

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

May 10, 2026  
Sunday 10:00 a.m.



**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 in your name, address, etc in the guest book near the entrance to the sanctuary.

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3, page 138**

**Pre-Worship Music/Announcements**

**Prelude**

### GATHERING

**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.**

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

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

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

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

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn** *Lord of Glory, You Have Brought Us* ELW 707

**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)

S 138

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

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 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

## Glory to God



Glory to God in the highest, 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;

*(continued on next page)*



everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. 26 From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, 27 so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. 28 For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, For we, too, are his offspring.’ 29 “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. 30 While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalmody**

**Psalm 66:8-20**

8 Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

**9 Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

10 For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**11 You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

12 You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**13 I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

14 those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

**15 I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**

16 Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

**17 I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

18 If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me; and has attended

**19 but in truth God has heard me to the sound of my prayer.**

20 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

## Second Lesson

1 Peter 3:13-22

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

13 Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 14 But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, 15 but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, 16 yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. 17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. 18 For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, 19 in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 20 who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. 21 And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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.

*In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

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

Jesus said to the disciples: 15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17 This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 18 “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

**Pastor Paul Busekist**

**Hymn of the Day**

*O Day Full of Grace*

*ELW 627*

**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 of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

## MEAL

**Offering** (Please be seated.)

**Offering Song:**

**Zeke Clemons**

**Offertory** (Please stand, as able.) **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

S 144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## 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

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



## Communion Hymns

*Children of the Heavenly Father  
Just As I Am, Without One Plea*

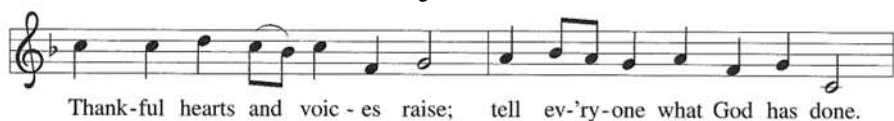
*ELW 781  
ELW 592*

## 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*



## 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: 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

*On Our Way Rejoicing*

*ELW 537*

### Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.



**Bethlehem** May 10, 2026  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

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

5/10—Kate Holtfreter  
5/11—Summer Kolka  
5/11—Linda Reyelts  
5/12—Mary Ann Tanis  
5/12—Barbara Wentzloff

5/13—Kathy McPherson  
5/13—Darlene Haara  
5/16—Linda Gokey  
5/17—Sally Erickson  
5/17—Barbara Oster

### Worship Servants for May 10

Presiding & Presiding—Pr. Paul  
Busekist

Assisting Minister—Peggy Burns

Lector—Tina Dohm

Musicians: David Husser, Zeke

Clemons; Phil & Denice Bossardet, Pr.  
Paul

Today's altar flowers are donated: *By  
John & Jan Stretlien in Memory of our  
mothers Beatrice Dole and Julie  
Stretlien*

Hospitality—Jim & Dorene Boyd

A/V—Jim Hinds / Barbara Oster

Cookies/Coffee—Diane Cunningham /  
Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table— VOLUNTEER

Bell Ringer—Gail Goldsmith

Front Door Monitor: Frank & Pat Wall

Altar Guild—Mary Ann Tanis / Gail  
Goldsmith

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Bonnie Gamble / Jane  
Passmore

## Happy Mother's Day

Today's Rose on the Baptismal Font is in celebration of Lakelyn Marie Jones, born on 5/4/2026. Her Parents are Britney and Gary Jones, Grandparents are Tim and Peggy Goebel and Big Brother is Layton Jones.

**Emergency Information and Drill On Sunday May 17th** during Worship the Safety and Security Committee will be discussing tornado/bad weather preparations, along with active shooter information. At the end of the service we will be having a fire drill where we will meet out at the garage. Reminder to not take your belongings and we will exit through the east side of the sanctuary. For those who can not walk far, we will just ask you to exit the building and come back in. The committee will be wearing their fire hats and directing you where to go. You can return to gather your belongings and have fellowship in the Gathering Space. It is so important to know what to do in an emergency. Thank you for participating with us.

**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.

**Where 2 or more are gathered in my name. (Matt 18:20)** In our world today there are a lot of things that we need prayer for. Every 4th Tues. starting at 11:00, we will be offering a time and place in church to pray. Please join us. The next date is May 26th. If any questions, please contact Peggy Burns at 231-392-6913 or [cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com](mailto:cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com)

**BOOK CLUB:** We will meet at The Cottage on Wed May 27 at 5:30 to discuss *HORSE* by Geraldine Brooks. If you are not on the email list please contact [cmonroe@chartermi.net](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net) if you want to attend so there are enough places set for us at the restaurant. The book club will NOT be meeting during the summer.

**BLC T-shirts/Cherry Festival** Once again this year we are volunteering for The National Cherry Festival. All shifts will be day shifts during the week. We will need 15-20 volunteers, the Cherry Festival pays us and the money goes to Pastor's sabbatical fund. As soon as the Volunteer Coordinator gives me exact times and dates I will have a sign up sheet in the narthex. In anticipation of our future volunteer projects, we want our volunteers to have BLC T-shirts. Price of the shirts will be based on how many we order. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex, deadline to order is May 31st. Please note: we plan to find v-neck and crew neck models this time.

**Flower Deliveries:** If you are interested in delivering flowers and visiting to our shut-ins. We are looking for volunteers. It would involve doing this once a month or six weeks, depending on the number of volunteers. Please contact Lindsay Susalski @ 231.534.0020 or Peggy Burns @ 231.392.6913

**New Life Together** We are looking for some folks to be at the volunteer table to welcome visitors to our church-just to say hello and we are glad that you are here. Please see Peggy Burns 231-392-6933.