

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting 3

Rev. Molly Wills, Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist
GivePlus Text 866-298-7547

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude "Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. Melody Bober

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love" arr. Nancy Raabe

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,...Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John...now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Gathering Song "All Are Welcome" (insert)

(This song by Dakota Road correlates with the reading from Acts 10:44-48)

Greeting (ELW p. 138) (front of red Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal)

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

Kyrie (ELW p. 138) In peace, let us pray to the Lord...**Lord, have mercy...**

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 140) **This is the feast...**

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you and joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 10:44-48 (back page) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98 (read responsively/insert)

1 John 5:1-6 (back page)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 142)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?...

The Gospel according to John the fifteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 15:9-17 (back pg. or insert) The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" ELW #712

Apostles Creed (ELW p. 105)

Prayers of the People God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Passing of the Peace The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offertory "Jesus Love Me" (Chime Choir)

Offertory Prayer

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 144)

Preface for the Day (ELW p. 144) **Holy, holy, holy Lord...**

Lord's Prayer (p. 145)

Communion (ELW p. 146) **Lamb of God...**

Communion Hymn "Beautiful Savior" ELW #838

Prayer after Communion

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always.

Amen.

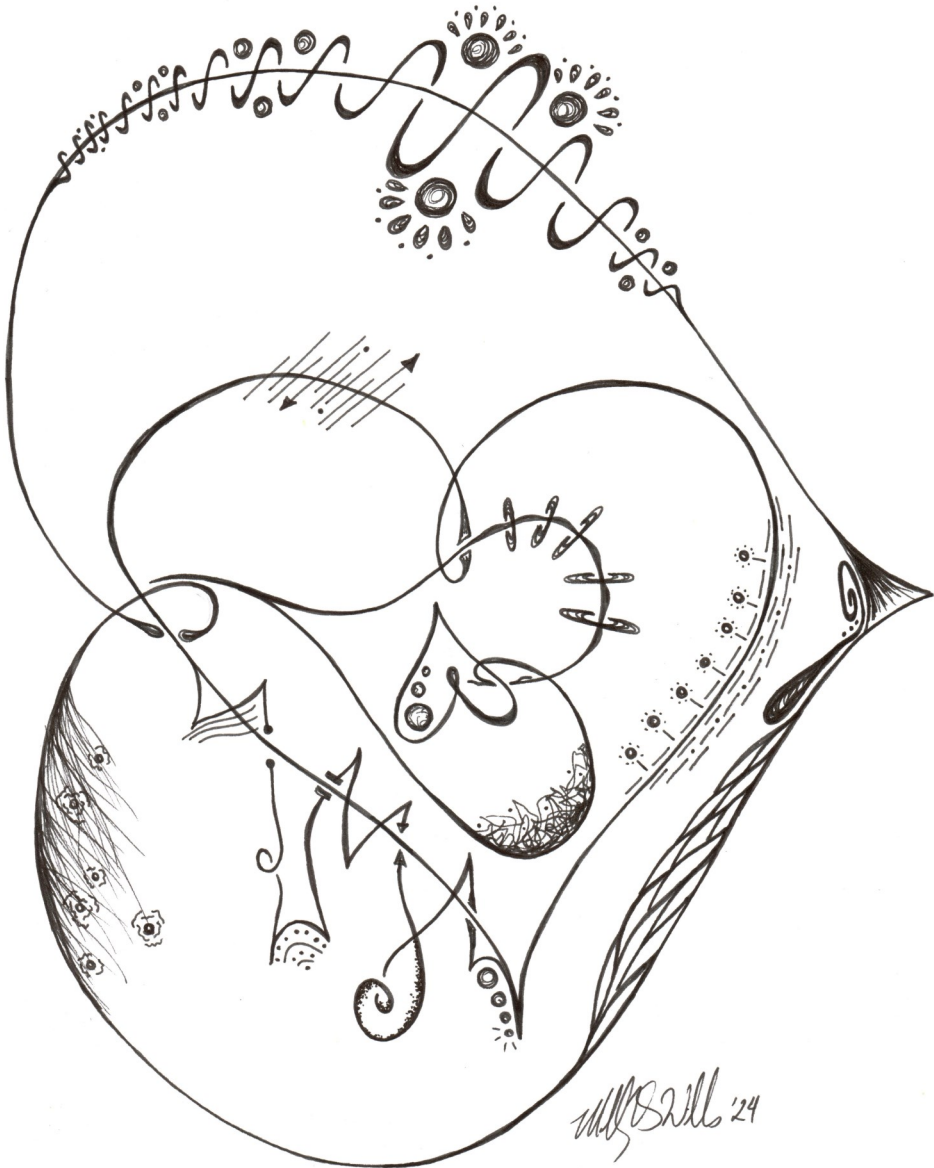
Sending Song "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" ELW #836

