

# EASTER SUNDAY—Celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord

April 5, 2026

## PRAYER OF MEDITATION AND PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

*Early hasten to the tomb, where they lay His breathless clay.  
All is solitude and gloom, Who hath taken Him away?  
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.*

PRELUDE:

Organ

## EASTER ACCLAMATION AND GREETING:

**L**: He is Risen

**P**: He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

## OPENING HYMN:

### “Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

LSB 457



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

**OPENING PRAYER:** *(Easter Collect Martin Luther 1533)*

- L:** Almighty God, who through the death of Your Son has destroyed sin and death and through His resurrection has restored innocence and eternal life that we, being delivered from the power of the devil, may live in Your kingdom,
- P:** **Grant that we may believe this truth with our whole heart, and being firm in faith, may praise and thank You throughout our lives and through eternity, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

- L:** Almighty God, who raised Jesus from the dead, I admit that like those who came to the tomb that first Easter, I have been slow to understand Your Word; and like the disciples, who when they first heard that Jesus had risen, I too must confess that I have failed to always trust Your promises.
- P:** **I confess before the Lord, Who is resurrection and life, and before all of you who will also return to dust, that like those who left the graveside trembling and afraid, I have often sought the living among the dead and so, I have returned, over and over again, to the same temptations, addictions and actions which nailed Jesus to the cross.**

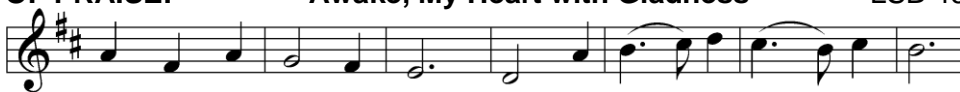
**Dear Lord Jesus, for Your sake, I pray You to forgive me my sins.  
As You live, give me life. As You have risen, cause me to rise. Amen.**

- L:** Jesus is alive! The Victory is Won! This same Jesus who has conquered sin and the grave has called me here to witness to the power and truth of His resurrection. Your forgiveness is certain for sin, death and the devil are defeated because Christ is risen!
- P:** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## HYMN OF PRAISE:

## “Awake, My Heart with Gladness”

LSB 467



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness, See what to - day is done;  
 2 The foe in tri - umph shout - ed When Christ lay in the tomb;  
 4 Now hell, its prince, the dev - il, Of all their pow'r are shorn;  
 7 He brings me to the por - tal That leads to bliss un - told,



Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, Comes forth the glo - rious sun.  
 But lo, he now is rout - ed, His boast is turned to gloom.  
 Now I am safe from e - vil, And sin I laugh to scorn.  
 Where - on this rhyme im - mor - tal Is found in script of gold:



My Sav - ior there was laid Where our bed must be made  
 For Christ a - gain is free; In glo - rious vic - to - ry  
 Grim death with all its might Can - not my soul af - fright;  
 “Who there My cross has shared Finds here a crown pre - pared;



When to the realms of light Our spir - it wings its flight.  
 He who is strong to save Has tri - umphed o'er the grave.  
 It is a pow'r - less form, How - e'er it rave and storm.  
 Who there with Me has died Shall here be glo - ri - fied.”

**FIRST READING: *Isaiah 25:6-9***

On this mountain the Lord of Armies will prepare for all people  
 a feast with the best foods,  
 a banquet with aged wines,  
 with the best foods and the finest wines.

On this mountain he will remove  
 the veil of grief covering all people  
 and the mask covering all nations.

He will swallow up death forever.

The Almighty Lord will wipe away tears from every face,  
 and he will remove the disgrace of his people from the whole earth.

The Lord has spoken.

On that day his people will say,

“This is our God; we have waited for him, and now he will save us.

This is the Lord; we have waited for him.

Let us rejoice and be glad because he will save us. –GW®

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:**            **“Jesus Shall Reign”**  
                                          ~arr. Anna Laura Page

Jubilate Handbell Choir

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4**

Since you were brought back to life with Christ, focus on the things that are above—where Christ holds the honored position—the one next to God the Father on the heavenly throne. Keep your mind on things above, not on worldly things. You have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. Christ is your life. When he appears, then you, too, will appear with him in glory. –GW®

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:**            **“I Will Make a Way”**  
                                          ~Tom Trenney

Bethany Choir

*Behold! I will do a new thing!  
Ev'rything old has passed away.  
See, ev'rything old has become new.  
I will make a way in the wilderness; I will make rivers in the desert.  
See, ev'rything old has passed away.  
Ev'rything has become new.  
Do not remember the former things or consider the ways of old.  
Ev'rything old has passed away.  
Ev'rything has become new.  
The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and ostriches,  
For I give water in the wilderness; the desert shall be a pool.  
See, ev'rything old has passed away.  
I will make a way in the wilderness; I will make rivers in the desert.  
Ev'rything old is passed away! I will make a way!*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12**

Very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb. They were carrying the spices that they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb. When they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzled about this, two men in clothes that were as bright as lightning suddenly stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed to the ground.

