

BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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

130 Odill Drive, Norway, MI 49870 Office Phone: 906-563-8472

Rev. Mike Laakko, Interim Pastor Cell Phone: 906-281-1706

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

5:30 pm Soup Supper

6:30 pm "Artisans of the Crucifixion"



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE IV "Testimony of the Blacksmith"

This man was handed over to you
by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge;
and you, with the help of wicked men,
put him to death by
nailing him to the cross.

Acts 2:23

*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.

(Brief silence while the lighted Paschal Candle is carried in)

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**

“Canticle of the Turning” verse 4

Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:

God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.

This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
Till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

▲ **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 22-26**

²² I will declare your name to my people;
in the assembly I will praise you.

²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you descendants of Jacob, honor him!
Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!

²⁴ For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.

²⁵ From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;
before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows.

²⁶ The poor will eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the LORD will praise him—
may your hearts live forever!

▼ **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 John, Chapter 19, verses 28-37

Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus’ side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. These things happened

so that the scripture would be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken,” and, as another scripture says, “They will look on the one they have pierced.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

▼ **Testimony of the Blacksmith**

“Fred Jump”

Silence is kept by all

▼ **Song of the Blacksmith’s Testimony**

“Were You There?”

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

▲ **Prayers**

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, poured out on the Cross . . .	save us.
Blood of Christ, dripping from Nail driven wounds . . .	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 sin of the world . . .	spare us, O Lord.
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 . . .	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*

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.

▲ *They Pounded The Nails With A Hammer*

They pounded the nails with a hammer
sunken deeply in hands and feet.
They pounded the nails with a hammer
and hanged him up in defeat.
They pounded the nails with a hammer,
piercing him -making him bleed.
They pounded the nails with a hammer,
fulfilling this dastardly deed.
They pounded the nails with a hammer,
a force-driven clang in the air.
They pounded the nails with a hammer
as a chill caught everyone there.
They pounded the nails with a hammer
and propped him up high on the hill.
They pounded the nails with a hammer;
the whole earth seemed to stand still.

They pounded the nails with a hammer,
then placed on the right and the left.

They pounded the nails with a hammer -
two criminals guilty of theft.

They pounded the nails with a hammer
and watched as he struggled to breathe.

They pounded the nails with a hammer
as the women below him grieved.

They pounded the nails with a hammer
and hanging there three hours that day.

They pounded the nails with a hammer -
he eventually died that way.

They pounded the nails with a hammer
but before his spirit left him -

They pounded the nails with a hammer -
he called out to God,

"Forgive them ...for they know not what they are doing."

▲ ***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.