



**Bethany Lutheran Outlook**  
February - March 2020

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



*Return  
to the*  
**LORD**  
*your God.*  
*Joel 2:13*



## PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

With 2020 being a presidential election year and considering the state of our national discourse these days, it seems safe to assume that we can look forward to an especially ugly campaign filled with nasty rhetoric and TV ads designed to slander one's opponents and make them look as bad as possible; so much for the Eighth Commandment about bearing false witness. I give thanks for the mute button!

Because the UP Catholic newsletter gets handed on to me I learned that the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has launched a yearlong initiative that invites Catholics to model civility, love for neighbor and respectful dialogue. "Civilize It: Dignity Beyond the Debate" asks Catholics to pledge civility, clarity and compassion in their families, communities and parishes and to call on others to do the same.

I applaud the Catholic bishops but might we add Lutherans (and others) to the pledge? Wouldn't it be nice if all of the candidates would make such a pledge? You can be sure that that's not going to happen but each of us can do our little bit to try and keep the conversation civil recognizing that everyone, even those with whom we disagree, is a beloved child of God who possesses inherent dignity.

The full pledge is worth sharing and reads as follows:

### **Civility**

To recognize the human dignity of those with whom I disagree, treat others with respect, and rise above attacks when directed at me

### **Clarity**

To root my political viewpoints in the Gospel and a well formed conscience, which involves prayer, conversation, study and listening. I will stand up for my convictions and speak out when I witness language that disparages others' dignity, while also listening and seeking to understand others' experiences.

### **Compassion**

To encounter others with a tone and posture which affirms that I honor the dignity of others and invite others to do the same. I will presume others' best intentions and listen to their stories with empathy. I will strive to understand before seeking to be understood.

It's a noble ideal and sets the bar pretty high. However, I would encourage you to make this pledge and do what you can to keep the conversation civil.

Pastor Geier



### **Resolve to Listen**

Christian philosopher Paul Tillich said, "The first responsibility of love is to listen." Yet in our fast-paced culture, truly listening to someone has become a lost art.

The intricate Chinese written character for the verb to listen offers wise insight about how to listen to people so they feel heard. The symbol is actually a combination of characters for ears, eyes and an open heart. Basically it reads, "I give you my ears, my eyes and my undivided attention." What a great image of being fully engaged during the act of communication!



James 1:19 offers two wise resolutions for the year ahead: Be "quick to listen" and "slow to speak" (NRSV). Practicing the skill of active listening is a much-needed way to minister to other people, serving as Jesus' "ears" in a hurting world.



## DAILY LECTIONARY



*The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.*

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.”  
—Martin Luther

### February 2020

1 Psalm 15

Micah 3:1-4

John 13:31-35

### 2 Fourth Sunday of Epiphany - The Presentation of Our Lord

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

#### Readings for The Presentation of Our Lord

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 84

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

3 Psalm 37:1-17

Ruth 1:1-18

Philemon 1-25

4 Psalm 37:1-17

Ruth 2:1-16

James 5:1-6

5 Psalm 37:1-17

Ruth 3:1-13; 4:13-22

Luke 6:17-26

6 Psalm 112:1-9

Deuteronomy 4:1-14

1 John 5:1-5

7 Psalm 112:1-9

Isaiah 29:1-12

James 3:13-18

8 Psalm 112:1-9

Isaiah 26:13-16

Mark 7:1-8

### 9 Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 58: 1-9a

Psalm 112:1-9

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Matthew 5:13-20

10 Psalm 119 105-112

2 Kings 22:3-20

Romans 11:2-10

11 Psalm 119 105-112

2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25

2 Corinthians 4:1-12

12 Psalm 119 105-112

Proverbs 6:6-23

John 8:12-30

13 Psalm 119:1-8

Genesis 26:1-5

James 1:12-16

14 Psalm 119:1-8

Leviticus 26:34-46

1 John 2:7-17

15 Psalm 119:1-8

Deuteronomy 30:1-9a

Matthew 15:1-9

**16 Sixth Sunday of Epiphany**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 119:1-8 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Matthew 5:21-37

17 Psalm 119:9-16	Exodus 20:1-21	James 1:2-8
18 Psalm 119:9-16	Deut. 23:21 — 24:4, 10-15	James 2:1-13
19 Psalm 119:9-16	Proverbs 2:1-15	Matthew 19:1-12
20 Psalm 2	Exodus 6:2-9	Hebrews 8:1-7
21 Psalm 2	Exodus 19:9b-25	Hebrews 11:23-28
22 Psalm 2	1 Kings 21:20-29	Mark 9:9-13

**23 Transfiguration of Our Lord**

Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9

24 Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55	Exodus 33:7-23	Acts 7:30-34
25 Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55	1 Kings 19:9-18	Romans 11:1-6

**26 Ash Wednesday**

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Psalm 103:8-14 2 Cor. 5:20-b — 6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

27 Psalm 51	Jonah 3:1-10	Romans 1:8-17
28 Psalm 51	Jonah 4:1-11	Romans 1:8-17
29 Psalm 51	Isaiah 58:1-12	Matthew 18:1-7

**March 2020****1 First Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

2 Psalm 32	1 Kings 19:1-8	Hebrews 2:10-18
3 Psalm 32	Genesis 4:1-16	Hebrews 4:14 — 5:10
4 Psalm 32	Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28	Matthew 18:10-14
5 Psalm 121	Isaiah 51:1-3	2 Timothy 1:3-7
6 Psalm 121	Micah 7:18-20	Romans 3:21-31
7 Psalm 121	Isaiah 51:4-8	Luke 7:1-10