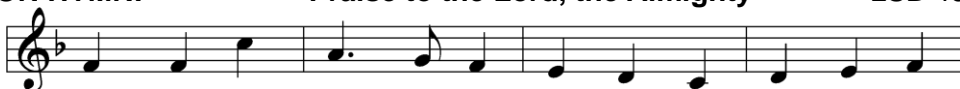
The men asked the women, “Why are you looking among the dead for the living one? He’s not here. He has been brought back to life! Remember what He told you while He was still in Galilee. He said, ‘The Son of Man must be handed over to sinful people, be crucified, and come back to life on the third day.’” Then the women remembered what Jesus had told them.

The women left the tomb and went back to the city. They told everything to the eleven apostles and all the others. The women were Mary from Magdala, Joanna, and Mary (the mother of James). There were also other women with them. They told the apostles everything.

The apostles thought that the women’s story didn’t make any sense, and they didn’t believe them.

But Peter got up and ran to the tomb. He bent down to look inside and saw only the strips of linen. Then he went away, wondering what had happened. –GW®

**SERMON HYMN: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” LSB 467**



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things is won - drous - ly  
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,  
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -  
 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your  
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -  
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly  
 fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall  
 dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His  
 lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is  
 fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has  
 dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -  
 prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
 failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.  
 might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.  
 peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

**SERMON: *Living Hope in a Dying World***

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

**“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”**

**LSB 461**

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort  
8 He lives, all glo - ry to His name! He lives, my  
this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who  
Je - sus, still the same; Oh, the sweet joy this  
once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.  
sen - tence gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

**CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

**L:** As a Christian your very life is a daily confession that Jesus, Who was crucified for your sin, has risen for your salvation.

*(Second Article of the Apostles' Creed and its meaning:)*

**P:** **We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**L:** What does this mean?

**P:** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.  
This is most certainly true.

#### **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 Andria at [arosas@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:arosas@bethanylutheran.org) or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

**L:** O God, You gave Your only Son to suffer death for us, and by His glorious resurrection You delivered us from the power of the grave and promised us eternal life.

**P:** Make us die to sin every day, Lord. As we proclaim in our words that Jesus is alive, may we also bear witness in our deeds that He, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, is alive in us and has taught us to pray:

#### **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.

## ✠ 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 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."*

*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 am service, 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.*

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### PROCLAMATION OF THE FAITH:

**L:** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes again and we declare the mystery of faith:

**P:** **Christ has died, Christ IS Risen, Christ will come again!**

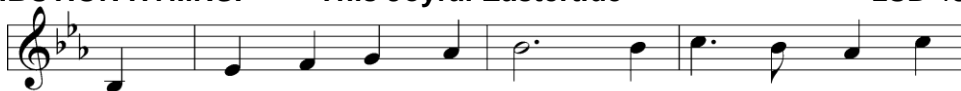
#### SHARING OF THE PEACE:

**L:** 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.

**P:** **And also with you.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: "This Joyful Eastertide"

LSB 482



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and  
 2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the  
 3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,  
 riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill  
 slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row:  
 My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:  
 Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

*Refrain*



Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on,



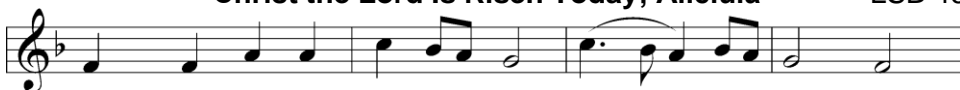
Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; But now has Christ a - ris - en!

**“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia”**

LSB 463



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 Hail, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 All your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



Of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 When con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



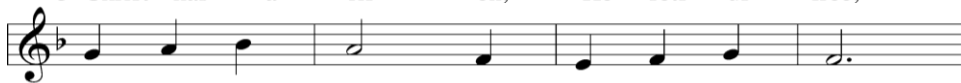
At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

# “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”

LSB 466



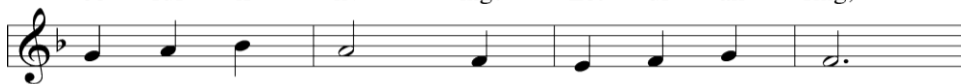
1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
 3 The an - gel said to them, “Do not fear!  
 4 “Go spread the news: He’s not in the grave;  
 5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;



Re - joice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.  
 Un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.  
 He has a - ris - en this world to save.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.



