

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

We are called by God to follow Christ in
love and service to all.



May 10, 2026

We encourage children to feel welcome in church during worship. And we recognize that kids need to move and fidget while we share this time together. Tables and coloring pages are available to kids in both the front of the worship space and in the Commons. Parents, please feel free to let your kids move around as needed.

Prelude

Claudius Cazan

Bethlehem Lutheran Choir

“Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me”

Thank You to Marlene Anderson

Welcome and Announcements

(please stand)

Confessions and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

ELW# 735

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.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain S 169

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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



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.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the phrase 'This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.' The second staff contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray,

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

- ¹⁷ **I called out to God^l with my mouth,
and praised the Lord^l with my tongue.**
- ¹⁸ If I had cherished evil^l in my heart,
the Lord would^l not have heard me;
- ¹⁹ **but in truth^l God has heard me
and has attended to the sound^l of my prayer.**
- ²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not reject-^led my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing^l love from me.

Second Reading

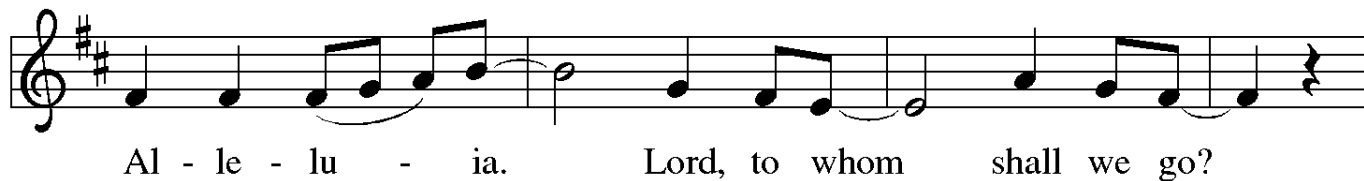
1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

The Gospel according to John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.

²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

(be seated)

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

ELW# 804

(please stand)

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit;
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(please stand)

The Prayers

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

After each portion of the prayers:

Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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.

Sharing of the Peace

Greet one another with a word of welcome and peace.

(be seated)

Offering

Thank you for your offerings today. As Christ comes to us in the bread and cup of the holy table, we present ourselves through our own sacrifice of generosity to love and serve our neighborhood and the whole world. You can also give online at www.bethluth.org/give as a one time donation or as a recurring gift. Use this code to access the giving site.



(please stand)

Offertory 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

The 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.

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, 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.

Words of Institution

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.

(be seated)

Lamb of God

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, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

All are welcome at the table of Christ. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.

Communion Hymns

“Borning Cry”

ELW# 732

“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”

ELW# 800

(please stand)

Communion Blessing

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

Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

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.

The Benediction

Almighty God bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“We Know That Christ is Raised”

ELW# 449

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Claudius Cazan

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The altar flowers are dedicated today by Kay and Tom Ellerhof in memory of her mother, Selma Morton and the KOFI Broadcast is dedicated is in memory of her father Tom Morton.

Annual CASA For Kids Gala

May 27th

CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate.

I have served as an advocate for 6 children in 5 cases, over the past four years. An Advocate is a trained volunteer, appointed by the courts, who stands by a child with friendship and support during a difficult time when they have been removed from their home because of abuse, and/ or neglect. The children and their broken families are hurting and need assistance. It can be a difficult but also uplifting experience advocating for a child while their parents wrestle to make life changes. The GALA is CASA's big fundraiser for the year. Check out the QR Code if you are interested in attending, or contact Jana Pursell for more information about becoming an Advocate. 406-262-1162. We hope to see you at the Gala!

—Jana Pursell



May Blood Drive

May 30th

This month's blood drawing will again be in the basement of *First Presbyterian Church*, across Main Street from Bethlehem from 1:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Your donations are very much needed. Please call either Glenda Skeim at 406-250-1890 or me, Gary Aasheim, at 406-698-4138 for your appointment.



Volunteers Needed!

Are you passionate about organizing meals and serving others? We need volunteers to assist with meal planning and to lead a team of cooks once a month for Feeding the Flathead. This meaningful ministry provides 50 to 70 hot meals each evening to community members in need. For more details, please reach out to Julie Miller at (703) 862-3490 or mrsmarkr@gmail.com.



Thank You!

A huge Thank You to all who assisted with providing food for the Warming Center over the winter. During the summer months the WC will be serving lunch on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. While BLC will not supply hot meals, Wednesdays will be Community Potluck Day. Anyone interested in providing items such as fruit, sandwiches, cold cuts, chips, etc. can drop them off at the Warming Center or call 406-885-3042 for additional information.



Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Concert

Flathead Valley Community Orchestra will be performing a concert in The Sanctuary today at 3:00pm for all to enjoy!



MOTHER'S DAY

Word Search



BOUQUET	CHILDREN	FLOWERS	ORCHID
BREAKFAST	CHOCOLATES	GIFTS	PHONE CALL
BRUNCH	CORSAGE	GREETING CARD	PRESENTS
CANDY	DEVOTION	HONOR	SPECIAL
CELEBRATE	DINNER	JEWELRY	SPRING
CHERISH	FAMILY	MEMORIES	SUNDAY

Prayer Concerns: Illness/surgery:

Erika Hauser, Gaye Bech, Duane Benson, Bob Martens, Brigitte Okamoto, Ben Skeim, and Terise Mumford.

A Special Thank You To Our Assisting Ministers:

<u>Assisting Mnstr:</u>	Charlene Singley
<u>Reader:</u>	Gary Aasheim
<u>Cantor:</u>	Frances Erler
<u>Greeters:</u>	Margerette & Gary Dahlgren
<u>Communion Setup:</u>	Charlene Singley & Marianne Gielow
<u>Communion Asst:</u>	Jana Thompson
<u>Usher:</u>	Sherry Korthase, Terry Brosten, Karen Green
<u>Power Point:</u>	Gwen Jones
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Hadley & Harper Mariman

This Week at Bethlehem

SUNDAY

9:00am
10:30am
3:00pm

05/10 Mother's Day

Worship / Sunday School
Bell Choir Practice
Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Concert

MONDAY

10:00am
6:00pm

05/11

Respite, FH
Feeding the Flathead, FH

TUESDAY

5:30pm

05/12

Council, FH

WEDNESDAY

6:45am
10:00am
10:30am
7:00pm

05/13

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study, FH
Respite, FH
Spinner's, CM
Choir Practice

THURSDAY

9:00am
9:00am

05/14

Quilter's
Knitter's

SATURDAY

10:00am

05/16

Barb Andersen Memorial, FHHS

SUNDAY

9:00am
10:30am
10:30am

05/17 Confirmation and Graduate Recognition

Worship / Sunday School
Reception for Confirmands and Graduates
Bell Choir Practice



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Pastor Scott Thompson
Pastor Lucy Schottelkorb

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