



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 19TH, 2026
8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

*+ indicates to stand in body or spirit;
bold print indicates congregational responses*

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE “*Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen*” arr. Michael Bedford

WORDS OF WELCOME

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

+ THANKSGIVING FOR THE WATERS OF BAPTISM (10:30)

We bless you, almighty God, for the gift of water—
for the oceans that surround the earth, for the rivers that nurture the land,
for the lakes and rivers that you provide for our community—
we bless you, O God, for the waters of the earth:
We bless you, O God, for the waters of the earth.

We honor you, merciful God, for showering us with water—
for the rain that nourishes the plants and trees, for the floods that restore the fields,
for the dew that freshens dry places—we honor you, O God, for the waters you send:
We honor you, O God, for the waters you send.

We glorify you, gracious God, for the waters of baptism—
for the water of the Jordan that washed our Lord Jesus,
for the waters that baptized the believers on Pentecost,

for the water that illumines us with your Word,
for the water that pours out the gifts of the Spirit,
for the water that bathes the church universal—
the Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostals, Evangelicals, independents—
We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism:

We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism.

We worship you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
almighty, merciful, and gracious.
Well of forgiveness, you revive us,
Cup of cold water, you refresh us,
Pool of rebirth, you renew us.
To you comes the worship of all your people, now and forever:
To you comes the worship of all your people, now and forever.
Amen! **Amen!**

+ **GATHERING HYMN** “*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*” ELW #367

+ **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.**

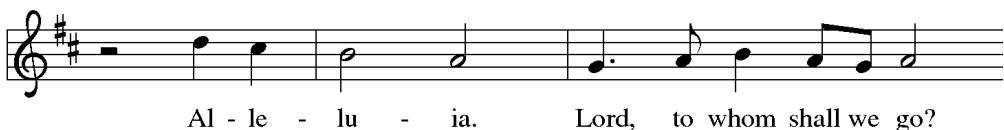
+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord’s resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service. Surprise us with abundance. Strengthen us to feed and tend your lambs. Bring us all at last to the full joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*(10:30) At this time, children age 3 to grade 5 are invited to go to Sunday School.
They will return to the sanctuary before communion.*

✠ **WORD** ✠

+ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**





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

READING JOHN 21:1-19

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ After these things 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 his outer garment, for he had taken it off, 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 of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY "Seeking Warmth from Charcoal Blazing" VT #344



1. Seek - ing warmth from char - coal blaz - ing, Pe - ter
2. Bread and fish, a fire - side break - fast for a
3. Ques-tions asked and an - swers giv - en, time-less



fought the chill night air. Some-one spoke, "I saw you
wea - ry fish - ing crew. Je - sus que - ried, "Do you
fac - es warmed by flame; bit - ter night of love's de-



with him." Pe - ter said, "Not me. I swear."
love me?" Pe - ter said, "You know I do."
ni - al, with the dawn re - demp-tion came.



Two more times was Pe - ter ques - tioned, two more
Two more times his mas - ter ques - tioned, two more
We still hear these an - cient voic - es and the



times he an - swered, "No!" Then from deep with - in the
times did Pe - ter vow. "Feed my lambs," was Je - sus'
les - son that they give. "Do you love me?" is the



shad - ows came the prom - ised roost - er crow.
bid - ding. "Tend my sheep; they need you now."
ques - tion meant to guide us as we live.

A THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM & VOLUNTEERS *with a Quilt Blessing* (8:30 AM)

Paul tells us that there are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who activates all of them. No work is insignificant. All our efforts flow from our baptismal callings and contribute to the flourishing of our ministry.

Today we recognize the many faithful and dedicated volunteers of Bethel, giving thanks for how the Spirit moves them to build up the body of Christ and share God's love with neighbors near and far.

(Don't be modest – all volunteers stand in body or spirit!)

It is not only what you do,
but how you connect and love
that can transform a role or task into a gift from God.

God bless your duty and joy for this community and the impact you can have.

God bless your showing up and the details of your doing.

God bless your willingness to fail and learn from the process.

God bless your humility and humor in the heart of what you do best.

God bless your flexibility about the details and the outcomes alike.

God bless your observations about who else might be invited to help.

God bless your stepping back so another can participate more fully.

God bless your openness to a process of becoming together.

For these are gifts from God. And so are you.