**8 Second Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17

9 Psalm 128

Numbers 21:4-9

Hebrews 3:1-6

10 Psalm 128

Isaiah 65:17-25

Romans 4:6-13

11 Psalm 128

Ezekiel 36:22-32

John 7:53 — 8:11

12 Psalm 95

Exodus 16:1-8

Colossians 1:15-23

13 Psalm 95

Exodus 16:9-21

Ephesians 2:11-22

14 Psalm 95

Exodus 16:27-35

John 4:1-6

**15 Third Sunday in Lent**

Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42

16 Psalm 81

Genesis 24:1-27

2 John 1-13

17 Psalm 81

Genesis 29:1-14

1 Corinthians 10:1-4

18 Psalm 81

Jeremiah 2:4-13

John 7:14-31, 37-39

19 Psalm 23

1 Samuel 15:10-21

Ephesians 4:25-32

**Readings for the Feast of St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus**

2 Samuel 7:4, 8-16 Psalm 89:1-29 Romans 4:13-18

Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

20 Psalm 23

1 Samuel 15:22-31

Ephesians 5:1-9

21 Psalm 23

1 Samuel 15:32-34

John 1:1-9

**22 Fourth Sunday in Lent**

1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

23 Psalm 146

Isaiah 59:9-19

Acts 9:1-20

24 Psalm 146

Isaiah 42:14-21

Colossians 1:9-14

25 Psalm 146

Isaiah 60:17-22

Matthew 9:27-34

**Readings for the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord**

Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 45 Hebrews 10:4-10 Luke 1:26-38

26 Psalm 130

Ezekiel 1:1-3; 2:8 — 3:3

Revelation 10:1-11

27 Psalm 130

Ezekiel 33:10-16

Revelation 11:15-19

28 Psalm 130

Ezekiel 36:8-15

Luke 24:44-53

## **29 Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalms 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

30 Psalm 143

1 Kings 17:17-24

Acts 20:7-12

31 Psalm 143

2 Kings 4:18-37

Ephesians 2:1-10

**“Don’t start looking in the Bible for the answers it gives.  
Start by listening for the questions it asks.”**

—Frederick Buechner

### **A Prayer for Neighborliness**

O God, we pray for a broader vision of the needs of humanity, and a deeper compassion to fill those needs; for a planting of the seeds of concern for all humanity in our hearts; for a tapping of the wells of generosity. May we live together as people who have been forgiven a great debt. May we be gentle, walking softly with one another. May we be understanding, lest we shall add to the world’s sorrow or cause to flow needless tears. May we be as anxious for the rights of others as we are for our own. May we be as eager to forgive as we are to seek forgiveness. May we know no barriers of creed or race or sex, that our love may be like Yours — a love that sees all people as Your children and our kin. May we be ministers of humanity.

—Peter Marshall



# Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

## Search Me, O God

Search me, O God, and know my heart today,  
Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray;  
See if there be some wicked way in me;  
Cleanse me from every sin, and set me free.

I praise Thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin;  
Fulfill Thy Word, and make me pure within.  
Fill me with fire where once I burned with shame;  
Grant my desire to magnify Thy name.

Lord, take my life, and make it wholly Thine;  
Fill my poor heart with Thy great love divine;  
Take all my will, my passion, self and pride;  
I now surrender, Lord, in me abide.

O Holy Ghost, revival comes from thee;  
Send a revival, start the work in me.  
Thy word declares Thou wilt supply our need;  
For blessings now, O Lord, I humbly plead.

- J. Edwin Orr



Fellowship Hall Floor original 1962 Will patch asbestos floor and put down carpet squares which are replaceable if ruined.

Sanctuary original 1970 Carpet

Church Pews and Choir Chairs 1970 reupholster both



### ***Search Me, O God: the Story Behind the Hymn***

*Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;  
And see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*  
Psalm 139:23-24

When I was a student at Columbia International University In South Caroline, a small, peppery, gray-haired Irishman came to lecture. He was brisk and plain-spoken, and his subject was revival. J. Edwin Orr had studied the history of revivals like no one else; as it happened, I had just read one of his many books on the subject.

When I requested an appointment, he agreed to see me in the lobby of the men's dormitory. Perhaps it was his shyness, but he seemed uncomfortable chatting with me. Instead of looking in my direction and engaging in conversation, he gazed straight ahead and answered my questions with short replies. After several fruitless exchanges, I decided to ask him one last thing.

"Dr. Orr, besides praying for revival, what can I do to help bring it about?" Without a moment's pause, he glanced in my direction and gave me an answer I've never forgotten: "You can let it begin with you."

That was exactly the point of this hymn, which he had written years before, in 1936, during an intense springtime revival convention in the town of Ngaruwahia, on the North Island of New Zealand. There had been an attitude of unusual expectancy about the meetings, and prayer meetings proliferated across the city. Many students were coming to Christ, and the area began overflowing with the testimonies of those being saved and renewed in Christ.

One day Dr. Orr heard four Aborigine girls sing a beautiful song entitled "The Song of Farewell," the first words being, "Now is the hour when we must say goodbye." Unable to get the lovely Polynesian tune out of his mind, Dr. Orr began singing it to himself using words from Psalm 139. These words he jotted down on the back of an envelope while standing in the post office at Ngaruwahia, and they were first published in his book, *All You Need*.