For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
 He who gives life did death un - der - go;  
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare;  
 Je - sus’ re - deem - ing la - bors are done;  
 Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;



E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
 And in its con - quest His might did show.  
 On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there.”  
 E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won.”  
 He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

*Refrain*



Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;



Death’s fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

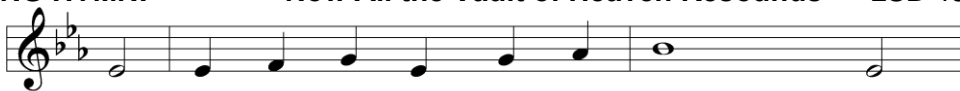


Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

# BENEDICTION

## CLOSING HYMN: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" LSB 465



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -  
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!  
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!  
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer  
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and  
 He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us  
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's  
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 life And by His pres - ence stills all  
 day That by our lives we tru - ly  
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"  
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

# POSTLUDE

Organ



## **COPYRIGHT & STREAMING PERMISSIONS:**

Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-706149. All rights reserved.

Permission to podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from [www.cph.org](http://www.cph.org) with license #000012696. All rights reserved.

Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) with license #20537224. All rights reserved.

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

Cover Artwork: "Easter Joy" Mark Jennings ©2018 all rights reserved. Used with permission.

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" LSB 457

Text: Latin carol, 14<sup>th</sup> cent., sts. 1-3; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4; tr. *Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708, sts. 1-3.

Music: *EASTER HYMN, Lyra Davidica*, London, 1708 Setting: David Cherwien Text and Tune: ©1999 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149.

"Awake, My Heart, with Gladness" LSB 467

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. John Kelly, 1833-90, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; setting: *Lutheran Service Book*, 2006. Setting: ©2006 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Setting: Kevin Hildebrand ©2012 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Streamed under ONELICENSE #A-706149

Text and Tune: Public domain

"I will Make a Way!" Tom Trenney

Text: Based on Isaiah 42:19-20 and 2 Corinthians 5:17. Public domain

Music: Tom Trenney ©2018 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a Division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc., All rights reserved. Streamed under ONELICENSE #A-706149

"Praise the Almighty" LSB 797

Text: Johann Dnaniel Herrnschmidt, 1675-1723; tr. Alfred E. R. Brauer, 1866-1949, alt.

Tune: *New-vermehrte Christliche Seelenharf*, Ansbach, 1665; setting: *Christian Worship*, 1993. Setting: John A. Behnke (ASCAP) ©2021 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Streamed under ONELICENSE #A-706149

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-99, abr.

Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and music: Public domain.

This Joyful Eastertide LSB 482

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934. Tune: *Dauids Psalmen*, Amsterdam, 1684; setting: *Worship & Rejoice*, Carol Stream, 2001, alt. Text & music: Public domain.

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia" LSB 463

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1809-81, alt.

Tune: Robert Williams, c. 1781-1821; setting: John Roberts, 1822-77. Text and music: Public domain.

"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" LSB 466

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922.

Music: Tanzanian. Public domain. Text: © 1977 Howard S. Olson, Augsburg Fortress Publishers. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149. Setting: Arr. Paul Soulek; ©2016 All rights reserved. Used with permission.

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" LSB 465

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt. Tune: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Köln, 1623. Text: © 1958 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149. Setting: Jeffrey Biersch ©2008 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Streamed under ONELICENSE #A-706149. Tune: Public domain.

## **SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:**

Acolyte 8:00...Daniel Evans  
Acolyte 9:30...Audrey Kienitz  
Lector 8:00...David Akins  
Liturgist 8:00...Pastor Seth Moorman  
Preacher...Pastor Kevin Kritzer  
Organ...Robert Bottoms  
Children's Message...Kayleigh Lopez  
Trumpets...Meghan Turner, Mara Widmann  
Timpani...Gabriel "Slam" Nobles

Crucifer 8:00...Benjamin Evans  
Crucifer 9:30...Abby Rosas  
Lector 9:30...Mike Riordan  
Liturgist 9:30...Pastor John Alwood  
Director of Music & Worship...Noah Freeman  
Accompanist...Kevin Bowers  
Trombones...Yosuke Miyoshi, Rich Bullock  
Sound/Production...Felix Rivera, Jon Widmann



**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.



**Parents of Young Children:** We are so glad you and your children are here! Children are a joyful part of worship—after all, God created them with curiosity, energy, and yes, a few wiggles. Please don't feel pressure to keep them perfectly still in God's house. Their presence is truly a gift to our church family.

Worship is where we learn, together, how to listen and speak to God alongside our brothers and sisters in faith. You are welcome to quietly explain parts of the service and what our worship leaders are doing—children learn how to worship by watching and imitating you.

If it would be helpful, "worship bags" are available in the Narthex with items designed to support children and families during worship. Childcare is also available in our Nursery for children from birth through age five. Our caring and qualified staff look forward to welcoming your little one into a safe and loving environment.

Bethany's Nursery is located across the courtyard. Please feel free to ask an usher if you need directions—we're happy to help.

Please visit our websites to find out more about our Church, School and Preschool. Get weekly updates by signing up for the **Bethany Broadcast**—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 Broadcast**: <https://bit.ly/BethanyBroadcastSignUp>



**The Church Office will be CLOSED on Easter Monday, April 6—  
and will remain closed through April 10**