(Volunteers may sit.)

Almighty God, you have called us into fellowship as a community of Christ in this place, and you have blessed us and enriched our lives through your Word and the sacraments.

You strengthen and inspire us with your Holy Spirit
to live lives of mutual love and service to the world.

For all this, and, above all, for the gift of your Son and our salvation,
we give our heartfelt thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who lead and those who follow;
for councils and committees and chairs:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For prophets and seers, for the teachers and preachers and aides
in Limitless, Confirmation and Bethel U,
at Hangtime and on trips,

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For the altar guild, ushers and greeters, for assisting ministers and readers,
for acolytes and sacramental ministers, for musicians and choirs—
for those who tend to aesthetics and those who tend to logistics:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who make coffee and bring treats,
for those who prepare meals and those who wash up:
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For cleaners and dusters, for maintainers and fixers,
for the woodworkers who make crosses and cabinets,
for those who set up or put away tables and chairs:
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For the helpers who answer phones and greet visitors with a smile,
for counters and record keepers, for letter editors and envelope stuffers:
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who serve outside these walls— who give blood, stock food shelves or sort clothes,
reset transitional housing or build with Habitat, clean up the highway, or make care packages for
TORCH; for those who write cards or bring meals, for those who visit and for those who call:
We give you thanks, O Lord.

We especially give thanks today for our quilters, and take a moment to bless the fruits of their
labors that will be given out through the CAC, NRC and Lutheran World Relief. Please lay a hand
on a quilt near you as we pray.

We send these quilts as a sign of God's love for each person who receives one,
that they might be a source of comfort and hope in the midst of loneliness, disaster or fear.
May they remind recipients that their struggles are seen
and that they have not been forgotten by the body of Christ.

We pray that these quilts will serve a useful purpose:
that they will bring cheer to a room, warmth in the cold, or shelter from the sun;
that they serve as a wall for a home, or a carrier for a few precious belongings.

Where so much can separate and divide, make us like these quilts:
arrange us into beautiful patterns, stitch us together with your love, and give us purpose.
Inspire and move through this and all our ministry efforts,
that our love of neighbor make a tangible difference in lives and communities. **Amen.**

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit
you have knit us into the one body of Christ.
Look with favor upon us in our commitment to serve in Christ's name.
Be in our minds, in our hands, and in our words,
that they might extend the shelter of your love to the world.
Give us courage, patience, and vision.
Help and guide us all in our Christian vocation
of witness to the world and service to others. **Amen.**

HYMN OF DEDICATION (8:30) *"We All Are One in Mission"* ELW #576 stanzas 1 and 2

+ 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 OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING



Guests

Generosity is part of who we are as God's people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel's trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated donation. Online giving cards (at the name tag stations), checks, or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.



Members

ANTHEM "*Shalom for Peace*" Cindy Carlson

Composer Statement

For Minnesota, Our country, Our world

"*Shalom for Peace*" was inspired by the yearning for peace following the traumatic killings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti.

The piece begins with the singing bell technique and the tune "Dona Nobis Pacem" - heard in a minor key and played 4/4 time rather than its usual 3/4 time. As the piece grows and develops a new tune of "Shalom" is introduced playing underneath the "Dona Nobis Pacem" melody. "Shalom" is also in a minor key, recognizing and remembering the fear, trauma, unrest, and lack of humanity caused by Federal ICE agents upon Minneapolis and surrounding regions.

Hearing accented contrasting chords, the piece transitions to F major, and a more peaceful "Shalom" is heard. The gentler version of "Shalom" is more hopeful with beautiful arpeggio chords and movement.

The conclusion/ending has the ringers "random ringing" chord changes with the "Dona Nobis Pacem" and "Shalom" motifs heard above the changing chords.

