

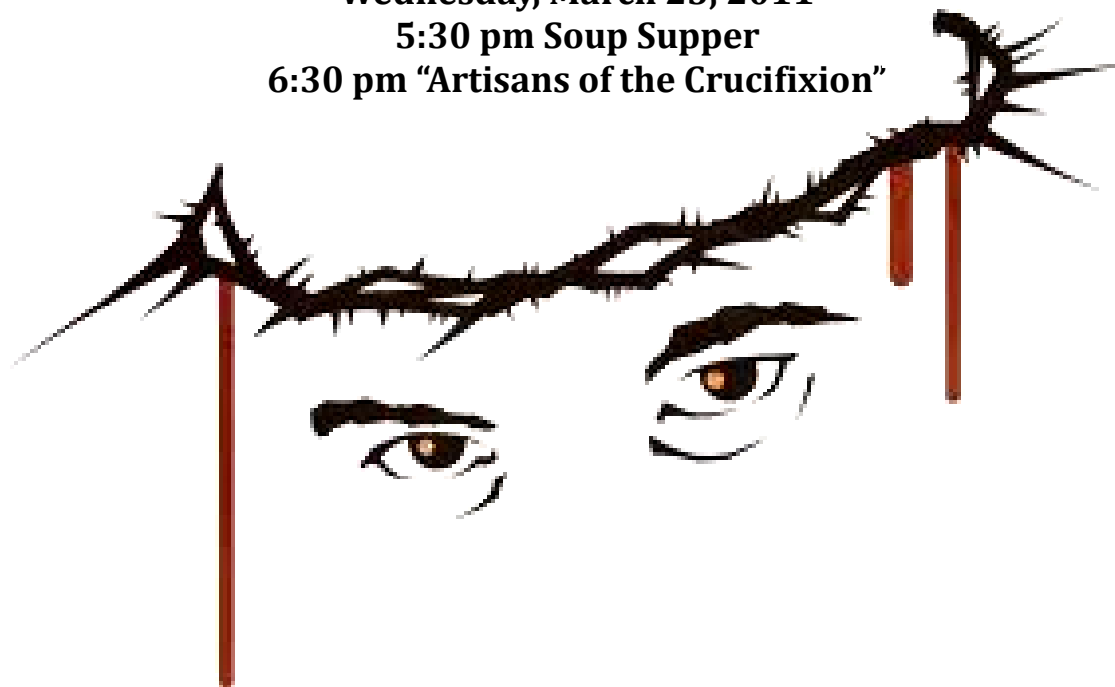
BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

~ where all are welcomed, loved and accepted in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ ~

Wednesday, March 23, 2011

5:30 pm Soup Supper

6:30 pm "Artisans of the Crucifixion"



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE II
"Testimony of the Basket Weaver"

When Jesus came out wearing the
crown of thorns
and the purple robe,
Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"
As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him,
they shouted,
"Crucify! Crucify!"

John 19:5-6

Assembly is encouraged to enter quietly in darkness

~ Reflect, Meditate and Prepare~

*The “keep-sake token” of this evenings testimony is to be saved in your “Lenten Pouch.”
Keep these treasures as a reminder of the sacrifices that our Lord, Jesus Christ endured
to forgive each of us and give us the gift of Salvation.*

Leaders speak regular print—Assembly responds with bold print

▲ **Lenten Litany**

Behold, now is the acceptable time;

now is the day of salvation.

Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

that the light of your face may shine on us.

May your justice shine like the sun;

and may the poor be lifted up.

Silence as the

Altar & Paschal Candles are lit

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us, Lord,

for it is evening, and the day is almost over.

Let your light scatter the darkness and illumine your church.

▲ **Lenten Canticle**

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus

and My Heart Was Hard as Iron” verse 2

I could not see my darkness,

I’d never seen the Light.

My life was full of emptiness

and swollen up with pride.

I joined the loud and jeering crowd.

I crowned Him with my shame,

But when I saw Him dying there,

I knew I was to blame.

▲ **Thanksgiving for Light**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being,
and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day.

In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night
you led your people into freedom.

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ;
may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation,
and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

▼ **Responsorial Psalm 22 verses 9-15**

Let us responsively read Psalm 22, verses 9-15

⁹ Yet you brought me out of the womb;
you made me trust in you, even at my mother's breast.

¹⁰ From birth I was cast on you;
from my mother's womb you have been my God.

¹¹ Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

¹² Many bulls surround me;
strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.

¹³ Roaring lions that tear their prey
open their mouths wide against me.

¹⁴ I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.

My heart has turned to wax;
it has melted within me.

¹⁵ My mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
you lay me in the dust of death.

▼ **Song of the Word**

“Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet”

Refrain Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I’ve lost my way,
still you’re there right beside me,
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.

