

Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Easter

Hymnal Supplement, Now the Feast and Celebration

May 4, 2024
10:00AM

**Please stand as you are willing and able.
ELW refers to the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.*

GATHERING

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

The assembly gathers in quiet for prayer and meditation.

PRELUDE Ask Ye What Great Things I Know Arr.: Anne Krentz Organ

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.
Amen.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

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

***GATHERING SONG** With High Delight Let Us Unite ELW 368

***PROCLAMATION & GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.
Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty
and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.
Amen.

*KYRIE

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

*NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Refrain

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain

God; to make all things new.

ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision

Alice Walker

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Acts 9:I-6 [7-20]

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no

one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

The reading may be concluded: Word of God, Word of Life.

The assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 30

¹ I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

² O LORD my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.

³ You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴ Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful;
give thanks in holy remembrance.

⁵ God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶ While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never be disturbed."

⁷ You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸ I cried to you, O LORD;
I pleaded with my Lord, saying,

⁹ "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"

¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me;
O LORD, ¹ be my helper.”

¹¹ You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹² Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

SECOND READING

Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!”

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might
forever and ever!”

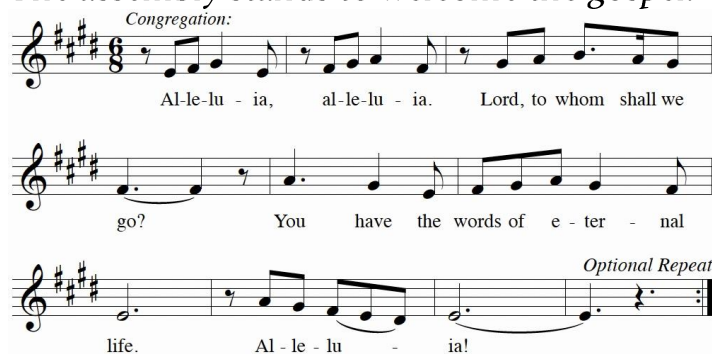
¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

The reading may be concluded: Word of God, Word of Life.

The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



*GOSPEL

John 21:1-19

The gospel is announced. The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶ He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

The gospel concludes: The gospel of the Lord.
The assembly responds: Praise to you, O Christ.

*REFLECTION

The Rev. Angela Freeman

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Day of Arising

ELW 374

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

A: Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries (*local bodies of water may be named*) so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

A: You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place (*specific ministries may be named*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places (*especially Monica, mother of Augustine*). May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

P: 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 presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING MUSIC

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERING SONG

As the offering is brought forward to the altar, the congregation sings.

Refrain *Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



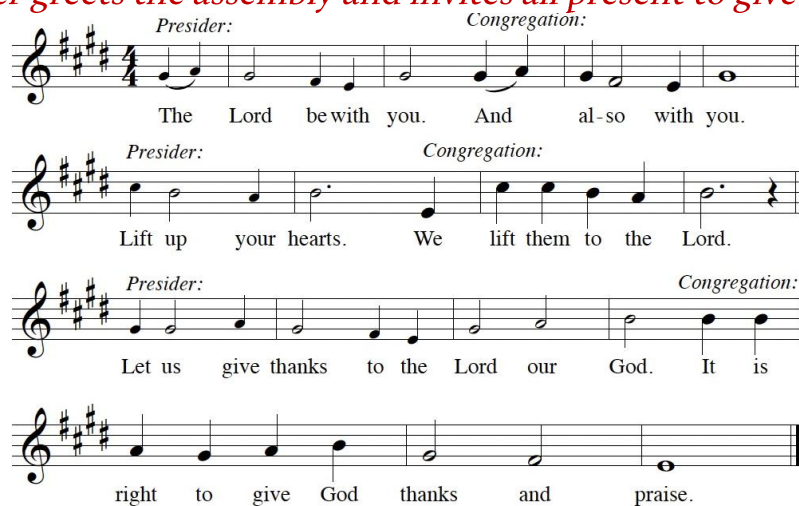
1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
to Refrain
may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.



