

Making their Way...Songs for the Christian Journey
A Worship Service in Word, Sacrament and Song
with the Choirs and Ensembles of Bethany Lutheran Church
and Paul Soulek, composer and festival organist

Sunday, June 2, 2024

PRELUDE: "Variations on Making Their Way"
~Paul Soulek
"Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow"
~setting by Paul Soulek

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
+ God Gathers His People to Worship Him +

ENTRANCE HYMN: "Making Their Way" STANZA 1—CHOIR ONLY



Mak - ing their way down through the a - ges, sin - ners and saints have
Mak - ing their way all the world o - ver, Chris - tians as - sem - ble
Mak - ing our way sea - son by sea - son, pil - grims, we jour - ney



heard God's call: wealth - y and poor, pow - er - ful, low - ly,
on this day, hear - ing the Word, shar - ing the Ban - quet,
'till life's end, trav - el - ing light, shar - ing the rich - es,



Je - sus' dis - ci - ples, one and all. Gath - ered for wor - ship,
learn - ing to walk in Je - sus' way. Mem - bers of Christ, u -
car - ing for stran - ger as for friend, till in the joy of



of - fer - ing thanks, the great - est with the least have come to share the feast.
nit - ed in love, they seek our God to know, and so to - geth - er grow.
long - ing ful - filled, to - geth - er we will come to our e - ter - nal home.

OPENING SENTENCES/PRAYER:

Pastor: In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, +
and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be with your servants who make art and music for your people, that with joy we on earth may glimpse Your beauty, and bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection which will be ours as we stand before Your unveiled glory. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

+ God Gives us the Gift of His Word +

CHORAL ANTHEM: "Sing Aloud, O Daughter of Zion"

~Laura Hedstrom

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

READING: Psalm 30:1-5; 11-12

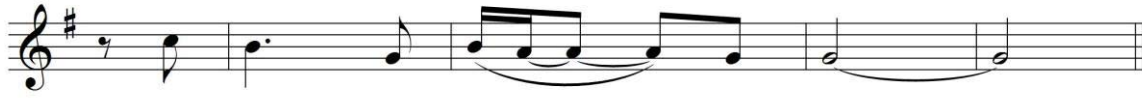
I will honor you highly, O LORD,
because you have pulled me out of the pit
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O LORD my God,
I cried out to you for help,
and you healed me.
O LORD, you brought me up from the grave.
You called me back to life
from among those who had gone into the pit.
Make music to praise the LORD, you faithful people who belong to him.
Remember his holiness by giving thanks.
His anger lasts only a moment.
His favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping may last for the night,
but there is a song of joy in the morning.
You have changed my sobbing into dancing.
You have removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy
so that my soul may praise you with music and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.-GW®

CHORAL RESPONSE: PSALM 96

Refrain (sung first by the choir, then by all)



Let the heav - ens re-joyce and the earth be glad,



re - joice, re - joice, be glad.



Oh sing to the LORD | a new song;*
sing to the LORD, | all the earth!

**Sing to the LORD, | bless his name;*
tell of his salvation from | day to day.**

Declare his glory a - | mong the nations,*
his marvelous works among | all the peoples!

**For great is the LORD, and greatly | to be praised;*
he is to be feared a- | bove all gods.**

For all the gods of the peoples are | worthless idols,*
but the LORD | made the heavens.

Refrain

Splendor and majesty | are before him;*
strength and beauty are | in his sanctuary.

**Ascribe to the LORD, O families | of the peoples,*
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength!**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

**Worship the LORD in the splend- | or of holiness;*
tremble before him, | all the earth!**

Refrain

Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!
Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;*
he will judge the peoples with equity."

**Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;*
let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and every-thing in it!**

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for he comes,*
for he comes to judge the earth.

**He will judge the world in righteousness,*
and the peoples in his faithfulness.**

Refrain

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Pastor: I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven and to you,
my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault,
by my own fault,
by my own most grievous fault;
wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**People: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon,
forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.**

**People: I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven and to you,
my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault,
by my own fault,
by my own most grievous fault;
wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon,
forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

People: Amen.

HYMN: "Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow" LSB 476



1 Who are you who walk in sor - row Down Em - ma - us'
bar - ren road, Hearts dis - traught and hope de - feat - ed,
Bent be - neath grief's crush - ing load? Name - less mourn - ers,
we will join you, We who al - so mourn our dead;
We have stood by graves un - yield - ing,
Eat - en death's bare, bit - ter bread.

Higher voices:

2 Who is this who joins our journey, Walking with us stride by stride?
Unknown Stranger, can You fathom Depths of grief for one who died?
All: Then the wonder! When we told You How our dreams to dust have turned, Then You
opened wide the Scriptures Till our hearts within us burned.