Sending Words Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" arr. Michael Costello

Spirit Art
A Meditative Study of Scripture through Art
John 15:9-17



"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you;
abide in my love." John 15:9

Psalm 98 (read responsively)

¹O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

²The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

⁸Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

⁹at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Gospel Reading: John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than

this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Hymn Notes

"Jesus Love Me" is a Christian hymn written by Anna Bartlett Warner (1827-1915). The lyrics first appeared as a poem in the context of an 1860 novel called *Say and Seal*, written by her older sister, Susan Warner (1819-1885), in which the words were spoken as a comforting poem to a dying child. The tune was added in 1862 by William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868). Along with his tune, Bradbury added his own chorus "Yes, Jesus love me, Yes, Jesus love me..." After publication as a song it became one of the most popular Christian hymns in churches around the world, especially among children. (From Wikipedia) You may wish to meditate on the words of the hymn during the offertory today. (ELW #595)

WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION STATEMENT—Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS? Please contact the church office at 320-395-2125 or bethellutheranlp@gmail.com. For emergency pastoral care needs, please call Pastor Molly Wills at 320-339-8169 or email pastor@lpbethel.org. **BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Wednesdays at noon. **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** 25th of the month. **CHURCH ADDRESS:** 77 Lincoln AVE N, PO Box 207, Lester Prairie, MN 55354

SIMPLY GIVING offers convenience for you and much needed consistency for Bethel! If you have any questions, contact Stacy Meyer, Financial Secretary, at finsec@lpbethel.org. **TEXT GIVING:** To give text dollar amount to **866-298-7547**

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES AVAILABLE—speak to an usher for assistance.
LARGE PRINT HYMNS AVAILABLE—contact the office if you are interested.

THIS WEEK..

SUNDAY, MAY 5 (6 EASTER)

- Sunday School/Adult Education: following worship

MONDAY, MAY 6

- Bible study: 1:30 pm
- Council meeting: 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

- Worship Committee meeting: 2:00 pm
- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

THURSDAY, MAY 9 (ASCENSION OF OUR LORD)

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 12 (7 EASTER) HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

- Worship: 9:00 am w/ Graduate Recognition
- Sunday School/Confirmation class/Adult Education/Graduate Reception: following worship

A Community Breakfast will be served by the Lester Prairie Lions at the LP City Hall on TODAY, from 9:00 am-Noon. Serving: pancakes, eggs, sausage, toast, juice and coffee. Free will donation. Proceeds support local Lions projects.

Women's Retreat meeting: May 16, at 6:30 pm, help plan this incredible fall event !

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

May Book Club: *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides—A shocking psychological thriller of a woman's act of violence against her husband—and of the therapist obsessed with uncovering her motive. Discussion date: Wed., May 15, 7:30 pm

Cemetery lawn mowing job: The Cemetery Committee is looking for someone to mow both cemeteries this summer. This is a paid position. Contact Jerry Christenson or Mary Lou Teubert for more information or if you are interested in the job.

Please sign up to help spring clean in and around our church! A cleaning job list is in the narthex. Sign up for one or more jobs to do at your convenience. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated! Many hands make light work!

Fellowship by the Fire: June 26, July 24, & August 21. The evening will begin at 6:00 pm outside by the fire pit. WELCA will supply hotdogs and buns. Please bring a dish to share, your lawn chairs and games.

Annual Bergen Church Site Worship service on Sunday, June 30: Join us for our annual worship service in the country where the old church once was at 10:00 am followed by a potluck picnic. Bring lawn chairs or a blanket, lawn games, and a dish to share. This worship service will be the only one on this day and note the time change. See the May newsletter for directions to the Bergen Church site.

The church has some items to give away. 1) Seven available 3 ft. X 5 ft. workstation rubber mats used on the kitchen floor during our Lutefisk dinners. 2) One black L-shaped office desk from the pastor's office. It has been taken apart and put in the garage—everything is there to put it back together. 3) One fan, used in the basement window to cool the furnace room, known as the dishwashing room for Lutefisk dinners. If you are interested in any of these items contact Bryon Weisenburger at 320-282-4747.

Save the dates! WELCA sponsored Women's Bible Study—June 5, 12, 19, 26! 7-8 pm, meet at the fire pit, we'll explore scriptures, share personal experiences, & encourage each other in fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend! Questions? Ask Jan Smith

Pop-Up Choir: This summer, we are exploring the idea of a "Pop-Up" choir on the second Sunday of the month. The plan is for anyone interested in singing in the choir to come to church at 8:15 on Sunday morning (June 9, July 14, August 11), to rehearse a song with other music lovers, and then to sing the selection during worship that day. Individuals can participate as much as they want over the summer months. If you have questions, ask Emily Koehler or Jan Smith.