



# BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Partnership in the Gospel*  
7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER  
& NEW MEMBER WELCOME

MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2026  
8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

## ✂ GATHERING ✂

*+ indicates to stand in body or spirit; **bold print** indicates congregational responses*

**PRELUDE** “*Jazz Gloria*” Natalie Sleeth; arr. Sonda K. Tucker

### **WORDS OF WELCOME**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
by whose hand we are given new birth,  
by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

### **+ THANKSGIVING FOR THE WATERS OF BAPTISM**

We bless you, almighty God, for the gift of water—  
for the oceans that surround the earth, for the rivers that nurture the land,  
for the lakes and rivers that you provide for our community—  
**We bless you, O God, for the waters of the earth.**

We honor you, merciful God, for showering us with water—  
for the rain that nourishes the plants and trees, for the floods that restore the fields,  
for the dew that freshens dry places—  
**We honor you, O God, for the waters you send.**

We glorify you, gracious God, for the waters of baptism—  
for the water of the Jordan that washed our Lord Jesus,  
for the waters that baptized the believers on Pentecost,  
for the water that illumines us with your Word,  
for the water that pours out the gifts of the Spirit,

for the water that bathes the church universal—  
 the Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostals, Evangelicals, independents—  
**We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism.**

We worship you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
 almighty, merciful, and gracious.  
 Well of forgiveness, you revive us,  
 Cup of cold water, you refresh us,  
 Pool of rebirth, you renew us.  
**To you comes the worship of all your people, now and forever.**  
**Amen!**

+ GATHERING HYMN *“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”* VT #392

1. The church of Christ cannot be bound by  
 2. True faith will open up the doors and  
 3. True love will not sit id - ly by when  
 4. If what we have we free - ly share to

walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and  
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek  
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the  
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the

love are found, there can the church be known.  
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.  
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.  
 Spir - it's care through ev - 'ry self - less deed.

**+ APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

**+ PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples,  
together following our Lord into every walk of life,  
together serving in Christ’s mission to the world, and together  
letting our love overflow more and more for your glory and praise,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(10:30) At this time, children age 3 to grade 5 are invited to go to Sunday School.  
They will return to the sanctuary before communion.*

**✠ WORD ✠**

**+ SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION** *“In Christ There Is No East or West”* ELW #650

*The first stanza is sung before the reading of the gospel.  
After the reading, the second stanza is sung.*



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.



but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.  
All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.

**+ HOLY GOSPEL** *LUKE 9:46-48*

The gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>46</sup> An argument arose among them concerning which one of them was the greatest. <sup>47</sup> But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side <sup>48</sup> and said to them, “Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me, for the least among all of you is the greatest.”

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**READING** PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11; 27-28.

A reading from Philippians.

<sup>1</sup> Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

<sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God for every remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup> always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy <sup>5</sup> for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup> to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup> having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

...

<sup>27</sup> Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel <sup>28</sup> and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**HOMILY**

+ **HYMN OF THE DAY** "We Are One in the Spirit (They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love)" VT #387



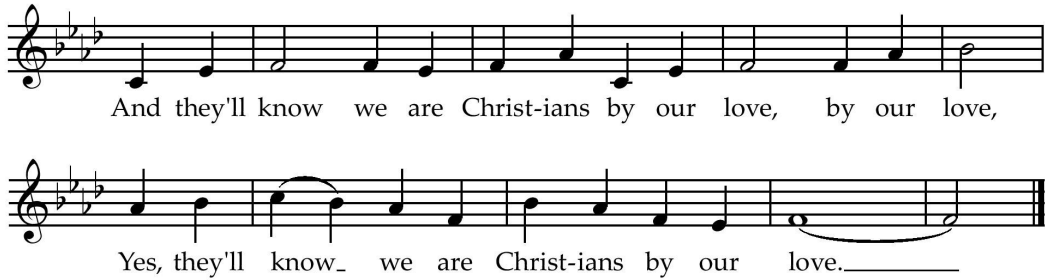
1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,  
2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,  
3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,



We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,  
We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand.  
We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,



And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:  
And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save\_ each one's pride:



**WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS (8:30 AM)**

New members are invited forward.

*Katie & Norbert Fick*

*Marcia Langston*

*Dan Sterud*

*Kevin, Anne & Theodore Fox*

*Karen Liebl*

*Arturo, Mimi & Rae Rae Rosas*

*Trina, Conner & Thomas Kern*

*Larry Oberg*

Today, we widen the circle of the Bethel community.

*Pulpit:* We welcome you with joy!

*Organ:* We welcome you with excitement!

*Pulpit:* We gratefully embrace your gifts and talents.

*Organ:* We celebrate the ministry we will do together!

**We look forward to growing in faith, in love, in hope, and in joy with you.**

Holy and loving God, we are called together to worship you.

