

# Fourth Sunday of Easter

## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Sunday, May 8, 2022 – 10 a.m.  
Traditional Worship



**Welcome to All!** We are glad that you are able to worship with us today. **Please fill out a connection card in the pews if you like.** During the service, we will sit or stand in reverence to our Lord. Please do what is physically comfortable and reverent for you. For those who are unable to receive Communion near the altar and wish to have the Pastor administer it at your seat, please obtain a red and white card from one of the ushers and hold it up at Communion time to alert the Pastor. If you or a little one would like to receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, we invite you to come forward and cross your arms at the time of Communion. Please feel free to introduce yourself to our Pastor and fill out one of the Visitor cards available at our Welcome Table in the Gathering Place.

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 4, page 147**

### Announcements

**Prelude**

***Mercy, Mercy***

*David Husser*

### GATHERING

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

**P: Alleluia! Christ is risen. C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**P:** In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

**P:** We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Greeting

A: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

## Kyrie (lead by Pastor Paul)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



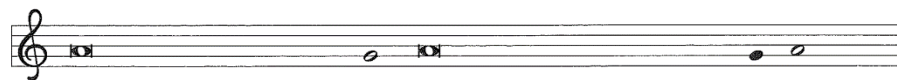
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

# Hymn of Praise

# Glory to God



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men.

## Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together...

**C: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

### First Lesson

**Acts 9:36-43**

*Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.*

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalmody

**Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**<sup>2</sup>The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**<sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

## Second Lesson

**Revelation 7:9-17**

*Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life.  
Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.*

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." <sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

## Alleluia

S 151a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.*

**C: ...Glory to you, O Lord...**

<sup>22</sup>At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>The Father and I are one."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Paul Busekist**

**Hymn of the Day**

***Wade in the Water***

***ELW 459***

**Apostle's Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 Intercession:** response after each petition: **"hear our prayer."**  
*(Before prayer)* A: Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. *(Conclusion)*  
 P: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

**Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

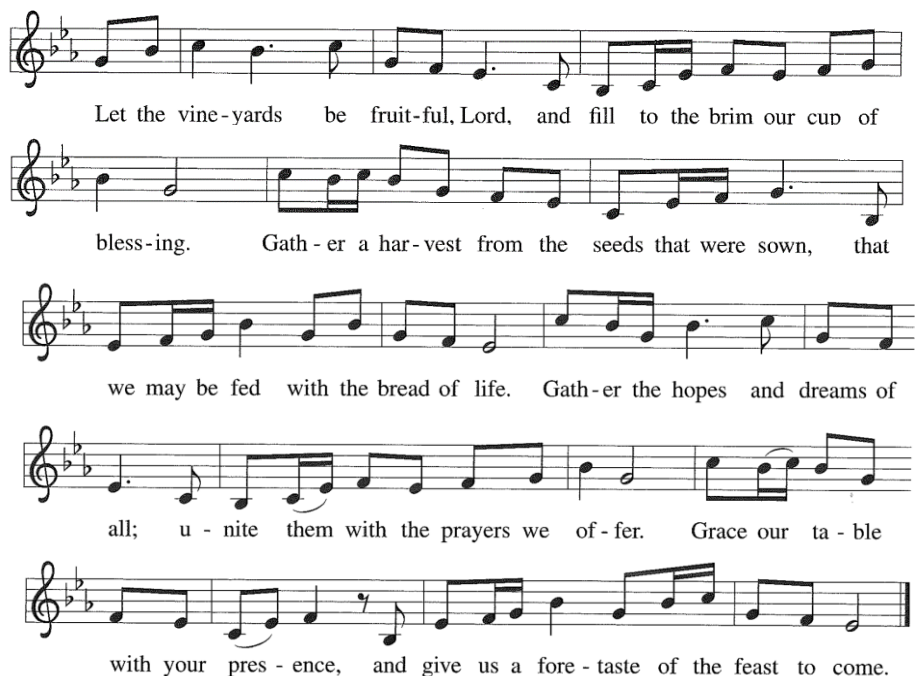
## MEAL

### Offering

Offering Song: **Blessing, Honor and Glory**

**ELW 433**

Offertory *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

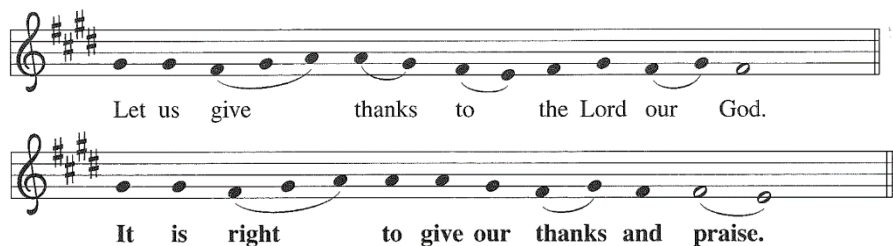
**C: Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

