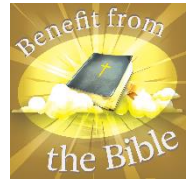




# Bethlehem Lutheran Church – 2025

Truth – Forgiveness – Assurance – Peace – Guidance

Saturday, 3/8 at 4 pm; Sunday, 3/9 at 9 am



## Overcoming Temptation

Church Year: First Sunday in Lent. | Divine Service: Setting Three, LSB 184-202.

### WELCOME:

- ☺ **Visitors:** *Welcome! Please fill-out an attendance slip insert and let us know how we can help!*
- ☺ **Prayer Request:** *Use a “yellow” card (Narthex).*
- ☺ **Young Children:** *Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex).*
- ☺ **All Children:** *Children’s Message (join us).*
- ☺ **Phone:** *Please put on silent.*
- ☺ **Hearing Assistance:** *Available in the Narthex.*
- ☺ **Service Folder:** *Available on your smartphone: [www.BLC7500.com/ServiceFolder](http://www.BLC7500.com/ServiceFolder)*
- ☺ **Worship From Your Car:** *Receive at our main entrance; then listen from your car (FM 89.9).*

**BELL and CANDLELIGHTING** – *Please be seated!*

### WELCOME – THE SEASON OF LENT:

- L: Jesus went to the cross for you and me!
- C: **Let us give Him thanks!**

**PRELUDE:** *We listen in silence... My God, Accept My Heart This Day That Christ Be All In All*  
 William Jones/ G. Young

### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION:

- L: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*
- C: **Amen.**
- Silence for self-examination.*
- L: To whom do you confess your sins?
- C: **To the almighty God, my merciful Father.**

- L: How do you look upon yourself?
- C: **I am a poor miserable sinner.**
- L: What sins do you confess?
- C: **I confess all my sins and iniquities.**
- L: What have you justly deserved?
- C: **I have justly deserved temporal death and eternal punishment.**
- L: What is your attitude toward your sins?
- C: **I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them.**
- L: What is the basis of your request?
- C: **The boundless mercy of my Heavenly Father and the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of His beloved Son, Jesus Christ.**
- L: What do we request from our merciful Father?
- A: **Dear Father, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- L: 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 [*in the place of*] 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.  
*[John 20:19-23]*
- C: **Amen.**

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

- Saturday** ➔ Hymn
- Sunday** ➔ Entrance Hymn and Procession

↑ **HYMN:** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer*

See the words below / TLH 54 / LSB 918

- 1 Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

**KYRIE** ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47

- L: O Lord,      **C: have mercy upon us.**  
L: O Christ,    **C: have mercy upon us.**  
L: O Lord,      **C: have mercy upon us.**

**SALUTATION and COLLECT:**

L: The LORD be with you. 2 Timothy 4:27

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray: O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the Church – the people who know Jesus, that following Him we may walk through the wilderness of this world to the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.** ↓ Children! *Please come forward!*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:** 1 Cor. 10:13

Escaping From Temptation



**OLD TESTAMENT:** Deuteronomy 26:1-11 NAS-95

See Below / Pew Bible Page 311 / Own Bible

When we give to the LORD **first**, we express our trust in Him to provide whatever we need.

<sup>1</sup> “Then it shall be, when you enter the land which the LORD your God gives you as an inheritance, and you possess it and live in it, <sup>2</sup> that you shall take some of the first of all the produce of the ground which you bring in from your land that the LORD your God gives you, and you shall put *it* in a basket and go to the place where the LORD your God chooses to establish His name. <sup>3</sup> You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare this day to the LORD my God that I have entered the land which the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.’ <sup>4</sup> Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God. <sup>5</sup> You shall answer and say before the LORD your God, ‘My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down to Egypt and sojourned there, few in number; but there he became a great, mighty and populous nation. <sup>6</sup> And the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, and imposed hard labor on us. <sup>7</sup> Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction and our toil and our oppression; <sup>8</sup> and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and with great terror and with signs and wonders; <sup>9</sup> and He has brought us to this place and has given us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> Now behold, I have brought the **first** of the produce of the ground which You, O LORD have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the LORD your God, and worship before the LORD your God; <sup>11</sup> and you and the Levite and the alien who is among you shall rejoice in all the good which the LORD your God has given you and your household.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**“This... example of a life entrusted to God’s protective safety urges all readers to seek the Lord’s refuge when fearful times arise” (TLSB).**

