



The Evangel

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)
301 Scott Avenue Glenshaw, Pennsylvania 15116

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Mission Statement

In our commitment to mission, Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church will proclaim and witness to God's salvation in our community and the world by preaching God's Word and administering the Sacraments in all their truth and purity."

Adopted by the congregation on April 23, 1989

Staff

Pastor *Arthur E. Litke*
Secretary *Donna Heintz*
Director of Music *(vacant)*

Board of Directors

Executive Director *Al Todd III*
Doctrine & Worship *Ross Betts*
Mission
Education *Gary Swanson*
Christian Service *(Vacant)*
Property *Dave Augustine*
Finance *Fred Heintz*

Other Officers & Contact People

Financial Secretary *Paul Hoffman*
Recording Secretary *Donna Heintz*
Treasurer *Dorothy Carlisle*
Sunday School *Marie Litke*
Altar Guild *Marie Litke*
Men's Club/LLL *(vacant)*
Bethelites/LWML *(vacant)*
Youth Group *Gary Swanson*



Behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a Voice from the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him."

Matthew 17:5 (ESV)

Listening to Him

The season of Epiphany ends with pretty much the same words with which it began. The Baptism of Jesus was accompanied by the appearance of a dove and a Voice from heaven claiming Jesus as the Son of God and expressing pleasure in Him. His Transfiguration was accompanied by "a bright cloud" out of which a Voice spoke the same words, but adding the instruction: "Listen to Him."

There are many things that our Savior has to say to us that it would do us well to listen to. He speaks to us not only with His words but with His actions. This entire Epiphany season has been a time when we have listened to Jesus as He revealed Himself to be the Son of God and the Savior of the world.

It is significant that the Transfiguration comes just before the penitential season of Lent. Peter, James, and John were about to experience some serious trials as their Savior would be humiliated, beaten, mocked, and put to death as a common criminal. They needed the reassurance that, despite all of the things that seemed to contradict it, Jesus is indeed their Lord and Savior.

We need that same assurance—not only as we accompany Jesus along the way of the cross during the days of Lent, but also as we see Him humiliated today in world that wants no part of Him. Listening to Him through the Word of the Gospel gives the same assurance and encouragement that the Transfiguration gave to those disciples. No matter how things may appear, He is our Lord—our Savior—our King.

In His love and service,

Pastor Litke

PRAYER THOUGHT

“What is it to believe on Christ? It is not simply to believe that He is God, or that He reigns in heaven in equal power with God the Father. Many others believe that. But I believe on Christ when I believe that He is a gracious God to me and has taken my sins upon Himself and reconciled me with God the Father, that my sins are His and His righteousness mine, that there is an intermingling and an exchange, that Christ is a Mediator between me and the Father. For the sins of the whole world were laid upon Christ, and the righteousness of the Father, that is in Christ, will swallow up all our sins”.

--Martin Luther in a sermon dated 1523



The Luther Rose -- also called the Luther Seal -- was designed by Martin Luther, and is the most common symbol used in Evangelical Lutheran churches. It consists of a black cross in the center of a red heart inside of a white rose. It is generally depicted on a sky-blue field surrounded by a gold ring.

According to Martin Luther, the black cross within a red heart represents both the pain of knowing that Jesus Christ had to be crucified and that the cross gives life for Christians. Luther believed white to be the color of angels and spirits, and represented joy, comfort and peace. The blue field and the gold ring symbolize eternal blessedness in heaven.

LUTHERAN HOUR RADIO

WJAS-AM 1320

SUNDAYS 7:00 A.M.

February 5

"Nothing But Jesus!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Amid life's commotion and clamor, what will give us peace? Nothing but Jesus!
(1 Corinthians 2:1-16)

February 12

"Here's to Life!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Even as the world becomes a meaner, angrier place, God calls us to share His life with others.
(Deuteronomy 30:15-20)

February 19

"Love Your Enemies--Jesus Does!"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
God calls us to love and forgive our enemies the way He loves and forgives us.
(Matthew 5:38-48)

February 26

"Guilt's Gone"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour:
Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
A guilty conscience accuses; a forgiving Savior brings peace to troubles hearts.
(1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

Ten ways to love

1. Listen without interrupting. (Proverbs 18)
2. Speak without accusing. (James 1:19)
3. Give without sparing. (Proverbs 21:26)
4. Pray without ceasing. (Colossians 1:9)
5. Answer without arguing. (Proverbs 17:1)
6. Share without pretending. (Ephesians 4:15)
7. Enjoy without complaint. (Philippians 2:14)
8. Trust without wavering. (Corinthians 13:7)
9. Forgive without punishing. (Colossians 3:13)
10. Promise without forgetting. (Proverbs 13:12)

MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

On March 1 the season of Lent begins. We will gather for worship on that evening, Ash Wednesday, at 7:00 p.m. for a service of Holy Communion that will also include the imposition of ashes for those who desire it.

On the following five Wednesday we will gather for midweek worship. Our Lenten series this year is "Mountaintop Experiences." The specific topics are as follows:

March 8
"Noah on Ararat"
(Genesis 8:3, 4)

March 15
"Abraham on Moriah"
(Genesis 22:2)

March 22
"Moses on Sinai"
Exodus 19:20)

March 29
"Peter, James, and John
on the Mount of Transfiguration"
(Mark 9:2-4)

April
"Jesus on Golgotha"
(John 19:17, 18)

Each service begins at 7:00 p.m. Join us as we meet at the cross of Jesus to commemorate His sacrifice for us..

SWEETHEART DINNER

Valentine Fondue Dinner

*Saturday
February 11, 2017
5:30 p.m.*

*Hosted by
The Swanson Family and
Bethel Youth*

*Price: donation
Seating is limited.
Sign up in narthex*

FINANCIAL REPORT—FINAL 2016

INCOME	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u>
December 2016	\$ 8,322.18	\$ 12,314.83	\$3,992.65
	125,925.00	124,911.73	(1,013.27)
EXPENSES			
December 2016	\$ 8,723.19	\$ 11,848.75	\$(3,125.56)
	125.346.75	119,284.34	6,062.41
INCOME LESS EXPENSE			
December 2016	\$ (401.01)	\$ 466.08	\$ 867.09
	578.25	5,527.39	5,049.14