

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Gathering Music	"My Song is Love Unknown"	organ
Welcome & Announcements		
Confession & Forgiveness		
Gathering Song	"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"	ELW 325
Greeting		
Prayer of the Day		

WORD

First Reading	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	
Psalm	Psalm 32	
Children's Hymn	"Oh, How I Love Jesus"	on screen
Children's Word	An Interactive Gospel	
Gospel	Matthew 4:1-11	
Sermon	If You Are?	
Hymn of the Day	"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days" (verses 1-3)	ELW 319
Nicene Creed		
Prayers of Intercession		
Gathering of Gifts		
Offering Prayer		

MEAL

Sacrament of Holy Communion	
Words of Institution	
The Lord's Prayer	ELW p. 154
Distribution	
Post Communion Blessing	

SENDING

New Member Reception	
Blessing	
Sending Song	"Jesus, Still Lead On" (verses 1,3,4)
Dismissal	
Sending Music	"C Minor Toccata" organ



Easy Ways to Give



ONLINE

bethellutheran.com/give



TEXT

Text **BETHELGIVES**
to 73256



MOBILE

Download our Church's app "Realm Connect"



VENMO

@Bethel-
Lutheran-
Rochester



Worship Participants

Preacher:

Rev. Anjanette Bandel

Lector: Kathy Bolin

Organist: Jim Bahler

Minister of Music & Worship:
Brock A. Besse



SUBSCRIBE

to our TEXT messages!

If you are not receiving our text messages already, you can subscribe by texting **"Subscribe"** and your name to our number **507-288-6430**

'Prayground' for Children

Our worship services offer a 'Prayground' towards the back of the Sanctuary as the perfect place for families with small children to grow together in faith, with the freedom to move, explore, and worship in a supportive environment.

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Gathering Music	"My Song is Love Unknown"	organ
Welcome & Announcements		
Call to Worship	"From Earth to Heaven"	Sing for Joy
Confession and Forgiveness		
Gathering Song	"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"	ELW 325
Musical Offering	"The Hippo Song"	Sunday School Kids
Children's Hymn	"Oh, How I Love Jesus"	on screen
Children's Word	An Interactive Gospel	
Greeting		
Kyrie		ELW p. 138
Canticle of Praise		ELW p. 139
Prayer of the Day		

WORD

Musical Offering	"In the Stillness of Grace"	Chancel Choir
First Reading	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	
Psalms	Psalms 32	
Gospel Acclamation	"Return to the Lord"	ELW p. 142
Gospel	Matthew 4:1-11	
Sermon	If You Are?	
Hymn of the Day	"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days" (verses 1-3)	ELW 319
Nicene Creed		
Prayers of Intercession		
Gathering of Gifts	"Of the Father's Love Begotten"	Bethel Brass
Offering Prayer		
The Lord's Prayer		ELW p. 112

SENDING

Reception of New Members		
Blessing		
Sending Song	"Jesus, Still Lead On" (verses 1,3,4)	ELW 624
Dismissal		
Sending Music	"C Minor Toccata"	organ



Easy Ways to Give



ONLINE

bethellutheran.com/give



TEXT

Text **BETHELGIVES**
to 73256



MOBILE

Download our Church's
app "Realm Connect"

Android

iPhone



VENMO

@Bethel-
Lutheran-
Rochester



Worship Participants

Preacher: Rev. Anjanette Bandel

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Michael Mandsager

Rev. Lisa Hawe

Lector: Jean Wittmer

Organist: Jim Bahler

Minister of Music & Worship:

Brock A. Besse

Sign Language Interpreter:

Melissa Almer



SUBSCRIBE

to our TEXT messages!

If you are not receiving our text
messages already, text
"**Subscribe**" and your name to
our number **507-288-6430**

'Prayground' for Children

Our worship services offer a
'Prayground' towards the back
of the Sanctuary as the perfect
place for families with small
children to grow together in
faith, with the freedom to move,
explore, and worship in a
supportive environment.

Welcome to Our Contemporary Service!

Gate of Life is a service that will impact you musically, visually, and with the power of God's Word and Jesus' salvation as its backbone. **The name "Gate of Life" comes from the scripture John 10:9-10**, where Jesus says: *"I am the gate ... I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."* Expect worship to be highly engaging through the use of images, music that moves the body and soul, a message that encourages all to participate, and a community focused atmosphere with Christ at the center.

the gate of Life

February 22nd, 2026
First Sunday in Lent

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

WORSHIP INFORMATION

Bible Reading	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7
Children's Sermon	An Interactive Gospel
Gospel	Matthew 4:1-11
Sermon Title	If You Are?

Worship Participants:

Preacher: Rev. Anjanette Bandel

The Gate of Life Worship Leader: Michele Nyman

Do you enjoy The Gate of Life?

WE INVITE YOU TO VOLUNTEER!

