

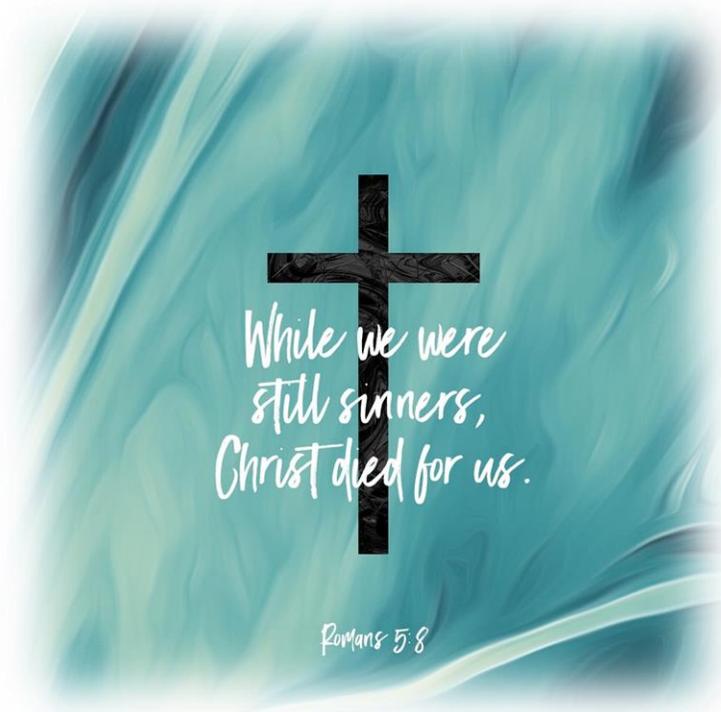
Bay Pines Lutheran

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

7589 113th Lane, Seminole, FL 33772

baypineslutheranchurch.org

727.391.1810



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If you'd like to connect with one of our ministers, please don't hesitate to give them a call/text/email at your convenience; they'd consider it a blessing to meet with you. Thanks!

Proclaiming Christ in Pinellas County

The First Weekend in Lent

February 20 & 21, 2021

In the name of Jesus, our Savior & Lord, welcome!
Whether it's your first time with us or Bay Pines is
your church home, we're glad you're here! If you :



- . . . have questions, please ask – we'll do our best to answer;
- . . . need the restrooms, they're in the hallway just off the north-east corner of our sanctuary (so, if you face the altar up front, look back and left);
- . . . can stick around after worship, we'd love to get to know you;
- . . . would like a call from one of our staff, they'd love to meet with you!

If you brought young children today, thank you! Please know :

- . . . their wiggles don't bother us (their wiggles don't bother Jesus, either);
- . . . you can sit up front where their little eyes & ears can see & hear easier;
- . . . we love to hear them sing, pray, and speak along, and this is a great setting to help them respond to church, to God, and to one another;
- . . . you're free to step out of the service if you need to (both the men's and women's restrooms have changing tables, and there's a cry-room adjacent the restrooms as well); but please come back – we'd love for you and for your family to feel at home in God's house!

To adore the God of Order in a fitting and orderly way (*1 Corinthians 14:33, 40*), our path of worship is printed in this booklet. With hearts attune to God's Word and in awe of it, we hear Jesus' call to ***“worship the Lord your God, and serve him only”*** (*Matthew 4:10*); and consider the worship theme:

God For Us.

Opening Song : A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (RED HYMNAL, 200, vv. 1-3)

Such bold confidence – even as we observe Lent! At the heart, core & focus is our Savior!



***A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That has us now o'er-taken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.***

***With might of ours can naught be done;
Soon were our loss effected.
But for us fights the valiant one
Whom God himself elected.
You ask, "Who is this?"
Jesus Christ it is,
The almighty Lord.
And there's no other God;
He holds the field forever!***

***Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not over-pow'r us.***



***This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done!
One little word can fell him.***

The Invocation

Jesus promises that when we gather in his name, he's here to bless and be with us.

Minister : In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

All : **Amen!**

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us

The Acknowledgment of our Wrongs

Sin offends God. Always. Aware of our own sin, we ask him for his forgiveness.

Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake. Amen!

*A moment of silence to recognize our own, individual sins
and our own, deep need for forgiveness.*

The Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Jesus lived, died, and rose to forgive the world's sins. In grace, you've been set free!

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen!

The Prayer of the Day

This petition appreciates Jesus' full forgiveness and asks for his guidance and blessing.

Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. But we praise you for the victory you give us. By your Spirit, keep us steadfast in your Word; when we fall, raise us up again; and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord – he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen!