Lower voices:

3 Who are You? Our hearts are opened In the breaking of the bread—
Christ the victim, now the victor Living, risen from the dead!
All: Great companion on our journey, Still surprise us with Your grace!
Make each day a new Emmaus; On our hearts Your image trace!

All, in canon; higher voices begin, lower voices enter one measure later:

4 Who are we who travel with You On our way through life to death?
Women, men, the young, the aging, Wakened by the Spirit's breath!
At the font You claim and name us, Born of water and the Word;
At the table still You feed us, Host us as our risen Lord!

All, unison:

5 "Alleluia! Alleluia!" Is the Easter hymn we sing!
Take our life, our joy, our worship As the gift of love we bring.
You have formed us all one people Called from ev'ry land and race.
Make the Church Your servant body, Sent to share Your healing grace!

READING: Ephesians 5:15-16; 19-20

So then, be very careful how you live. Don't live like foolish people but like wise people. Make the most of your opportunities because these are evil days...reciting psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs for your own good. Sing and make music to the Lord with your hearts. Always thank God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. -GW®

CHORAL ANTHEM:

"Ewe, Thina"

~South African

tr. by Anders Nyberg, Sven-Bernhard Fast

Ewe, thina. [We walk His way.]
Unarmed, He faces forces of demons and death.
He breaks the bonds of hell, dying on the cross.
The tree of freedom blooms by His empty grave.

READING: Revelations 5:6; 8b-14

I saw a lamb standing in the center near the throne with the four living creatures and the leaders. The lamb looked like he had been slaughtered. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent all over the world.

When the lamb had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the 24 leaders bowed in front of him. Each held a harp and a gold bowl full of incense, the prayers of God's holy people. Then they sang a new song,

"You deserve to take the scroll and open the seals on it, because you were slaughtered. You bought people with your blood to be God's own. They are from every tribe, language, people, and nation. You made them a kingdom and priests for our God. They will rule as kings on the earth."

Then I heard the voices of many angels, the four living creatures, and the leaders surrounding the throne. They numbered ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands times thousands. In a loud voice they were singing,

"The lamb who was slain deserves to receive power, wealth, wisdom, strength, honor, glory, and praise." I heard every creature in heaven, on earth, under the earth, and on the sea. Every creature in those places was singing, "To the one who sits on the throne and to the lamb be praise, honor, glory, and power forever and ever."

The four living creatures said, "Amen!" Then the leaders bowed and worshiped.-GW®

STANZA 3—CHOIR ONLY



1 O day full of grace that now we see Ap - pear - ing on
 2 O day full of grace, O bless - ed time, Our Lord on the
 3 For Christ bore our sins, and not His own, When He on the
 4 God came to us then at Pen - te - cost, His Spir - it new
 5 When we on that fi - nal jour - ney go That Christ is for



earth's ho - ri - zon, Bring light from our God that we may be
 earth ar - riv - ing; Then came to the world that light sub - lime,
 cross was hang - ing; And then He a - rose and moved the stone
 life re - veal - ing, That we might no more from Him be lost,
 us pre - par - ing, We'll gath - er in song, our hearts a - glow,



Re - plete in His joy this sea - son. God, shine for us
 Great joy for us all re - triev - ing; For Je - sus all
 That we, un - to Him be - long - ing, Might join with an -
 All dark - ness for us dis - pel - ling, His flame will the
 All joy of the heav - ens shar - ing, And walk in the

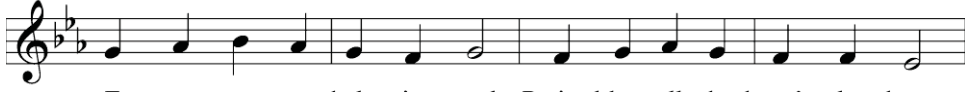


now in this dark place; Your name on our hearts em - bla - zon.
 mor - tals did em - brace, All dark - ness and shame re - mov - ing.
 gel - ic hosts to raise Our voic - es in end - less sing - ing.
 mark of sin ef - face And bring to us all His heal - ing.
 light of God's own place, With an - gels His name a - dor - ing.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: "We All Believe in One True God" LSB 953



1 We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
2 We all be-lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Mar - y's son,
3 We all con-fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who from both in truth pro-ceeds,



Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
Who de - scend - ed from His throne And for us sal - va - tion won;
Who sus - tains and com-forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds.
By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Bless-ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er be to Thee!

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maralee at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

Leader: By dying, Christ destroyed our death.
In rising, Christ has restored our life.
In giving us His Spirit, Christ has granted us peace.
The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

+ Service of the Sacrament +

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To prepare for communion you can find prayer prompts on the front page of the burgundy hymnal. Or simply pray: "Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation, You invite me to come to You; to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacred meal. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts. Amen."