—Robert J. Morgan, *Then Sings My Soul; 150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories*



**Lenten Soup Suppers:  
5:30 each Wednesday of Lent**

The Boards of Bethany will provide the soups each Wednesday of Lent.\*

March 4 - Finance and Property  
March 11 - Social Ministry  
March 18- Worship & Music  
March 25- Stewardship and Personnel  
April 1 - Christian Ed

\*No Soup Supper on Ash Wednesday

**Ashes**



On Ash Wednesday, as Lent begins, worshipers' foreheads are often marked with ashes in the sign of the cross. The ashes traditionally come from burning palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. In Old Testament days, ashes were a sign of mourning and repentance. Today, some worshipers wipe off the ashes before leaving church, to symbolize being cleansed from sin by Jesus' death; others wear the ashes the rest of the day, carrying the cross of Christ into the world. The speaking of Genesis 3:19 often accompanies the placement of ashes:

“You are dust, and to dust you shall return.”



**Feb- ruary 26  
6:30 pm**

**Traditional Service  
(Confession,  
Imposition of Ashes,  
and  
Holy Communion)**



**Wednesday Lenten Services will Highlight the Drama Series  
“The Doors of Lent”**

**1. BETTER LATE THAN NEVER**

**Matthew 25:5-15 – The 10 bridesmaids**

What happens when dad and mom think their teenage daughter is very late getting home? Dad wants to get tough, while mom asks if maybe they should be more forgiving. How does God treat us when we are not ready and at the door when we should be?

**2. LOOK WHO'S COMING TO DINNER**

**Luke 16:19–31 - The rich man and Lazarus**

In this serious drama John decides to do his part and invite the homeless man he has seen frequently on his way home to come into his home for a night. However, everything does not go as he planned. How can opening your door be risky?

**3. WHEN GOD CLOSSES A DOOR ... OPEN THE ROOF**

**Luke 5:17 – 24 - The crippled man lowered through the roof**

Calvin is rather down on life. He has basically locked himself in his apartment and refuses to interact with people. Many things have gone wrong but most importantly is the fact that Calvin believes he has done so many hurtful or harmful things that no one would want him around. Larry, his friend, decides to confront him, and force his way into Calvin, just as the men forced the crippled man onto Jesus. The story itself is told by Larry in a rather humorous way.

**4. BLOODY KNUCKLES**

**Luke 11:5-13 - Knock and it shall be open to you**

In this touching drama Joe sits in a small room in a hospital, clearly upset. His daughter has been very ill. The janitor interrupts him, but lets him rest in quiet. Soon the new hospital chaplain shows up, young and eager to help. He has heard that Joe's daughter was ill and jumps right in encouraging prayer. However, he fails to ask Joe about his daughter. Later the janitor will return, and it is he who listens. How is prayer both talking and listening?

**5. BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

**Matthew 6:1-8, Luke 18:9-14 – Pray in secret**

The two characters are a state representative and his/her political advisor. The advisor is pushing the Representative to lead prayer at the big football game. He argues that it will be great exposure. The Representative has his doubts. Are we supposed to lift our prayers so that others can hear them, or just God?

## **Update on Bethany Sesquicentennial Activities**

By Cheryl Frederickson

As we move towards our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, the Planning Committee has been busy organizing our calendar of events. It's going to be an exciting year of history, fun and food!

**Saturday, April 18** - We will be kicking things off with our annual Pie Social. We will be changing things up a bit this year by adding a display of arts and crafts made by church members. These will be for display only – not a sale. We ask that anyone who does any art or crafting see Marian Medlyn or Anne Sundblad about displaying your work. We have so much talent in our congregation, and hope everyone will be willing to share their wares.

We also plan to do a lot of publicity for this year's pie social, so we will be needing a LOT of pie! A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in March. Please be generous with your donations of pie!

**Sunday, June 28** – Bethany will be hosting a Historical Tour of our church and coffee social from noon to 5pm. Guides will be on hand to inform our guests about the history of our church. It is sure to be a fun and educational experience for all. It would be great if you would search your attics or basements for artifacts to loan to us. Karen Kasper is coordinating the historical tour.

**Saturday, July 4** – We will be entering a float in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Ishpeming this year! The float will be advertising our Anniversary as well as our upcoming Vacation Bible School program. We are hoping to have the VBS run by the folks at Fortune Lake this year, and children from all local churches will be invited to attend. If you would like to help with the float or VBS, you can contact Addy Lemire.

**Saturday, Sept. 19** – Bishop Skrenes will be giving a Scandinavian History Presentation at Bethany. This event is co-sponsored by the Carnegie Library, Friends of the Library and the Ishpeming Historical Society. This talk is definitely one you don't want to miss, so make sure you mark your calendars!

**Sunday, October 11** – Today is the big event – Our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship Service! We will be debuting a new hymn written for the occasion by Jim Bjorne. Bishop Katherine Finegan will be providing the sermon for us. Following the service, there will be a banquet at the River Rock Banquet Center. The dinner is open to all, so bring your friends. We may even have some surprise guests!

Rick Rhoades from WLUC TV6 will be helping us put together a *Stories of Bethany* DVD, which will include interviews with members of the congregation sharing their memories of their journey in faith at Bethany. It will be a very special keepsake, and copies will be made available to all our members.

Please mark your calendars so you don't miss any of these great programs. And again, if anyone wants to help with an event, please let us know. We welcome all the assistance we can get.

### **A Look at Bethany's History**

**Honor your past as God's gift that makes you who you are, but be open to change. Dare to step out in faith for the sake of your life's mission. Try something new in the spirit of the God who's always doing a new thing (Isaiah 43:19; Revelation 21:5).**

Per-

sonals

**from the Luther League Mirror newsletter**

#### **February 1939:**

We have some excellent ski riders in our midst, but may we suggest that Rev. Mattson and Mr. Hedman practice a little more before tackling the Fire Tower hill? Or are they planning to ride Suicide Hill on February 22?

