



+ Midweek Lenten 1 +
Wednesday, February 21, 2024



Welcome! We are glad you are worshipping the Lord with us today!

Midweek Lenten Meditative Worship

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness

FROM THE LAY ELDER-DEACONS: Welcome to Messiah. We want to make sure your worship experience goes well. So just as a reminder, ***please have cellphones ringers off during worship. Please remove hats, no earbuds, no gaming, no texting, and no social media. If you need to use your phone or have a conversation with someone, please excuse yourself from the sanctuary. Thank you.***

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE: Live audio of the worship service is available in the room next to the Narthex. It is located just off the Narthex in the back of the sanctuary. The room has a bathroom. This room is a safe place for anxious children (or adults) to go and still be a part of the worship service.

Prayer before worship: (Please pray silently): *O Heavenly Father, as we gather in Your house to receive the gift of forgiveness through Your Word, guard us from vain and distracting thoughts. Grant us pause from our busy lives. Open our hearts so that we are receptive to the proclamation of life with Your Son, and do not close our ears to the offering of salvation. In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen. (Adapted from **Right Worship of God** prayer in Portals of Prayer, April through June, 2011)*

PRELUDE

WORSHIP THEME: Lent is a time of internal reflection on our lives: our thoughts, words, and deeds. You look inwardly to see the real you, and to have the Word of God help you focus on better ways to live more obedient lives for Christ's glory.

"Dining on the Fruit of Spirit." We continue to explore 9 characteristics that make up the Fruit of the Holy Spirit mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23. These are how the Holy Spirit is working in us to be more like Jesus. Tonight, you will receive a fruit tree and a piece of fruit to put on that tree.

This week we explore the Holy Spirit's Fruit of Kindness. People confuse being nice with being kind. Being nice centers on how people see you. True kindness's concern centers on the needs of the other person. Being kind involves courage and risk. Real kindness can only come from Jesus as we live the faith the Holy Spirit gives us. Tonight, we are praying He fills you more with His kindness to continuing changing the world to speak and show the ultimate act of kindness Jesus demonstrated from the cross.

OFFERING: *Please put your offering in the plates at the entrance. Thank you for your support.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME – WORSHIP THEME – GREETING OTHERS WITH THE KINDNESS OF CHRIST

(Lighting of the candles...to symbolize the special presence of Christ when we invoke the Name of God in which we were baptized.)

Adapted from the Order of Vespers from the Lutheran Service Book

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: And my mouth will declare Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God to deliver me.

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

P: World without end.

C: Amen.

P: Praise to You, O Christ.

C: The King who comes to save us.

(Adapted Psalm 145:13-21 ESV)

P: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

C: The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.

P: You O Lord uphold all who are falling
and raise up all who are bowed down.

C: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

P: You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

C: O Lord, You are righteous in all Your ways, and kind in all Your works.

P: You are near to all who call on You, to all who call on You in truth.

C: You fulfill the desire of those who fear You; You also hear their cry and save them.

P: You, O Lord, preserve all who love You, but all the wicked You will destroy.

**C: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**

HYMN OF THE NIGHT.....Beautiful Savior" LSB 537



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

SCRIPTURE READING #1: Galatians 5:22-25 ESV

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

SCRIPTURE READING #2: Ephesians 4:16-5:2 ESV

²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

5 ¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ² And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

SCRIPTURE READING #3: Ephesians 2:4-10 ESV

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY: “True Kindness: Generosity from Christ to Care” Text: Ephesians 2:4-10

(If you are able, please stand)

RESPONSORY FOR LENT:

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God for You are the God of my salvation.

C: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P: In You O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

(Please be seated)

PRAYERS FROM THE PEW

(At the end of each prayer petition)

P: Let my prayer rise before You as incense.

C: And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

At the conclusion of the prayers, if you are able, please stand)

KYRIE (as sung to the tune in The Lutheran Hymnal, page 7)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom as you have taught us to pray:

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.

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.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS: *Now that we better appreciate God's everlasting blessings, here are some suggestions for ways we can show that thanksgiving through service and participating in our congregation.*

BENEDICTION

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

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" ...LSB 770



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?
Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness—Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

P: With the light of Christ, go with the peace of the Holy Spirit to show His kindness to others.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Friday Night Fish Fry
5:00-7:00 pm
Messiah Lutheran Church
Feb. 16 - Mar. 22



Free will offering.
1531 Townline Ave. Beloit, WI
608-365-3794

Ladies Bible Study Class (LBSC) Thanks to all who attended and we are grateful for a warm Fellowship Hall! We enjoyed pizza and punch as the Book of James was introduced. Ladies, you are lovingly invited to join in with us as we venture into James and understand how the teachings apply to our daily lives on Thursday, March 21, at 5:30pm in the Downstairs Conference Room.

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Fellowship Suppers

Wednesdays, February 28, March 6, 13, and 20 from 5:45-6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Menu for Wednesday, February 28 hosted by the Kreyer Family with Help from Sandi McDearmon

- Indian Tacos with all the sides
- Hot Dogs
- Jello Salad
- Dessert: Lemon surprise and cake
- Water, Juice, and Coffee





If you don't carry much cash or write many checks then Givelify is the perfect and easy way to give your offerings to Messiah. Simply download the app at the *Google Play Store* or *Apple App Store*. It is safe and secure. If you need help setting up the app, please contact Jim Shellenberger at (815) 275-2081 or Carl Creedy at (608) 201-2466.

Upcoming Events at Messiah

- Wednesdays, Feb 28, March 6, 13, and 20: **5:45pm – Lenten Suppers**
- Fridays, March 1, 8, 15, and 22: **5-7pm – Fish Fry Dinners**
- Weds. Feb 28, March 6, 13, and 20: **7pm – Midweek Lenten Services:**
Fruit of the Holy Spirit continues
- Sun, March 3 at 12:15pm – Lay Elder-Deacons' meeting in Upstairs Conference Room
- Saturday, March 9 at 9am – Men's Group in Downstairs Conference Room
- Sunday, March 10 at 2pm: Merger Consideration Meeting at Trinity
- Tuesday, March 12 at 7pm: **Parish Planning Council Meeting** – downstairs Conference Room
- Sunday, March 17: **Congregational Meeting** after 9am worship; no 11am service
- Sunday, March 17: LWML Hosts Fellowship Time
- Thurs, March 21 at 5:30pm: **Ladies Bible Study** in downstairs Conference Room
- **Palm Sunday** Services, March 24: 9am and 11am, and Wednesday, March 27 at 7pm
- **Maundy Thursday**, March 28 at 7pm with Holy Communion and stripping of Altar
- **Good Friday**, March 29: **Tre Ore** Noon to 3pm at Trinity in Beloit
Tenabrae Service at 7pm at Messiah
- **Easter Sunday**, March 31 at 9am and 11am, and Wednesday, April 3 at 7pm

Messiah Lutheran Church

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Website: mlcbeloit.com - Facebook: "Messiah Lutheran Church-Beloit, WI"

YouTube Channel: **Messiah Lutheran Beloit**

Prayer Line: 608-365-4724

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