Presider: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: Congregation:

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

Presider: Congregation:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

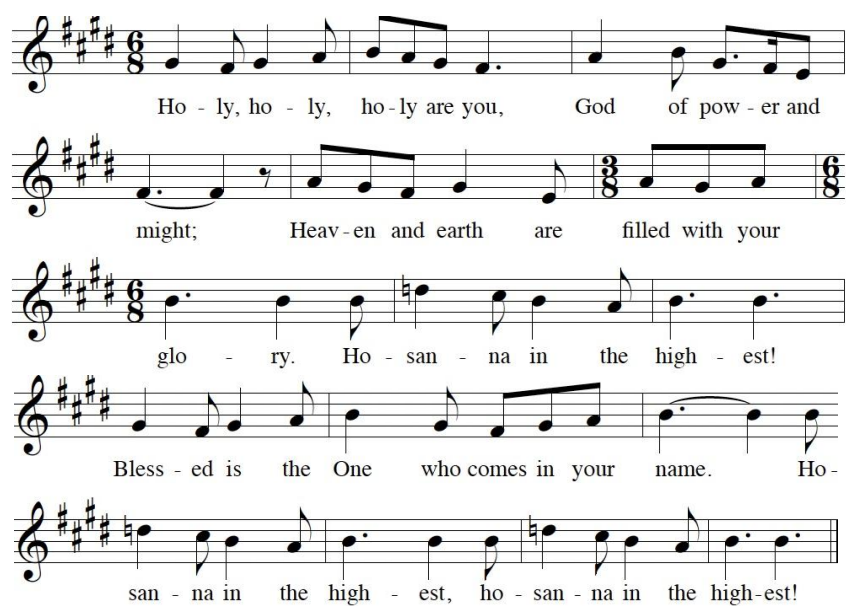
right to give God thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

The presiding minister continues.

It is our duty and delight....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -

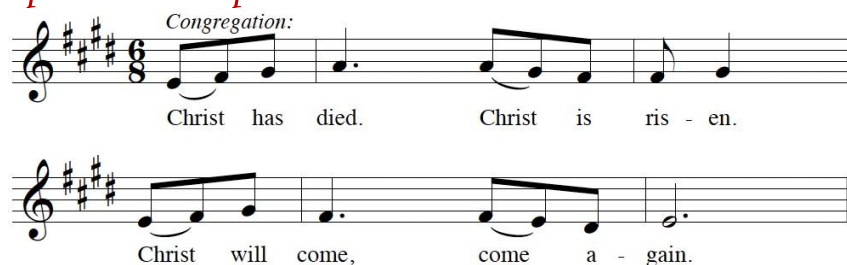
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presider continues with the eucharistic prayer.

Presider: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

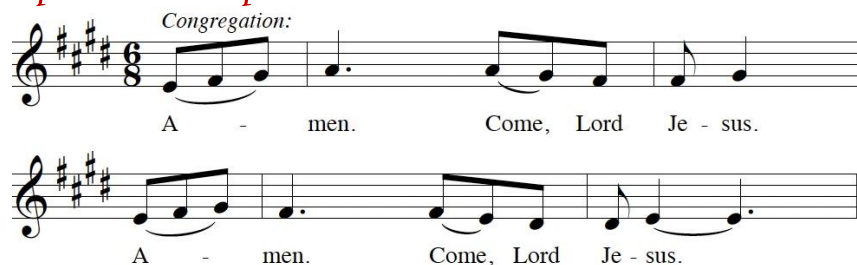
The congregation responds to the presider:



The presider continues with the eucharistic prayer.

Presider: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

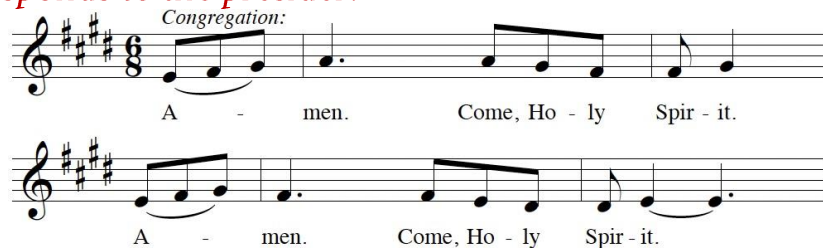
The congregation responds to the presider:



The presider continues with the eucharistic prayer.