We have had an unusually large sick list among the hitherto strong and healthy Leaguers. We missed quite a few of them at our party on Jan. 26. The sick are: Mabel & Leona Nelson, Marion Sundberg, Hilda Matson and Bernice Brandt.

Have you seen that lovely 'shiner' that Lowell is sporting? He claims it's the result of a hockey stick, but then we know Hilda, don't we, Leaguers.

By the way, Helen H., who is that tall, nice looking chap we see at the skating rink so often of late? We notice you even interrupt your games of 'Chase' to talk with him.

#### **March 1939:**

We are hoping Mabel Nelson isn't too lonesome since Hugo returned to Chicago. It must be quite a thrill to have an admirer come some 400 miles to see you. Cheer up Mabel. Summer and Fortune Lake aren't far away.

We noticed several valentines around after the League meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>. And Leona Swanson, our advice to you is to take better care of yours, as several members are wondering who "Tod" is.

**February 1942:**

Virginia Silas and Linnea Johnson, former leaguers now employed in Washington, spent the holidays here in Ishpeming.

Bernice Brandt, a former leaguer, is now a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in Uncle Sam's Army and at present is stationed at Scott Field, Belleville, Illinois.

"Snugger" Norell is stationed at Army Air Base at Savannah, Georgia.

**April 1942:**

March 12<sup>th</sup> marked 'the big day' in the lives of two of our Leaguers for on that day before the candle-lighted altar of our church, Hilda Matson became the bride of Lowell Holmgren. The happy newlyweds spent their honeymoon in Chicago and now that they are home, our reporter hears that Hilda really has Lowell 'trained.' All for the best, we hope??? We, the Leaguers, extend our heartiest congratulations and best wishes as say "God bless your home."

Lloyd A Sundblad, who was drafted into the United States Army in February, is stationed at Camp Grant, Illinois.

Paul Goethe is now employed in the office of the Northern Dairy Co. and George Francis is at the office of the H.W. Elson Bottling Works.

**June 1942:**

Following is the list of the Bethany Boys who are serving in the armed forces of our country. Remember them sometimes because they enjoy hearing from home.

Cp;. V.E. Norell, Pvt. Arvid Sjöholm, Pvt. L.H. Sundblad, PFC Robert B. Ring, PFC Creighton Ring, Cpl Clyde Sundberg, Pvt Roy Holmgren, Vining L. Bjork, Pvt. Carl V. Johnson, AC John Velin, Pvt Lowell C. Holmgren.

"Snugger" Norell has been promoted to the rank of Corporal.

Our congratulations to former Leaguer, Dorothy Silas, who graduates from the Grant Hospital School of Nursing on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We would like to congratulate the 1942 Confirmation Class which will be confirmed on June 28<sup>th</sup>. We hope that all the members of the class will join our League and become good and faithful members. The following are the members of the Class: Ogden Johnson, Jr. Stuart Eldred, Jimmie Jenkins, Seth Johnson, Clarence Archey, Mary Lindbom, Goldie Fredrickson, Marion Fredrickson, Marilyn Ann Holmgren, Marion Lindberg, Arlene Bess, Florence Swanson, Barbara Rickstad and Lorraine Magnuson.



## Saints and Notables for February/March

(From the ELW)

**Feb 1** Brigid of Kildare 1523 One of the three patrons of Ireland.

**Feb 5** The Martyrs of Japan 1597 There was sporadic persecution from this initial crucifixion of 26 Franciscan missionaries and Japanese converts until the opening of Japan to the west in 1854.

**Feb 14** Cyril and Methodius 869 Missionaries to the Slavs; precursor of the Cyrillic alphabet.



**Cyril and Methodius** were two brothers and Byzantine Christian theologians and missionaries. For their work evangelizing the Slavs, they are known as the "Apostles to the Slavs". They are credited with devising the Glagolitic alphabet, the first alphabet used to transcribe Greek religious texts and liturgies into Slavic. This early alphabet developed into the Cyrillic alphabet, still used to write the Slavic languages, including Russian.

**Feb 18** Martin Luther 1546 Reformer, virtual founder of Protestantism.

**Feb 23** Polycarp 156 Student of St. John the Apostle. Bishop of Smyrna. Martyr at age 86, burned at the stake/stabbed.

**Mar 2** John and Charles Wesley, renewers of the church

**Mar 7** Perpetua, Felicity and companions, 202, martyrs

**Mar 17** St. Patrick, 461, missionary and patron of Ireland

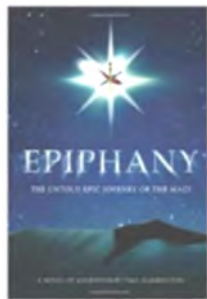
**Mar 19** St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus



## Library Notes for February - March 2020 By Keenan Tunnell

We're still in the Epiphany Season, so there is still time to check out these Epiphany titles. I haven't personally read all of them, but Harrington's *Epiphany; the untold epic journey of the Magi* is a GREAT read!! The others may contribute to your knowledge of this Christmas mystery....or raise more questions; but isn't that a good thing?? As noted elsewhere, February 5<sup>th</sup> is the Commemoration of the Martyrs of Japan. I have found two new books that address this terrible time (17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Centuries) and its aftermath for Christianity in Japan. . One of them (*Silence*) has been made into an award-winning motion picture. Of course, Valentine's Day is on the 14th so you might want to check out his titles too and give a thought for the REAL saint who espoused the cause of young love, holy marriage, and those being persecuted for their faith So many good books....take some time out, make yourself a fresh cup of coffee/tea, and curl up with a good read! There won't be a March edition of the OUTLOOK, but the books relating to the disciplines of Lent (Ash Wednesday is February 26<sup>th</sup>) will be on display.

