



*Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn  
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*

## **THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD EASTER SUNRISE**

**APRIL 5, 2026  
7:00 AM**



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Winston Krieg

Organist

Ann Sommer

# *The Resurrection of Our Lord (Easter Sunrise)*

*April 5, 2026 – 7:00 AM*

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## Divine Service: Setting I

Order of Service: *Lutheran Service Book, pp 151-166*

*Pre-Service Music*



### April Bible Verse

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

*John 17:17*

### Our Mission Statement

Representing God's Love to Our Congregation, Community, and the World!

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### *Ringling of the Church Bell*

*Stand and turn to face the ✠ Cross for the Processional Hymn.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

*LSB 457*



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to-day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which He endured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
△ 4 Sing we to our God a-bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

*The sign of the ✠ Cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

INVOCATION

*LSB 151*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

*LSB 151*

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

*Exodus 15:2a, 6, 13, 17–18; antiphon: v. 1b*

I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
**the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.**

The LORD is my strength and my song,  
**and he has become my salvation.**

Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,  
**your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.**

You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed;  
**you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.**

You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,  
**the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode,**  
the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

**The LORD will reign forever and ever.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.**

KYRIE

*LSB 152*

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** 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.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let  
us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

*This Is the Feast*

LSB 155



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



*Refrain*

**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**C** Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Exodus 14:10-15:1*

<sup>10</sup>When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. <sup>11</sup>They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? <sup>12</sup>Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” <sup>13</sup>And Moses said to the people, “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. <sup>14</sup>The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

<sup>15</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. <sup>16</sup>Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. <sup>17</sup>And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. <sup>18</sup>And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

<sup>19</sup>Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, <sup>20</sup>coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

<sup>21</sup>Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. <sup>22</sup>And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. <sup>24</sup>And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, <sup>25</sup>clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the

Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

<sup>26</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” <sup>27</sup>So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. <sup>28</sup>The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup>But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

<sup>30</sup>Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup>Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

<sup>1</sup>Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,  
“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

*adapt. From Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Christ has risen from the dead.

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;  
he has put all things under his feet.

EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup>and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am

what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.  
<sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

COMMON ALLELUIA

*LSB 156*

**C** 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.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>3</sup>So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup>Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples went back to their homes.

<sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup>And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>14</sup>Having said this, she turned around and saw

Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Awake, My Heart, with Gladness*

LSB 467



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness, See what to - day is done;  
 2 The foe in tri - umph shout - ed When Christ lay in the tomb;  
 3 This is a sight that glad - dens—What peace it doth im - part!  
 4 Now hell, its prince, the dev - il, Of all their pow'r are shorn;



Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, Comes forth the glo - rious sun.  
 But lo, he now is rout - ed, His boast is turned to gloom.  
 Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens The joy with - in my heart.  
 Now I am safe from e - vil, And sin I laugh to scorn.



My Sav - ior there was laid Where our bed must be made  
 For Christ a - gain is free; In glo - rious vic - to - ry  
 No gloom shall ev - er shake, No foe shall ev - er take  
 Grim death with all its might Can - not my soul af - fright;



When to the realms of light Our spir - it wings its flight.  
 He who is strong to save Has tri - umphed o'er the grave.  
 The hope which God's own Son In love for me has won.  
 It is a pow'r - less form, How - e'er it rave and storm.

5 The world against me rages,  
 Its fury I disdain;  
 Though bitter war it wages,  
 Its work is all in vain.

My heart from care is free,  
 No trouble troubles me.  
 Misfortune now is play,  
 And night is bright as day.

6 Now I will cling forever  
 To Christ, my Savior true;  
 My Lord will leave me never,  
 Whate'er He passes through.  
 He rends death's iron chain;

He breaks through sin and pain;  
 He shatters hell's grim thrall;  
 I follow Him through all.

7 He brings me to the portal  
 That leads to bliss untold,  
 Whereon this rhyme immortal  
 Is found in script of gold:  
 "Who there My cross has shared  
 Finds here a crown prepared;  
 Who there with Me has died  
 Shall here be glorified."

