

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Vibrantly open to the spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God
and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.*

Sunday, April 16, 2023
Second Sunday of Easter

Melanie Lichtenberg, Guest Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God...given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism...the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to
your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need...the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn "Now the Green Blade Rises" ELW #379

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.

Kyrie (ELW p. 138)

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 140) **This is the feast...**

Prayer of the Day

**Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of
those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive
the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading Acts 2:14a, 22-32

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

Psalms 16 (read responsively)

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

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

Children's Sermon

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 142) **Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?...**

The Gospel according to John the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading John 20:19-31

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "That Easter Day with Joy was Bright" ELW #384

Apostles Creed (p. 105)

Prayers of Intercession Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Passing of the Peace The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Offertory Prayer

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Jesus Christ, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 144)

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (p. 145)

Communion (ELW p. 146) **O Lamb of God...**

Communion Hymn "The Peace of the Lord" ELW #646

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Sending Hymn "Thine Is the Glory" ELW #376

Dismissal Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—April 16, 2023, Second Sunday of Easter

OUR MISSION STATEMENT—Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS? Please contact the church office at 320-395-2125 at bethellutheranlp@gmail.com or pastor@lpbethel.org. For emergency pastoral care needs, please call the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Vicar Stefan at 320-434-7113. Bulletin submissions due: Wednesdays at noon. Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month. **GivePlus Text 866-298-7547**

TODAY

- Welcome Pastor Melanie Lichtenberg and thank you for leading our worship today!
- Hearing assist devices are available: Speak to an usher for assistance.
- Sunday school: 10:15 am
- Adult Forum/Confirmation class: Jeff Schmidt Homeless Ministry at 10:15 am
- Family Game Night: 5:00-8:00 pm at church. Please bring a hotdish or salad to share, your own beverage, and your favorite game to play.

MONDAY 4/17

- Coffee hour: 8:30 am-9:30 am

WEDNESDAY 4/19

- Worship & Music meeting: 4:00 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm
- Book Club discussion: 7:30 pm

SUNDAY 4/23 (3 Easter)

- Worship: 9:00 am
- Noisy offering: supports Bethel Youth Camperships
- Sunday school and Confirmation class: 10:15 am

Adult Forum-Twin Cities Homeless Ministry: Join us after worship on TODAY for an Adult Forum featuring guest Jeff Schmidt. Jeff will share his Outreach Homeless Ministry in the Twin Cities area. Jeff is a teacher in Hutchinson and began this grassroots ministry where he brings basic survival items to those living on the streets. Jeff will tell his stories of how he shares his faith and respectfully helps meet the basic needs of these individuals. If you would like to contribute to this Homeless Ministry, here is the Wish List:

Gently used or (new) hoodies, belts, backpack/bags, men's shoes/boots, sleeping bags, men's winter coats, and men's jeans.

New men's socks and underwear (boxers or boxer briefs), tarps, bungees, portable food and Powerade.

Hygiene items: shaving cream, powder (body or foot), tampons, toothbrush cases/covers, disposable razors, small mirrors, wipes (sm. pkgs.), deodorant, combs and picks, hairbrushes, Chapstick, washcloths, and soap cases.

The SW MN Synodical Convention of Women of the ELCA will be Friday, May 5 at Shetek Lutheran Ministries near Slayton, Minnesota. Make plans now to attend and join your sisters in Christ from all over the Synod as we gather to "Renew, Re-do, and Rejoice!" Come to the one-day convention for worship, speakers, displays, and fellowship. Registration is \$35 due by April 22. More information is posted on the bulletin board. Speak to Jill Duncan with questions or to register.

April Book Club: *Everything Isn't Terrible: Conquer Your Insecurities, Interrupt Your Anxiety, and Finally Calm Down* by Dr. Kathleen Smith

Discussion date: Wednesday, April 19, 7:30 pm

May Book Club: *Remember: The Science of Memory and the Art of Forgetting* by Lisa Genova **Discussion date:** Wednesday, May 17, 7:30 pm

Bethel Quilting: The group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month in the Fellowship Hall from 1:00 pm-4:30 pm-come and go as you wish. If you are interested in evening quilting, call Judy or Roxanne. The quilts are for baptized babies, graduates, GLLM Quilt auction, and Don't Cry I'm Here (homeless shelter).

On the fourth Sunday of the month the "Noisy" offering supports camperships for Bethel youth attending Green Lake Bible Camp. On your way out of the sanctuary, drop your loose change into the metal can with a clang! Although paper bills and checks won't have the same noisy effect, they will be accepted and appreciated! (April 23)