

Morning Worship

Bethesda Lutheran Church - 8:30 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church - 11:00 AM

April 12, 2025

Second Sunday of Easter

Before we begin our worship this morning, I acknowledge that Bethesda Lutheran Church/Immanuel Lutheran Church stands on the traditional grounds of the Anishinaabe People, and we honor their elders both past and present. Their presence is imbued in the lands and waters surrounding us. We nurture our relationships with our indigenous neighbors, and the shared responsibilities to their homeland where we all reside today.

HOLY COMMUNION

Prelude

GATHERING

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us: Lost Creek, Pike's Creek,
the Raspberry and Cranberry Rivers, Siskiwit Lake, and the great Lake
Superior.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW #380 *"Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"*

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.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord have mercy.

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.
Lord have mercy.

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

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen

Hymn of Praise ELW #376 “Thine Is the Glory”

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. **Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ’s blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God’s plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-

11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²² “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹ “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

³² “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 16

Refrain: In your presence there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all
other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips. R**

⁵ O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who hold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the Lord always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. R**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are
pleasures forevermore. **R**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation

ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel acclamation: Celtic Alleluia, 174

MUSIC © OCP Publications, Inc.

Gospel Acclamation Celtic Alleluia

174

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

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

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc.

The Holy Gospel according to John, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

Sermon – Pastor Rachel Sieja

Hymn of the Day: W&P #95 *“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”* See next page

Make me a channel of your peace

Prayer of St. Francis

95

D F#m7/C# Bm A7 Dsus2 F#d/C#

1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.

Bm A7 D F#m7/C# Bm G Asus

Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
 Where there's de - spir in life, let me bring hope;
 It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,

A Em2 Bm A.sus A Last time to coda ♪ Em1

where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
 where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
 in giv - ing of our - selves that we re -

Asus A Em2 Bm A D 1

and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.

2 G Bm/F# Em A7 Dsus D

3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so

A G Em A D2 Dsus D

much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be

G Bm/F# Em A7 Dsus D

un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

B Esus2 E A G/A A D.C. (stanza 4) al coda

loved as to love with all my soul,

♠ Coda

Em Asus A Em2 Bm A7 D

ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Ext. and music: Sebastian Temple
 Int. and music: GIMM OCF Publications

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that God is always present, creating life and working for good. God changes darkness into light, despair into hope and dead ends into new beginnings.

We believe in the risen Christ whose new life resurrects us, often through other people and often in surprising ways. We affirm Jesus' teaching that love never fails.

We believe in the Spirit, the hidden presence behind every resurrection, the energy of God that calls us by our very own names to venture out with good courage, to restlessly bring hope, joy, beauty and peace. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way (*especially*). Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Other intercession: Lord, you know the need for healing, comfort, help or resolution for those we name before you today: Myrna & Richard Northrop, Kermit Delmain, Ed DePerry, Lorayne Reedy, Lois Osterberg, Courtney Byerhof, Bill Bodner, Chuck & Marcia Perry, Colleen Nozal, Kelliann Clapero, Rhiannon Tourdot, Holly Tourdot, Bennett Anderson, Jennifer Schlack, Casey French, Donnie Anderson, Jeanna Morshead-Metelica, Marty Burkel, Jaycee Juoni, Gary & Janet Johnson, Britni Zagorski, Luke Gulstrand, Jarrett Waite, Sarah Norton, Darlene Ludwikoski, Dawn Peterson, Jay & Pat Frey, Juniper, Chance Brochu, Joan Einsman, Melinda Letnes, and those whose names we hold in our heart. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for our migrant neighbors who, like most of us and our ancestors, came to this country for a better life. You who freed the captives, protect them from harm. Help us guard their rights to representation and due process. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Share a sign of God's peace with one another.)

Offering

Offering Prayer

Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,

that goodness and mercy may follow us

and bless the world you love.

In the name of Jesus, **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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,
 and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Prayer after Communion

Holy One,

through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.

Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

Communion Hymn ELW #635 “ We Walk by Faith”

Announcements:

Sunday	AA 7 pm at Immanuel; Amy French’s birthday
Monday	South Shore Quilters 9 am; Book Study on Zoom 1 pm; Maggie Purves’s birthday; Bev Lindell’s birthday
Tuesday	Brunch Bunch 10 am at Bethesda
Wednesday	South Shore Quilters 9 am; Gather 9:30 am at Bethesda; Midday Prayer 12 pm at Bayfield Presbyterian
Thursday	Immanuel Painters 10 am; Juliet 11:30 am at Siskiwit Farmhouse

Friday ROMEO 8:30 am; Knit Wits 1 pm; Kris Anderson's
birthday

Blessing

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: ELW #535 *“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Reconciling in Christ Statement

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:28

We welcome YOU to Bethesda and Immanuel to participate fully in our congregational life. You who may have experienced exclusion, injustice or racial inequity; You who are young, old, rich, poor; You of all abilities; You from all nations and ethnic backgrounds; You of all sexual orientations, gender identities or gender expression.

We are committed to racial equity, economic equity, gender equity, sexual equity. We are committed to learn, celebrate, advocate and welcome everyone through a series of forums and educational opportunities. May we grow in acceptance and become a voice for inclusion, equity and justice.

No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.