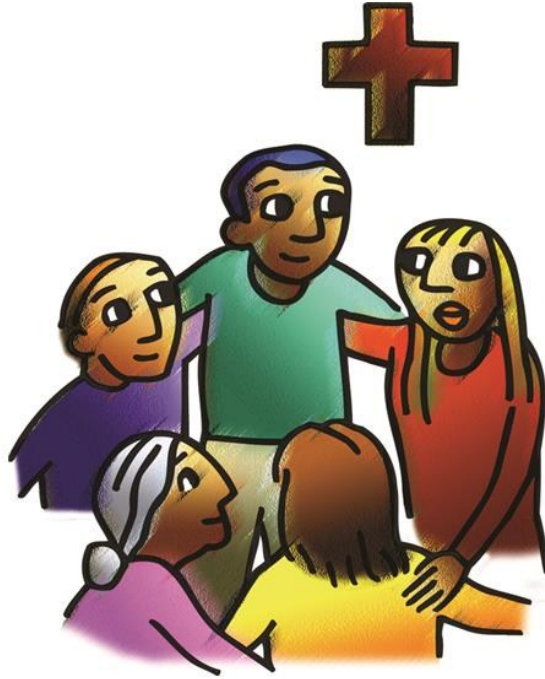


Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday of Easter May 18, 2025 Year C



Worship Assistants
Assisting Minister: Kay Zastrow
Reader: Michael Zastrow
Altar Guild: Karen Hervas
Communion Assistant: Dar Schuurmans
Ushers: Todd & Sue Keckhaver
Video Tech: Rick Johnson

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

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

A rumor about an empty tomb
And a missing body.

Unlikely.

Yet this was the testimony of the women;
And it was confirmed by the disciples.

It means life will never be the same.

Love is stronger than death,
Forgiveness flows,
Healing comes,
People change,
Hope is renewed.

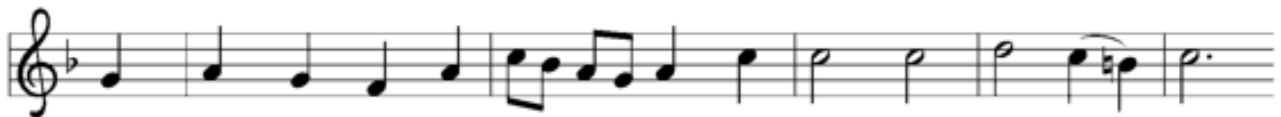
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* **Cranberry 634**



- 1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
- 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
- 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
- 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

- 5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe 6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
on this terrestrial ball we at his feet may fall!
to him all majesty ascribe We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all. and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

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Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you created us in your image
and planted us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,
and you gave us water from the rock.

**When we did not know the way,
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.**

We praise you for your salvation through water,
for the water in this font,
and for all water everywhere.

**Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.**

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

This Is the Feast (setting 3) pp.140-41

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



Prayer of the Day

The grace we discover on Easter morn,
the love of God that opens the world to a new day,
and the community that gathers in the spirit of the risen one,
be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray, O Lord God, **you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Tone Chimes

*How Can I Keep from Singing
My Jesus I Love Thee*

Song after Tone Chimes

Bind Us Together

WOV 748

F Dm Gm

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

C⁷ F F

can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

Dm Gm C F

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

F C⁷ F F C⁷ F

1 There . . is on - ly one God. There . . is on - ly one King.
2 You are the fam - ly of God. You are the prom - ise di - vine.

F C⁷ F F C⁷ F B^b/C *Refrain*

There . . is on - ly one Bod-y; that . . is why we can sing:
You are God's cho - sen de - sire, you are the glo - rious new wine.

First Lesson: Acts 11:1-18

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148 (read responsively by verse)

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

² Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his host!

³Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars!

**⁴Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for he commanded and they were created.

**⁶He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,

**⁸fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

⁹Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!

**¹⁰Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!**

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

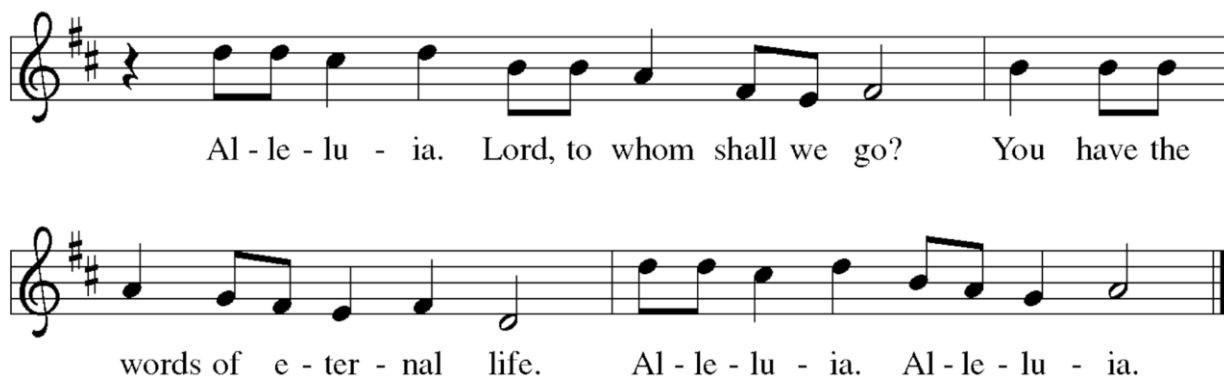
**¹²Young men and women alike,
old and young together!**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.