***The Word they still shall let remain,
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain***



***With his good gifts and Spirit.
And do what they will –
Hate, steal, hurt, or kill –
Though all may be gone,
Our victory is won;
The kingdom's ours forever!***

A Childlike Illustration : God is On Our Side

This illustration & devotion are geared for the children & child-like with us today.

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

A Reading from the Old Testament : Genesis 22:1-18

Marvel at the love on display – not just a man's love for his son, but a man's love for his God who gave Isaac to Abraham. And then marvel at the love of God that provides a substitute.

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

² Then God said, **"Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."**

POINT TO PONDER :

Amazing faith on display. But God hasn't called us to make the sacrifice of Abraham. Still, what has he called us sacrifice for him?

³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. **We will worship and then we will come back to you.**”

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?”

“Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

⁸ Abraham answered, “**God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.**” And the two of them went on together.

⁹ When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

¹² “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

¹³ Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. **He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.** ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

¹⁵ The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶ and said, “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸ **and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.**”

A Reading from the Gospels : Mark 1:12-15

Jesus wastes no time getting after the work of our redemption. Immediately after his baptism, he's sent into battle against sin. Eagerly he goes. So great is his love for us!

² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ **and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan.** He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. **“The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”**

POINT TO PONDER :

Today's worship theme is “God for us.”

Identify how that theme connects to this Gospel reading.

This is the gospel of our Lord!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Statement of Faith : The Nicene Creed

This polemic creed defends against false doctrines that attack Jesus' total Deity and total humanity. As we state our faith, note the "God for us in all things" emphasis.

Christians, in whom do we believe?

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

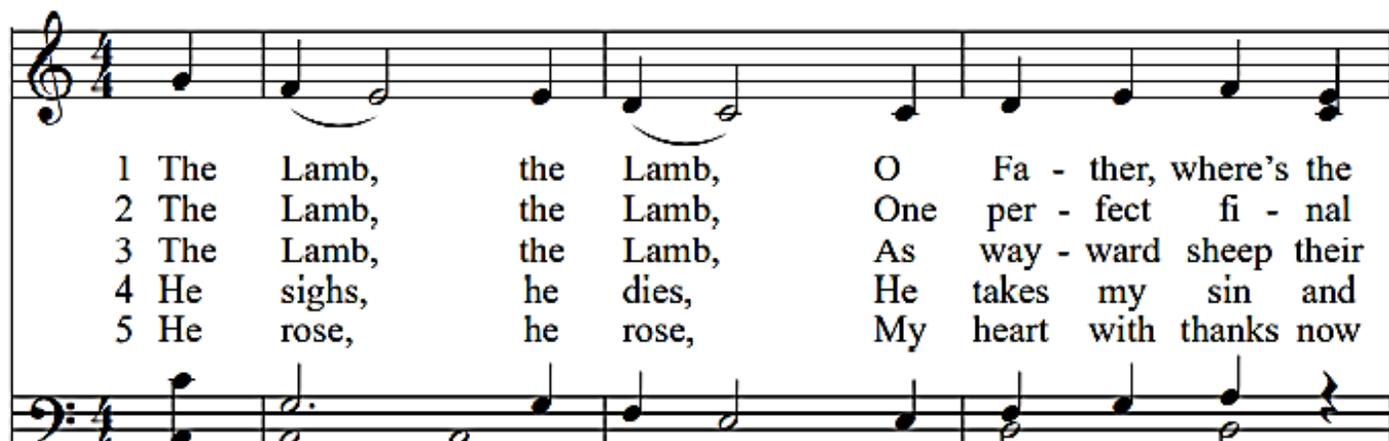
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Sung Response : The Lamb (BLUE HYMNAL, 399)