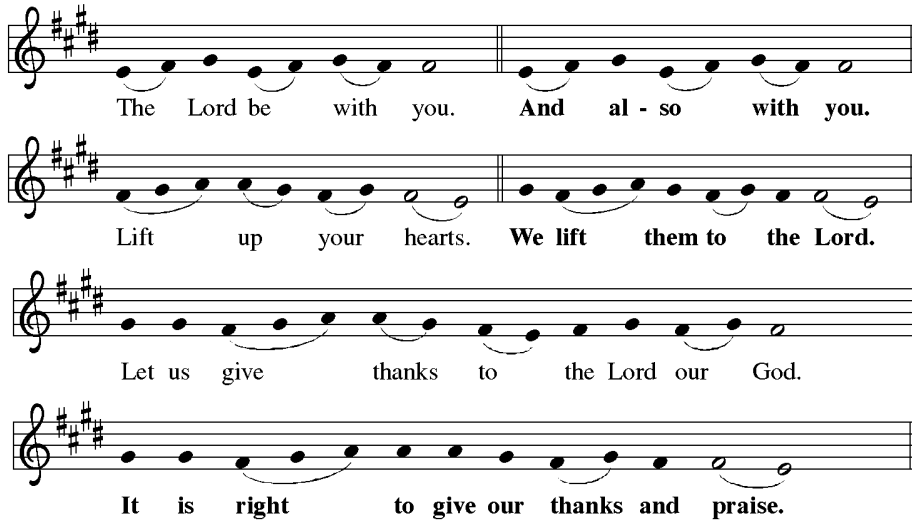
The random ringing symbolizes that we all have a voice at different times. The chord changes lead us to a call for change. Both signify hope for the future and for a collective prayer for peace.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

**O God who gave us life to cherish and enjoy,
and made us capable, in its service,
of costly love and powerful commitment:
help us to choose life and peace in all its abundance,
not only for ourselves and our children,
but for all our struggling world,
for whom you were content to lay down your life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ MEAL ✠

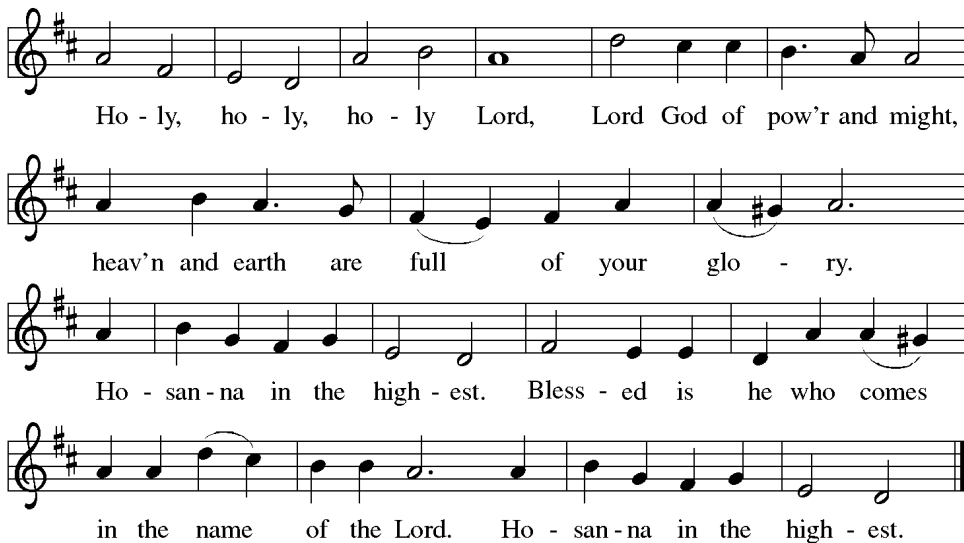
+ GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

+ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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, who enthroned forever at your right hand intercedes for us as our great high priest. 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.



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, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION HYMN *“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”* ELW #384

+ TABLE BLESSING

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

✠ SENDING ✠

+ BENEDICTION

May the Christ who knew the best place to fish and cooked breakfast
fill your nets and meet your hungers.
And the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with you always. **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN *“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”* ELW #377 stanzas 1, 3-5

+ 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!**

POSTLUDE *“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”* arr. Thomas Pavlechko

**Bethel Lutheran Church
Shares Christ's Love with a Big Heart**

Called by the gospel of Jesus Christ, Bethel celebrates all people as children of God.

We welcome you: your age, ability, and education;
your race, ethnicity, and citizenship;
your sexual orientation, gender identity and expression;
your relationship status and family structure.

Your uniqueness is valued.

Your questions and doubts have a home here.

Our work of welcome includes loving, forgiving, and serving one another;
advocating for those who are marginalized and oppressed;
striving for racial equity and economic justice;
and caring for the earth and all of God's creation.

We invite you to fully participate in the life of Bethel.