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

For those communing, who so desire, center cups in each tray are alcohol free. The wafers next to the Christ candle are gluten free; for those with dietary restrictions, please take a gluten free wafer. Today we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

"Taste and See"

Refrain (sung first by the choir, then by all)

Taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the Lord. Oh,

taste and see, taste and see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Choir: I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall always be on my lips;
My soul shall glory in the Lord; for God has been so good to me.

All: *Refrain*

Choir: Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us all praise God's name.
I called the Lord, who answered me; from all my troubles I was set free.


All: *Refrain*

"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

LSB 618



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and
2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners
3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I
4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my
5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's




wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -
may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in
have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt
soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -
bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:
faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.
ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:
ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN OF PRAISE: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer" LSB 918



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

POSTLUDE: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

~Paul Manz

We give thanks to the family and friends of Wilma Bicknese-Baumann whose generous estate gift to Bethany has made this Composer Weekend possible. Wilma joined the ranks of the heavenly choir in the spring of 2006. We are also grateful for the special offerings that have been given by other church members in an effort to help keep this an annual event in Bethany's ministry.

Today's Guest Composer/Director/Organist:

Paul Soulek serves as Cantor of St. John Lutheran Church and School in Seward, Nebraska. He also serves as an adjunct professor of organ and church music at Concordia University, Nebraska. Paul's love for church music and congregational singing was inspired by his parents and their eclectic musical tastes, which included LP records from famed Lutheran organist Paul Manz. Many years of playing organ by ear eventually led Paul (Soulek) to major in Church Music at Concordia University, Nebraska, where he studied with Jeffrey Blersch and Charles Ore, graduating in 2007. He went on to receive a Masters in Church Music from Concordia University Chicago in 2015. In addition to his work at St. John and Concordia, Paul serves as the Cantor for Higher Things and as a composer with Concordia Publishing House. Outside of musical endeavors, Paul enjoys landlording, traveling, and enjoying time with his friends and goldendoodle Silas. His greatest joy is found in the exceptionally ordinary singing of weekly worship, sounds of which can be found at SingBoldly.org. [crying children, coughs, and voice cracking included]

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"Psalm 96," Melody/tone: Rawn Harbor, © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-706149.

"Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow" LSB 476

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. b. 1923

Tune: JEFFERSON; *Southern Harmony*, New Haven, 1835. Public domain

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"O Day Full of Grace" LSB 503

Text: Scandinavian, *DEN SIGNEDE DAG*, c. 1450; tr. Gerald Thorson, 19421-2001

Tune: Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774-1842; setting: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978. Public domain

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"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table" LSB 618

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677-1754; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941, abr.

Tune: *Emskirchner Choral-Buch*, Leipzig, 1756. Public domain

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149.

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer" LSB 918

Text: William Williams, 1717-91, abr.; tr. Peter Williams, 1722-96, st. 1, alt.;

tr. William Williams, 1717-91, sts. 2-3.

Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932.

Text and music: Public domain.

SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Liturgists 8:00...Pastor Kevin Kritzer
Lector 8:00...Elsie Rivera
Director of Music...Noah Freeman
Accompanist...Kevin Bowers
Violin...Regan Lambert
Flute...Dr. Julie Long

9:30...Pastor Kyle Blake
9:30...Nola Seaman
Trumpets... Keith Ransons, Jacob Lange
Trombone...Ken Black, Rich Bullock
Timpani...Gabriel Nobles

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Today's Flowers are given to the glory of God:

In memory of our good friend and neighbor James Barton by Mike and Pam Bessolo. He was welcomed to heaven on Good Friday, March 29. Jimmy had the gift of introducing Jesus in everyday conversations. Thank you Jimmy!

And in celebration of Anjali Essoe's birthday on May 30th by the Sunny family. Happy Birthday Anjali!



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If You're a Visitor, WELCOME! We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. If you would like more information about Bethany and its ministries, please scan the QR code to the right. You will be directed to Bethany's fillable information form.



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Please visit our websites to find out more about our Church, School and Preschool. Get weekly updates by signing up for the Bethany Bullet—our weekly capsule of worship highlights and campus-wide information.

Bethany Lutheran Church and its Ministries are found at: www.bethanylutheran.org

Bethany Lutheran School information can be found by visiting their website at: www.bethanylutheran.org/school/

Bethany Preschool's website: www.bethanylutheran.org/preschool/

To sign up for the weekly **Bethany Bullet**: <https://bit.ly/BethanyBulletSignUp>

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Sign up to donate to Bethany's **Altar Flower Fund**, please use this URL:

<https://bit.ly/BLCAltarFlowers>



Or scan Bethany's Flower Fund QR code to the right: