

Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1050 Peninsula Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49686



Sunday, April 5, 2026—8:00 am and 10:00 am

Evangelical Lutheran Worship—Setting 3, page 138

Prelude

Jesus is Alive! Alleluia!

BLC Choir

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

Processional Hymn

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

ELW 365

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.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



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



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

Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.
Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

A: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

A: Let us pray together...

C: ...O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to the people: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.

³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John

announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God's mercy endures forever.

² **Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**

¹⁶ The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"

¹⁷ **I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.**

¹⁸ The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹ **Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

²⁰ "This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter."

²¹ **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.**

²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ **By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Lesson

Colossians 3:1-4

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

1 If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that

are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

Sorrow gives way to "fear and great joy" when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!

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

1 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. 4 For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." 8 So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks (words on screen)

WOV 671

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 **"Receive our prayer."** (*Before prayer*) A: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. (*Conclusion*) P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **C: Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering / Offering Song

Zeke Clemons

Offertory

Come to the Table

ELW 481

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray together.

C: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

S 144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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 146



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.

Communion Hymns

*Carillon / Jesus Christ is Risen Today
I Am the Bread of Life*

*BLC Bell Choir
ELW 485*

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 - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

Shout for Joy

Pour out your fervent praise; There's a song to raise like a banner high;
Lift up your grateful heart to the Morning Star; He's alive and here with us.

Shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.

We stood on sinking sand; He reached out His hand, pulled us to his side;
We turned our hearts away; He was strong to save, now our Savior reigns in us.

Shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.
(interlude)

Oh, oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh, oh, oh.

There is no other God like You; We sing the praises that you're due Jesus, You have saved us,
oh, whoa;
There is no other God who reigns; You are the name above all names; Jesus, You have saved
us, whoa, whoa

...and shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.

Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Worship Servants for April 5

Preaching & Presiding—Pr. Paul Busekist

Assisting Minister—Barbara Oster (8:00am); Peggy Burns (10:00am)

Lector—Jan Stretlien (8:00am); Scott Sorenson (10:00am)

Musicians: David Husser, Zeke Clemons, Phil & Denice Bossardet, Pr Paul

Today's altar flowers are donated: *By Jacky Putman in Memory of Sandra Osgood*

Hospitality—Leonard/Barb Graf (8:00am); Dan / Laura Hahn (10:00am)

A/V—Alanna Steffunick-Boomer (8:00am); Barbara Oster, Paul Ton (10:00am)

Cookies/Coffee—Diane Cunningham; Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table— VOLUNTEER

Bell Ringer—Dave Susalski (10:00am)

Front Door Monitor: Tina Dohm (8:00am) / Jana and Tom Rockne (10:00am)

Altar Guild—Altar Guild Members

Tech Support—Jim Hinds/Julia Acker

Counters—Kate Holtfreter / Cindy Cuba

Easter Flower Dedications

In Memory of:

**Our Parents: Clare & Evelyn Monroe;
Don & Gert Fochtman and
sister Mary Momber**

By Cindy & Jim Monroe

Margaret Hutchison

By Jim & Clare Hutchison

**Jo & Vern Adolphson, Floyd & Pearl Ammann,
George Ammann**

By Nancy Ammann

Our Parents

By Dorene & Jim Boyd

Patricia & Stanley Brugger

By Gail Goldsmith

Cal & Betty Cole

By Janet Landis

**My Husband: Dan & Parents: Dick & Peggy
Bryson & In Laws: Will & Gen Morley**

By Betsy Morley

Our Parents

By Ron & Marilyn Dork

Our Parents

By Doug & Diane Cunningham

Our Parents

By Frank & Patti Wall

**George Haughton, Helen Haughton &
George Haughton Jr**

By Nancy Pflasterer

Suzy Ringsmuth, Stephen Fred

By Norm & Jane Fred

Tod & Paul

By Betty Rutila

Parents: Bill & Irene Downey

By Linda Hansen

Janice Waisanen

By Butch Waisanen

Rob Burns,

Dan & Ellen Pesavento,

John & Georgann Pesavento

By Peggy Burns

Grandparents: Bill & Irene “Papa & Grammy”

Downey

By Acker Family

In Celebration of:

Easter

By Bruce & Pamela Snyder

Our Family

By Tom & Cheryl Wegener

Our many blessings including our children & grandchildren

By Craig & Maureen Bauer

Jesus’ Resurrection

Janis Nelson

In Honor of:

Loved Ones

By Barb & Dale Wentzloff

The Busekist Family: Pr. Paul, Meredith & Parker

By Barbara Oster





Bethlehem April 5, 2026
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1050 Peninsula Drive
Traverse City, MI 49686
(231) 947-9880
www.bethlehemtc.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

4/5—Britney Jones

4/6—Jim Kriesel

4/6—Jon Kik

4/6—Brad Schuler

4/9—Zach Chaussee

4/10—Claire Hutchinson

4/12—Ellie Shaw

Today we celebrate Easter!
Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Grief Group meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30 in the gathering space, unless the TC schools are closed. Any questions contact Peggy Burns 232-392-6913.