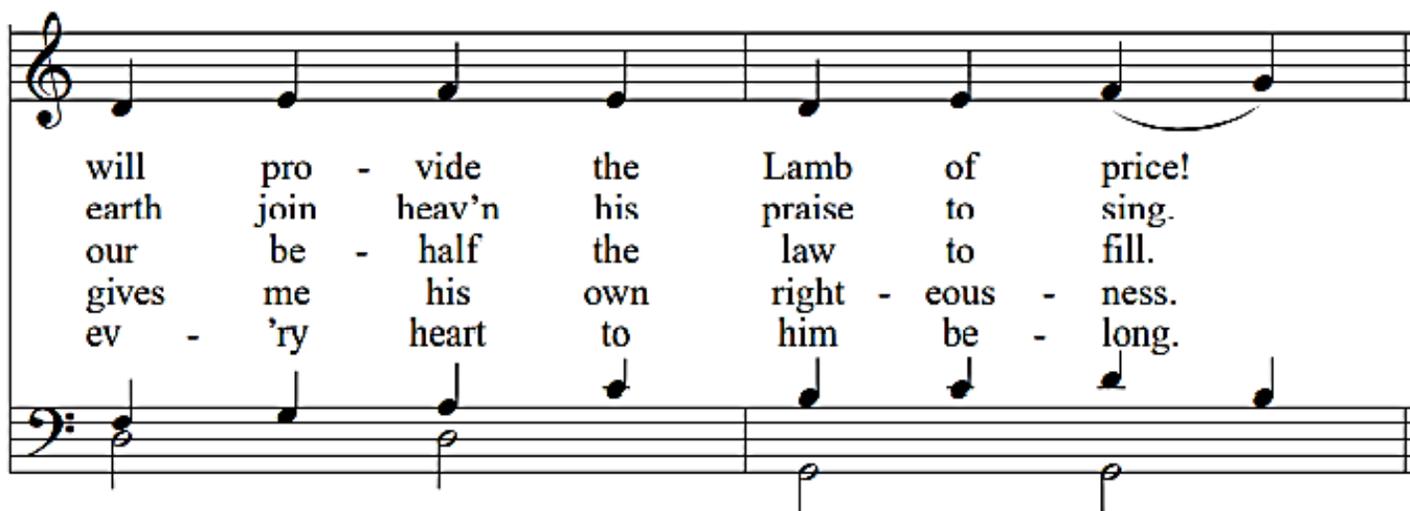
This song is both somber and stunning as, with it, our hearts get to ponder faith's obedience, God's grace, and the Lamb at the center of heaven's throne on whom it all revolves.



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the
2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal
3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their
4 He sighs, he dies, He takes my sin and
5 He rose, he rose, My heart with thanks now



sac - ri - fice? Faith sees, be - lieves God
of - fer - ing. The Lamb, the Lamb, Let
shep - herd kill So still, his will, On
wretch - ed - ness. He lives, for - gives, He
o - ver - flows. His song pro - long 'Til



will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
earth join heav'n his praise to sing.
our be - half the law to fill.
gives me his own right - eous - ness.
ev - 'ry heart to him be - long.

Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me his

Refrain

Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me his

own! The Lamb is reign - ing on his throne.

own! The Lamb is reign - ing on his throne.

A Sermon Founded on : Romans 8:31-39

Paul's encouragement to Christians depicts the confidence we have – every day! – because God's heart is favorably disposed toward us. In love, he has saved us; in love he sustains us!

What, then, shall we say in response to this? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who

justifies. ³⁴ Who then is he that condemns? **Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.** ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

*“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LENT AWARE!

Sung Response : Create In Me a Clean Heart (*RED HYMNAL, PAGE 20*)

A stunning little melody that praises God for his love and prays God keep us in his care.



***Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
And uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen!***

GOD ACCEPTS OUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS

The Offering (THANK YOU FOR USING THE AISLE BASKET FOR PHYSICAL OFFERINGS, & QR CODE FOR DIGITAL)

Concerning the offering, the Lord says “each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (II Cor. 9:7); whether the Gospel moves your heart to support our ministry with a gift, a prayer, a help, or an encouragement – thank you; please know we appreciate you for it!



A note to worshippers about the practice of “Member Communion” :



As we prepare to celebrate our Lord’s Supper, we respectfully ask that guests to Bay Pines would please speak with Pastor Stern before coming to Communion. This practice is not an attempt to judge anyone’s heart, but it does stem from the Bible’s stress on the importance of a clear understanding of what this Supper is (I Cor. 11), as well as the importance of the clear, outward confession of unity it displays (I Cor. 10, et al.). Please understand this is done in loving respect for our Lord and for all people; and, please do feel free to speak with Pastor if you have any questions about it.

In the meanwhile, thank you for understanding and respecting the importance of our Lord’s commands; be assured that, though we might not yet gather together at the Lord’s Table, ***all of your sins are forgiven in the Gospel message!***

GOD INVITES US

The Lord’s Prayer and our Prayer

God lovingly invites us talk with him & lay our hearts before him in prayer. So, we do!

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.

*A moment to offer today's prayer requests &
a moment of silence to offer our own, private prayers.*

GOD INVITES US

The Sacrament

Happily, we celebrate God's grace, ponder his peace, receive his Supper with thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree

of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Sung Response : The Sanctus (FROM PAGE 22 IN THE FRONT PART OF THE RED HYMNAL)

With ancient accolades (Is. 6 & Mt. 21) we glorify the Holy (“Sanctus”) One: Jesus.



Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts:

Heav’n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he

Who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

The Consecration, Distribution, and Reception of the Lord’s Supper

*The Words of Institution are not a magical formula. But they do serve as a “**prayer** that the Lord may do what he’s promised . . . as a **confession** that the body and blood of Christ are present in the Sacrament, and as an **invitation** to the communicants to make Jesus’ promise their own through faith” (God So Loved the World, 505).*

In Holy Communion God gives us a unique opportunity to publicly confess our unity of faith. He also gives us a tangible reassurance that it was his body and blood – not ours – which paid the ransom price for the world’s sins and sealed our salvation. With joy in our hearts and with hearts prepared to receive him, we hear and remember the words our Savior spoke:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, **“Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, **“Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen!

Sung Response : The Agnus Dei *(FROM PAGE 23 IN THE FRONT PART OF THE RED HYMNAL)*

Jesus is the Lamb of God (“Agnus Dei”); so we plead to and praise him for his mercy.



***O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.***

***O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.***

***O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace. Amen.***

In place of singing a hymn today, worshippers may find it wise to self-examine their own hearts using the Spirit Inspired of Psalms 34, 46, 51, and/or 111.

Sung Response : The Song of Thanksgiving *(FROM PAGE 24 IN THE FRONT PART OF THE RED HYMNAL)*

This song of thanks ponders the blessing and reality of the Supper – and give gratitude!



***Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace
According to your Word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
Which you have prepared before
The face of all people,
A light to lighten the Gentiles
And the glory of your people Israel.***

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

And his mercy endures forever!

Almighty God, you have refreshed us with this holy supper. Thank you! Through it, please continue to strengthen our faith in you and to increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord; he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen!

GOD ASSURES US

Concluding Benediction

Where the LORD's name is, there his blessing also is. Refreshed by his goodness, gifts, and grace, our service concludes with his promise to bless and be with us (Numbers 6).

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look on you with favor (†) and give you peace.

Amen!

Final Anthem : Rise, Shine, You People (*RED HYMNAL, 556*)

Aware of God's love for us – on such display in Lent! – we get to leave today delighted in God's love for us and strengthened for a life and week ahead that lives aware of his mercy.



***Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
Our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
With grace unbounded.***

***See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
Now are forgiven.***

***Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
Of Jesus' glory.***

***Tell how the Father sent his Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from every nation
His new creation.***



Bay Pines' Ministry Announcements :

for our prayers (please remember the family of these dear friends, too):

- our family and friends who battle everything from colds to COVID to cancers
- Cyndi Priebe, as she deals with her health hurdles
- Jim Smith (Charmeine's son), as he deals with a bout of cancer
- Mary Meinke as she deals with a bout against cancer
- Eva Kiss, as she enjoys daily grace against daily struggles
- Ken Gerard and his step-daughter, Adrien, (both relatives of Donna Wareheim), as they deal with their own, individual health situations
- Sean and Wendy (friends of Chuck Woodard) who are at a strange places in life right now
- KJ (the infant-grandson of an acquaintance of Bobbie & Jim Wilson) who is in a medically induced coma
- Patricia Whitaker (the friend of Sarah & Craig Jewell), who enjoys grace sufficient even as she endures physical health hurdles
- our nation & world, for healing in God's grace and confidence of God's glory
- our ministry in church, school, & life as we go forth with the gospel!
 - additionally, our sanctuary is open at 10:30a on Wednesdays for a midweek prayer-opportunity. Please speak with Chuck Woodard if you're interested in joining, or if you have any prayer requests.

in our gratitude :

- each of you for being here to encourage with the gospel, and for going out to share the news of Jesus with others. We're grateful for your mission work!

- Sharon Mueller for edifying our worship with music
- the Priebe, Cicco, Woodard & Dryden families for cleaning & lawn-care
- our tech crew for their making the service available online
- all who help with **Feeding God's People** (food is available in the altar kitchen & hallway just west of the sanctuary)
- Ms. Eva Kiss, who is happy to help running errands for others (please feel free to give her a call: 808.457.9703)
- all who make use of the **SCRIP** program as a blessing for our ministry (for more info on **SCRIP**, or to purchase the gift cards, please speak with Sarah Sell and/or Mary Dryden; to date, our ministry has benefited by SCRIP to a tune of just over \$6,700. And we're thankful).

on our calendars (please email additional dates to mary.dryden@baypineslutheran.org) :

- worship opportunities :
 - Saturdays at 6:00p
 - Sundays at 9:30a
 - Wednesdays:
 - No-music, simple-devotion at 3:30p (masks required)
 - Chapel-style devotional service at 6:30p (masks required)
- spiritual growth opportunities :
 - Ladies' Bible Class : Mondays at 6:30p
 - *The Pieces of Peace* : Thursdays at 10a & Sundays at 8:30a
 - the current *Forward in Christ* magazines & *Meditations* devotion booklets are available on table in the back of the sanctuary
- next Call meeting : Feb. 28
- next board of ed meeting: Mar. 2
- next council meeting : Mar. 8
- next congregational meeting : April 18