Harrington, Paul. **Epiphany; the untold epic journey of the Magi**  
**FIC HAR**



The Old World is dying. A dazzling, mysterious star compels three Magi to undertake a journey. But before Melchior, Gaspar, and Balthazar can complete their quest they must survive the deadly desert, supernatural forces, treachery, and the might of Rome. From the bamboo forests of China to the hidden city of Petra, from the lofty summits of Arabia to the scorching plains of Ethiopia, the Magi will battle their way to Bethlehem to unravel the secret of the star. But with blood and betrayal their constant companions, the Magi begin to wonder if they journey to destiny . . . or death?

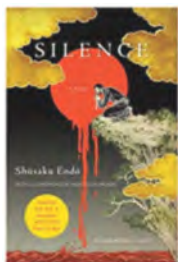
Also try out:

Gilbert, **Magi (FIC GIL)**;  
Landau, **Revelation of the Magi; the lost tale....(232.92 LAN)**  
Roberts, **The Star of the Magi. (232.92 ROB)**



Endo, Shusaku, **Silence, a novel**

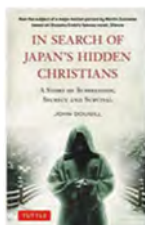
**FIC END**



“Seventeenth-century Japan: Two Portuguese Jesuit priests travel to a country hostile to their religion, where feudal lords force the faithful to publicly renounce their beliefs. Eventually captured and forced to watch their Japanese Christian brothers lay down their lives for their faith, the priests bear witness to unimaginable cruelties that test their own beliefs. Shusaku Endo is one of the most celebrated and well-known Japanese fiction writers of the twentieth century, and *Silence* is widely considered to be his great masterpiece.” (from the back cover)

Dougill, John. **In Search of Japan’s Hidden Christians**

**282.52 DOU**



From the time the first Christian missionary arrived in Japan in 1549 to when a nationwide ban was issued in 1614, over 300,000 Japanese were converted to Christianity. A vicious campaign of persecution forced the faithful to go underground. For seven generations, Hidden Christians—or Kirishitan—preserved a faith that was strictly forbidden on pain of death. Illiterate peasants handed down the Catholicism that had been taught to their ancestors despite having no Bible or contact with the outside world. Just as remarkably, descendants of the Hidden Christians continue to this day to practice their own religion, refusing to rejoin the Catholic Church. Why? And what is it about Christianity that is so antagonistic to Japanese culture? This book is an attempt to answer these questions. A journey in both space and time, it recounts a clash of civilizations—of East and West—that resonates to this day and offers insights about the tenacity of belief and unchanging aspects of Japanese culture.

Tompert, Ann. **St. Valentine.**

**JUV 270.1 TOM**



“Every February 14 we exchange cards and flowers as expressions of love. Valentine’s Day is among our most popular holidays. But what do the words “Be my valentine” mean? Who was Valentine?...Ann Tompert weaves together the most enduring stories of Valentine to create a tapestry of the saint’s life... including stories of Valentine performing secret weddings for soldiers who were forbidden by law to marry, and of Valentine giving comfort to persecuted Christians...glimpses of the man whose life remains essentially a mystery.



**~From the Bishop “...**

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming...” ~from Psalm 96

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

From November 17-27, 2018, I was honored to be chosen by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton to be one of two newly elected leaders to attend a Retreat Of Newly Elected Leaders (RoNEL) sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation. The other ELCA representative was Bishop Pedro Suarez of the Florida-Bahamas Synod. The two of us joined bishops from all over the world: India, Chile, Canada, Angola, Guyana, Tanzania, Mexico, Hungary, and Poland.

The Lutheran World Federation came into existence out of a desire to respond to the overwhelming refugee crisis after World War II. With much of Europe in a shambles, millions of people were displaced. Some estimates put the number of refugees from Europe at nearly 60 million. Around 10 million of these were Lutheran Christians. Immediately after the end of the war, Lutherans around the world mobilized to provide assistance. This was the context in which LWF was founded in 1947.

We spent about five days in Geneva, Switzerland at the Ecumenical Center. The Lutheran World Federation shares space with the World Council of Churches and they partner together, where possible, for deeper and broader impact.

Some statistics: The Lutheran World Federation is a partnership representing 148 churches and 75.5 million people from Lutheran traditions in 99 countries. The three areas of their work are: 1. Service 2. Holistic Mission & Theology and 3. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations There are 75 staff people in Geneva overseeing the work of over 5000 deployed staff and volunteers. Pretty impressive.



After hearing about the work of the LWF, our group travelled to Wittenberg, Germany. There we enjoyed worship at St. Mary's church where Martin Luther had preached over 2000 sermons, and we took in the sites of the Castle Church where the 95 theses was first posted. A highlight for me was planting an apple tree as part of the Luthergarten project to observe the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. We are tree #468! I invite you to go to [www.luthergarten.de](http://www.luthergarten.de), click on the British flag for English and find more information on this project.

Martin Luther once said, "If the world were to end in disaster tomorrow, I would plant an apple tree today." In this new year, may we look for and plant signs and seeds of hope. May God bless our efforts for the work of Christ in the year of our Lord, 2019.

Yours in Christ,  
Bishop Katherine Finegan

**"All Beautiful the March of Days"**

All beautiful the march of days,  
as seasons come and go;  
the Hand that shaped the rose hath wrought  
the crystal of the snow;  
hath sent the hoary frost of heav'n,  
the flowing waters sealed,  
and laid a silent loveliness  
on hill and wood and field. ...