Join us on Friday, April 10th at noon for another XYZ gathering! XYZ is predominantly geared toward seniors, but anyone is invited to attend and gatherings are enjoyable for adults of any age! We will be hearing from Kelly McCord, an RN and educator for Accelerate The Care. Accelerate The Care is a non-profit entity dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for caregivers and those affected by Alzheimer's & other types of Dementia. Kelly is an expert in Alzheimer's and Dementia care with decades of experience in caregiving and teaching. Her style as an educator is warm, captivating and easy to understand. We hope you can just us for a delicious lunch and a wonderful presentation!

Sunday School and Sunday's Adult Education hold their classes at 9:15am on Sunday. **The Wednesday Zoom Book/Bible Study** meets at 1:30pm with a study a new book, *Mary's Memoirs The Hidden Years*, which will start on April 15th. See Pr. Paul or Barbara if you have any questions.

A NOISY OFFERING is coming!! We have not had one for years. Our synod is requesting that all participating congregations make an offering of coins to bring to the synod assembly May 15-16. From April 12 thru May 10 we will be collecting coins which will be divided between Lutheran Disaster Response Ukraine and Samaritans-New Americans. So search those pockets, purses, cushions etc. and bring in any coins you can spare. (Bills and checks also accepted even though they don't jingle-jangle). Any questions can be directed to BLC's voting delegates, Peggy Burns, Jim Monroe, and Cindy Monroe.

Join Your Creation Care Team on our next hike. We are scheduled for April 19 at 12Noon at Timber Ridge Campground. Plan to pack a picnic as weather permits. They have a pavilion on site. God's creation is plentiful.

SPRING FLING: Sunday, April 26th at Noon. Potluck lunch: salad and fixins', rolls & butter and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. **THEME:** "Pampered: Inner & Outer Beauty". Speaker is from the GT Beauty Academy who will focus on skin, hair and nail care and she will provide us with a couple of surprises. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Please sign up by April 19th. **Join us for a fun day of pampering!**

Creation Care Team update: our next Creation Care core team meeting will be Monday, May 4th at 6pm in the Youth Room. Subcommittee members may be meeting before as needed. Contact Paul Wiemerslage, Tina Dohm or Pastor Paul for any updates.

Verse O.N.T.A.P.: Do you like the Beatles, Pat Benatar, Bob Marley, Elvis (and other artists from the last few decades)? Turns out that scripture has some things to say about love, relationship, and some connections to these rockers' lyrics! Check out Verse O.N.T.A.P. on Sunday, May 17th 5:30pm-7:00pm at The Workshop 221 Garland St.

Let's Celebrate! Bethlehem paid off the mortgage to the church in November, so let's celebrate. Our Congregational meeting will be on June 14th, so after the meeting we will have a party and burn the old mortgage (copy). We can use a few people to be on the planning committee. Please sign up in the Narthex if you would like to help out.

The church calendar is below. Please be sure to notify the office (admin@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is on the calendar.

Sunday, April 5

HAVE A BLESSED EASTER

8:00am—Easter Worship Service (S)

9:00am—Easter Brunch (FH)

10:00am—Easter Worship Service (S)

Monday, April 6

2:30pm—Choir (S)

3:00pm—Chair Yoga (FH)

3:30pm—Grief Group (GS)

Tuesday, April 7

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Property Work Group

9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)

10:45am—Staff Meeting (CR)

Wednesday, April 8

11:30am—Music Rehearsal

Thursday, April 9

9:00am-Baby Pantry Set-up (FH)

10:00am—Baby Pantry (FH)

1:00pm—Rebecca Anna Circle (Library)

5:30pm—ACA (FH)

Friday, April 10

12:00pm—XYZ (FH)

6:00pm—LifeRing Recovery Group (Library)

Saturday, April 11

7:00pm—Contra Dance-Bayside Travellers (FH)

Sunday, April 12

9:15am—Adult Education (YR)

9:15am—Sunday School

10:00am—Traditional Worship Service (S)

