



In gratitude, Bethel Lutheran Church amplifies God's grace, nourishes all creation, reaches out, and builds community.

- We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- Why a Public Church? To impact and enhance the community so that everyone feels a sense of love and belonging.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 26, 2026

Bethel Lutheran Church - In-person and Online
YouTube: @bethelmpls

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2026, 10:00AM

We welcome to the Lord's Table all people, without exception, who desire to receive the blessings of Christ's body and blood in this sacramental meal of bread and wine. If you are online, please prepare your own table with bread, wine, and/or a treat for anyone not receiving communion.

Boldface font indicates congregational response.

Worship leaders will indicate when to stand and sit, as you are able.

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

We confess together, asking for God's participation in this time. **We are asking God to hold open the door again and again for us.**

Silence for reflection.

We sing:

I love you. I'm sorry. Please forgive me. Thank you.

God loves you too and thanks you. God forgives you. And you belong to God.
Amen.

Greeting

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe that God meets us here. We gather in the name of the Creator, and of the Savior, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn ACS 985

"Let Us Enter In"



1 Let us en-ter in to the song of thanks - giv - ing and free - dom.
2 Let us en-ter in to the place where our God has pre - ced - ed.
3 Let us en-ter in to the heart of a world that is bro - ken.



Let us en-ter in to the long line of peo - ple in need.
Let us en-ter in to the face of the fear and the pain.
Let us en-ter in to the start of a hope we can share.



Let us en-ter in to the strong mind that God is still liv - ing.
Let us en-ter in to the grace of the love when it's need - ed.
Let us en-ter in to the part where we call one an - oth - er



Heal - ing, for - giv - ing — Let us en - ter in.
Death is de - feat - ed! Let us en - ter in.
sis - ter and broth - er. Let us en - ter in.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

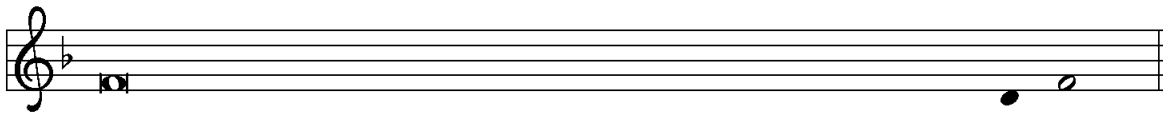
Music: LET US ENTER IN, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1983 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Kyrie



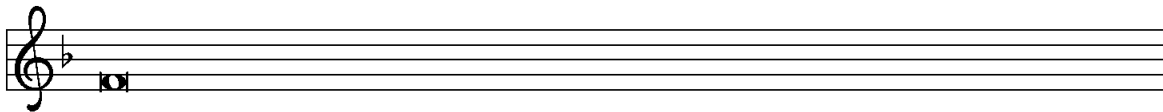
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



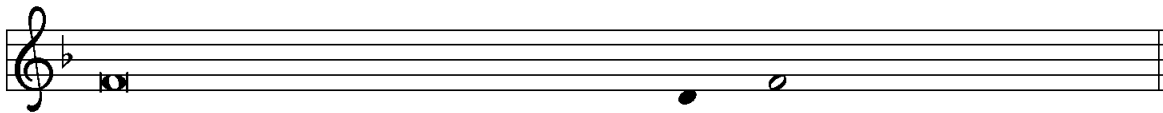
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



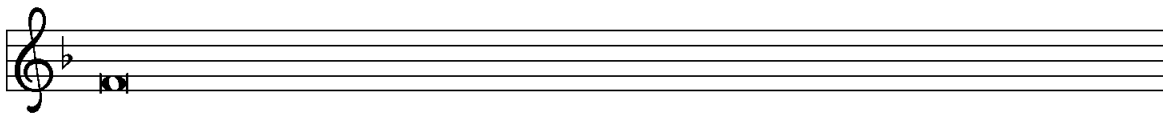
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



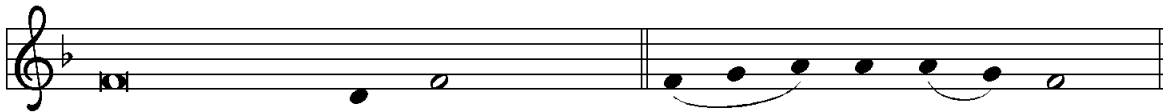
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



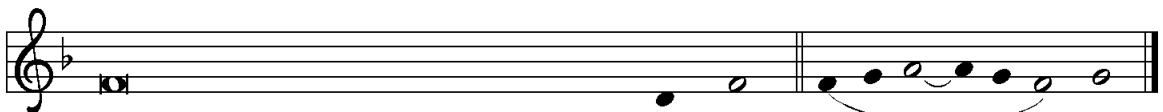
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



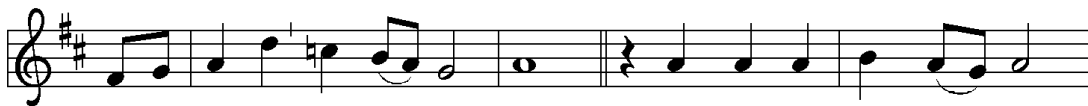
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

This is the Feast

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.