If you would like to **be a part of the Gate of Life service** in a musical way, helping with visuals, or behind the scenes work, please contact Michele Nyman at nyman@bethellutheran.com.

Easy Ways to Give



ONLINE

bethellutheran.com/give



TEXT

Text **BETHELGIVES**
to 73256



MOBILE

Download our Church's
app "Realm Connect"

Android



iPhone



VENMO

@Bethel-
Lutheran-
Rochester



SUBSCRIBE

to our TEXT messages!

If you are not receiving our text messages already, subscribe by texting **"Subscribe"** to our church number **507-288-6430**

- Texts will only come from our Bethel phone number.
- Bethel Pastors or staff will NEVER send you texts asking for 'favors', gift cards, etc.
- We will only send occasional texts about important news, events, or cancellations.
- Opt-out at any time by replying STOP

Email us to
info@bethellutheran.com
to be added to our weekly
eNews and/or activate your
Bethel Connect account



INFORMATION

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- **Saturdays:** 6 pm
- **Sundays:** 9* am | 10:30 am ('Side by Side' - Families together at worship)
10:10 am Gate of Life (Contemporary Service with Holy Communion)
*9 am in-person worship offers an ASL interpreter and is Live-streamed through our YouTube channel: youtube.com/user/RochBethelLutheran
- **Videos of our services** are posted on our website to be viewed at any time: www.bethellutheran.com/worshiponline

HOLY COMMUNION

All the baptized believing that Jesus is truly present in the bread & wine are welcome to take communion (including visitors). Holy Communion is offered during our Saturday worship at 6 pm and Gate of Life Contemporary service on Sunday at 10:10 am each week. Our 9 am & 10:30 am Sunday services offer Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

- A looping system is installed for those with compatible hearing aides.
- Assisted listening devices are available, please ask one of the ushers.
- Parenting room at the back left of the sanctuary; nursery staffed during the 9 am worship and open for parents and children during other services.

3 OF THE MANY THINGS HAPPENING AT BETHEL

1. Many Bethel members have been expressing concern in recent days about how **the unrest in MN is affecting our neighbors**. As a congregation, we are reminded that 'We the Bethel Congregation, called by God, commit ourselves to: Proclaim the Gospel, Prepare our members for outreach and service, and Minister to human needs.' The current situation in Minnesota presents us with a pressing need to do outreach and service, and minister to the needs of our neighbors. Our Neighborhood Outreach Team, Anti-Racism Team, and Social Missions Team have identified the most immediate needs. There is some overlap due to similar basic needs, but there are some specific needs, based on populations served. There are donation bins in the narthex, labeled for each organization (including a 'general' bin for undesignated donations). **To see a list of specific needs, follow this link:** bit.ly/neighborsinneedlistsemin
2. Bethel students who will be earning an undergraduate degree at an ELCA Lutheran College are encouraged to complete an application for a **Bethel Scholarship**. Applications are available on the Bethel website or in the church office. Please return applications to hoffmann@bethellutheran.com by **April 15th**.
3. You have read the story of Lazarus, but we invite you to truly experience it through an impressive blending of voice and instrument. The Lazarus Requiem will be presented by the Bethel Chancel Choir and the Rochester Pops Orchestra Classical Edition on **Sunday, March 1st, at 7 pm** here at Bethel.

To learn about more events subscribe to our weekly eNews by emailing us to info@bethellutheran.com or pick up a printed version through our **"Bethel Connection Box"** located by the entrance of our building.



ARE YOU NEW AT BETHEL?

We're glad you're here! Please stop by the Welcome Desk for more information about our vibrant Bethel church family.

CHILDREN'S NOISY OFFERING

Our children offerings will be directed to support
Bundles of Love

CONTACT

Find information about Bethel & upcoming events:
www.bethellutheran.com

Bethel Connect

To activate your Bethel Connect account please email us to info@bethellutheran.com

 [@bethelrochester](https://facebook.com/bethelrochester)

 [@bethellutheranrochester](https://instagram.com/bethellutheranrochester)

810 Third Ave SE | Rochester, MN 55904 | 507-288-6430

3 OF THE MANY THINGS HAPPENING AT BETHEL

1. Many Bethel members have been expressing concern in recent days about how **the unrest in MN is affecting our neighbors**. As a congregation, we are reminded that 'We the Bethel Congregation, called by God, commit ourselves to: Proclaim the Gospel, Prepare our members for outreach and service, and Minister to human needs.' The current situation in Minnesota presents us with a pressing need to do outreach and service, and minister to the needs of our neighbors. Our Neighborhood Outreach Team, Anti-Racism Team, and Social Missions Team have identified the most immediate needs. There is some overlap due to similar basic needs, but there are some specific needs, based on populations served. There are donation bins in the narthex, labeled for each organization (including a 'general' bin for undesignated donations). **To see a list of specific needs, follow this link:** bit.ly/neighborsinneedlistsemin
2. Bethel students who will be earning an undergraduate degree at an ELCA Lutheran College are encouraged to complete an application for a **Bethel Scholarship**. Applications are available on the Bethel website or in the church office. Please return applications to hoffmann@bethellutheran.com by **April 15th**.
3. You have read the story of Lazarus, but we invite you to truly experience it through an impressive blending of voice and instrument. The Lazarus Requiem will be presented by the Bethel Chancel Choir and the Rochester Pops Orchestra Classical Edition on **Sunday, March 1st, at 7 pm** here at Bethel.