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High\*  
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
- 2 I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my | fortress,\*  
my God, in | whom I trust.”
- 3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the | fowler\*  
and from the deadly | pestilence.
- 4 He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find | refuge;\*  
his faithfulness is a shield and | buckler.
- 5 You will not fear the terror | of the night,\*  
nor the arrow that | flies by day,
- 6 nor the pestilence that stalks in | darkness,\*  
nor the destruction that wastes at | noonday.
- 7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your | right hand,\*  
but it will not come | near you.
- 8 You will only look | with your eyes\*  
and see the recompense of the | wicked.
- 9 Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—\*  
the Most High, who is my | refuge—
- 10 no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,\*  
no plague come | near your tent.
- 11 For he will command his angels con- | cerning you\*  
to guard you in | all your ways.
- 12 On their hands they will | bear you up,\*  
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.
- 13 You will tread on the lion and the | adder;\*  
the young lion and the serpent you will

trample | underfoot.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

EPISTLE: Romans 10:8b-13

NAS-95

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1760 / Own Bible

The Holy Spirit enables us to believe the good news of Jesus and confess Him with our lives!

<sup>8b</sup> “THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART” -- that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, “WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.” <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for “WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

*Will be read during today’s sermon!*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

**Please turn to LSB 656 – see a maroon hymnal**

SERMON: Overcoming Temptation

Luke 4:1-13 NAS-95

1. **Temptation 1 – Trust In Yourself:** <sup>1</sup> **And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led about by the Spirit in the wilderness** <sup>2</sup> **for forty days, being**

tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days; and when they had ended, He became hungry. <sup>3</sup> And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.” <sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’”

2. **Temptation 2 – Worship Someone or Something Else:** <sup>5</sup> And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to Him, “I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. <sup>7</sup> Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours.” <sup>8</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, “It is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.’”

3. **Temptation 3 – Wrongfully Apply God’s Promises:** <sup>9</sup> And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here; <sup>10</sup> for it is written, ‘He will give His angels charge concerning You to guard You,’ <sup>11</sup> and, ‘On *their* hands they will bear You up, Lest You strike Your foot against a stone.’” <sup>12</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup> And when the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

4. **Two Key Passages:**

a. **James 1:13-15** Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when

he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

b. **1 Corinthians 10:13** No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

**Get a Full and Sharable Copy of the Sermon**

Narthex / Website / YouTube / Facebook / Email

**SERMON RESPONSE:** *Sung by all!*

See the words below / **LSB 192-193**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence,  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;  
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

**NICENE CREED:** *See back of either hymnal:*

**Offering:** Plates are available in the center aisle.

**Thanks for Honoring the LORD!**

**Instruction and Abundance:** “Honor the LORD from your wealth, And from the first of all your produce; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine” (Prov. 3:9-10 NAS).

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:**

*1 Timothy 2:1-4*

**Request a Prayer:** Complete a PRAYER REQUEST card (*available in the Narthex*).

**Prayer List Procedure:** Names with a (3) need to be renewed by Wednesday at 3:00. Contact your person; update Kathy (call: 440-845-2230; text: 440-785-3802).

**After Each Petition:** L: LORD, in Your mercy.  
C: Hear our prayer.

- ➔ **USA:** Please pray for repentance, unity, and guidance for us and with other nations.
- ➔ **US Armed Forces and Police:** Praying for all, especially: *Rachel Cepis, Kevin Mild, Eric Mild, Teagan Dedula, Nick Riviotta, Brad Sala, Chris Sala, Jacob Smith, Hayden Sweeny, Drew Tenney, Chris Weseloh.*

### Congregation

- ➔ **Lent:** Dear Jesus, as You gave ALL for US, help us to be very devoted to you, and bless this Season of Lent with good weather, Christ-centered services, and good fellowship meals.
- ➔ **Care List:** Helga B, Doris C, Sandy C, Carole G, Hilda K, Edmund & Christl K, Bill M, Regina M, Miriam P, June R, Jean S, Mike & Susanna T. (They receive regular mailings and visits. Pray for our visitors: Pastor, Harold, and Linda Blaha.)
- ➔ **Stephen Ministry:** Norma S (leader), Linda B, Alan C, Klara S, and Rhonda S (ministers). *Please pray for them and their care receivers.*
- ➔ **Grief Share:** Tuesdays at 6:30; guidance for our facilitators and comfort for the attendees.
- ➔ **Temporary Health Issues:**
  - Cedrick Hilliker (1) shoulder: *relief, healing.*
  - Matt Kussmaul (1) eye issues: *cont. healing.*
  - Tom Merkle – bladder cancer; chemo & rad (3/12-5/7): *peace, patience, success.*