Presider: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

The congregation responds to the presider:



*LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.

Amen.

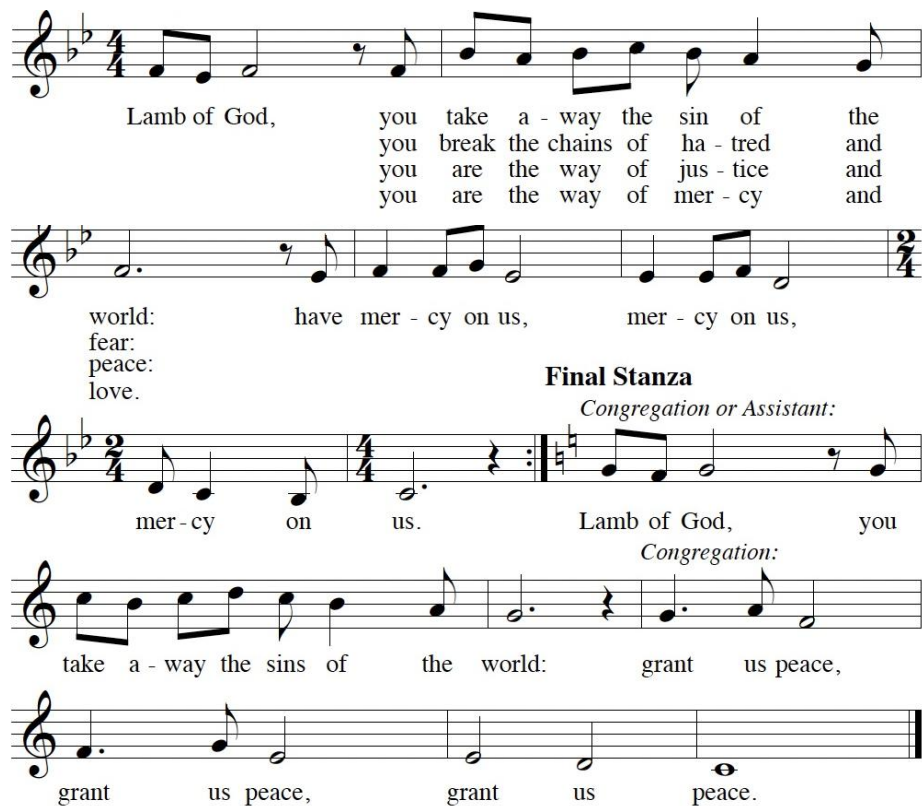
*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

We will either come to the altar or remain in our seats today to receive communion. You can decide your own comfort level. Pre-filled elements available at the ushers stand when you came in. The Pastor can also come to you in your pew. If that is desired, please indicate to the Usher when they come by.

Holy Communion will be served in a continuous fashion at the altar. If you come forward, you are invited to receive bread from the presider in the center aisle. Let Pastor know if you need gluten free bread. The worship assistant will have a tray with small cups of wine. Light colored wine in the center of the trays is nonalcoholic. Place empty cups into the tray with the acolyte before returning to your seat.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza
Congregation or Assistant:
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
Congregation:
 take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC For the Bread Which You Have Broken ELW 494
 Seed That in Earth is Dying ELW 330

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Shepherd God,
 you have prepared a table before us
 and nourished us with your love.
 Send us forth from this banquet
 to proclaim your goodness
 and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
 our redeemer and friend.
 Amen.

SENDING

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

*BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.
Amen.

*SENDING HYMN Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds ELW 367

*DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Christ the Lord Is Risen TodayArr.: Charles Webb

Leading Worship Today

The Rev. Angela Freeman

Eric Richardson

Dr. Matt Chiu

Laura English

Nancy Kelly

Kaitlyn Lembke, Luca Giammarco

Todd Semroc & John Menzies

Marianne Schmidt

Chris Kiel & Scott Pohlkamp

Emerson Emser

Senior Pastor

Minister of Music

Organist

Assisting Minister

Lector

Acolytes

Ushers

Altar Guild

Tech Team

Sound

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Next week’s scripture: First Reading: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm: Psalm 23; Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17; Gospel: John 10:22-30.



BETHESDA ON THE BAY LUTHERAN
CHURCH & CHILDCARE CENTER

bethesdaonthebay.org

(440) 871-2276

info@bethesdaonthebay.org



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED to the Glory of God by Krystina Schmidt.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO NEED THEM. SPEAK WITH AN USHER OR PASTOR FOR ASSISTANCE.

SCRIPTURE BASED COLORING SHEETS

Coloring sheets, based on the Sunday scripture, are available each week by the usher's stand. You are welcome to pick one up for use during worship or take it home with you for colorful prayer and meditation during the week.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FORMATION

PRAYER BOOK OF THE BIBLE, Sundays at 9:00 in the lounge

The group will discuss Psalms, The Prayer Book of the Bible by Dietrich Bonhoeffer and read corresponding psalms. The small book is provided for you. Come together for a meaningful and prayerful time during the holy season of Easter.

2025 BETHESDA GRADUATES

It's the time of year to celebrate our graduates! If there is a high school or college graduate in your family this year, please email the following information to info@bethesdaonthebay.org:

- Name
- Where graduating from
- Degree, if applicable
- Future plans
- Any special honors they would like highlighted
- A current photo. (5x7 is preferred but we will use whatever you provide. The photo does not have to be professional, and it can be mailed, dropped at church, or emailed. Please note emailed photos will be printed from church copy machine so will not be photo grade.)

STAMP OUT HUNGER

The Stamp Out Hunger food drive is scheduled for May 10, 2025. This event is the largest single-day food drive in the United States, taking place in over 10,000 cities and towns. It aims to collect food donations to help those in need, and you can participate by leaving non-perishable food items at your mailbox for your letter carrier to collect.

CHURCH OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Main Office and Chrissy: info@bethesdaonthebay.org

Pastor Angela: pastor.angela@bethesdaonthebay.org

Church Office hours Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm

BLESSING BAGS

Collection through May 11, Assembly after worship May 18

Many Blessing Bags were assembled during God's Work Our Hands Sunday last year. All of them have been distributed. This is a simple but meaningful way to offer a tangible gift to someone who is in need. We are going to make another batch of Blessing Bags! Your generosity last fall left us with some extra supplies. Listed below are the supplies and quantities we need now to make 50 more bags. Please remember that we can only use small, travel-size toiletries. This list will be updated weekly. Thank you for your help!

50 Pairs of Tube socks

37 Shampoo

47 Conditioner

13 Soap

24 Deodorant

4 Razors

34 Shaving Cream

50 Snacks (e.g., granola bars; something small that won't melt in a hot car)

19 Hand Sanitizer

11 Kleenex packs

50 Small 8oz. Water Bottles

2025 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Watch Party at Bethesda - May 17 9:00 am - noon

Bethesda is a member congregation of the Northeastern Ohio Synod, one of 65 synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Annually, the Bishop and Synod Council gathers the congregations and Rostered Ministers together to conduct business and direct the next year of collective ministry.

This year's Assembly will be a virtual assembly with Watch Parties available around the synod for voting members to gather in fellowship. Bethesda is one of the hosts for a watch party. Help is needed to host with refreshments and hospitality that morning, and anyone is welcome to attend as a guest of the assembly. If you are available to help or would like to be a guest, please reach out to Pastor Angela.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Gather weekly on Wednesday at 10:00am for Bible study and discussion about the assigned scripture we hear on the approaching Sunday morning. Bible Study not meeting April 16 or 23. No expertise needed. Share together in open conversation, prayer and fellowship.

PEACEMAKERS QUILTERS

The Peacemakers is an outside group that meets at Bethesda Thursdays at 9:00 am, now through May 2025. They quilt and donate their quilts to charitable groups that need them, with the support of Thrivent Financial. New quilters and sewers are welcome anytime. The sewing technique is straight-seam. They also have projects you can do at home! If you are interested in learning more or joining the group, contact the office or show up on Thursday!