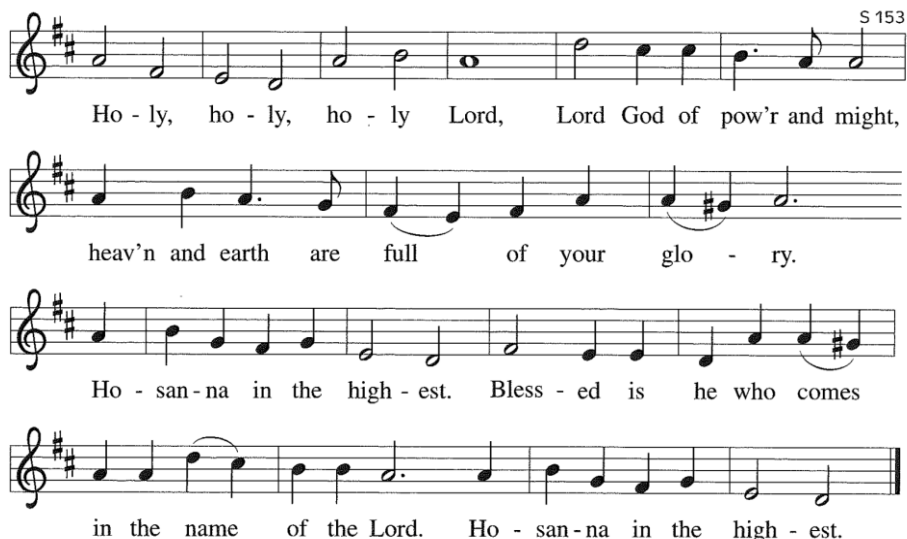
S 152



### Great Thanksgiving *(continued)*

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

### *Holy, Holy, Holy*



### Words of Institution

#### 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.**

P: The gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*\*\*Please note: Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*



## Communion

## *Lamb of God*

S 154



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Communion Hymns

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

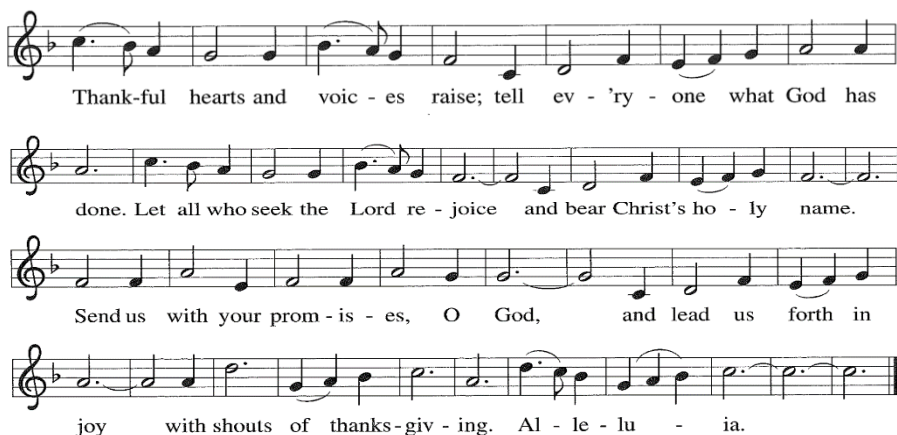
**ELW 502**  
**ELW 484**

## Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C: **Amen.**

## Post-Communion Canticle

### *Thankful Hearts*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has  
done. Let all who seek the Lord re-joyce and bear Christ's ho-ly name.  
Send us with your prom-is-es, O God, and lead us forth in  
joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia.

## Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING

### Blessing

P: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠ bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Song**      *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing*

**ELW 393**

### Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



**Bethlehem**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**May 8, 2022**

1050 Peninsula Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
(231) 947-9880  
[www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

5/9—Russ Luttinen

5/11—Summer Kolka

5/12—Barbara Wentzloff

5/9—Joanne Badger

5/12—Shannon Nemeth

5/13—Kathy McPherson

5/10—Kate Holtfreter

5/12—Mary Ann Tanis

5/14—Landen Branch

**COVID policy remains that masks are optional for vaccinated persons and required for unvaccinated persons.**

**Please note that the Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.**

**Offerings:** The offering plates will now be passed during the service. The vase in the back of the Sanctuary is still available for those who prefer not to touch the offering plate.

