

BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

"You have a place here! Joyfully we profess our faith through God's unconditional love. Here and now God dwells in all of our lives, bears our sins on the cross, and forgives us all."

TODAY WE CELEBRATE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 am on Sunday, May 24, 2020

Holy Communion Worship

Pr. Dave Johnson, presiding



In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

ALL ARE WELCOME

The family of Bethany hopes that your worship experience is spiritually fulfilling and your day begins with our Lord's gifts of peace and joy.

If you are visiting today, you are invited to the Communion Table.

As Christians of the Reformation tradition, we believe that the Sacrament of the Altar is the Real Presence of Christ's body and blood, instituted by Christ Himself as a sign of unity. All baptized and confessing believers are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction—the dipping of the wafer into the wine when the chalice is offered. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. The assembly is to line up down center aisle and return to seats by side aisles.

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR EASTER SEASON

Minister/Leaders speak regular print—Congregation speaks bold print

Arrow directives indicate the following: ▲ stand if able ▼ be seated

THE GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

▼ Prelude Reflections for Meditation

"Recorded in the memory of our dear Charlie Modlin"

▼ Welcome and Greeting

▼ Prayers and Praises

▲ Invocation

We gather together in the name of the Father,
the † Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

▲ Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,
 for the water in this font,
 and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
 Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise
 through Jesus Christ our Lord
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

▲ **Confession and Forgiveness**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
 and from whom no secrets are hid:

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
 But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins
 and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
 by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
 have mercy on us.**



**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and,
for his sake, forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,
and by his authority, I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father,
and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

▼ **Greeting**

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.

▲ **Prayer of the Day**

O God of glory,
**your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand.
Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy,
that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

▼ **God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)**

A reading from Acts, Chapter 1, verses 6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said

this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

▼ ***God’s Word from the Psalms (NRSV)***

Let us read responsively Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.

**As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;
as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.**

But let the righteous be joyful;
let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy.

**Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—
his name is the Lord— be exultant before him.**

Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

**God gives the desolate a home to live in;
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious live in a parched land.**

O God, when you went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,



**the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God,
the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;
you restored your heritage when it languished;
your flock found a dwelling in it;
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

**O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.**

Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel;
and whose power is in the skies.

**Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel;
he gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!**

▼ ***God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)***

A reading from 1 Peter, Chapter 4, verses 12-14, 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.

And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

▲ **God's Word from the Gospel (NRSV)**

The Holy Gospel according to John, Chapter 17, verses 1-11

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

▼ **Sermon—God's Word Applied to Life**

▼ **Hymn of the Day**

"You Are Mine" (page 12)

▲ **Nicene Creed**

**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 the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

▲ Prayers of Intercession

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection,
we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church,
the world, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence)*

O God, call your people to be one, as you are one.
Unite your church in the truth of your gospel, the love of our neighbor,
and the call to proclaim your reign to all people.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Breathe life into your creation.

Guide your people as we explore the mysteries of the universe.

We pray for the work of scientists and mathematicians
whose skill enriches our understanding.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make your justice known among the nations of the earth.
Protect the vulnerable (especially in nations currently in crisis).

Redirect those who use violence and greed as weapons.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Come to the aid of your children.

We pray for those engulfed in grief, those without supportive families,
and for all who are isolated, powerless, or afraid,
that all may rest their anxieties in your care. We ask your special blessings for . . .

*Al Patrick, Don Gattra, Tom Temple, Mike, Erick Schultz, Tony Solda, Ron Arnold,
Terry, Kierstin, Jen, Arlene Coulter, Dan Gyselinck, Paula Conery, Ryan Dedo,
Blake Sternhagen, and Jean Guldswoog,*

*those who have received prayer shawls and are in need of comfort,
those who have requested special prayers through our website,
and others that we now name silently or aloud. (brief silence)*

In every situation help them to know you are with them always.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give courage to all who embark on new ventures.

We especially remember this day those who risked their lives
to serve in our armed forces. Grant safety to those serving at home or abroad,
and assure them of your never-failing strength.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We offer our own prayers to You, either silently or aloud.

(other intercessions may be offered)

Raise all your saints to eternal life.

Until that day, we give you thanks for the faithful examples of those
who have listened to your voice and now rest in you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God,
we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care;
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

▲ **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Greet each other with love and the sign of Christ's peace, then be seated

▼ **Offering and Presentation of the Gifts**

*April—June Mission ~ Northern Great Lakes Synod Seminarian Scholarship Fund
Special envelopes available—(make checks to Bethany Lutheran Church)*

▲ **The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

▲ **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

▲ **Invitation To Communion**

Come to the banquet. Behold the risen Christ.

▼ **Distribution of Communion**

▲ **Post Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace until He comes again.
In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

▲ **Post Communion Prayer**

Life-giving God,
 you have fed us with your word, and our hearts burn within us.
**Through this meal you have opened us to your presence.
 Now send us forth to share the gifts of Easter with all in need;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

▲ **Hymn of Sending**

“Christ, Be Our Light” (page 13)

▲ **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
 In the name of the Father and the † Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

▼ **Announcements**

Anyone is welcome to announce any upcoming events or share thoughts of interest

▲ **Dismissal**

Christ is risen, just as he said.
 Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

▼ **Postlude**

*Feel free to video chat with each other
 during the remaining time of music postlude*

You are Mine

Please note there is no refrain after verse 1



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *To stanza 2*
 Come and rest in me. *To refrain*
 all will know my name. *To refrain*
 up, now walk and live! *To refrain*



Refrain
 Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine."

4 "I

Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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The Garden Girls of Bethany
would like to get the outdoor flowers
planted around June 1st.
Your donations would go towards flowers
for the outdoor areas of Bethany.
Please make your checks payable to
Bethany Lutheran Church
"Garden Flowers" in the memo section.
Thanks so much.



May the Lord bless and keep them!



A Memorial Day Prayer –

Heavenly Father, as our nation pauses today to remember those in the military who have given their lives for freedoms we enjoy, we pray you would have us all look to you for strength, comfort and guidance. Be with all who serve in our Armed Forces.

Bless them and their families. Grant your loving protection.

Let peace prevail among all the nations, O God.

Especially let your mercy rest upon our land, even as we acknowledge with thanksgiving your past goodness on this country.

If it is your will,

preserve the lives of the men and women in uniform as they defend our citizenry.

Most of all, we pray that you would turn the hearts of all – military and civilian – to your holy Word where we find the true peace for our sinful souls that surpasses all understanding.

Keep us repentant of sin.

Move us to know, take hold and treasure your saving grace.

In the name of Jesus, our Savior and Your beloved Son, who alone gives this peace and hope for eternity, we pray.

Amen.

BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Ministers	All the members of this Body of Christ
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THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVE AS WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY . . .

Leader	Pr. Dave Johnson
Greeters/Ushers	
Lector	
Prayer Assistant	
Communion Assistant	
Music/Audio	
Altar Guild	

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flower sign up forms at front entry - \$15 per bouquet (checks: Bethany Ladies Guild)

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