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 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

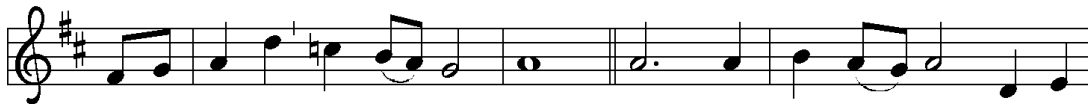


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



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



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

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God our shepherd, **you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

Lesson

Acts 2:42-47 *First Nations*

This newly formed family continued daily to learn from the twelve message bearers. They lived together in harmony, ate ceremonial meals, and prayed with one another. Great respect and awe came down upon all, and the message bearers performed many powerful signs. As these new followers lived together in peace, their harmony grew stronger, and they shared all things. Many of them had a giveaway to provide for all who were in need. Each day they gathered at the sacred lodge. With good and pure hearts they feasted together in their homes and shared the ceremonial meal of frybread and wine given to them by Jesus. They gave honor and thanks to the Great Spirit and were respected by the people. Each day Creator sent more people who were being set free to join with them.

Word of God. **Word of life.**

Children's Message, then Sunday School

Children and the young at heart are invited to the front of the sanctuary.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

John 10:1-10 *First Nations*

The Gospel according to John, the tenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus told this story to the Pharisees, for they were blind guides, leading the tribes of Israel down a false path to a bad end. "I speak from my heart," Jesus

said to the blind tribal leaders. "Thieves and outlaws do not use the gate to the sheep pen but sneak in some other way. But the shepherd uses the gate to enter, and the gatekeeper opens the way. The sheep know their shepherd's voice, for he calls each one of them by name, and they follow him as he leads them in and out of the sheep pen. The sheep will not follow the voice of a stranger. They will run away, for they do not recognize a stranger's voice." Because he was using a story to teach them, Jesus could see that they did not understand, so he told them the meaning of the story. "I speak again from my heart," he said. "I am the gate for the sheep. All who put themselves before me are thieves and outlaws—false shepherds. My sheep do not listen to them. I am the gate for the sheep. The ones who enter by me will be safe and well cared for. Following the Shepherd, they will go in and out and find good food to eat. Thieves enter only to take away life, to steal what is not theirs, and to bring to ruin all they cannot have. I have come to give the good life, a life that overflows with beauty and harmony."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day LBW 481

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"



- 1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
- 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
- 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
- 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Text: Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
 Music: HER VIL TIES, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Prayer Updates

Prayers of the People

In this moment, we open the doors of our lives to the call of our Creator, the God of all people, who invites us to become more than we can ask or imagine.

A brief silence.

Each petition ends with a response:

Lord, receive our prayer, **and in your love, answer.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident that you will turn to us and be gracious to us and all people, without exception. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Jesus is with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering

For checks and cash offerings, please place them in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. For members, if you are making a cash donation, place it in an envelope with your name on it. For online giving through Square scan the QR code. To pay with PayPal, please visit our website: Bethel-mpls.org.

*Online worshipers, please send checks directly to:
Bethel Lutheran 4120 17th Ave S, Mpls, MN 55407
Thank you for your generosity!*



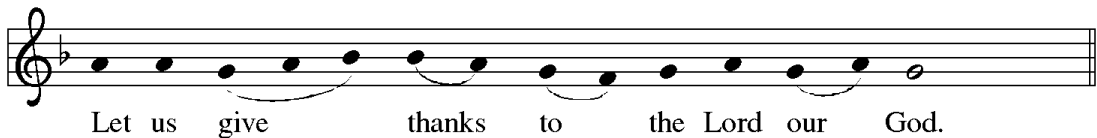
Bethel Vocal Choir Anthem “How Firm A Foundation” by Emma Lou Diemer

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. O God, **maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving



Holy, Holy, Holy



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is the one who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the mystery of faith, that **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

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.