### For Others

- ➔ **Temporary Health Issues:**
  - Joyce – mouth cancer treatments (3/3-4/10): *peace, success, healing.*
  - Tim (1) brain surgery: *chemo, rad. success.*
  - Isaac Bagalana (2) kidney issues: *healing.*
  - Henry Byham – *comfort; peace to family.*
  - Bob Coufalik (1) fall, brain bleed, brain surgery: *peace in Jesus, continued healing.*

- Melanie Himmelberger – bone cancer: *peace and comfort.*
- Jessica Jewett (2) type A flu and double pneumonia: *peace in Jesus, cont. healing.*
- Linda McKay (2) shingles; ankle issue; spine surgery 3/10: *peace, success, healing.*
- Jim Vrabel (1) leg infection: *cont. healing.*

### Celebrate and Give Thanks

#### Physical Birthdays:

- 3/9 Mel Bucholtz  
3/9 Madelyn Musil

#### Conclusion:

L: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen. ↓

### THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

#### SUPPER PREPARATION HYMN:

*Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior*  
See the words below / LSB 619

- 1 Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior,  
Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,  
These are my life and strength forever,  
By them my hungry soul is fed. **Refrain**

**Refrain: Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!**

- 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now united;  
I live in Thee and Thou in me.  
No sorrow fills my soul, delighted  
It finds its only joy in Thee. **Refrain**
- 3 Who can condemn me now? For surely  
The Lord is nigh, who justifies.  
No hell I fear, and thus securely  
With Jesus I to heaven rise. **Refrain**

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**LORD'S SUPPER SELF-EXAMINATION:** 1 Cor. 11:28

**Should I receive the Lord's Supper today?**

**Use these 10 questions to examine yourself...**

Learn More: Read through a Self-Examination Brochure

**Part 1 – Basics of Being a Christian:**

1. Do I believe the Bible is true? Y N *John 17:17*
2. Am I sorry for my sins? Y N *2 Cor. 7:10*
3. Am I trusting in Jesus for eternal life? Y N *Ac. 4:12*
4. Am I baptized? Y N *Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38-39; Tit. 3:5*
5. Do I desire to live for Christ? Y N *2 Cor. 5:15*

**Part 2 – Forgiveness and Reconciliation:**

6. Am I forgiving all others? Y N *Mark 11:25*
7. Am I doing my part to reconcile? Y N *Rom. 12:18*

**Part 3 – Elements and Benefits of the Lord's Supper:**

8. Are the elements of the Lord's Supper bread, body, wine, and blood? Y N *1 Cor. 10:16*
9. Is the main benefit of the Supper the assurance of the forgiveness of sins? Y N *Matt. 26:26-28*

**Part 4 – Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS):**

10. Do you understand and agree with the basic teachings of the LCMS? Y N *1 Cor. 10:15-22*

**↑ LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM: The Sixth Chief**

**Part – The Sacrament of the Altar**

L: **Question 1:** What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

C: **It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.**

L: **Question 2:** What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

C: **These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.**

**PRAYER FOR RIGHT RECEPTION:**

L: Dear Lord Jesus, in the solemn night of Your betrayal You established the holy meal of Your body and blood for us Christians to eat and to drink. Look in mercy on us who will receive the holy sacrament this day. Grant that we come to Your table in true repentance and faith, that the gift of Your body and blood will sustain us in our afflictions, strengthen us in the communion of Your holy people, and be a pledge of the resurrection of our bodies to life everlasting; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER:** *See the back of either hymnal.*

L: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

A: **Our Father who art in heaven...** *Matt. 6:9-13*

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

*Combining: Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1Co 11:23-25*

**PAX DOMINI** ~ *Peace of the Lord* *John 20:19*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: **Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI** ~ *Lamb of God* *John 1:29*

See the words below / **LSB 550**

- 1 Your only Son, no sin to hide,  
But You have sent Him from Your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod,  
And to become the Lamb of God. **Refrain**

**Refrain:** O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,  
I love the holy Lamb of God!  
O wash me in His precious blood.  
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

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**DISTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONS:**

- ♦ If you are ready to receive: Come forward now.
- ♦ Receiving at your pew: Please inform an usher.
- ♦ Alcohol-Removed Wine: Center of each tray.
- ♦ Receive. Go in peace. Return via the side aisle.
- ♦ Main dismissal! After everyone has returned.

**MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION:**

Jesus Lead Thou On                      Setting by Paul Manz

**LORD’S SUPPER DISMISSAL**

↑ **NUNC DIMITTIS** ~ *Depart in Peace*                      **LSB 199**  
*Luke 2:29-32*

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:**    *Psalm 107:1*

L: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C: and His mercy endures forever.**

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:** *Let Us Pray*

L: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary *[spiritually beneficial]* 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:**

L: The Lord be with you.    2 Tim. 4:22  
**C: And also with you.**  
 L: Bless we the Lord.    *[Psalm 103:1]*  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION** ~ *Blessing*    *Num. 6:24-26*

L: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His *countenance* (face) upon you and give you peace.  
**C: Amen.** ↓

**CANDLE EXTINGUISHING and POSTLUDE:**

My Song Is Love Unknown, My Father’s Love For Me  
John Ireland

**March Newsletter – Available in the Narthex**

**Desire a Prayer?** See a *Stephen Minister* – Linda B, Alan C, Klara S, Rhonda S, or Norma S.

**Schedule: 3/9/25 – 3/16/25**

**3/11 – Tuesday**

6:30 – Grief Share – Begins

**3/12 – Wednesday**

11:00 – Divine Service  
 Noon – Meal  
 6:00 – Meal  
 7:00 – Divine Service

**3/13 – Thursday**

10:00 – Living the Lutheran Lectionary

**3/15 – Saturday**

9:30 – LWML Prayer Service  
 3:00 – Bible Class  
 4:00 – Divine Service

**3/16 – Sunday**

9:00 – Divine Service  
 10:30 – Bible Classes and Sunday School

## Thanks For Serving on 3/8 & 3/9

**Altar Guild:** Nancy B, Heather H

**Saturday:** Organist: Gayle P     Usher: Matt K  
Welcome & Distribution: Alan C

**Sunday:** Organist: Gayle P  
Pastor Team – Welcome: Matthias M  
Distribution – Matthias M  
Ushers: Rand S, Nevin S  
Refreshments: The Hilliker Family & others  
Sunday School: Kathy G, Cedrick/Harold

**Financial Team:** Natalia F, Financial Assistants

## Thanks For Serving on 3/15 & 3/16

**Altar Guild:** Don & Carol D

**Saturday:** Organist: Gayle P     Usher: Matt K  
Welcome & Distribution: Alan C

**Sunday:** Organist: Gayle P  
Pastor Team – Welcome: Matthias M  
Distribution – Matthias M  
Ushers: Rand S, Nevin S  
Refreshments: The Hilliker Family & others  
Sunday School: Angie R, Cedrick/Harold

**Financial Team:** Natalia F, Financial Assistants

## Numbers From Last Week

### Received God's Gifts – Services:

- Saturday at 4:00 – Inside: **41**; car: **0**
- Sunday at 9:00 – Inside: **51**; car: **0**
- Wednesday at 11 & 7: Inside: **74**; car: **1**

### Studied God's Word – Classes:

- Saturday at 3:00: **16**
- Sunday at 10:30: **39**
- Thursday at 10: **8**

### Supported God's Work:

- **Needed** each week to cover the budget: **5,443**
- **Received** last week for the budget: **7,136**

**YTD Budget Deficit** as of last week: **- 5,018**



**Wednesdays During Lent**  
service 11, free meal 12; free meal 6, service 7

**The Passion of the Christ Movie and Study**  
Join each week – Saturdays at 3:00 or Sundays at 10:30

## Connect With Us

➡ **Website:** [BLC7500.com](http://BLC7500.com) ➡ **YouTube:** Benefit from the Bible ➡ **Facebook:** Bethlehem Parma

**Regular Services:** Saturdays at 4:00; Sundays at 9:00

**Festivals:** Website > Important Links > Festivals

**Studies:** Wed 1; Thurs 10; Sat 3; Sun 10:30

**Address:** 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134

**Church Office:** Wed & Thu: 9:30-3:30; Sat: 2:00-6:00

**Kathy Green:** [Secretary@blc7500.com](mailto:Secretary@blc7500.com); 440-845-2230

**Pastor Green:** [RevRLGreen@aol.com](mailto:RevRLGreen@aol.com); 440-292-5915

**Church Body:** [lcms.org](http://lcms.org) District: [oh.lcms.org](http://oh.lcms.org)