**DOLLARS AND SENSE:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church has greatly expanded our outreach into the community and the world with our live streaming programing and other projects. We need your continued support to continue our mission.

Congratulations are in order! April's contributions exceeded the budget projections by \$5,561.00. This is a significant improvement over January through March. We encourage you to stay current with your pledge. Together we can do more and accomplish our vision for the future. Thank you for your support. Jim Monroe, Your Financial Secretary

**Church Council Elections:** We are going to be having our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday June 12th. A part of this meeting is the election of Church Council members for a three-year term to fill expiring vacancies. The Nomination Committee is looking for referrals to contact. If you are interested in serving on the council (yes, you could submit your own name) or if you know someone else would be a good referral, please make your thoughts known. You will find a white box on a table in the entry to the Narthex for the referral. You will also find a brief form to fill out and place in the box. The Nomination Committee will contact the referrals and then nominate a slate for the election. Don't worry if someone thinks you would be a good candidate and you're not ready. Just let the committee know when contacted and be honored that someone thought of you! If you have any questions, please contact Mark McPherson at markandkjo@sbcglobal.net or 860-658-1554

**The May issue of the STAR is now available.** For current issues of the Star, feel free to check online at [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org) < About Us > "The Online Bethlehem Star" or type this URL to get these directly: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter>.

**Prayer Requests:**

- Prayer Chain: Please contact Jan Stretlien at [jstretlien@gmail.com](mailto:jstretlien@gmail.com) or 231-947-3265
- Prayers read from the altar: Please call Rebecca in the church office 231-947-9880

**Today's altar flowers are donated:** *By Anonymous and Kate Holtfreter in Honor/Memory/Celebration of all Mothers Everywhere.*

**Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font!**  
Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at [beo6475@yahoo.com](mailto:beo6475@yahoo.com) or 231.668.7038.

**The newest Living Lutheran magazine and the April/May/June Christ in our Home** can be picked up at the welcome table on Sunday mornings, from the Shooting STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion.

### **Due Dates for STAR/Bulletin/Screen Announcements:**

**STAR:** The third Friday of the month sent to [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org)  
(Please note STAR in subject line)

**Bulletin/Verbal Announcements:** Wednesday of the week sent to [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) (Bulletin/Worship Folder is printed on Thursday morning.) (Please note Bulletin or Announcement in subject line)

**Screen Announcements/Weekly BLC Emails:** Tuesday of the week sent to [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org) (Annie works Sunday – Wednesday)

**The Fellowship Committee** would like to send out a big Thank You to everyone who attended the continental Easter Breakfast on Easter Sunday. There were approximately sixty people who participated. They enjoyed a variety of juices, yogurts, fruits, and baked goods, all donated by members of the members of the congregation. A special Thank You goes out to everybody who helped with the setup, serving, and cleanup. It is true. Many hands do make light work!

**This summer, we will be participating in a weeklong serving opportunity from July 18th - July 23rd with Freedom Builder's Missions Week and all of Bethlehem is invited!** Freedom Builders understands that most people can only serve 1-2 days tops or possibly even only a partial day is perfectly fine. They also understand that not all want to be involved with construction so they have quite a few opportunities for those who wish to serve, but be sure to let Annie know which days you are hoping to attend and if you are looking to serve in a specific capacity. There will be an informational meeting on Sunday June 5th right after church in the youth room and all who are interested in serving are invited. Reach out to Annie at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org) if you have any other questions!

**Monthly STAR:** Thanks to all of you who have said that you will read the STAR online or pick it up at church. Those of you who come to church, be thinking if there is any member close in your neighborhood that you could deliver their copy to them. If you have recently decided to read on line or pick-up at church please call the office and let them know.

**Music news at BLC:** Many of you commented how much you enjoyed the choir music during Holy Week. The choir members appreciate the nice comments and we relay them to our new director, Tony Bero. It is sad that he is not on-site so he can hear from you himself. If you want to make certain he knows how much his skill in selecting the anthems and preparing the choir is appreciated, feel free to drop him a note in the “choir director” mailbox by the office or send him an email at [bero.tony@gmail.com](mailto:bero.tony@gmail.com). And for all of you budding vocalists out there....just think...if he can make the 4 of us sound that good, what could he do with you?!? Don't hesitate...the choir always wants more singers.