Communion Hymn ELW 367

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring

in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has

tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the

an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”
 strife. “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”
 say: “Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!”
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Communion Hymn ACS 954

“You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”



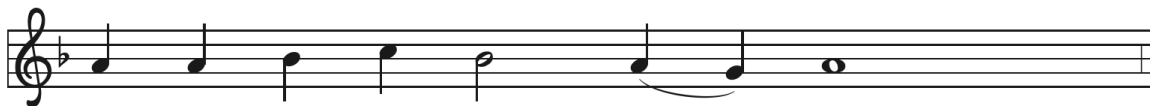
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day You be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



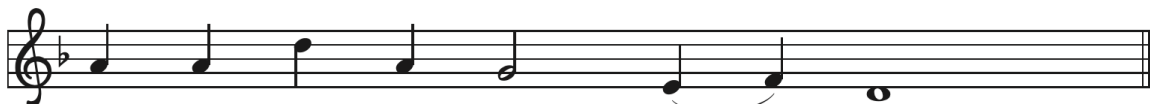
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
have a love that reach - es wide.
wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
you, who are both gift and cost.
you, who are our pil - grim guide.
you, who are our death and life.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthens you in faith, holds you in God's grace, forgives your sins, and empowers you to love all others.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. God of our salvation, **we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Help us become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation. Amen.**

SENDING

Benediction

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!** Go out this day, and always, praising and thanking God for this incredible news. You are blessed in the name of our faithful and loving God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Blessed to be a blessing! **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ELW 537

“On Our Way Rejoicing” *See insert*

Dismissal

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sending Music

“Trumpet Tune in C” by James Biery

Ministers:	All Believers	Music Director:	Bernie Asher
Presiding Minister:	Rev. Brenda Froisland	Musicians:	Anne Phillips, Bethel Vocal Choir
Preaching Minister:	Bernie Asher	Sacristy:	Marilyn Newborg
Assisting Minister:	Ann Allison	Ushers:	Dave Krogh, Norris Lovstuen
Lector:	Darlene Olson	Live Streaming:	Gene Rodi and Ted Allison
Cantor:	Sarah Berke	Hospitality:	Joan Bargman

PRAYER

list...

PRAY FOR BETHEL MEMBERS

Stella Warwick	Karen McBride
Christopher Rodi	Laurel Jorgensen
Bob Wandberg	Gloria Condon
Meredith LaCount	Hundt Family
Anna Olsen	Puckett Family
Dave and Libby Krogh	Darrell Dahl
Barb Saunders	Walker Family
Hoover Family	Cannon Family
Leonard Phillips	Warwick Family
David and Sue	Pikkarainen Family
Dorumsgaard Ayers	Gert Carlson
Joyce Hughes	

MORE PEOPLE OF GOD

- People struggling with mental illness and their loved ones
- Victims of natural and human disasters
- People of Ukraine, Israeli Citizens, Iranian Citizens, and Palestinians in Gaza
- All of us regarding COVID, RSV, Flu, Mpox
- Black, Brown, Indigenous, and Asian Lives
- People without homes

MEMBERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN THE SERVICE

Katrel Bishop (Pr B's nephew)
Adam Froisland (Pr B's nephew)
Evan Harrison (Pr B's great nephew)

PRAY FOR OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Marvin (Bryan Mann-Entzel's father)
Virginia (Jerry Johnson's mom)
Bill (Barb Wandberg's brother)
Lennon (Cole and Bryan's niece)
Sonia (Gene Rodi's sister)
Beth (Dan Hauge's sister)
Vince and Carrie (Kelly Chilvers' friends)
Andrea and Sage (Candy Hickenbotham's family)
Ethylmae Ross (Gloria Condon's aunt)
Ian (Pr B's friend)
Eric (Pr B's and Mary's family friend)
Julian (Jan Walker's friend)
Kevin Johnson and family (Les' brother)
Kristian (Pr B's friend)
Steve (Pr B's brother)
Michael (Marilyn Newborg's brother)
Donovan (Angel Cannon's father)
Rita (Sharon Phillips' friend)
Calvin (Angel Cannon's godfather)
Wayne (Karen Warwick's dad)
Trent and Michelle (Norma's family)
Darlene (Jeff Alberts' mom)
Susan (Mike Condon's sister)
John (Kathy Hundt's brother-in-law)

BETHEL'S MISSION PARTNERS

- ◆ReconcilingWorks ◆Casa de Oracion - Pentecostal
- ◆Mpls Area Synod ◆Nokomis Healthy Seniors ◆CANMN
- ◆Iglesia Evangelica Luz Alas Naciones ◆Iglesia Evangelica La Voz de Dios
- ◆Bancroft Neighborhood Association ◆Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran Church (BOLD)