

***"I have no
goodness
apart
from You,
O Lord!"***



+ Midweek Lenten 2 +
Wednesday, February 28, 2024



**Messiah Lutheran
Church**

1531 Townline Ave. Beloit, WI
(608) 365-3794

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

Midweek Lenten Meditative Worship

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Fruit of the Spirit: Goodness

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.

Tonight, we explore the Holy Spirit's Fruit of Goodness. God is the creator and originator of everything that is good. Goodness is the fundamental expression of His Nature. But how can goodness be misunderstood in a society where truth appears to be relative or subjective? Let the Holy Spirit fill you with His goodness so you can see God in all you do to live His will.

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 from Psalm 16 selected verses ESV)

P: Preserve me, O God, for in You I take refuge.

C: I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from You."

P: You, O Lord, are my chosen portion and my cup;
You hold my lot.

**C: I bless You, O Lord, who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.**

P: In faith, I have set You, O Lord, always before me;
because You are at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

**C: Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.**

P: You make known to me the path of life;
in Your presence there is fullness of joy;
at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

HYMN OF THE NIGHT....."The 23rd Psalm*" (To the Tune of Amazing Grace)

The Lord, my shepherd, cares for me
and tends me like His sheep;
I do not want for anything,
I'm safe within His keep.

He makes me lie and take my rest
in green inviting fields;
He leads me near a quiet brook
to which my spirit yields.

The Lord restores my life and soul
and makes my pathways straight;
He leads me into righteousness
because His name is great.

And though I walk through valleys deep
with deathly shadows near,
Your rod and staff, they comfort me
so I need never fear.

A table You prepare for me
in front of all my foes;
My head with oil You anoint,
my cup, it overflows.

O surely love and goodness, Lord,
will always follow me;
And I will dwell within Your house
for all eternity.

*From The Psalms in Common Meter by D. Scott Foote. Greyden Press LLC, Dayton, OH

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: Psalm 25:4-11 ESV

- ⁴ Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.
- ⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.
- ⁶ Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
- ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!
- ⁸ Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
- ⁹ He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.
- ¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.
- ¹¹ For your name's sake, O LORD,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.

SCRIPTURE READING #3: Mark 10:17-22 ESV

¹⁷ And as he (Jesus) was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰ And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." ²¹ And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ²² Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

SOLO HYMN OF REFLECTION: Tiffany Koenitzer

HOMILY: "Goodness is Godness" Text: Mark 10:17-22

(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..... "Almighty, Father, Bless the Word.....LSB 923

(As the candles are extinguished, the acolyte/elder lights the taper from one of the candles to symbolize the light of Christ going with us as we leave to live our vocations in life, taking Christ's love out into the world. Please follow the light and the cross as they recess.)



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward
3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!
wor - shipped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

P: With the light of Christ, go with the peace of the Holy Spirit to show His goodness to others.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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 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.



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.

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Fellowship Suppers

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

Menu for Wednesday, March 6 hosted by Vickie Danbury, Elvia Reid, Mark Peterson, Sue Kolander, Mary Borgwardt, and Chuck Baumann

- Sub Sandwiches
- Spanish Rice
- Broccoli Salad
- Dessert: Cake
- Water, Punch, and Coffee



Upcoming Events at Messiah

- Wednesdays, March 6, 13, and 20: **5:45pm – Lenten Suppers**
- Fridays, March 1, 8, 15, and 22: **5-7pm – Fish Fry Dinners**
- Weds. 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**

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-Noon