

June 1, 2025
Seventh Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING SONG: “United in Christ”

Verse 1

People of the Lord come now and sing
Every nation and tongue to Christ our King
With empty hands His gifts receive

Verse 2

Whether young or old you're a child of God
Whether rich or poor no matter what you got
He gathers all at the foot of the cross

Chorus

His body broken makes this body whole
His resurrection it assures us all
No darkness nor doubting nor pain in this life
Could keep us from being united in Christ

Verse 3

Sinners and saints you have a place
With the Spirit's gifts proclaim His grace
There's nothing too small
To be used by the Living God

Bridge

We are the body Christ is the head
Sealed with the promise through blood He shed
We are the body Christ is the head
His grace the heartbeat our confidence
We are the body Christ is the head
Sealed with the promise through blood He shed
We are the body Christ is the head
His grace the heartbeat our confidence
Our confidence

Tag

No darkness nor doubting nor pain in this life
Could keep us from being united in Christ

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.

FIRST READING: Acts 20:17-35

Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. And when they came to him, he said to them:

“You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

–ESV®

SONG OF PRAISE: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Verse 1

Holy holy holy Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy holy holy merciful and mighty
God in three persons blessed Trinity

Verse 2

Holy holy holy Though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eye made blind by sin
Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power in love and purity

Bridge

And we all bow down
And we all bow down
And we all bow down
And we all bow down
And we all bow down
And we all bow down
And we all bow down

Verse 3

Holy holy holy Lord God Almighty
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea
Holy holy holy Merciful and mighty
God in three persons blessed Trinity

SECOND READING: *Ephesians 1:15-23*

I, too, have heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all of God's people. For this reason I never stop thanking God for you. I always remember you in my prayers. I pray that the glorious Father, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, would give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know Christ better. Then you will have deeper insight. You will know the confidence that he calls you to have and the glorious wealth that God's people will inherit. You will also know the unlimited greatness of his power as it works with might and strength for us, the believers. He worked with that same power in Christ when he brought him back to life and gave him the honored position—the one next to God the Father on the heavenly throne. He is far above all rulers, authorities, powers, lords, and all other names that can be named, not only in this present world but also in the world to come. God has put everything under the control of Christ. He has made Christ the head of everything for the good of the church. The church is Christ's body and completes him as he fills everything in every way.—GW®

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

8:00 & 9:30

GOSPEL: *John 17:20-26*

"I'm not praying only for them. I'm also praying for those who will believe in me through their message. I pray that all of these people continue to have unity in the way that you, Father, are in me and I am in you. I pray that they may be united with us so that the world will believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me. I did this so that they are united in the same way we are. I am in them, and you are in me. So they are completely united. In this way the world knows that you have sent me and that you have loved them in the same way you have loved me.

"Father, I want those you have given to me to be with me, to be where I am. I want them to see my glory, which you gave me because you loved me before the world was made. Father, you have done what is right and the world didn't know you. Yet, I knew you, and these disciples have known that you sent me. I have made your name known to them, and I will make it known so that the love you have for me will be in them and I will be in them."—GW®

SERMON SONG: "Living for Your Glory"

Verse 1

What good is it to gain the whole world
But lose your soul
What good is it to make a sweet sound
But remain proud
In view of God's mercy—I offer my all

Chorus

And take my life
Let it be ev'rything
All of me here I am
Use me for Your glory
In ev'rything I say and do
Let my life honor You
Here I am living for Your glory

Verse 2

The road I'm on it leads nowhere
Without You
And the life I live it finds meaning
In surrender
In view of God's mercy—I offer my all

Bridge

(I'm) Seeking first the Kingdom
(I'm) Seeking first the Kingdom of my Lord
Seeking first the Kingdom
Seeking first the Kingdom of my Lord

MESSAGE: “GO” Acts 20:22

SONG OF THE DAY: “In Christ Alone”

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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 SONGS: “Come As You Are”

Verse 1

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Chorus

(So) Lay down your burdens lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
Come as you are

Verse 2

There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
Rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure

Bridge

Come as you are
Fall in His arms
Come as you are

Verse 3

There's joy for the morning O sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Ending

Come as you are...

“We Are Your Body”

We are Your body, restored and renewed
Buried with You and with You raised
From our tombs

Fill us with Your presence and make us one
Make us one as You are Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Love of Christ, Blood of Christ
Fill our veins, Grant that we
Your body—Find unity

Forgive us Lord
For the war
That we've waged within Your body
Bring us peace, bring us humbly to Your feast
As we eat, as we drink
We know, we know You're all we need
For our sins, You have paid
Every trespass for the wage of sin is death

Sin is death, Sin is death
Sin is death, Sin is death

We are Your body, restored and renewed
Buried with You and with You raised
From our tombs

Fill us with Your presence and make us one
Make us one as You are Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

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 SONG: “Nothing but the Blood”

Verse 1

What can wash away my sin
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
What can make me whole again
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Chorus

O precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow
No other fount I know
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Verse 2

For my pardon this I see
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
For my cleansing this my plea
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Verse 3

Nothing can for sin atone
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
Naught of good that I have done
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Verse 4

This is all my hope and peace
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
This is all my righteousness
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

POSTLUDE



COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS:

Liturgy (or the appropriate portion thereof) from *Lutheran Service Book*
©2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. License #000012696

"United in Christ"

CCLI Song #7226512; Blake Flattley, Kyle Borcharding, Michael Verburg
© 2023 The Center for Worship Leadership (CWL Publishing). For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #396555

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

CCLI Song # 7150647 Alex Navarro | Blake Flattley© 2020 Blake Flattley Music (Admin by Blake Flattley Music) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

"Living for Your Glory"

CCLI Song #4879246 Tim and Rachel Hughes ©2007 ThankYou Music (Admin. By Capitol CMG Publishing). For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License #396555

"In Christ Alone"

CCLI Song No. 3350395 © 2001 Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing) Keith Getty | Stuart Townend. For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights Reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License No. 345836

"Come As You Are"

CCLI Song # 7017790 Ben Glover | David Crowder | Matt Maher
© 2014 Ariose Music; sixsteps Music; Thankyou Music; Valley Of Songs Music; worshiptogether.com songs;
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #396555

"We Are Your Body"

Words and Music: Steve Zank. All rights reserved.
Used with permission.

"Nothing but the Blood"

CCLI Song #7064076
Robert Lowry | arr. Blake Flattley
©Words, used with permission. For use solely with the SongSelect. Terms of Use. All rights reserved.
www.ccli.com CCLI License # 396555



SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Acolyte 8:00...Penelope Clevon

Crucifer 8:00...Connor Clevon

Lector 8:00...Katie Musick Lector 9:30...Vance Frederick Lector 11:00...Nick Davies

Liturgist...Pastor Kevin Kritzer

Preacher...Pastor Kyle Blake

Artist in Residence...Blake Flattley

Keyboard...Pat Gagan

Children's Message...Kayleigh Lopez

Sound...Felix Rivera, Jon Widmann





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

*~In celebration of Anjali Essoe's birthday on May 30th—
Happy Birthday, Anjali! ~*

~by Mom and Dad, Sunny Family



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

*~In celebration of Ron and Renee Svarc's
36th Wedding Anniversary ~*

~by Ron and Renee Svarc



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

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>



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