To learn more about Bethel happenings, subscribe to our weekly eNews by emailing us to info@bethellutheran.com or pick up a printed version through our "Bethel Connection Box" located by the entrance of our building.



CONTACT

Information about upcoming events can be found at:

www.bethellutheran.com,

Bethel Connect, and social media:

 [@bethelrochester](https://www.facebook.com/bethelrochester)

 [@bethellutheranrochester](https://www.instagram.com/bethellutheranrochester)

810 Third Ave SE | Rochester, MN 55904

 507-288-6430 |  info@bethellutheran.com



SUBSCRIBE

to our TEXT messages!

If you are not receiving our text messages already, text "**Subscribe**" and your name to our number **507-288-6430**

- Texts will only come from our Bethel phone number.
- Bethel Pastors or staff will NEVER send you texts asking for 'favors', gift cards, etc.
- We will only send occasional texts about important news, events, or cancellations.
- Opt-out at any time by replying STOP



WELCOME TO



- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND, 2026 -

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

- **Preacher:**
Rev. Anjanette Bandel
- **Leaders:**
Rev. Michael Mandsager
Rev. Lisa Hawe
- **Lector:** Gretchen Turri
- **Organist:** Jim Bahler
- **Minister of Music & Worship:** Brock A. Besse

Children's Noisy Offering:
Our children offerings will be directed to support
Bundles of Love

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Gathering Music	“ My Song is Love Unknown” “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”	organ Bethel Brass
Welcome		
Call to Worship	“From Earth to Heaven”	Sing for Joy
Confession & Forgiveness		
Gathering Song	“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”	ELW 325
Greeting		
Prayer of the Day		

WORD

Gathering of Gifts	“In the Stillness of Grace”	Chancel Choir
Offering Prayer		
Musical Offering	“The Hippo Song”	Sunday School Choir
Children’s Song	“Oh, How I Love Jesus”	on screen
Children’s Word	An Interactive Gospel	
First Reading	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	
Psalms	Psalms 32	
Gospel Acclamation	“Return to the Lord”	ELW p. 142
Gospel	Matthew 4:1-11	
Sermon	If You Are?	
Hymn of the Day	“O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days” (verses 1-3)	ELW 319
Nicene Creed		
Prayers of Intercession		
The Lord’s Prayer		ELW p. 154

SENDING

Announcements		
Reception of New Members		
Blessing		
Sending Song	“Jesus, Still Lead On”	ELW 624, vs. 1,3,4
Dismissal		
Sending Music	“C Minor Toccata”	organ

INFORMATION

Our worship services offer a ‘Prayground’ as the perfect place for families with small children to grow together in faith, with the freedom to move, explore, and worship in a supportive environment. Children registered for **Sunday School** (preschool – 4th grade) are invited to worship with their families and will be excused after the “Children’s Word” to engage in age-appropriate activities with teachers and helpers to enhance the message of worship. Leaders will return the children in grades 1-4 to the area near the CYF desk and preschool youth can be picked up in room 100.

WELCOME!

ARE YOU NEW AT BETHEL?

We’re glad you’re here! Please stop by the Welcome Desk for more information about our vibrant Bethel church family.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- **Saturdays:** 6 pm
- **Sundays:** 9* am | 10:30 am (Side by Side–Families worshipping together)
10:10 am Gate of Life (Contemporary Service with Holy Communion)
*9 am in-person worship offers an ASL interpreter and is Live-streamed through our YouTube channel: youtube.com/user/RochBethelLutheran
- **Videos of our services** are posted on our website to be viewed at any time: www.bethellutheran.com/worshiponline

HOLY COMMUNION

All the baptized believing that Jesus is truly present in the bread & wine are welcome to take communion (including visitors). Holy Communion is offered during our Saturday worships at 6 pm and Gate of Life Contemporary service on Sundays at 10:10 am. Our 9 am & 10:30 am Sunday services offer Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.


SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS


- A looping system is installed for those with compatible hearing aides.
- Assisted listening devices are available, please ask one of the ushers.
- Parenting room at the back left of the sanctuary; nursery staffed during the 9 am worship and open for parents and children during other services.

Easy Ways to Give

**VENMO**
@Bethel-Lutheran-Rochester



**ONLINE**
bethellutheran.com/give

**TEXT**
Text **BETHELGIVES** to 73256

**MOBILE**
Download our Church’s app “Realm Connect”
Android iPhone