We come from a variety of backgrounds and contexts.

Some bring experience and wisdom; others offer fresh perspectives and questions.

Some are carrying heavy loads, while others' hearts are light.

For some, this time is packed in among other activities and commitments;

for others, this time is free from other pressures.

**Come, Lord Jesus, and renew us all in the power of your love.**

We will greet one another with loving-kindness,

seeing and being seen in the light of Christ.

We will pray for and support friends and not-yet-friends;

open to possibilities, eager to connect to each other and to you.

**Come, Lord Jesus, and bind us together in the power of your love.**

We will serve you in this particular time and place,

caring for others and the world you made, working for justice and peace.

We will remember all your beloved beyond this gathering,  
especially any who are poor or oppressed.

**Come, Lord Jesus, and channel through us the power of your love.**

We will listen for your Word that we may grow in faith and continue to learn ever more about you,  
each other, and all your creation. **Come, Lord Jesus, and teach us the power of your love.**

Be glorified, O God, by our lives together: in our worship, fellowship, service and learning.

**Come, Lord Jesus, fill and lead us with the power of your love.**

**+ APOSTLES' 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.**

**+ HYMN OF CELEBRATION (8:30) "Anthem" Gather #778**



We are called, we are cho - sen. We are Christ for one an -



oth-er. We are prom-ised to to - mor-row, while we are for him to - day.



— We are sign, we are won-der. We are sow-er, we are seed. We are



har - vest, we are hun - ger. We are ques - tion, we are creed.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**+ SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING**



Guests

Generosity is part of who we are as God's people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel's trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated donation. Online giving cards (at the name tag stations), checks, or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.



Members

**ANTHEM** *"In Christ Alone"* arr. David Angerman

**+ OFFERTORY**



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



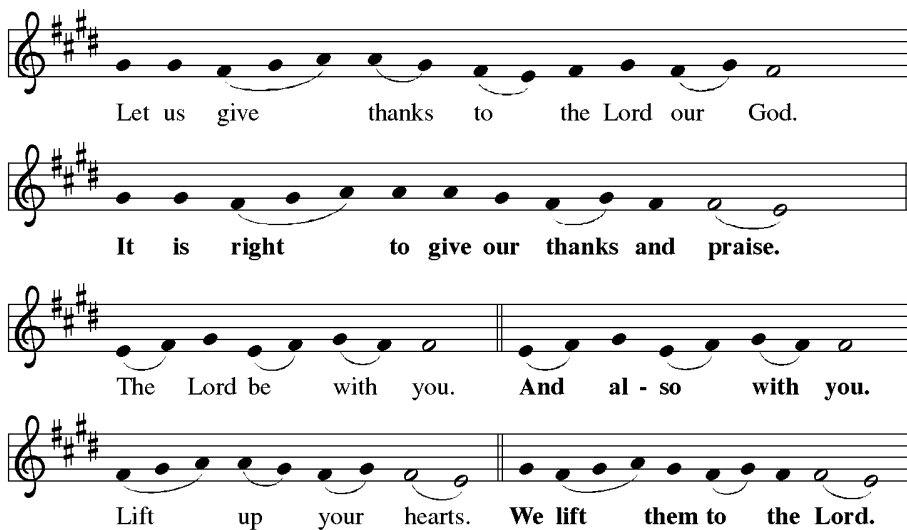
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## + OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and care of all; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## ✠ MEAL ✠

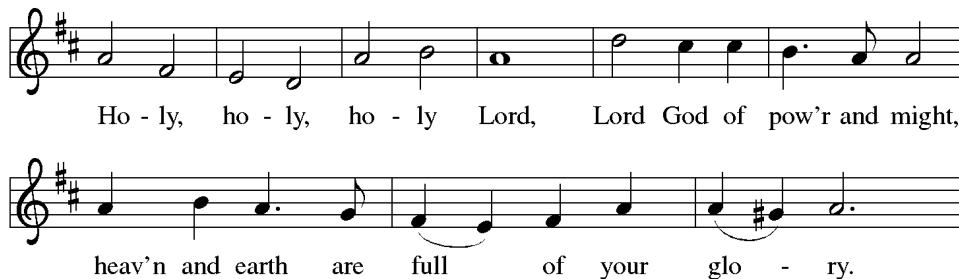
### + GREAT THANKSGIVING



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

### + EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, who enthroned forever at your right hand intercedes for us as our great high priest. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your spirit poured out on all nations.

