Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter Sunríse

Divine Service One March 31, 2024 Vol. 126-18

Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word pg. 151

Introit (sung responsively with the choir)



I awake, and I am still with you. Alle- | luia!*
[You] lay your hand upon me. Alle- | luia!

Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;* it is high; I cannot | attain it.

O LORD, you have searched me and | known me!*
You know when I sit down and when I | rise up.

If I ascend to heaven, | you are there!*

If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

Even there your hand shall | lead me,* and your right hand shall | hold me.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son* and to the Holy / Spirit;

as it was in the be-/ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I awake, and I am still with you. Alle- | luia!*
[You] lay your hand upon me. Alle- | luia!

Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;* it is high; I cannot | attain it.

Kyrie





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





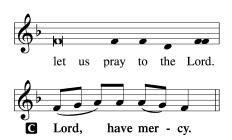
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

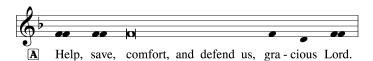


Lord, have mer - cy.



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

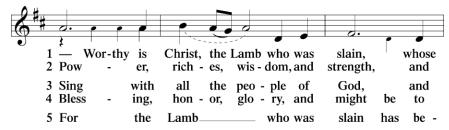


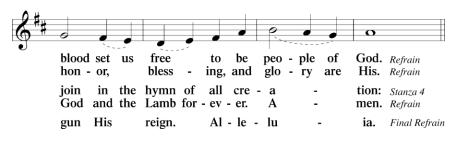




This Is the Feast



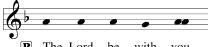








Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever;

and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,

and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,

"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.

This is the LORD; we have waited for him;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

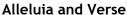
Choral Response "Good Christian Men Rejoice and Sing"

Epistle 1 Corinthians 15:12–25

The Resurrection of the Dead

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.





Holy Gospel John 20:1–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.



¹Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." 3So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb, ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷ and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. 8Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; 9for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb, ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God. begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

#467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness (choir sings vs 2, 4, 6)

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

We remember all those in need of continued strength and healing:

Ron Whitesel

Shelby Evans (stage 4 lung cancer)

Sandy Avey, Joellen Meyer

Ellie Anderson (friend of Sarena Wirgau)

Brandon Tomlinson (son in-law of the Brinkleys)

Tom Black (father of Ed Black), Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)

Barbara Murphy (Melissa Price's grandmother)

We pray for our expectant mothers: Sierra Patrick, Abigail (Springer) Mayer,

We pray for protection: Pastor and Mrs. Moehring's son Stephen in Israel.

We pray for our members shut-in:

Jackie Werling, Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare)

Imogene Bultemeier- in Hospice, Marilyn Meyer (Kingston)

Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)

Gloria Siela (home), Charlotte Bultemeier (StoryPoint West)

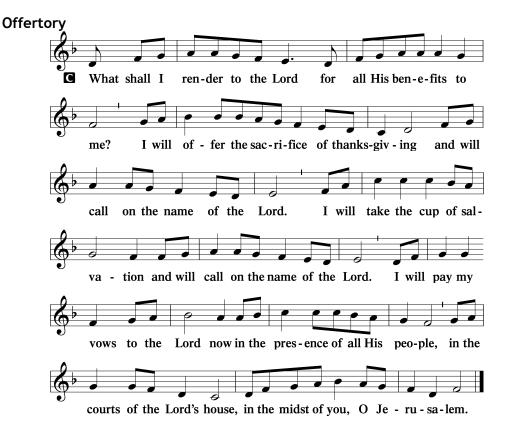
Rev. Donald Lutz (Lutheran Life Village)

Norwin Bauermeister (Astral in Auburn)

We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel

Offering



Service of the Sacrament pg. 160





Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

C It is right to give Him

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

and praise.

thanks





Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

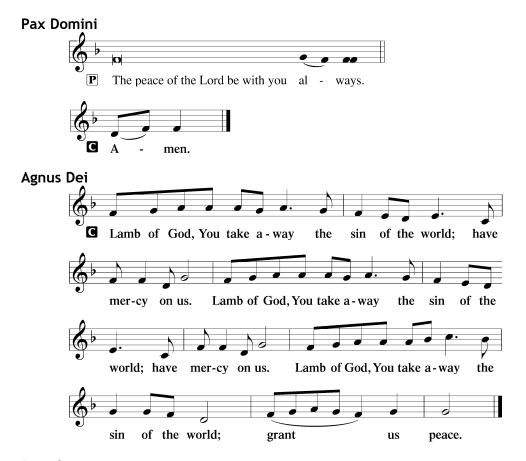
- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