Refrain

I will not forget your love for me,
and yet my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side,
and I will love you to the end.

Refrain

▲ **Gospel Acclamation**

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.
With Him we will never walk in darkness.

▲ **The Gospel of the Lord (NIV)**

A reading from Matthew, Chapter 27, verses 27-31

Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him.

They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him.

“Hail, king of the Jews!” they said.

They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him.

Then they led him away to crucify him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

▼ **Testimony of the Basket Weaver**

"Gail Galotta"

Silence is kept by all

▼ **Song of the Basket Weaver's Testimony**

"Were You There?"

Were you there when they crowned my Lord with thorns?
Were you there when they crowned my Lord with thorns?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they crowned my Lord with thorns?

▲ **Prayers**

Let us pray.

Blood of Christ, only-begotten Son of the eternal Father . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, Incarnate Word of God . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, falling upon the earth in agony . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, shed profusely in the Scourging . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, flowing forth in the Crowning with Thorns . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, price of our salvation . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, without which there is no forgiveness . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, pledge of eternal life . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, most worthy of all glory and honor . . .	save us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world . . .	hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world . . .	spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world . . .	have mercy on us, O Lord.

You have redeemed us, O Lord, with Your Blood.
And made us, for our God, a kingdom.

▲ *The Lords Prayer*

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord has taught us.

**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;
and 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.**

*place thorn keep sake token in your hand
during a brief silence*

▲ *Thorns So Sharp And Angry*

In my hand I hold a branch, its thorns so sharp and angry.
Of such a branch a crown was made to add to Jesus' agony.

In a garden he was arrested, a cup he didn't choose,
**and then they scourged and scoffed at him
and called him "King of the Jews"!**

They placed the crown upon him, thrust down onto his head,
then stood to laugh and spit on him as blood flowed freely red.

Then dressed him in a garment, a scarlet robe for royalty,
they placed a scepter in his hand, a reed, then bent their knee.

They taunted him as King, treating him like a fake,
but there he stood, the Son of God, whose life they soon would take.

Our Lord's humiliation began that awful day.

The Lord of love and kindness was put on mock display.

Yet he never abandoned love for those who pierced his brow
and though our thorns of hate and sin pierce him even now.

Our Lord even now continues to claim us with his strife
purchased with his pain and death in him we have our life.

And so this branch of thorns, as sharp as they may be,
reminds me, the unswerving love Christ Jesus has for me.

▲ ***Blessing and Dismissal***

Bless us Lord

And carry us from darkness into light.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, be with you all
And also with you.

Let us quietly share that peace with each other
keeping our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Go now in God's Peace.

Quietly share the peace of God.

Exit in silence.

Artisans of the Crucifixion

*Jeffrey R. Ingold



Lent Midweek Services will include the testimonies of five people who crafted certain items used in the crucifixion and offer a unique perspective of the events leading up to Christ's death. Although these artisans are fictitious, the intention of these presentations, is to help us relate to Jesus' humiliation and death through our own stories.

Soup Supper ~ 5:30 Wednesday Evenings
Lent Midweek Services ~ 6:30 Wednesday Evenings

Bethany and Calvary Lutheran Churches invite you to participate in five Lent Midweek Preparations, beginning with Soup Supper Fellowship at 5:30pm and Worship Service at 6:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church at 130 Odill Drive, Norway, which will include special Litany, Canticle, Thanksgiving of Light, Psalmody, Gospel, Song, Prayer, and Artisan Testimony with Poetic Response pertaining to the weekly keepsake.

- March 16** **Scripture from the Passion:** John 18:28-40 and 19:1
Testimony of the Tanner (keepsake: lace of leather)
who was responsible for crafting the whip with which our Lord Jesus was flogged
- March 23** **Scripture from the Passion:** Matthew 27:27-31
Testimony of the Basket Weaver (keepsake: thorn)
who helped the soldiers twist the crown of thorns thrust down upon Jesus' head
- March 30** **Scripture from the Passion:** Mark 15:21-32
Testimony of the Carpenter (keepsake: wood cross)
who made the instrument of torture and death on which Jesus hung ~ the cross
- April 6** **Scripture from the Passion:** John 19:28-37
Testimony of the Blacksmith (keepsake: nail)
who forged the nails by which Jesus Christ was fastened to the cross
- April 13** **Scripture from the Passion:** Matthew 27:57-66
Testimony of the Stone Mason (keepsake: stone)
who chiseled out the tomb where Jesus' body was laid

Jeffrey R. Ingold is the associate pastor of First Lutheran Church in Nashville, Tennessee. He previously served at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania. Ingold earned the Master of Divinity degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Music and Theater from West Virginia Wesleyan College. He has produced several plays, liturgical dramas, and musicals, and is a principal member of the Nashville Opera Chorus.