O Thou from whose unfathomed law  
the year in beauty flows,  
Thyself the vision passing by  
in crystal and in rose,  
day unto day doth utter speech,  
and night to night proclaim,  
in ever changing words of light,  
the wonder of Thy Name.

—Frances W. Wile



## Noisy Offering Given to Great Lakes Recovery Center

The January/ February Noisy Offering will be donated to Great Lakes Recovery. GLRC is a non-profit accredited agency specializing in substance abuse and mental health treatment for youth, families and adults. They offer treatment services by certified counselors and licensed professionals in many communities across Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

The mission of Great Lakes Recovery Centers is to empower recovery through hope and change.

Great Lakes Recovery Centers believes that chemical dependency – alcohol or other drug addiction – is a disease that affects individuals, family members, and the community. The treatment of this illness can best be addressed with an array of services provided by caring professionals involving the individual, family, and community. It is only through this comprehensive approach that long term recovery is strengthened. For more informative call (906) 228-9699 and ask for Amy Poirier at ext. 1010.

**The February Noisy Offering will go to Great Lakes Recovery Center.  
The March Noisy Offering will be given to ELCA Hunger.**



**Thanks to everyone for your generosity!**



**Pauli Kniivila is submitting one of his paintings to "Winter Charm", an exhibition which will be held at the Peter White Library during February and March.**

### **Christmas Message from Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**

On Christmas Eve there always comes a time when everything is finally still. After all the preparations and Christmas pageants, after all of the rushing, it's wonderful just to settle into that stillness and have a chance to think about the miracle of Advent and Christmas.

For me that came after the 11 o'clock candlelight service and after going home. With my husband and children in bed, I could think and settle into that stillness and marvel at the miracle that had happened.

We know that God is up to something. We long for peace, and sure enough, God comes in the form of a helpless baby in a wooden manger. In that stillness, I think of another time when we are waiting and longing. It's at the Easter vigil, when, by tradition, we feel that at the very stroke of midnight Christ was raised from the dead. This helpless man on a cross now becomes the risen Lord.

I hope and pray, dear church, that in this season of Advent and Christmas you will find time for stillness, find time to sense the expectation and the longing, but also to celebrate the miracle of God's love that has come to us in the form of a tiny baby who grows to be a human being who gives his life for us, that we might have life.

Merry Christmas, dear church.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop



## Return

Life is a journey  
the church year is a journey  
the Mass is a journey  
Lent is a journey  
from the known  
to the unknown  
and back

From the comfortable and safe  
to the new and threatening  
and back

All of these are journeys  
of transformation  
We will not emerge  
as the same people  
who entered.

All of these are journeys  
of Becoming -  
we will pass  
through the waters  
through the fire  
and step our  
transformed  
radiant  
new

None of us really  
want to leave  
our cozy hobbit holes  
and venture out  
to there and back again

But Christ beckons  
“Come”  
and God beckons  
“Return”  
and so we turn  
from the habitual  
worn path  
onto a new road  
the road  
of  
return.

By Susan Palo Cherwien, *From Glory into Glory;  
Reflections for Worship*



First write the opposite of each listed word, Then transfer letters to the correct numbered blanks to discover Jesus' messages about love.

cool	<u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u>	soft	<u>20</u> <u>21</u> <u>22</u> <u>23</u>
under	<u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u>	old	<u>24</u> <u>25</u> <u>26</u> <u>27</u> <u>28</u>
out	<u>9</u> <u>10</u>	after	<u>29</u> <u>30</u> <u>31</u> <u>32</u> <u>33</u> <u>34</u>
large	<u>11</u> <u>12</u> <u>13</u> <u>14</u> <u>15</u>	false	<u>35</u> <u>36</u> <u>37</u> <u>38</u>
quiet	<u>16</u> <u>17</u> <u>18</u> <u>19</u>		

# P U Z Z L E

" 14 5 6 7 35 20 7 15 17 36 23 24 5 18 8 28 17 23  
1 9 35 20 2 16 14 24 5 18 3 20 7 13 8 35 2 10 23  
1 9 35 20 13 14 16 24 17 37 36 11 5 18 14 2 27 19  
1 9 35 20 21 15 16 24 17 18 36 11 35 3 30 10 28 35 20  
2 10 23 1 9 35 20 21 14 16 24 5 37 8 4 9 10 23 , "  
21 27 23 16 32 6 7 24 5 18 22 10 34 9 28 20 29 17 33  
13 11 24 25 26 22 11 7 14 31 , "

## Council Highlights— January 2020



- Received letter of thanks from Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
- Building Projects: all the planned capital improvement projects are complete. There are a couple of smaller maintenance projects pending.
- 150th Anniversary Planning Committee : plans are underway for video interviews of parish members ; Bethany will be part of the 2020 historic homes tour of Ishpeming in June 2020.
- Electronic messaging system; Jim Bjerne has developed a master list of a single point of contact for each family for the cell phone text and email notifications systems. Jim is looking for an alternate person to assist with the emergency notification system.. Contact Jim or Pastor is you are interested in helping out.
- Weather cancellations also will be sent to TV6 for posting on their community calendar listing of closings.
- 2019 annual reports from each board need to handed ASAP
- Discussion about changing the date/month of the annual meeting for future years.
- Pastoral Acts: Funerals—Theodore Swanson (12/14/19), June Forsberg (12/23/19)
- Membership changes: New Members—Norm and Linda Lind, Cliff Heliste, Jennie Garrett-Bureau and Elizabeth Bureau.
- J. Kinnunen presented the financial report through December 2019 and the proposed new budget for 2020.
- Church Council Candidates: Tom Perry (Executive Director), Mark Slown (Asst Executive Director), Ann Sundblad (Stewardship), Jim Bjerne (Personnel), David Leverton (Finance), Bob Bruhnke (Property), Keenan Tunnell (Worship and Music), Jill Carter (Social Ministry), Amanda Bivins (Christian Education)
- Next meeting: February 24 @ 6:30 pm



