



May 4, 2025  
Third Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Organ

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

LSB 490



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -  
2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is  
3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus  
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall  
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the gate of life im -



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!  
giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,  
liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,  
sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell  
mor - tal; This shall calm my trem - bling breath



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er  
Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is  
Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I  
Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will  
When I pass its gloom - y por - tal. Faith shall



scenes will then com-mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
faith - ful; doubt-ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

EASTER ACCLAMATION:

- L:** Christ is Risen!  
**P:** He is Risen Indeed!  
**L:** Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.  
**P:** Alleluia!

## CALL TO WORSHIP:

**L:** When we were baptized into Christ Jesus we were baptized into His death. We were therefore buried with Him so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly be united with Him in His resurrection.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

**L:** Righteous and Victorious God,

**P:** **Our Father and Brother, our maker and redeemer, we confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean. On occasions we have doubted Your promises and Your presence and at times we have demanded You act as we see fit and think necessary. Therefore, we turn to You our Lord and our God, seeking the refuge of Your infinite mercy and grace found in the crucified and risen Christ, saying for His sake, be merciful to sinners like us.**

**L:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He the power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Almighty God You call things that are not into being, You give life where there was but death and make light to shine in the darkest of places; may we continually encounter Jesus and walk with Him that our lives might be transformed daily and we might be the means through others encounter the Lord and are led to follow Him. Amen.

## PSALM 30:4-12 (*read responsively*)

**L:** Make music to praise the Lord, you faithful people who belong to him.

**P:** **Remember His holiness by giving thanks.**

**L:** His anger lasts only a moment.

**P:** **His favor lasts a lifetime.**

**L:** Weeping may last for the night,

**P:** **but there is a song of joy in the morning.**

**L:** When all was well with me, I said,

**P:** **"I will never be shaken."**

**L:** O Lord, by Your favor You have made my mountain stand firm.

**P:** **When You hid Your face, I was terrified.**

**L:** I will cry out to You, O Lord.

**P:** **I will plead to the Lord for mercy:**

**L:** “How will you profit if my blood is shed,

**P:** **if I go into the pit?**

**L:** Will the dust of my body give thanks to You?

**P:** **Will it tell about Your truth?”**

**L:** Hear, O Lord, and have pity on me!

**P:** **O Lord, be my helper!**

**L:** You have changed my sobbing into dancing.

**P:** **You have removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy**

**L:** so that my soul may praise You with music and not be silent.

**P:** **O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever. –GW®**

## HYMN OF PRAISE: “Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship” LSB 949



1 Heav'n-ly hosts in cease-less wor-ship “Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly” cry;

2 All cre - a - tion, all re-demp-tion, Join to sing the Sav-ior's worth;



“He who is, who was and will be, God Al - might - y, Lord Most High.”  
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us, Kings and priests, to reign on earth.



Praise and hon - or, pow'r and glo-ry, Be to Him who reigns a - lone!  
Wealth and wis-dom, pow'r and glo-ry, Hon-or, might, do - min-ion, praise,



We, with all His hands have fash-ioned, Fall be - fore the Fa - ther's throne.  
Now be His from all His crea - tures And to ev - er - last - ing days!

## **FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-22**

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to Your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine to carry My name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of My name." So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened.

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." And all who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ. –ESV®

### **MINISTRY OF MUSIC:**

**"Zion's Walls"**  
~Mark Hayes

Bethany Choir 8:00 am

**"I am Big"**  
**"God is Bigger"**

Bethany Preschool 9:30

**GOSPEL: *John 21:1-14***

Later, by the Sea of Tiberias, Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples. This is what happened. Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two other disciples of Jesus were together. Simon Peter said to the others, "I'm going fishing."

They told him, "We're going with you."

They went out in a boat but didn't catch a thing that night. As the sun was rising, Jesus stood on the shore. The disciples didn't realize that it was Jesus.

Jesus asked them, "Friends, haven't you caught any fish?"

They answered Him, "No, we haven't."

He told them, "Throw the net out on the right side of the boat, and you'll catch some." So they threw the net out and were unable to pull it in because so many fish were in it.

The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord." When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put back on the clothes that he had taken off and jumped into the sea. The other disciples came with the boat and dragged the net full of fish. They weren't far from the shore, only about 100 yards.

When they went ashore, they saw a fire with a fish lying on the coals, and they saw a loaf of bread.

Jesus told them, "Bring some of the fish you've just caught." Simon Peter got into the boat and pulled the net ashore. Though the net was filled with 153 large fish, it was not torn.

