



# Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center



Easter Season

Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

### WELCOME & OPENING LITANY

L: This year we couldn't kneel down and wash one another's feet, but parents kneel by the tub and wash their babies before bed, and pray for another day. And we wash our own hands lovingly, thoroughly, for our neighbors, and for strangers we will never meet.

**C: Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

L: This year we couldn't break bread with friends and pass the cup of blessing, but grocery store clerks stock the shelves, and healthcare workers suit up, giving their bodies so that we may eat and live.

**C: Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

L: This year we couldn't share God's big stories in the way we are used to. But as your holy breath broods over the chaos, we discover our shared breath in a way we can no longer deny. Just as the dry bones came together, we are learning to come together in new and surprising ways. And we see our Earth taking deep breaths of liberation during this Great Pause, as our cities are lit, once again, by the holy fire of the stars.

**C: Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

L: We know that your love is powerful enough to find us wherever we are, whether in an upper room or on the lonely road. We know that the fire of your love is not dimmed when we experience moments of doubt or uncertainty, but rather burns all the more brightly, warming us with unmerited grace. Join us as our traveling partner on this uncharted path. Make yourself known to us in simple, everyday acts like the sharing of a meal and a walk along the road. And always help our eyes to perceive your grace in all that surrounds us.

**C: Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

*Refrain*



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
 hun - gry and the poor; that  
 friends and fam - i - ly; for  
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
 we may live out . . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
 life and for love, . . . . . for our work and our play,  
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### WORD

## SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

Therefore, let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

R: The Word of the Lord    C: **Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 171



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



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

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him."

Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

R: The Gospel of the Lord    **C: Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**

Pastor Laura Ziehl



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no  
 2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and  
 3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-  
 stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in  
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.  
 man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.  
 hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

*Refrain*



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

## THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you!

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

# MEAL

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you,

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts,

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 112

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.



## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God – ELW pg. 174

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.

## SENDING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

L: May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead  
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,  
and turn your mourning into dancing.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Christ Be Our Light – ELW 715 v. 1-3



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

## DISMISSAL

L: Christ is risen! Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” - Text: Thomas O. Chisolm, 1866-1960. Tune FAITHFULNESS: William M. Runyan, 1870-1957. Both © 1923, ren. 1951, Hope Publishing Company. “Christ, Be Our Light” - Text and Tune: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957, ©1993 OCP. For copyrighted selections, all rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net License No. A-706214. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-706214. Service music is copyrighted by Evangelical Lutheran Worship for use in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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# STAFF

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## **Pastors**

Laura Ziehl  
Sam Nelson

## **Family Ministry Director**

Constance Mithelman

## **Early Childhood Center**

Debi Carr – Full Day Preschool Director  
Gail Winterbourne – Half Day Preschool Director

## **Office Administrator**

Judy Foland

## **Music Ministries**

Mona Goetsch – Director  
Judy Collier – Pianist/Organist

## **Ministries & Programs**

Laure Reynolds – Stephen Ministry  
Rose Moldenhauer – Parish Nurse

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**The Mission of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is  
to announce boldly the love of God through Christ.**

# All Are Welcome!

We live in a diverse world. We are hurting, broken and heavy hearted. We are loving, celebrating, and above all — we are welcoming. Regardless of the color of your skin or the color of your hair, regardless of your gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, or political affiliation — you are welcome here.

If you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker after Christ — you have a place here.

If you own, rent, or have nothing at all — you are welcome here.

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person of differing abilities, if you have regrets, fears, addictions, or afflictions — you have a place here.

All who are wise and all who are confused, all who have found love and all who have lost it, all who celebrate this welcome statement and all who fear it — are welcome here.

For these are all of the things that make you who you are: the person God loves. Come as you are and be celebrated for who you are. The time is now. Your place is here. Bethlehem Lutheran Church is an all-inclusive church.



Reconciling in Christ



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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