

May 17, 2026 and Seventh 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, the Portage, Maumee & Lake Erie.

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: Thine the Amen **ELW#826**

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

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, 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 1:6-14

Today’s reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord’s conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁶When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

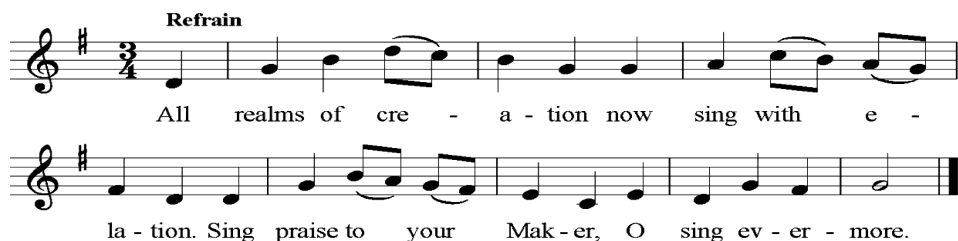
The Word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 68

Michael Morgan, *alt.*

Hal H. Hopson

Refrain



All realms of cre - a - tion now sing with e -
la - tion. Sing praise to your Mak - er, O sing ev - er - more.

Refrain text: Michael Morgan, *alt.*, and copyright © 1999 from *Psalter for Christian Worship*, Witherspoon Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Music: Tune: *THE ASH GROVE*, a trad. Welsh folk melody (PD).

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

PSALM: 68:1-10, 32-35

¹ Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;
let those who hate God flee.

² **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴ **Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;**

I Am is that name, rejoice before God! R

⁵ In your holy habitation, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

⁶ **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

⁷ O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸ **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

⁹ You sent a bountiful rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

¹⁰ **Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor. R**

³² Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

³³ **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

³⁴ Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

³⁵ **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God! R**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may

glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

SERMON– Pastor Tim Philabaum

HYMN OF THE DAY: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

ELW #392

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.

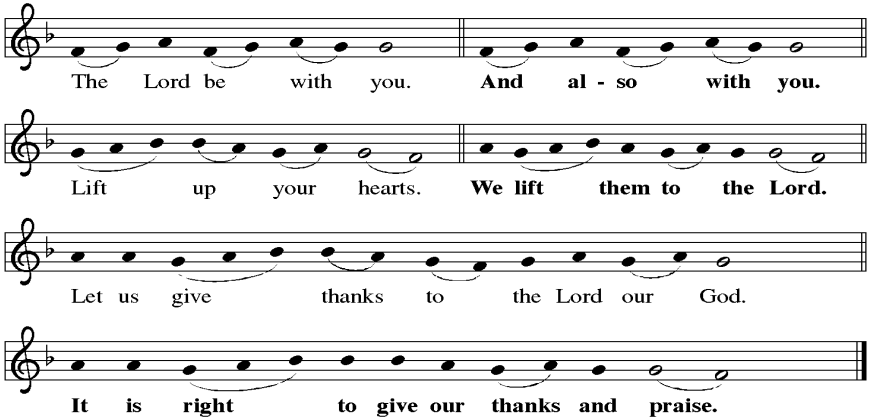
OFFERING HYMN: Jesus, Still Lead On ELW#624 Verse 4 only

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: O Christ, Our Hope **ELW#604**

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.

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

Attendance: In Person-176 Online-58

Offering: \$4,933.00 ELCA Benevolence: \$139.00

Special Envelope-MIA Haiti: \$265.00

April Noisy Offering for Cocoon Shelter BLCW: \$668.14

IN OUR PRAYERS

For healing: Randi Parton (friend of Lois Hansen), Tom Dierksheide, Joyce Eisenhour (Hospice @ Otterbein), Calista (CJ) Ambrosia (Heckman), Nancy Rife, Vic Schuerman, Jean Ladd

Altar Flowers is given to the glory of God.

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

Online Streaming is given to the glory of God and from Ahrens, Connor & Witker family.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

5/17, Sun	10:20 a.m.	Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School
5/18, Mon	6:45 p.m.	Yoga
5/19, Tues	11 a.m.-2p.m.	Food Pantry Open
	6p.m.	Bible Study
5/20, Wed	6:15 p.m.	Bells
	7:30 p.m.	Choir
5/24, Sun	10:00 a.m.	Community Worship/ Troy Cemetery

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mission Action project for May is Military. Items we are collecting are Bibles, AA batteries, baby powder and wipes, bug spray (no aerosol anything), female hygiene products (tampons, pads, used also for wounds to stop bleeding), tooth brushes, toothpaste, mouth wash, Kleenex, cough drops, lotions, sun screen, body wash, Vicks vapor rub, face wash, shaving cream, deodorant, razors, eye drops, black work gloves, Q-tips, hair ties, bobby pins, hair clips, nail clippers, note pads, black pens, head lamps, cards, power strips, pillow cases, crosswords, magazines Food Items (think SMALL packages): instant coffee, creamer, tea bags, skittles candy, granola bars, slim Jim's, beef jerky, gum, drink mixes, salty snacks, seasoning packages, hot sauce, sunflower seeds, Oreo cookies (no homemade), Clif bars, crackers, nuts/raisin mix, Ramon noodles.

Food Pantry items for May are maple syrup (sugar-free or original), noodles or spaghetti, canned fruit, Hamburg helper, body wash (M&W), paper towels

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/family. 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.

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.