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662. Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON  
*The Morning That Broke the Grave*  
*John 20:1-18*

*Stand*

OFFERTORY

*LSB 159*



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

OFFERING PRAYER

*Sit*

OFFERING

*Stand*

*Marriage Banns*

**P** On April 25<sup>th</sup>, Henry Kettler and Allison Hand desire to enter the holy estate of matrimony according to the Lord's Word. They desire our prayers so that they may begin their marriage in God's name and with His blessing. If you can show just cause why these two persons should not be joined together in holy matrimony, you are to declare it before the wedding. May God grant them His blessing.

**P** Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, You established matrimony and desire that we keep it holy. Behold with Your favor Henry Kettler and Allison Hand, who intend to have their union blessed by Your Word. Grant them Your grace so that they may begin their wedded life in You, live according to Your Word, and rejoice in Your strong love and enduring blessing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*LSB 162*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** 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.

BENEDICTION

*LSB 166*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A - men.

*Face the ✠ Cross for the Recessional Hymn.*

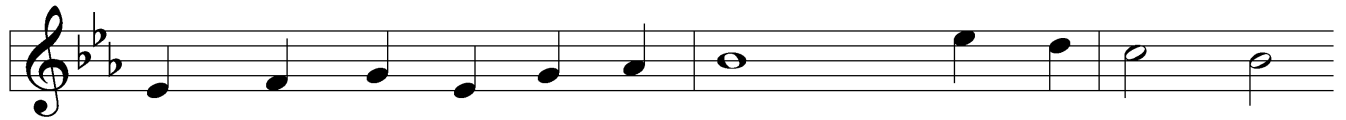
RECESSIONAL HYMN

*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

LSB 465



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -  
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set  
 Δ 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



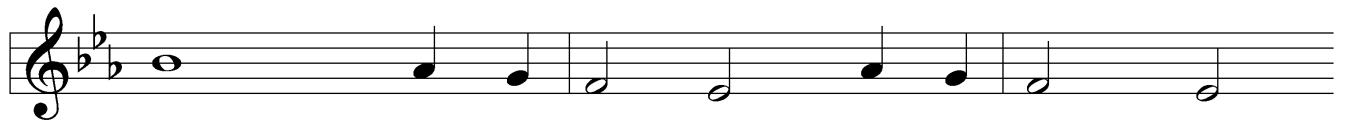
praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!  
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!  
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer  
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed!



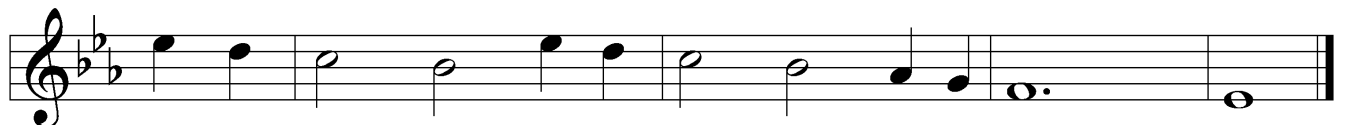
He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and  
 He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us  
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's  
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the Fa - ther and our



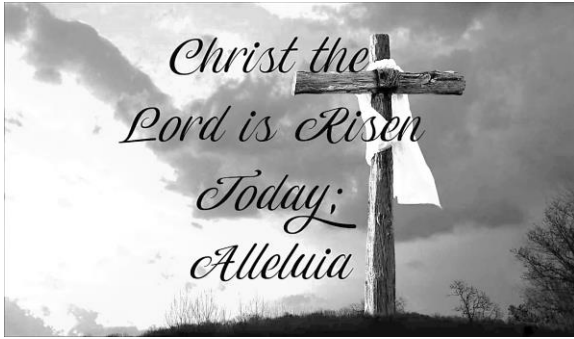
clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 life And by His pres - ence stills all  
 day That by our lives we tru - ly  
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"  
 strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



