In Celebration of the Life of
Theodore Bronson
October 21, 1933 – April 13, 2021
GATHERING

Opening Meditation  
*The Lord’s My Shepherd*  
*BROTHER JAMES’ AIR*  
Melody by James MacBeth Bain  
Setting by Stephen Mager

Gathering  
[ELW page 279]

Thanksgiving for Baptism  
[ELW page 280]

Apostolic Greeting

*The presiding minister greets the assembly:*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*Assembly*  
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day  
[ELW page 281]

Remarks  
Nicole Conoyer
**First Reading**

Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9

The souls of the just are in the hands of God, and no affliction will ever touch them. To the eyes of fools they seem to be dead; their departure will be interpreted as a defeat, and their going away will be considered a disaster—but they have found peace!

For though to mortals they may have suffered punishment, their hope is in life everlasting, and after a time of trial they will receive great blessings, because God has tested them and found them worthy.

God purified them like gold in a crucible and found them as acceptable as a whole burnt offering on the altar. When their time of judgment comes they will shine and will sweep over the world like sparks through the chaff.

They will be appointed as judges and leaders over all nations and peoples, and the Holy One will be their Sovereign forever.

Those who have put their trust in God will find that this is all true, and those who are faithful will dwell in God's love.

These are God's chosen ones, and grace and mercy belong to them.

**Psalmody**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*  
*SAINT COLUMBA*  
[Paraphrase of Psalm 23]

1 & 2. All  3. High voices  4. Low voices  5 & 6. All

High voices = soprano/alto  Low voices = tenor/bass

[See Facing Page.]
The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1 The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
   I nothing lack if soul he leadeth and, where the verdant
   love he sought me, and on his shoulder Lord, beside me, thy rod and staff my

2 Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed
   I am his and he is mine for ever.
   pastures grow, with food celestial feed eth.
   gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in
   comfort still; thy cross before to guide me.
   and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

4 In death’s dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear
   And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.
   Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.
Second Reading

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Holy Gospel

Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Homily

The Rev. Dr. William Yancey
Pastor, Bethel Lutheran Church

In the Hymn of the Day we proclaim the word of God in song.

The assembly is invited to stand at the final phrase of the introduction.
Hymn of the Day

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

[ELW #742]

CONVERSE

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?

What a privilege to carry every thing to God in prayer!
We should never be discouraged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Precious Savior, still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith-ful who will all our sorrows share?
Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

all because we do not car-ry every thing to God in prayer!
Jesus knows our ev-ery weak-ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.
Prayers of the Church

*After each portion of the prayers:*

God of mercy.
Hear our prayer.

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven,
  hallowed be your name,
  your kingdom come,
  your will be done,
  on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
  as we forgive those
  who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
  and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
  and the glory are yours,
  now and forever. Amen.

**Meditation Anthem**

from *Cantata BWV 147*
Chorale, *Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring*
Setting by Johann Sebastian Bach

Originally from *Cantata BWV 147* for the festival of the Visitation, this famous chorale extols Christ’s presence among us. The original words begin, “Jesu bleibet meine Freude” – Jesus remains my joy!

Jesu, joy of our desiring,
Holy wisdom, love most bright;
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light.

Word of God, our flesh that fashioned,
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown,
Soaring, sighing round Thy throne.

**SENDING**

**Commendation**
Recessional

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

GROSSER GOTT

[ELW #414]

1 Holy God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we bow before you. All on earth your scepter claim,

2 Hark! The celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising; cherubim and seraphim,

3 Lo, the apostolic train join your sacred name to hal low; prophets swell the glad refrain,

4 Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you, though in essence only one;

all in heaven above adore you. Infinite your vast domain, everlasting is your reign.

in unceasing chorus praising, fill the heavens with sweet accord: "Holy, holy, holy Lord!"

and the white-robed martyrs follow; and from morn to set of sun through the church the song goes on.

undivided God we claim you and, adoring. bend the knee while we own the mystery.
Dismissal

Postlude

*Christ, the Life of All the Living*

_JESUS, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN_

Organ chorale by Johann Sebastian Bach

Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe;
Christ, yourself for me once giving
To the darkest depths of woe:
Through your suffering, death, and merit,
Life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
Dearest Jesus, unto you.

* * * * *

_Ted’s family invites you to join them at Memorial Park in Brentwood to share refreshments and remembrances._

Memorials may be made to:

Habitat for Humanity St. Charles County  
Attn: Loren  
2041 Trade Center  
St. Peters, MO 63376

Habitat for Humanity St. Louis  
Attn: Ben  
3830 South Grand Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63118
Worship Leaders:
The Rev. Dr. William Yancey, Celebrant and Preacher
Julie Valencia, First Lector
Robin Morgan, Second Lector
Sherman Lee, Audio Engineer
Nathan Schroeder, Audio Engineer

Musicians:
Members of Bethel Chancel Choir
Dr. Stephen Mager, Organist and Music Director

Bethel
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. William L. Yancey, Pastor
Stephen Mager, DM, Organist and Music Director

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