**¹⁴He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the LORD!**

The Word for All Ages

Gospel Acclamation Setting 3



Gospel: John 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

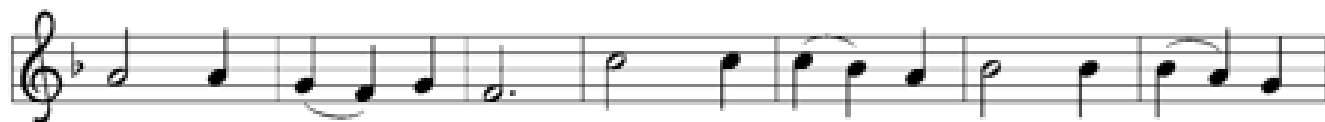
Cranberry 631



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



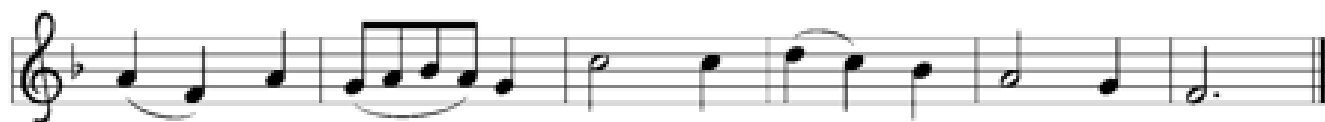
earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Apostle's 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.

Prayers of the People

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church,
the world, and all who are in need.

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our
proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those
often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the
wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit
us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those
in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have
sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness. Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abide with all who are victims of racism, especially people who are doubly marginalized because of gender, sexuality, or ability. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always,

And also with you.

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MEAL

Offering

Duet

Gift of Love

Peggy Hansen & Kay Zastrow

Offering Prayer

Let us pray, Risen One,

**you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.**

Come among us again,

breathe your life into us,

and enliven us with this meal,

that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Gathered round a table is where Jesus so often met people . . .

. . . gathered round the table of Matthew,

the table of Zacchaeus,

the table of Simon,

the table of Peter,

the table of Lazarus, Martha and Mary,

the tables of Joanna and Susannah

. . . gathered round a table where he could see people face to face, listen to their stories, share their laughter.

And here, we are gathered round a table because this is where Jesus has promised to be.

We remember the night, in an upstairs room, when Jesus sat at a meal with his disciples. They gathered around one table, those who were broken and those who sought wholeness. And Jesus took the bread, gave thanks for it, and gave it to every one of them saying, take, and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine that sat among them; he blessed it and gave it to every one of them, saying, Take, and drink. This is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So we will do as Jesus did. We take this bread and this wine from this table through which Jesus has promised to make himself known to each one of us.

The Lord's Prayer (setting 3)

And as he said a prayer before sharing, let us follow his example.

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,

your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we

for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al

and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,

and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our

life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -

parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.
Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray, Living One,

in this feast you have made yourself known to us.

Send us now to tell of your wonders,

sing of your glory,

and proclaim your risen life

to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

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

SENDING

Announcements

Benediction

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

May God the Creator raise you from all that would bury you,
May Christ Jesus call you by name and go ahead of you ✚
And may the Holy Spirit empower you to go forth with hope,
to release resurrection in the world. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Cranberry 364 vss. 1,4,5



M - fu - ra - bi - ri, ha - le - lu - ya,
1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia,
2 For three long days the grave did its worst
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear,



m - ko - no - bi a - me - fu - fu - ka,
Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia,
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed,
You look for Je - sus who is not here.



A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,
For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
He who gives life did death un - der - go,
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.



m - si - fu - si sa - sa ya ha - i,
e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom,
and in its con - quest his might did show,
On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

Refrain



4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus' redeeming labors are done,
Even the battle with sin is won."
Refrain

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.
Refrain

Text: Bernard Kyananywa, b. 1938; u. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: MICHAKISHI, HALLELUIA, Tanzanian traditional

Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makenzie, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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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. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 5/13/25:	\$11,743.20
Monthly Budget Expenses:	\$20,033.00
YTD Receipts through 4/30/25:	\$ 84,665

The Bethel Weekly

Fellowship Hour: Please, if you are able to help on a future date in June, sign up in the hallway.

Almost Last Sunday Supper: Our first outing of the season will be at Pope's Pizza, 789 Armed Forces Dr today at 5:00pm. Please let Pastor Kim know if you will be attending.

Pastor Kim: Is on vacation May 22nd-May 26th. For Pastoral emergencies, please contact Pastor Melissa at Resurrection.

Culver's Share Event: On June 3rd, Bethel will receive 15% of all sales on food and gift cards from 5:00-8:00pm at the Suamico Culver's. Come out and enjoy a juicy butter burger or your other Culver's favorites or buy a gift card. 6 volunteers are needed to bus tables and deliver food to tables & drive-up customers for 1 1/2- hour shifts. Please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway.

Summer Midweek Worship: Starting June, 4th there will be a worship service at 6:30 pm on Wednesdays in the lounge.

NEW Shelter Meal: Please see sign up sheet in the hallway for needed treats for the meal on June 8th.

Handbags for Hope: In conjunction with the Resurrection Food Pantry, we are asking all the ladies to bring in any unwanted purses. Donations are also needed of travel size hygiene items such as toothbrushes, shampoo, lip balm, etc. to fill the purses prior to distribution. Suggestions can be found on the front of the bin in the lounge.

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