POSTLUDE

*Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, where we worship in the name of the crucified and risen Lamb of God, Jesus Christ our Lord. Blessings to you as you worship with us today.*

*Easter Lilies 2026*

*Eric and Kristi Berglund and Family*

*In honor of Resurrection Sunday*

*Fred Boecker*

*In honor of Jesus Christ Our Savior*

*Kevin Harrington*

*In Honor of Jesus Christ Our Savior*

*Tom and Lillian Hayden*

*In Honor of my LWML Secret Prayer Sisters*

*David and Cathy Hodge*

*In Honor of Giuliana, Norman and Winston Krieg*

*Clinton and Diane Kettler and Family*

*In Honor of our Risen Lord, Our Savior Jesus Christ*

*Chris and Caren Landeck*

*In Honor of Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ*

*Charles Meyer*

*In Honor of C.F. and Ada Louise Meyer*

*Thelma Moore*

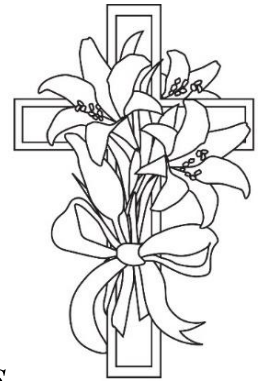
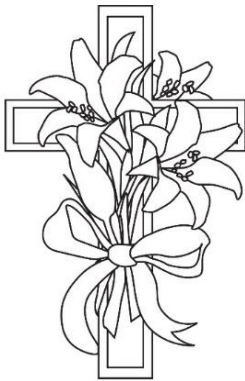
*In Honor of Our Risen Lord*

*Jim and Cheryl Straker*

*In Honor of all our family in heaven*

*Gene and Billie Weidemann*

*In Honor of Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ*



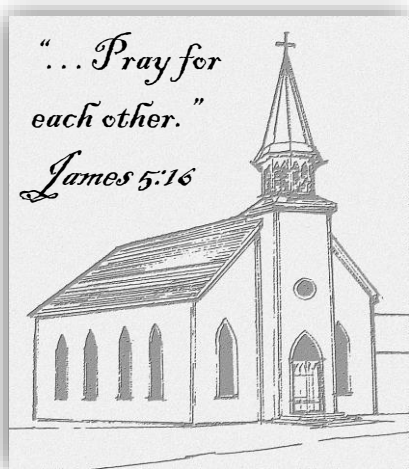
## *In Our Thoughts & Prayers*

**Congregation:** for the family of Lathel Norris as they mourn her loss; health and healing for Jerry Kohring; health and healing for Tim Garner (brother-in-law of Dorcas Schroeder); healing for Terry and Becky Lueckemeyer; healing for Lillian Hayden from knee surgery; for Tom Hayden's recovery after surgery and continued healing; for Adeline Platt's health; and Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church.

**Community:** for Grace Lutheran School, that they may continue to be a place for the children of our community and congregation to learn and grow in their faith and knowledge of God's world; may our Lord continue to deliver to us favorable weather; for Brenham Pregnancy Center and those whose lives they touched; Faith Mission; families and individuals cared for by Child Protective Services.

**World:** for all those suffering through war, may God watch over and protect His children, and by His Holy Spirit, may they all come to know Christ as their Savior and thus enjoy eternity with Him, for those who have been led astray into false belief; for those facing crisis pregnancies, that they would find the strength to choose life for their unborn child; for the leaders of the nations, that they would make godly decisions for their people and countries.

### *Bethlehem at Prayer*



Prayer is a vital part of our life together in Christ. To that end, *Bethlehem at Prayer* is a means to encourage more intentional prayer for one another. This is an opportunity for us to support one another in faith, lifting up each household by name before our gracious God. While members can always request prayers at any time, this effort ensures that every family at Bethlehem is prayed for regularly. We invite you to join us in encouragement and intercession, praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ each week.

