

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

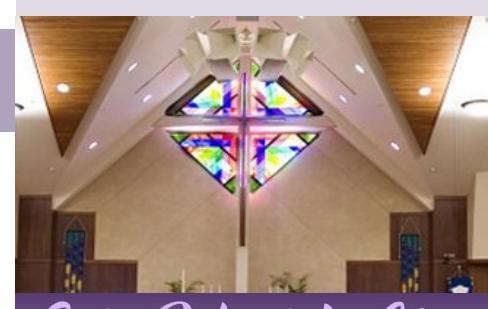
First Reading	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	
Psalm	Psalm 32	
Children's Hymn	"Oh, How I Love Jesus"	on screen
Children's Word	An Interactive Gospel	
Gospel	Matthew 4:1-11	
Sermon	If You Are?	
Hymn of the Day	"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days" (verses 1-3)	ELW 319
Nicene Creed		
Prayers of Intercession		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

MEAL

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

SENDING

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



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Worship Participants

Preacher:

Rev. Anjanette Bandel

Lector: Kathy Bolin

Organist: Jim Bahler

Minister of Music & Worship:
Brock A. Besse



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'Playground' for Children

Our worship services offer a 'Playground' 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.

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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		
Psalm	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32	
Gospel Acclamation		
Gospel	"Return to the Lord"	ELW p. 142
Sermon	Matthew 4:1-11 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



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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



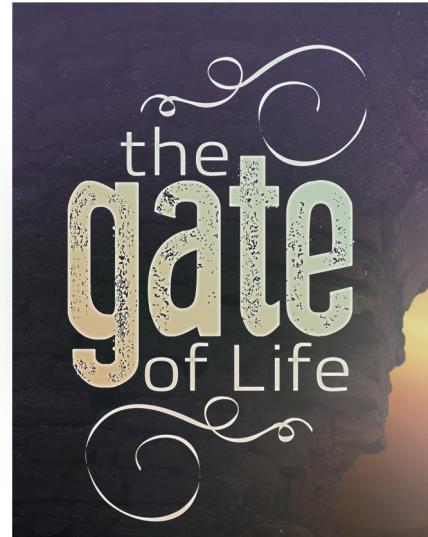
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February 22nd, 2026
First Sunday in Lent

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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.

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.



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- 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/neighborsinneedlistsemn
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.



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

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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.

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www.bethellutheran.com,
Bethel Connect, and social media:

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

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

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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**

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GATHERING

Gathering Music	" My Song is Love Unknown" "Of the Father's Love Begotten"	organ Bethel Brass
Welcome	"From Earth to Heaven"	Sing for Joy
Call to Worship		
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	"The Hippo Song"	Sunday School Choir
Musical Offering	"Oh, How I Love Jesus"	on screen
Children's Song	An Interactive Gospel	
Children's Word	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	
First Reading	Psalm 32	
Psalm	"Return to the Lord"	ELW p. 142
Gospel Acclamation	Matthew 4:1-11	
Gospel	If You Are?	
Sermon		
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

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