



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

15 W 14th St, Spencer, IA 51301 | [www.bethluthspencer.com](http://www.bethluthspencer.com) | 712-262-2327

**Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 26, 2026 – 9:00 AM**

Prelude: *"Shepherd, Lead Us"* Ruth Elaine Schram

Tune: CRIMOND, by Jesse Seymour Irvine

Tune: BRADBURY & HE LEADETH ME, by William B. Bradbury

Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness **ELW pg.94**

Gathering Hymn: *"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"* **ELW #373 vs 1,4,5,6**

Canticle of Praise: *"Glory to God in the Highest"* **ELW pg. 138**

Prayer of the Day

First Reading Act 2: 42-47

Psalm (read responsively) Psalm 23

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:19-25

Gospel Acclamation: *"Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go?"* **ELW pg. 142**

Gospel John 10:1-10

Sermon Pr. Erma Wolf

Hymn of the Day: *"The Lord's My Shepherd"* **ELW #778**

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Offerings Received: *"Hymn to Joy"* Shelton Ridge Love

Tune: HYMN OF JOY, by Ludwig van Beethoven

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving ELW pg. 144, "Holy, Holy, Holy" ELW pg. 144,

Words of Institution, Lord's Prayer ELW pg. 145, Communion Song -

"Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world" ELW pg. 146, Distribution

Communion Music: *"Like a Shepherd"* arranged by Terry Osman

TUNE: HE SHALL FEED HIS FLOCK LIKE A SHEPHERD, by G. F. Handel

TUNE: SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US, by William B. Bradbury

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: “Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

ELW #789

Dismissal

Postlude: “Mighty Are Thy Works, O Lord” Gary Davidson

### WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome to worship at Bethany Lutheran Church! It is our hope that you experience the love of Christ and His presence during our worship service this morning. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest book in the narthex. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew.

Large-print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you benefit from either of these, please speak with an usher.

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation. (Sundays and Seasons v.20240130.1140 Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)

Please take this bulletin home with you as a reference for this week’s calendar of events, as a reminder of Bethany family and friends to keep in your prayers, and for other useful information.

*Each worship service comes together through the help of many people. Please consider being a worship volunteer. Find schedules at the Welcome Center and help fill in the blanks. Thank you for volunteering!*

#### **Today’s worship leaders are:**

Pr. Erma Wolf & Elina Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist

#### **Many thanks to our worship volunteers:**

Greeters: The People of Bethany; Reader: Jaci Schreier

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Jaci Schreier, Kristin Bensen and Jody Vollmer

Usher: Kent Baker;

Fellowship Hosts: Jana Phillips

Count: Sue Boblit;

Everyone in the Audio/Visual Booth



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FELLOWSHIP** will be after worship in the parlor. This gathering time is a great time to chat over a cup of coffee and sweet treat. All are welcome for fellowship and lively conversation! Hope to see you there!

**SUNDAY KIDZ TIME** All children from kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to join Hunter, Kyle, Scott, Autumn or whoever comes from Lutheran Lakeside Camp for KIDZ TIME each Sunday at 10:15 today through May 10. Come join in the fun! All are welcome.

**MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES** Wednesday evenings Confirmation students will continue to meet beginning at 6:00 pm. Bethany Youth Group (BYG) meets at 7:00 pm on the first and third Wednesday of the month. We will close out our season with the last class taking place on May 6. If you have questions, inquire with Deacon Lynn or Sue Boblit.

**BFFF'S** (Bethany Fun & Fellowship, Food & Friends) Please join us as we meet at THE DOCK for a dutch-treat lunch on Wednesday, April 29 at 11:30.

**BABY BOTTLE MONEY COLLECTION** for the Cherish Center begins on May 3 and will wrap up at the end of the month on May 31. Talk with Candy or watch for the bottles near the welcome center next week.

**THANK-YOU!! THANK YOU!!** Kudos to everyone who helped with the Earth Day "Clean Up Spencer" efforts at the skate park on April 20!!

**RED GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST** We invite you to share a geranium to decorate the sanctuary on Pentecost Sunday, May 24. You may take them home after the service that day. The cost is \$6.00 each. See the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center.

**FLAGFEST OUTREACH** On Saturday, June 12th, Bethany Lutheran Church will host a God's Work, Our Hands hospitality outreach event for the community members watching the Flagfest parade on our lawn. Join the Faith in Action planning meeting on Tuesday, May 12 at 4 pm in the church parlor. If you'd like to be a part of this activity, please come to this meeting!

**UDMO FOOD PANTRY** Bring food and hygiene items to Bethany – we'll deliver to UDMO. Not sure what to get/give? Get a shopping list at the Welcome Center.

**VBS!** Mark your calendars for the evenings of July 6-8 as Bethany will be partnering with First Congregational Church for Vacation Bible School. Watch for the registration link coming your way soon!

## **PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS**

Kirk Andersen, Sylvia Moore, Liz Vulk, Lee Youde, Greg Manwarren  
Lois Sanchez (Deb Mechler's sister),  
DeAnna Bensen (Bill Bensen's mother)  
Michael Olsen (Kristin Bensen's uncle)  
Peace in All Nations

## **CALENDAR**

### Sunday, April 26 – Fourth Sunday after Easter

- 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
- 10:15 am Sunday Kidz
- 10:15 am Fellowship

### Wednesday, April 29

- 9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group
- 11:30 pm BFFF's at The Dock
- 6:00 pm Confirmation Class

### Saturday, May 2

- 7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study (in person & via ZOOM)  
Deliver Lutheran World Relief Boxes

### Sunday, May 3 – Fifth Sunday after Easter

- 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion
- 10:15 am Sunday Kidz
- 10:15 am Fellowship



### **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.

***Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:***

*Tuesday-5pm, Wednesday-10am*

*or can be found on YouTube® (Search Bethany Lutheran Church, Spencer IA)*