*Please remember these families in your prayers this week:*

- Dahmann - Don
- Dahmann - Doyle, Karin
- Kettler - Elizabeth
- Kettler - Clinton, Diane, Ruth Anne
- Schramme - Chad, Lori, Addison, Wyatt
- Schroeder - Shane, Jessy, Emersyn

*May the Lord bless and strengthen them in faith and life.*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## This Week's Schedule

April 5 – April 12

**Today:** *Easter Sunrise Service*  
**7:00 AM** Divine Worship: Setting I  
**8:00 AM** Easter Breakfast  
**9:00 AM** Sunday School & Adult Bible Class  
**9:30 AM** Easter Egg Hunt



### *Easter Celebration Service*

**10:15 AM** Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion  
Acolyte: Taylor Nowicki  
Crucifer: Wyatt Schramme  
Greeter: Shirley Ashorn  
Ushers: Jason Ashorn                      Kaisen Ashorn  
                    Melvin Ashorn                      Eric Berglund



**Monday:**  
**6:00 PM**                      New Members Class



**Tuesday:**  
**7:00 PM**                      LWML Social  
**7:30 PM**                      LWML Meeting



**Wednesday:**  
**8:30 AM**                      Sonshine



**7:00 PM**                      Church Council Meeting



**Thursday:**  
**6:30 PM**                      Ladies Bible Study





**Next Sunday: *Second Sunday of Easter***

**9:00 AM**

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

**10:15 AM**

Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Michael Hinze

Greeter: Billie Weidemann

Ushers: Doyle Dahmann

Glenn Foster

Delwin Gaskamp

Kevin Harrington

**Serving in April: Elder – Clinton Kettler / Trustee – Doyle Dahmann**

*If you have a question or thought concerning spiritual care or the church property, please contact the appropriate elder or trustee.*



*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Geraldine Pohlmeyer and family in memory of Glenn Pohlmeyer.*

*The flowers in the Narthex are in memory of Lathel Norris.*



There is a Church Council meeting **this Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.**



*Mark your Calendars for...*

*Tropical Trek VBS - June 16-19*

We need adult volunteers to help lead music, crafts, games, and the kitchen. If you are interested, please reach out to Ann Smitherman or sign up in the parish hall. Also, if you are interested in your child or grandchild taking part in VBS this summer, please sign them up in the parish hall.



## Life with God—New Members Class

*continues tomorrow night, April 6<sup>th</sup>*

Our adult information class covers the most important teachings of the Bible as they are believed, taught, and confessed here at Bethlehem. It is designed for anyone considering membership, new members, and any member of the congregation who would like a thorough review of basic Biblical doctrine. Mark your calendar

and plan to join us **every Monday night from 6:00 to 7:30 PM.** Classes run weekly for 10-12 sessions.



The LWML social and meeting for **April** will be held **this Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 PM.** All the ladies of the congregation are invited to attend.

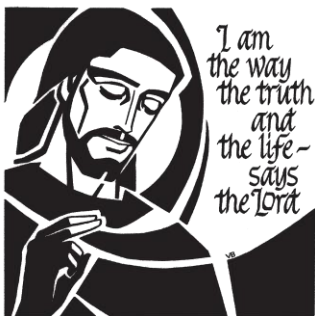


**April 5 (Easter Day) – Alleluia, Christ has risen!**

This is *the* pro-life proclamation! Our Lord has defeated death to give life to the world. There is no person whom Jesus does not wish to rescue from the curse of death, as “God shows no partiality”

(Acts 10:34). And we, who have already “been raised with Christ” through faith and Holy Baptism, “seek the things that are above” (Colossians 3:1), desiring that all would have life, now and when He appears in glory (Colossians 3:4).