*The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución*

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moons and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

**+ THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

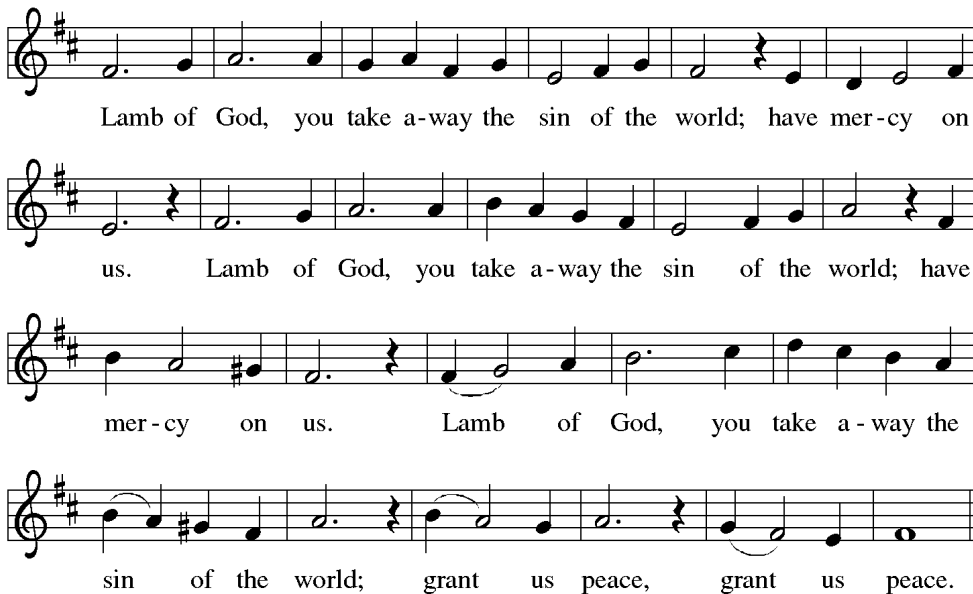
**+ EL PADRE NUESTRO**

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,  
santificado sea tu nombre;  
venga a nos tu reino;  
hágase tu voluntad,  
así en la tierra como en el cielo;  
el pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy;  
y perdónanos nuestras deudas  
así como nosotros perdonamos  
a nuestros deudores;  
y no nos dejes caer en la tentación;  
mas líbranos del mal.

For the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Porque tuyo es el reino,  
el poder y la gloria,  
por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

### LAMB OF GOD



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.

### HOLY COMMUNION ANTHEM “Set Me as a Seal Upon Your Heart” Laura Farnell

#### + TABLE BLESSING

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

### ✠ SENDING ✠

#### + BENEDICTION

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Christ,  
so that you may overflow with love by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

#### + SENDING HYMN “O God, Beyond all Praising” ELW #880

#### + DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!

**Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE** *“Toccata for a Joyful Day”* Emma Lou Diemer

**WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Rebecca Nystuen (10:30) Krista Middlebrooks

Ushers: (8:30) Greg Bussler, Harley Foster, Dale Turnacliff, Bob Vanderhoof  
(10:30) Marv Farmer, Allan Mathison

Readers: (8:30) Paula Mathison (10:30) Jill Fisher

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Judy Code, Dottie Hammer, Phyllis Larson, Phil Ruud, Rose Turnacliff  
(10:30) Magan Pratola

Altar Care: (set) and (clean) Linda Zolnosky, Lois Cary (cups) Kari Kust

Director of Resonance: Cindy Carlson Bongos: Preston Pollington

Church Choir Director: Peter Schleif

Vocal Trio: Isaac Schleif, Ian Schleif, Peter Schleif

Trumpet: Gerry Hoekstra Keyboards: Megan Engel

A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Broughton, Nathan Hoekstra

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

*“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”* Text: Adam M.L. Tice, © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.  
Tune: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678-1727.

*“We Are One in the Spirit”* Text & Music: Peter Scholtes, © 1966 F.E.L. Publications, assigned to  
The Lorenz Corp., 1991 (admin. Music Services).

The Offering Praytor is modified from All Creation Sings © 2020 Augsburg Fortress.

The Benediction is based on Romans 15:13.

We are using ELW Setting Four for our liturgy. The Eucharistic Prayer is ELW Form IV.

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**SUNDAY ATTENDANCE**

May 10	in person attendance
8:30	174
10:30	51
Total	225


**NEXT SUNDAY...**

The text of the day  
will be **Acts 2:1-6, 14, 16-21,**  
and John 14:16-17.

# THIS WEEK: MAY 17TH—MAY 23RD

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

## MONDAY

12:00 pm  Bible Study @ the Vault (1520 Clinton Lane)

## TUESDAY

9:45 am Staff Meeting

12:00 pm Lydia Circle

5:00 pm Personnel

6:30 pm Church Council

## WEDNESDAY

4:30 pm Homes for God's Children

8:00 pm Brio Youth Bell Choir

## THURSDAY

8:30 am MoB (Men of Bethel) (Room 54)

9:30 am FaB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)

10:00 am Parkview Fellowship

## FRIDAY

9:15 am  WoW (Women of the Word) via zoom



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