

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, May 7, 2023
Fifth 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 "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! ELW #377

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 God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us
grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to
share his risen life with all the world, for he 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 7:55-60 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16 (read responsively)

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:2-10 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 fourteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading John 14:1-14

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather" ELW #530

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

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

Hymn "The Lord's Prayer" Green Binder #134

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

Communion Hymn "I Received the Living God" ELW #477

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Blessing

Sending Hymn "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" ELW #619

Dismissal Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—May 7, 2023, Fifth 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

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

MONDAY 5/8

- Coffee hour: 8:30 am-9:30 am
- Council meeting: 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY 5/10

- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

THURSDAY 5/11

- MEFS Mobile Outreach: 1:30-3:00 pm, Bethel Lutheran Church parking lot

SUNDAY 5/14 (6 Easter) Mother's Day

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

May Book Club: *Remember: The Science of Memory and the Art of Forgetting* by Lisa Genova **Discussion date:** Third Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm.
Looking ahead this summer:

June-no meeting

July-*The Measure* by Nikki Erlick

August-*United States of Grace* by Lenny Duncan

Mission Assessment Coffee Hour: Join us at 10:15 am 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.

Bethel Lutheran Church hosting tip night fundraiser at Unhinged! Pizza, Glencoe:

Monday, May 22, from 4:00-8:00 pm. A percentage of buffet sales and all tips will support Bethel Youth Camperships. We hope you'll join us for a pizza party! Those interested in volunteering to help clear the tables, please contact Emily Koehler (emily.e.koehler@gmail.com or 605-661-5717).

Many hands make light work!

The church spring cleaning job list is in the Narthex. If you are willing and able, please sign up to complete a job on the list at your convenience. Thank you!

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 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!