**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Rev. Molly Wills, Pastor | Jan Smith, Accompanist

Palm Sunday | Sunday, April 13, 2025

ELW Holy Communion Setting 10

**SPIRIT ART**

**A meditative study of scripture through art.**

**Luke 19:29-40**

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**GATHERING**

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

Meditation time All Glory Laud and Honor arr. by Paul Manz/Jason D. Payne

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna arr. by Stan Pethel (Bethel Brass)

Welcome & Announcements

call to worship song *Blessed Is the One*(purple hymnal #929, repeat)

Confession, Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.** Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God’s abiding love. Compassionate One, **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant on all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God’s arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God’s house forever. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**  *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* (red hymnal #344)

Greeting (red ELW p. 203)

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 (red ELW p. 203) Have mercy on us, Lord…**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE (red ELW p. 204) Glory be to God in heaven…**

Prayer of the Day

**Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**CHOIR** Lift High the Palms by Joseph M. Martin

**WORD**

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

FIRST Reading: Zechariah 9:9-17

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. 11 As for you also because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. 13 For I have bent Judah as my bow; I have made Ephraim its arrow. I will arouse your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and wield you like a warrior’s sword. 14 Then the Lord will appear over them, and his arrow go forth like lightning; the Lord God will sound the trumpet and march forth in the whirlwinds of the south. 15 The Lord of hosts will protect them, and they shall consume and conquer the slingers; they shall drink their blood like wine and be full like a bowl, drenched like the corners of the altar. 16 On that day the Lord their God will save them, for they are the flock of his people, for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land. 17 For what goodness and beauty are his! Grain shall make the young men flourish, and new wine the young women.

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

Psalm: Psalm 95:1-7 (read responsively)

1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
**2 Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**3 For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.
**4 In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**5 The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.
**6 Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker.**7 For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, 10 so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

Gospel Acclamation (red ELW p. 205) **We are turning, Lord…**

Gospel:  Luke 19:29-40 The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

29 When [Jesus] had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, 30 saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 31 If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ” 32 So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” 34 They said, “The Lord needs it.” 35 Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. 36 As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. 37 Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, 38 saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” 39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” 40 He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON SERMON**

Hymn of the Day *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* (red hymnal #763)

apostles’ Creed (red ELW p. 206)

Prayers of intercession God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

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

**MEAL**

**God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.**

offering Hosanna by Carl Tuttle arr. by Patricia Cota Sanders (Chimes)

OfferING Prayer

**Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ**. **Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING (red ELW p. 206)**

**The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.**

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (**red ELW **p. 207)**

Thanksgiving at the Table

God of our weary years… we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection… now and forever. **Amen.**

lord’s prayer (red ELW p. 208)

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (red ELW p. 208)

SONG during communion *For the Bread Which You Have Broken* (red hymnal #494)

Prayer after Communion

**SENDING**

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

Blessing

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending SONG *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!* (red hymnal #346)

Dismissal Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude Trumpet Tune by Jason D. Payne

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NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS: Is 65:17-25; Ps 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Cor 15:19-26; John 20:1-18

**WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH! WE’RE GLAD YOU’RE HERE!**

***If you are new to Bethel, here is some helpful worship information****: We use the ELW (red hymnal) and the supplement ACS (purple hymnal), which contain liturgy and hymns. Liturgy pages are at the front of each hymnal, with the page numbers at the bottom and in the bulletin as (red ELW p.) or (purple ACS p.) Hymn pages are in the back two-thirds of the hymnals, with the page numbers at the top and in the bulletin as (red hymnal #) or (purple hymnal #). The songs from the Green Book are in the bulletin as (green binder #).*

***Hearing assistive devices are available;*** *speak to an usher for assistance.*

**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.

**HOLY WEEK AT BETHEL**

Palm Sunday, April 13

* Sunday school and Confirmation class: after worship

Monday, April 14

* Council meeting: 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16

* Choir practice: 6:30 p.m.
* Book club discussion: 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 17

* Foot washing (optional) and Agape Meal: 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18

* Worship: 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20

* Worship: 9:00 a.m.
* Easter Brunch: following worship

**QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS?** Contact the church office at 320-395-2125 or bethellutheranlp@gmail.com. For Pastoral emergencies, call Pastor Molly Wills at 320-339-8169 or email pastor@lpbethel.org.

**ADDRESS:** 77 Lincoln AVE N, Lester Prairie, MN 55354, (Mailing USPS: PO Box 207)

**WEBSITE**: [www.lpbethel.org](http://www.lpbethel.org)

**FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/lpbethel

**BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Wednesdays at noon

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** 25th of the month

**ONLINE GIVING:** Scan the QR code

**TEXT GIVING:** To give, text dollar amount to **866-298-7547**

**SIMPLY GIVING** offers convenience for you and much-needed consistency for Bethel! For more information, contact Stacy Meyer, Financial Secretary, at finsec@lpbethel.org.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

* **EASTER FLOWERS:** Please sign up to order flowers [and indicate your preferred flower type and designation] by today. Please make your checks payable to Bethel Lutheran and give your money to Judy Angvall.
* **PAINT FACTORY EVENT:**Ladies 15 years and up, please join us for a private event at the Paint Factory in Hutchinson on Monday, April 21, at 6:30 p.m. You do not need to be a member of Bethel to participate. Please sign up and pay for this event by today. Please make your checks payable to Bethel WELCA and give your $35 fee to Jill Duncan.
* **PERSONAL CARE KITS:** Thank you to all who donated personal care kit items for Lutheran World Relief! Thanks to your generosity, we were able to assemble 20 kits!
* **WELCA EASTER PROJECT:** During the Easter season, WELCA will facilitate a collection of specific food items to donate to the McLeod County Common Cup Ministry. We encourage you to bring **applesauce** (cups or pouches), **instant breakfast bottles, juice boxes**, and **fruit cups** and place them in the collection containers in the narthex. These items will support the Weekend Food Program, which assists McLeod County families in need. Children who qualify for the program receive a bag of food at the end of each week to take home, helping to supplement their meals over the weekend when they are not in school and unable to benefit from school lunches and breakfasts. Since November, several Bethel members have been packing and delivering these food bags to the Lester Prairie school for local students. Check out the display in the narthex to learn more about this program. Look for more information about the Common Cup Ministry soon.
* **FUNERAL COMMITTEE MEMBER OPENING:** There is an opening on the funeral committee. You would be part of a three-person committee organizing funeral lunches. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Horsman, WELCA President.
* ***THE CHOSEN: LAST SUPPER PART 3*** is at the Waconia Theater from April 10 through April 17, with showtime at 6:00 p.m. You are encouraged to attend and invite others to join you.
* **CEMETERY CLEAN-UP, SATURDAY, APRIL 26:** Please come to help rake and clean up debris in our cemeteries. We will start cleaning up at the old Bergen Church site and cemetery at 9:00 a.m. Many hands make light work!
* **FIRST COMMUNION CLASS & CELEBRATION:**A First Communion class will be offered for first graders and older children whose parents believe they are ready to learn. The class will take place on Sunday, April 27, following the service. If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor Molly know so she can make the necessary preparations. The First Communion celebration will be held on Sunday, May 4.
* **A NEW MEMBER CLASS** will be held on Sunday, May 18, following the service. Please let Pastor Molly know if you are interested in becoming a member of Bethel Lutheran Church!