

## 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 30, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Stefan Swanson, Interim Vicar  
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 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing" ELW #385

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

**O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety  
through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in  
certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Choir Anthem "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" by Craig Courtney

### WORD

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

First Reading Acts 2:42-47 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 23 (read responsively)

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:19-25 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 tenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading John 10:1-10

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" ELW #789

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 Music "In Christ There Is No East or West"

Ari Shields

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 "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" ELW #484

Prayer after Communion

### SENDING

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

Blessing

Sending Hymn "Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing" ELW #544

Dismissal Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**

# WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—April 30, 2023, Fourth 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](mailto:bethellutheranlp@gmail.com) or [pastor@lpbethel.org](mailto: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: 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. **GivePlus Text 866-298-7547**

## TODAY

- Hearing assist devices are available: Speak to an usher for assistance.
- Sunday school & Confirmation class: 10:15 am

## MONDAY 5/1

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

## WEDNESDAY 5/3

- Choir practice: 6:30 pm
- WELCA meeting: 7:30 pm

## SATURDAY 5/6

- Cemetery clean-up: 10:00 am

## SUNDAY 5/7 (5 Easter)

- Worship: 9:00 am
- Sunday school and Confirmation class: 10:15 am

**Spring Clean-up at the cemeteries**: Seeking volunteers for clean up at the cemeteries on Saturday, May 6 at 10:00 am. Questions? Contact Mary Lou Teubert.

**Mission Assessment Coffee Hour**: Join us at 10:15 am on Sunday, May 21, after the service for a presentation from Vicar Stefan about the results of the Mission Assessment process. We'll hear about the information gathered during interviews and focus groups, discuss next steps in Bethel's process, and have some time for questions.

**Homeless Outreach Ministry:** We are collecting items to support those living on the streets in the Twin Cities area. Please place your donated items on the table in the Narthex. TODAY is the last day to drop off donations. Thank you!

**Homeless Ministry Wish List:**

Used or New items

hoodies  
belts  
backpacks/bags  
men's shoes/boots  
sleeping bags  
men's winter coats  
men's jeans

New items

men's socks  
men's underwear (boxers or boxer briefs)  
tarps  
bungees  
portable food

Hygiene items

shaving cream  
powder (body or foot)  
tampons  
toothbrush cases/covers  
disposable razors  
small mirrors  
wipes (small packages)  
deodorant  
combs and picks  
hairbrushes  
Chapstick  
washcloths  
soap cases

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

**Prairie Days Burger Stand Volunteers Wanted:** Mark your calendars for Prairie Days 2023 on Friday, July 14 & Saturday, July 15. Bethel Lutheran Church has signed up to cover a shift at the Burger Stand from 1:00-3:00 pm on Saturday, July 15. If you are willing and able to volunteer please contact Ron Foust at 612-245-3005.

**Bethel Quilting:** The group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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!