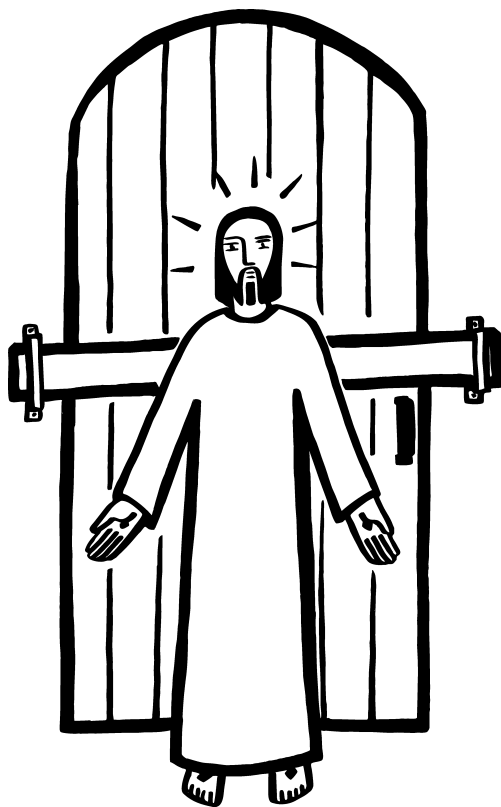


April 12, 2026 and Second Sunday of Easter

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
220 Cedar Street
PO Box 344
Pemberville, Ohio 43450
9 am: In Person Worship
9 am: Facebook Live Worship
11:30 am: Radio Worship on 99.1 FM



OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 2 pm
Friday, 9 am – 12 noon
419-287-4182

ANNOUNCEMENT

+GATHER+

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.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

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 (local waters may be named).

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: Now the Green Blade Rises **ELW#379**

APOSTOLIC 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.


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. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

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 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.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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+

CHILDREN MESSAGE

SYNOD MEMORY VERSE: (1 John 4:19)

"We love because God first loved us."

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.'

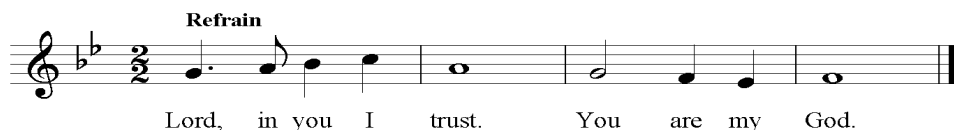
³² "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

The Word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16

Hal H. Hopson

Hal H. Hopson



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Music: Hal H. Hopson, and copyright © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers.

PSALM: 16

- 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 uphold 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.

The Word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia No. 2

Joseph Stribrny

Al - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia! Lord, to whom shall we go?

5

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al le lu - - ia!

The Holy Gospel according to John. **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.

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

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶A 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

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

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

SERMON- SAM Eric Corns

HYMN OF THE DAY: We Walk by Faith **ELW #635**

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYERS

Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

+MEAL+

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

We gather our tithes and offerings. Following the collection, we pray.

OFFERING HYMN: Jesus, Still Lead On ELW#624 Verse 4 only

Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'nly leader, still direct us, still support, console, protect us, till we safely stand in the promised land.

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,

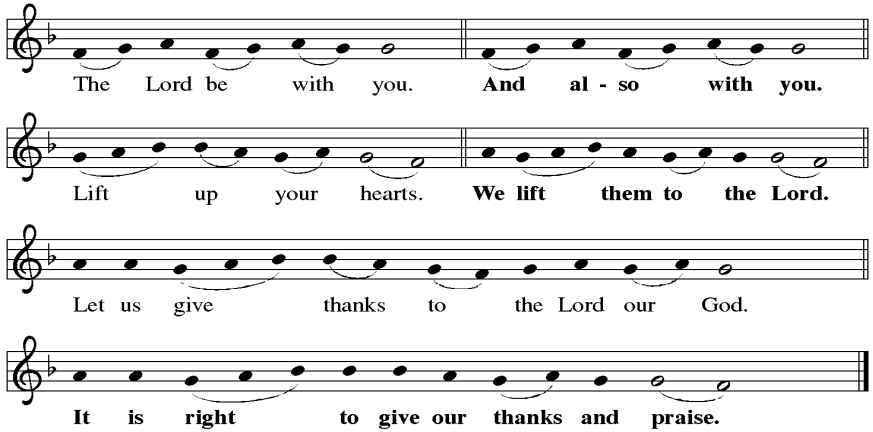
that goodness and mercy may follow us

and bless the world you love.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