Jesus told them, "Come, have breakfast." None of the disciples dared to ask Him who He was. They knew He was the Lord. Jesus took the bread, gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

This was the third time that Jesus showed Himself to the disciples after He had come back to life.—GW®

**SERMON HYMN: “Splendor and Honor”**

LSB 950



1 Splen - dor and hon - or, maj - es - ty and pow - er  
 2 Praised be the true Lamb, slain for our re - demp - tion,  
 3 To the Al - might - y, throned in heav'n - ly splen - dor,



Are Yours, O Lord God, fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing,  
 By whose self - of - f'ring we are made God's peo - ple:  
 And to the Sav - ior, Christ our Lamb and Shep - herd,



For by Your bid - ding was the whole cre -  
 A priest - ly king - dom, from all tongues and  
 Be ad - o - ra - tion, praise, and glo - ry

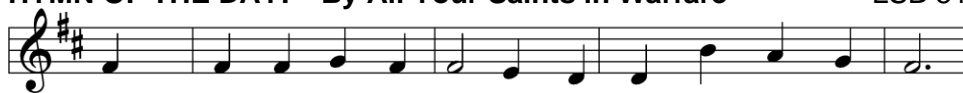


a - tion Called in - to be - ing.  
 na - tions, Called to God's ser - vice.  
 giv - en, Now and for - ev - er.

**MESSAGE**

## HYMN OF THE DAY: "By All Your Saints in Warfare"

LSB 517



1 By all Your saints in war-fare, For all Your saints at rest.



Your ho—ly name, O Je—sus, For—e—ver—more be blest!



For You have won the ba—ttle That they might wear the crown;



And now they shine in glo—ry Re—flec—ted from Your throne.

2 Apostles, prophets, martyrs,  
And all the noble throng  
Who wear the spotless raiment  
And raise the ceaseless song—  
For these, passed on before us,  
We offer praises due  
And, walking in their footsteps,  
Would live our lives for You.

3 Then let us praise the Father  
And worship God the Son  
And sing to God the Spirit,  
Eternal Three in One,  
Till all the ransomed number  
Fall down before the throne,  
Ascribing pow'r and glory  
And praise to God alone.

**OFFERING:** *There is a plate in the Narthex for your gifts. If you so desire, TEXT GIVING is available by texting GIVE to 562 210-0463. You can also mail in your gifts to the church office.*



## CONSECRATION OF GIFTS:

**L:** Eternal is the gift He brings, May these our gifts bring hearts to sing:  
**P:** Christ has triumphed! He is living! Alleluia!

## THE APOSTLES' CREED *(\*catholic means the universal Christian Church)*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary,  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day He rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### 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.

### ✠ *Holy Communion* ✠

*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.*

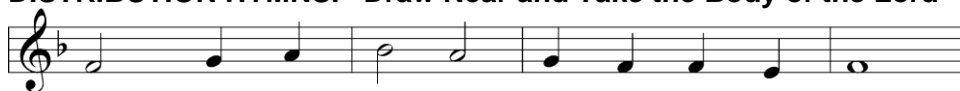
To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. 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.*

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are **alcohol free**. The wafers on the stand next to the pillar pulpit side (when kneeling for communion) or on the stand in front of the baptismal font (when processing for communion) are **gluten free**.*

*In our 9:30 & 11:00 am services, 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: “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord” LSB 637



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,  
 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,  
 3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;  
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;  
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,  
 With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,  
 O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.  
 Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.  
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

## “The Lamb”

LSB 547

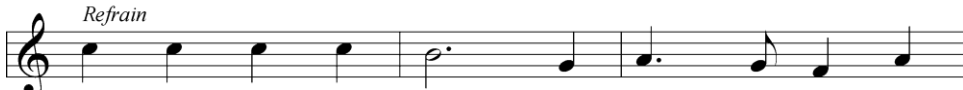


1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?  
2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.  
3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill  
4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.  
5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.




Faith sees, be - lies God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.  
So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.  
He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.  
His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

*Refrain*



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BENEDICTION:

**[L]:** Now the God of peace Himself keep you blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it! Go in peace.

# CLOSING HYMN: "In Thee is Gladness"

LSB 818

1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,  
 2 Since He is ours, \_\_\_\_\_ We fear no pow - ers, Not of  
 sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of  
 earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -  
 heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou  
 tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the  
 wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -  
 sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -  
 cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are  
 joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for  
 pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing  
 glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him  
 To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

## POSTLUDE:

Organ



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"Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won" LSB 490

Text: Christian Fürchtegott Gellert, 1715-69; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812-97, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

Text and Music: Public domain

"Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship" LSB 949  
 Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926.  
 Music: Amanda Husberg, b. 1940.  
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"Splendor and Honor" LSB 950  
 Text Carl P. Daw, Jr., b. 1944  
 Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950  
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"By All Your Saints in Warfare" LSB 517  
 Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823-1913.  
 Tune: "AURELIA" LSB 644 Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76.  
 Text and music: Public domain.