## *Sunday School Corner*



In our Spring unit, we conclude our study of the New Testament, beginning with the appearance of the resurrected Christ and continuing through the growth of the Early Church. This morning, the kids studied the lesson “A Revealing Restoration – Jesus Appears in Galilee.” Peter, James, John, Thomas, and a few of the other disciples fish all night on the Sea of Tiberias without catching anything. At dawn, Jesus appears on the beach and tells

them to cast their nets on the right side of the boat. Immediately, the nets fill to overflowing, and John realizes Jesus is there. Peter swims ashore to see Jesus, who prepares breakfast. Addressing Peter directly, Jesus asks three times, “Do you love Me?” With each question, Peter becomes more distressed. Through these questions,

the Lord restores and reinstates Peter to lead His Church. To reinforce this lesson with your kids, as a family, discuss: What does it feel like to be forgiven of something that you did wrong? Have you ever thought that you couldn't be forgiven and then someone forgave you? If not, imagine what that might feel like. Maybe we take it for granted that we will be forgiven. Why is that a problem? Peter and other disciples were fishermen. Jesus used their occupation, or job, to help them serve Him. What are some occupations or jobs that you know about? How do those people serve God in their occupation? How do we serve God in whatever our occupation or vocation is? Also, parents, you can join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

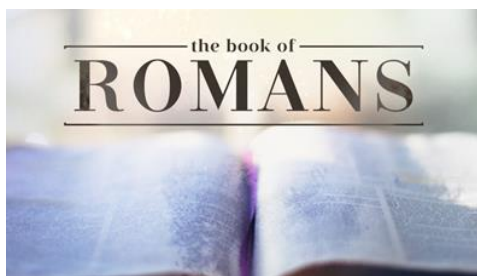
## *High School Lesson*

Our High School Sunday School class is beginning a new study series using Not-So-Nice Bible Stories: Master Criminals. In this engaging and thought-provoking study, students will explore the stories of some of Scripture's most notorious wrongdoers, and discover how God's mercy and grace still shine through even the darkest human deeds. Each lesson points us to Christ, who took the punishment for all sin upon Himself and gives us forgiveness, life, and salvation. Join us as we dig into God's Word, wrestle with tough questions, and see how even "master criminals" reveal our need for the one true Savior, Jesus Christ.

### **Lesson 14 – A Big Ego's Brilliance Backfires (Esther)**

In this week's lesson, our High School Sunday School class explored the book of Esther, focusing on Haman's pride and plot against God's people. Students saw how unchecked ego and hatred led to a plan for destruction, yet also how God worked behind the scenes to preserve His people through Esther and Mordecai. Even though God's name is not directly mentioned in the book, His providence is clearly at work, turning what was meant for evil into good. We discussed how this account points us to Christ, through whom God decisively delivers His people—not by hidden means alone, but through the cross, where evil is overturned and salvation is won for all.

## *Adult Sunday School Lesson*



St. Paul's letter to the Romans is often called the "chief part of the New Testament." Romans clearly lays out the heart of the Christian faith: we are justified by grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone. In this rich epistle, Paul teaches on sin and righteousness, law and Gospel, baptism, the struggle against the old

Adam, and life lived in the freedom of the Gospel. Whether you've been attending or have yet to join us, this is a wonderful time to dig into God's Word together and grow in our understanding of His mercy in Christ. Come and be strengthened in the faith that saves and learn how the Gospel shapes our daily lives. We look forward to studying this treasure of Scripture with you! If you could not attend today, please join us next Sunday during the Adult Bible Study hour before church, starting at 9 a.m. Now is the time to commit yourself to a deeper and more meaningful understanding of God's Word and your relationship with Him. I hope to see you all next Sunday as we continue our studies.



Online Giving

You may give tithes and offerings online by clicking the "Give" tab on our website (<https://www.bethlehemwmpenn.org/>), or just scan the QR code to the left.

**Last Week at Bethlehem**

DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
Mar. 25	Midweek Lent Worship Service	64	\$275.00
Mar. 29	Sunday School Youth Bible Class Adult Bible Class	11 2 24	\$57.85
Mar. 29	Worship Service	158	\$4,764.19 Parish Hall Rental Donation \$100.00 Youth League \$167.00 Easter Lilies \$221.00