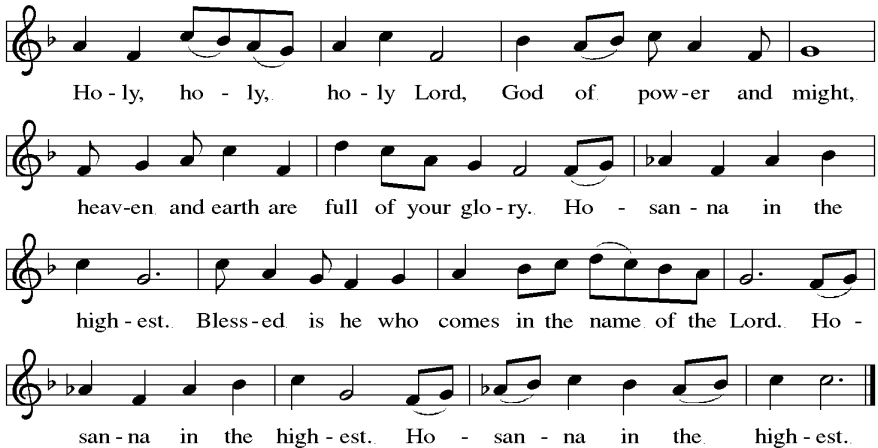
GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

PREFACE

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.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness;
out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way,
at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering;
within this meal; among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit,
in your church, without end.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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 COMMUNE

Come to the table of grace. Receive the risen Lord.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN: The Peace of the Lord ELW#646

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.

+SENDING+

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: Hallelujah! Jesus Lives ELW # 380

DISMISSAL

What is our mission?
Transformed by the crucified and risen Jesus we are a loving community of disciples making disciples.
 Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

LAST WEEKS

4/2 Attendance: 11am In Person-18 7pm-57

Offering: Genacross \$515.00 Lutheran Home of Mercy \$70.00
Loose-Food Pantry \$73.00

4/3 Attendance: 7pm In Person-46 Online-24

Offering: Luther Home of Mercy \$475.00

Community Food Pantry Loose \$30.00

4/5 Attendance: In Person- 273 Online-82

Offering:\$6,381.00 ELCA Benevolence: \$1,654.00 Loose-Outreach \$674.00

IN OUR PRAYERS

For healing: Randi Parton (friend of Lois Hansen), Tom Dierksheide, Joyce Eisenhour, Calista (CJ) Ambrosia (Heckman), Lisa Whitaker, Nancy Rife, Carolyn Borcherding

Altar Flowers is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dolores Beeker from Linda & Greg Meier & Grandkids.

Radio Broadcast is given to the glory of God and in memory of Robert & Ruth Walters by Rick & Cyndi Walters & family.

Online Streaming is given to the glory of God and in honor of Dale (Skeeter) Ameling from Witt Ameling & family.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

4/12, Sun	10:20 a.m.	Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School
4/13, Mon	6:45 p.m.	Yoga
4/14, Tues	11 a.m.-2p.m.	Food Pantry Open
	6p.m.	Bible Study
4/15, Wed	6:15 p.m.	Bells
	7:30 p.m.	Choir
4/22, Sun	9 a.m.	Worship
	10:20 a.m.	Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mission Action project for April Cocoon Shelter the Cocoon exists to provide safety, healing, and justice across the lifespan for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, their children, and all of those affected by abuse. Services are available to anyone in Wood County at no cost. Due to the changing needs and limited storage of this facility, money will be collected during a “noisy offering” at all church services in July and donated for shelter operations. St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Bowling Green manages a car donation and furniture bank for women in this shelter. Call St. Mark’s (419-353-6675) if you have items to share.

Food Pantry items for April stuffing mix, cake mix, hamburger helper, canned fruit, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

Thank you to all who signed up to be involved in BLC's prayer chain! (You can always add your name by contacting the office.) If you have a prayer request please contact the church office once you have permission from the recipient. The office will contact the prayer chain volunteers once we receive a prayer request. Blessing to all involved in this specific ministry.

Prayer for New Pastor- 220 Prayer

220 - that's our address, the place where the Bethlehem community gathers for worship. You are invited to join this Bethlehem community each day at 2:20pm (or am if you are up) for a time of prayer centered on God's calling of a new pastor. You are welcome to use your own words, or use these: Most Holy God, we thank you for the gifts and ministry of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We pray that you inspire and guide the pastor you will be calling to serve with us. We know you hold us in your hands of grace, so we give you thanks! Amen.

The Pemberville Fair Board blessed the pantry with a freezer and it has been placed in Bethlehem's kitchen. So we now have the ability to offer a package of frozen meat to our families when they use the pantry. We are looking for donations of meat for our freezer. Here are items we have been able to bless a family with in the past: 1 lb. ground beef, white or dark meat of chicken, hot dogs, venison, turkeys, ground sausage, hams

Questions: Marty @ 419-494-8191 OR Karen @ 419-349-2365

Rummage Sale May 2nd 9-2pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Benefits go to Mission Honduras. For donation call Gayla 419-265-3503 volunteer hours available Fri. & Sat.

Anyone is welcome to make a one time or reoccurring donation by using the QR code that links to Tithe.ly, Bethlehem's online giving portal. When you scan the QR code, you will be required to set up an account, which only takes a few minutes. There is a small transaction fee for the use of the app. The app will prompt you to indicate your choice to pay the transaction fee or have it deducted from your donation. Thank you for supporting the ministries at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