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord" LSB 637  
 Text: Latin, 7<sup>th</sup> cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.  
 Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois;  
 setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941.  
 Text and music: Public domain.

"The Lamb" LSB 547  
 Text and music: Gerald P. Coleman.  
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 Setting: © 1997 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved.  
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"In Thee Is Gladness" LSB 818  
 Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549-1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
 Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556-c. 1622; setting: *Württembergisches Neues Choralbuch*, 1956.  
 Text and Tune: Public domain. Setting: © 1956 Bärenreiter. All rights reserved.  
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## **SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:**

Acolyte 9:30...Alice Kienitz	Crucifer 9:30...Reenie Long
Lector 8:00...Elsie Rivera	Lector 9:30...Shannon Morgensen
Lector 11:00...Brady Bowman	
Liturgist...Pastor Kevin Kritzer	Preacher...Reverend Arthur Rickman
Director of Music and Worship Arts...Noah Freeman	Accompanist...Kevin Bowers
Organ 8 & 9:30...Robert Bottoms	Piano 11:00...Noah Freeman
Guitar...Frank White	Children's Message...Alissa Bregre
Sound...Felix Rivera, Jon Widmann	





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

*~In thankfulness and celebration to God who has graciously  
blessed Marjorie Lorenz with 100 years of life and love.  
Happy Birthday, Mom! ~*

*~by Donald and Carol Doss*



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

*~In loving memory of our beloved mother, grandmother, and friend,  
Dorothy Stauch ~*

*~by The Stauch Family*



**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.



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](http://www.bethanylutheran.org)

**Bethany Lutheran School** information can be found by visiting their website at:  
[www.bethanylutheran.org/school/](http://www.bethanylutheran.org/school/)

**Bethany Preschool's** website: [www.bethanylutheran.org/preschool/](http://www.bethanylutheran.org/preschool/)

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



## **DONATE TO BETHANY'S FLOWER FUND!**

Flowers are used to decorate the altar every Sunday, for special seasons such as Christmas and Easter, as well as other important dates during the church calendar. You are able to make two types of donations to the Altar Flower Fund: a general donation and a special request with recognition.



- **A SPECIAL REQUEST WITH RECOGNITION\*** is a special type of Altar Flower donation. This request will be printed in the bulletin. For example, it could be given in memory of a person who has gone before us, for a wedding anniversary, baptismal birthday or a birthday celebration, etc. **This recognition has a suggested donation of \$75.**
- **A GENERAL DONATION TO THE ALTAR FLOWER FUND** enables Bethany to have flowers in worship and for our shut-in and hospitalized members to receive flowers from our flower ministry team, even when no one has ordered flowers for specific purposes on Sunday. **This General Donation is for any amount you wish to give.**

\*If you are making a **Special Request with Recognition**, please use this form to let us know of your donation **for a specific Sunday date** and what the significance of that donation is towards. **IMPORTANT:** Please complete this form at least **2 weeks prior** to that date, so that information regarding your donation can be printed in the Sunday bulletin for the date requested.

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:



Bethany Lutheran Church

# LEAD BY SERVING



Gathered



Connected



Sent



## FOUNDATION

New constitution  
and by-laws  
approved by Voters.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS: ELECTED LEADERSHIP

- 7 elected members
- Spring annual elections
- **Spring 2026** – alternating elections of 2-3 members for 3-year terms



## SERVANT LEADER TEAMS (FORMERLY "BOARDS")

- Team chairs and co-chairs appointed by Board of Directors
- Team member opportunities:



**Spiritual Life**



**Finance**



**Facilities**



**Schools**



**Cypress Mission  
and Ministry**



## TASK FORCES

**Definition:** a group  
that comes together  
for a specific  
purpose/task.

- Could be *weekly* (count offerings, deliver flowers)
- Could be *annually* for an event (OktoBEARfest or Operation Christmas Child)
- Could be an *ongoing* ministry group

A Task Force can be formed by a staff member or congregation members who see a need, have a desire to serve and have a staff member or member of BoD for support.



## DATES & OPPORTUNITIES

- **June 8 Voter's Meeting:** Budget Approval and Board Elections
  - Nominations close May 25
  - Six current Board members willing to stand for re-election

**Interested in serving on the Board of Directors? Contact any current Board member:**

- Joey Cerulle
- Bob Lange
- Bob Petrillo
- Josette Utke
- Jeremy O'Conner
- John Holmquist