**YTD Income \$199,430.48**

**TD Expenses: \$199,333.01**

**January—December 2019**



### **Board of Finance 2020 Paper Reduction Survey**

Included in this month's Outlook is a tri-folded piece of paper that we would like you to fill out and return to the church. The instructions on the insert are self-explanatory. If you filled one out at the Annual Meeting on Sunday January 19, 2020, you can disregard this survey. It is important to hear from our congregation on how they want to receive the Outlook, and make their annual pledges, along with offering envelopes and coin folders. Please take a minute to complete this form and attach a stamp and mail it, or you can bring it to worship and leave it in the church office. Thank you for participating in these efforts to reduce our expenses and help to save paper and protect our environment for future generations.

### **Could you make soup?**

If you would be able to help the Boards of Bethany for the soup suppers by making a pot of soup, it would be greatly appreciated. Some members have responsibilities for several boards and others find it difficult to make the soup. If you could help, please contact one of the board chairpersons and volunteer. Thank you so much.



### **Thank You from The New Free Store**

Dear Members of Bethany,

Thank you for your generous donations to the "noisy offerings" collected for The New Free Store. Your financial support and donations of monthly hygiene or cleaning products is much appreciated. We have been able to keep the doors open and the lights on thanks to your generosity. We'd like to remind you, in addition to monthly products and financial support, The New Free Store also welcomes donations of gently used clothing. At this time we are especially in need of men's long sleeve pullover shirts and sweaters. Thank you.

Judy Kitchen  
Manager of The New Free Store

## The New Free Store

The New Free Store is an interfaith non-profit group supporting people who express a need for free clothing, linens, hygiene and cleaning supplies. Anyone in need is welcome. Free things are offered as “in God’s economy there is always enough.” The Free Store is located at 1420 East M28 next to Lakestate Industries. It is open Wednesdays Noon-4PM (1st, 2nd 3rd weeks of month) and the fourth Monday of the month 6:00-8:00 pm. Facebook@thenewfreestore.

There is a collection box in our church entry. Donation requests rotate on a monthly basis.

**February: Toilet Paper (Packages of 4 rolls or 6 rolls)**  
**March: Shampoo for both males & females; Conditioner for females**

Answer  to the  
puzzle

Answer: warm, over, in, small, loud, hard, young, before, true

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and will all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind.”

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Luke 10:27, NIV



**Bethany’s Website**  
[www.bethanyishpeming.org](http://www.bethanyishpeming.org)



To view the latest edition of the Outlook in color, please visit Bethany’s website.



## Keep In Your Prayers

Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents:

**Valente:** Roy Koski

**Jacobetti:** Carol Waters

**Teal Lake Senior Living Community:** Jean Johns, Annette Larson,  
Adeline Johnson

**Mill Creek:** Marilyn Pontti, Betty Geier



- Amanda Bivins
- Family and friends of Ted Swanson who mourn his loss
- Family and friends of June Forsberg who mourn her loss
- Roy & LaVerne Koski
- Linda Dahl
- Marilyn Pontti
- Sandee Sundquist
- Jerry Plaisier
- Cindy Warner
- Loreth Johnson
- Emilie Brown
- Bob Maki
- Mark, Kathleen, and Karmen Slown
- Ray Chartre
- Roger & Ruth Solberg
- Doris Pellonpaa
- Ted Swanson
- Judy Hogan
- Mark
- Zander Atkins
- Jim Bjorne
- Angie Kempainen
- June Forsberg
- Those in the military that they may remain safe

## The Knock at His Heart



As a doctor examined a 4-year-old boy, he thought it would be interesting to let the lad listen to the beating of his own heart. With the listening device in his ears and the probe on his heart, the boy was asked, "What do you hear?"

The boy, who attended Sunday school regularly, responded, "Is that Jesus knocking?"

If you would like to make a submission, contact **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

**485-1625**  
**linkarzig@gmail.com**

Bethany Lutheran Church  
715 Mather Avenue  
Ishpeming, MI 49849

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Website: [www.bethanyishpeming.org](http://www.bethanyishpeming.org)

Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor  
Home Phone: 485-4218  
E-mail: [pastor@bethanyishpeming.org](mailto:pastor@bethanyishpeming.org)

Parish Planning Council:  
Exec. Director, Tom Perry  
Asst. Exec. Director, Mark Slown  
Christian Education, Amanda Bivins  
Finance, David Leverton  
Personnel, Jim Bjorne  
Property, Robert Bruhnke  
Social Ministry, Jill Carter  
Stewardship, Ann Sundblad  
Worship & Music, Keenan Tunnell



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Northern Great Lakes Synod

## February Worship Assistants

### February 2

Assisting Minister - Gwen Bruhnke  
Acolytes - Leo Dockery & Delanie Rhoades  
Altar - Peggy Clark & Cathy Barton  
Coffee Hosts - Barb Yunkari's group  
Flowers - In memory of our parents by Peggy  
and Bob Clark  
Nursery - Abby Bruhnke  
Bread - Linda Dahl

### February 9

Assisting Minister - Garrett Frustaglio  
Acolytes - Elizabeth Bureau & Lola  
Altar - Shirley Tyni  
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry  
Flowers - In memory of Inez Symons by  
Colleen Sundblad  
Nursery - Denise Kaukola  
Bread - Marian Medlyn

### February 16

Assisting Minister - Robert Clark  
Acolytes - Ashley Chartre & Jacob Bivins  
Altar - Kaye Frederickson  
Coffee Hosts - Volunteers  
Flowers -  
Nursery - Faith Cain  
Bread - Terra Frustaglio

### February 23

Assisting Minister - Terra Frustaglio  
Acolytes - Reid Frustaglio & James  
Grigg  
Altar - Sue Holmgren  
Coffee Hosts - Worship & Music  
Flowers - In honor of our grandchildren  
by Tony & Rae Elliot  
Nursery - Sabrina Bordeaux  
Bread - Judy Kitchen

Dockery

### February 26 Ash Wednesday

Assisting Minister - Laverne Koski  
Acolytes - Faith Cain & Luke Holmgren  
Altar - Sue Holmgren  
Bread - Ray & Barb Yunkari

### February Ushers:

John Beerling  
Jerry Hager  
Bill Heavyside  
Don Meyer  
Dan Sleeman  
Bob Bruhnke  
Rick Rhoades



*Thank You!*

## *Happy Birthday!*

- 2 William Heavyside
- 2 Joshua Niemela
- 2 Aili Toivonen
- 3 Sharon Argall
- 3 Megan Barton
- 4 Eric Beinlich
- 4 Victoria Rankin
- 6 Zoe Argall
- 7 Rachel Argall
- 8 Kelly Anderson
- 8 Kayla Koski
- 9 Carrie Goldsworthy
- 9 Kenneth Carlson
- 11 Abigail Bruhnke
- 11 Renee Rankin
- 11 Diana Sandstrom
- 11 Roy Koski
- 13 Linda Bertucci
- 13 Harriet Maki
- 13 Debbie Snell
- 14 Thomas Varda
- 15 Rae Elliot
- 16 Kenneth Johnson
- 18 John Beerling
- 18 Michael Flynn
- 18 Lindsey Drebenstedt
- 19 Marvin Toivonen
- 20 Jacob Bivins
- 23 Seth Bjorne
- 23 Denise Kaukola
- 23 Victoria Mattson
- 24 Ethan Argall
- 26 Linda Hurrell
- 26 Karen Kasper
- 27 John Carlson
- 27 Garrett Frustaglio



## *Happy Anniversary!*

George & Barb Holmgren  
2/12/65          55 years

Jerry & Roberta Luokkala  
2/13/1971      48 years

James & Holly Bjorne  
2/14/1981      38 years



## March Worship Assistants

### March 1

Assisting Minister - Robert Nadeau  
Acolytes - Jacob Bivina & Leo Dockery  
Altar - Debbie Cain  
Coffee Hosts - Christian Ed  
Nursery - Abby Bruhnke  
Bread - Kathy Geier

### March 8

Assisting Minister - Abbi Bruhske  
Acolytes - Luke Holmgren & Elizabeth Bureau  
Altar -  
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry  
Nursery - Denise Kaukola  
Bread - Shirley Tyni

### March 15

Assisting Minister - Rick Rhoades  
Acolytes - Reid Frustaglio & James Grigg  
Altar -  
Coffee Hosts - Stewardship  
Nursery - Faith Cain  
Bread - Kaye Frederickson

### March 22

Assisting Minister - Kay Ryan  
Acolytes - Ashley Chartre & Brady Johnson  
Altar -  
Coffee Hosts -  
Nursery - Sabrina Bordeaux  
Bread - Kay Chartre

### March 29

Assisting Minister - Wendy Penhale  
Acolytes - Delanie Rhoades & Lola Dockery  
Altar -  
Coffee Hosts - Property  
Nursery - Abby Bruhnle  
Bread - Rae Elliot  
Youth Usher—

### March Ushers:

Bob Nadeau  
John Carlson  
Tom Brown  
Maurice Hansen  
Tom Sodergren  
Greg Stahlmann  
Don Hurrell  
Jim Penhale



### April Ushers:

Bruce Bussone  
Tom Perry  
Jim Kinnunen  
Craig Kitchen  
Jerry Plaisier  
Knut Strom  
Doug Carter

*Thank You!*

## *Happy Birthday!*

- 1 Carol Carlson
- 2 Carol Heavyside
- 3 Heidi Sweet
- 4 Marvin Swanson
- 4 Calvin Bertucci
- 5 Addy Lemire
- 7 Alexandra Kitchen
- 7 Evelyn Valente
- 8 Terra Frustaglio
- 8 Roberta Luokkala
- 9 Gwen Bruhnke
- 10 Rick Dault
- 11 Brett Sandstrom
- 12 Robert Clark
- 12 Trisha Gugin
- 14 William Carne
- 15 Jamie Healey
- 15 Beverly Matherne
- 16 Joshua Argall
- 16 Derek Meyer
- 17 Beth Bertucci
- 18 Peggy Clark
- 19 Sue Ryan
- 21 Gregory Stahlmann
- 22 Nicholas Chartre
- 24 Patricia Nault
- 25 Robert Kaukola
- 25 Joseph Lemire
- 27 Gavin Argall
- 28 Kimberly Marks
- 28 Doris Pellonpaa
- 28 Donna Stahlmann



- 29 Chad Anderson
- 29 Catherine Barton
- 29 Marie Chilman
- 29 Kenneth Lawson
- 30 Sharla Riutta
- 31 Benjamin Bruhnke
- 31 Lois Goethe

## *Happy Anniverary!*

David & Amanda Bivins  
3/2/02            18 years

Richard & Jamie Rhoades  
3/21/03           17 years

