to increase our congregation’s awareness of the missionaries we currently support and how we can increase our involvement with them. You will be hearing more of our team’s efforts. If you would like to join us, contact any of the team’s members: Cindy Musch, Marla VanderMolen, Gary DeVries, Larry Ouwenga.

2.) Volunteer to help the Service Team as they care for the needs of our congregation! It is another new year! Even though 2020 is behind us, the needs of the congregation still stand before us in 2021. The **SERVICE TEAM IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS** who would be willing to help with a meal, grocery or pharmacy errands, or even small yard work, snow shoveling and possible uber services if needed to doctor appointments etc... We have been able to help several members already and greatly appreciate those who offered to help last year. Please prayerfully consider adding your name to the list to be contacted, should a need arise. I know it is greatly appreciated by those who have been helped in the past. If you added your name to the list last year, there is no need to do so again. If you would be willing to be on the list, please text, email or call Andrea Zickmund at 262-705-7280, andreaaffemt@yahoo.com or Judy Van Bruggen at 219-987-3230 to be added to the list.

Also, **if you know of anyone who needs help, from the Service Team, please do not hesitate to contact us**, and we will see what can be done to help. Thank you for your consideration!
Service Team: Wes and Judy Van Bruggen, Mike and Andrea Zickmund

3.) Live-streaming coming soon! Are you able to help? The live-streaming setup is progressing! We got our laptop, and will be hooking it up soon for a more permanent installation that won’t rely on wifi or an iPhone. We will be looking for someone to help run it, and of course, training will be provided. **If you are interested in helping our livestream services be successful, please connect with Pastor Rick.**

4.) Serving with the Youth? YPS helper needed!
INTERESTED IN SERVING WITH THE YOUTH? We are looking for a helper for YPS (Young Peoples). Contact Russ VanderMolen if interested and with any questions.

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Needed – DeMotte Christian Schools, Inc. is seeking applicants for the Superintendent position for the 2021-2022 school year. Applicants must hold at least a Master’s degree in education administration or business (MBA), have at least three years of experience in educational administration or leadership, fully embrace the school’s statement of beliefs, and is an active member of a church with a Reformed persuasion. Please contact David Ritter, at dritter@csionline.org for additional information

Though the year hasn’t been everything we’ve hoped it would be, the Service Projects Committee is working hard on making a traditional(ish) service week a reality this year. In order to do this, we need your help. Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy a delicious “Thanks-GIVE-ing” turkey dinner on Thursday, March 4, 5-7pm! The drive- thru fundraiser will replace our annual catered Service Dinner and program this year. The turkey dinner meal cost is set at \$10 for adults and \$8 for children portions. We ask for your support to help us raise funds for our Covenant students to participate on their 2021 Service Week Trips scheduled (April 26-30). This will be our **ONLY** fundraiser for 2020-21 Service Week, thus like in previous years, we truly appreciate your freewill donation beyond covering the cost of the meal expense. If you are not able to come that night for our drive thru and wish to make a freewill donation, please send checks to DeMotte Christian Schools (or DMCS) with a note in the memo: CCHS Service Week. We thank you in advance for your continued support in helping make this week possible for our students. We ask for your prayers! “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

DMCS Important Dates:

March 1-15	Suds for a Cause Fundraiser
March 2:	DMCS Board Meeting - 7pm
March 4:	CCHS Service Dinner (drive thru) 5:00-7:00pm
March 18:	PIE Spring Dinner (drive thru @ CCHS)
March 22-26:	Spring Break
April 1	Suds for a Cause Pick Up @ DMC (2:45-4pm)
April 2 & 5:	NO SCHOOL
April 13:	DMCS Annual Society Meeting

In light of worshipping together with the social distancing restrictions still in place, we want to share some of the guidelines we are continuing to follow:

- There will be no greeters at church during this time.
- Usher will be present to help seat. Every other pew has been “cordoned off” by the placement of hymnals and Bibles on the seats.
- We ask and encourage that people adhere to CDC guidelines in terms of washing their hands, not touching their faces, and maintaining social distancing while we are together.
- We encourage if you are sick, have a temperature, or believe you are an “at risk” person, that you stay home and take advantage of the on-line service opportunity.
- We strongly encourage the use of face coverings as you enter and exit the building, however you will not be turned away should you find it difficult to do so. Our number one concern is the health of our church family as we gather in worship, loving our God as well as our neighbor.
- Nursery is available for the am service only.
- Bathrooms are available. Again, please follow CDC guidelines about good hygiene.
- No offering plate will be passed during the worship service, but offering boxes will be available by the sanctuary doors in which you may place your gifts. Again, online giving continues to remain an option.
- Following the service, there will be no coffee or snack time. You are encouraged to NOT linger in the narthex, wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines