



A Christ-centered family who serves by sharing God's love and hope with all.

15 West 14th Street, Spencer, IA 51301 www.bethluthspencer.com

EASTER 2 APRIL 14, 2024 - 9:00 AM

Prelude: *"I Worship You, Almighty God"* music by Sondra Corbett,
arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram

Welcome & Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Gathering Hymn: *"Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia"* ELW 364

Prayer of the Day (see slides or insert)

First Reading Acts 3:12-19

Psalm Psalm 4

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-7

Gospel Acclamation: *"Alleluia"* ELW Setting 10-pg. 205

Gospel Luke 15:11-32

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: *"As We Gather at Your Table"* ELW 522

Apostles Creed

Prayers of the Church God of grace, **hear our prayer..**

Sharing the Peace

Offering Time Music: *"Thankful Heart and Voices Raise"* Jeremy Young

Offertory Prayer

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving, Words of Institution, Lord's Prayer, Distribution

Communion Hymn: *"O Come to the Altar"* arranged by Larry Shackley

Blessing

Sending Hymn: *"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"* ELW 392

Dismissal

Postlude: *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"* Bethany Bells & Elina on piano
Ludwig van Beethoven, arranged by Joel Raney

WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome to worship! Thank you for joining us today— here at Bethany and in our livestream to homes near and far away. It is our hope that each of you experience the love of Christ this morning and His presence during our worship service today.

A special welcome to visitors— please sign the guest book in the Narthex. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew. These can help you get to know the others in your pew and they can help us to keep in touch with you. Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you would benefit from either of these, please speak with an usher.

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship. (Sundays and Seasons v.20240130.1140 Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)

Our service today includes Holy Communion. **All who seek Christ's true presence promised to us through the bread and wine, body and blood of Jesus Christ, are welcome and invited to commune.** If you partake in Holy Communion, please indicate on the Fellowship Pad.

Worship leaders today are:

Rev. Erma Wolf

Elina Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist

Many thanks to our worship volunteers:

Greeter: Ellen Sorenson

Reader: Kathie Halverson

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Twila Henning, Kristin Bensen and
Kathie Halverson

Fellowship Hosts: Cindy Heiter and Mary Hagan

Ushers: Russ Wright

Everyone in the Audio/Visual Booth

BEST WAY TO REACH PR PETER: Pastor Peter's cell phone: 218-368-1403, or email: bethany@bethluthspencer.com

PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

Health Concerns:

Darlene Stough, Kirk Andersen, Bess Madsen, Donna Jones, Lyle Youngdahl, Gary Hazelton, Karen Johnson (Janet Keck's sister), Emma Swanson (Greg and Linda Manwarren's niece) Norb Manwarren (Greg Manwarren's brother)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP Sundays after worship are a great time to chat over a cup of coffee and sweet treat. Meet new friends or catch up with old ones. All are welcome for fellowship & lively conversation in the church parlor.

SUNDAY KIDZ TIME IS BACK with Bible stories and crafts to make for a fun time of learning and children's fellowship. Sunday KIDZ is held in the library upstairs and will take place the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Parents may join your child(ren), or attend fellowship time in the parlor. Kids of all ages are invited to join – April 21st.

EASTER LILIES Many thanks to everyone who shared an Easter lily for our Easter worship services. You are welcome to take your plant home with you today. *Please do not take the drainage trays underneath the plants.*

BETHANY HERALD DEADLINE is coming upon us already this month. Please have your information to the front office April 22 or before. Worship volunteers are also needed for the month of May.



Thank you in advance!



KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING! On Wednesday evenings, April 3-May 15, we will continue to use the Scripture reading plan, "Following Jesus Together," for group lectio divina as we did during Lenten midweek worship. We will use the Celtic Evening Prayer liturgy as a framework. Join us for prayer and this spiritual practice at 7:00-7:30 pm each Wednesday evening in the parlor.

Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:

Tuesday-5 pm, Wednesday-10 am

or

can be found on YouTube

search Bethany Lutheran Church, Spencer

Stewardship Snippet ...

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.- 1 John 3:1a

Our identity – who we really are – forms the hub of our lives as steward-disciples. Our actions and thoughts revolve around that hub. And John reveals that we are children of the Almighty. When you live, as a child of God at your core, everything else falls into place.

© 2024, Rev. Robert Blezard

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 14

9:00 am Worship

10:15 am Fellowship

Tuesday, April 16

11:30 am Bethany Friends, Food, Fellowship, and Fun at Weasy's

6:00 pm Church Council

Wednesday, April 17

9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group

7:00 pm Evening Prayer and Contemplation

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal at Bethany

Friday, April 19

Western Iowa Synod Assembly

Saturday, April 20

Western Iowa Synod Assembly

7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study (in person & via ZOOM)

Sunday, April 21

9:00 am Worship

10:15 am Fellowship

10:15 am Sunday Kidz



ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

If you would like to give online to support the ministries of Bethany Lutheran Church, scan this code for giving page on our website