 For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



Distribution

<u>Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper</u> in our worship. Bethlehem Lutheran Church administers this Holy Supper in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive, along with the Bread and Wine, the very Body and Blood of Jesus through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Furthermore, the communicants as a body of believers make a confession of the unity of their faith. Those desiring to receive the Sacrament with us, who are not communicant members of Bethlehem or of a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, are asked to please speak with the Pastor before the service.

#461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives #468 I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives #633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing #473 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Closing Hymn

#487 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain



IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Celebrant	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Fieldworker	Sem. Morgan Phillips
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Glen Werling
Elders on Duty	Glen Werling and Bruce Werling
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Choir	Bethlehem Adult Choir
Acolytes	Elders
Crucifer	Jude Wirgau
Altar Guild Chairman	Tisha Laley and Cheryl Louison
Ushers	Jared Conrad, Mike Nahrwold, Jacob Meyer
	Trent Bultemeier, Andrew Stoppenhagen, Jacob Werling

Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wirgau	260-273-7595	
(<u>Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com</u>)		
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Office	260-597-7121	
Bethlehem Lutheran School	260-597-7366	
Assoc. Pastor, Headmaster: Rev. Anthony Dodgers	616-648-6489	
Kantor: Mr. Richard Brinkley	260-705-4105	
Deaconess: Wendy Boehm	260-415-8526	
Website for Church and School: www.BethlehemOssian.org		

6:30 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Divine Service
7:30 a.m.	Easter Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Easter Day Divine Service
NO	Adult Bible Class and Sunday
11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
No School	"Easter Monday"
7:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Practice
ł 7:00 p.m.	WholyFit Class (Fellowship Hall)
10:00 a.m.	Chapel Service
5:30 p.m.	Adult Catechesis Class
7:00 p.m.	Evening Spoken Service
8:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Practice
1:00 p.m.	Blanket Sewing
7:00 p.m.	WholyFit Class (Fellowship Hall)
9:00 a.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class and Sunday School
11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. NO 11:30 a.m. No School 7:00 p.m. 17:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:01 p.m. 1:01 p.m.

WE WELCOME ALL OUR VISITORS this morning to our church and worship service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We ask that you please complete a green visitor's card from the pew and place it in the offering plate. Also, please be sure to introduce yourself to the Pastor and to others in attendance and feel free to worship with us again.

THE ALTAR COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR DONATION OF FLOWERS THIS EASTER MORNING. FLOWERS MAY BE PICKED UP AFTER THE 9:00 A.M. SERVICE.

NEW RIBBON BOOKMARKS have been added to the sanctuary hymnals. Thank you to the Bethlehem 7/8th grade students who participated in completing this project for the church!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

<u>DC Group Pulled Pork Dinner</u>, Sunday, April 14 here at Bethlehem. Dine in and carry out will be available. More details to follow after Easter.

PTL / Women of Bethlehem will host a <u>Pancake and Sausage Breakfast</u> on Saturday, April 20th from 8-11:00 a.m. here at Bethlehem. Free Will Donation will be taken.

<u>Fish Fry</u>, Saturday April 27th from 4:30 to 7:00pm. Dine in and carry out available. More details to follow after Easter.

Our next book club pick will be "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. We will meet at Crimson House at 9:00am on Saturday, May 4th. For more information about the book, please see the flyer on the Women of Bethlehem bulletin board.

ALTAR – Please consider preparing the altar for Sunday services. We have many openings, especially in April and May. If this is your first time, we are happy to help you. You can sign up on the bulletin board or contact Tisha Laley or Cheryl Louison. Thank you

<u>CHURCH RESTROOMS</u>—During the remodel, members are asked to use the school restrooms in the back hallway or upstairs. Mothers with babies may use the nursery room in the narthex which is also equipped with a changing table. Thank you for your patience.

We have a military display board in the church hallway. If you have a family member who is currently serving in the military and would like to add them to the board, please send Deaconess Boehm the following information: military picture, name, rank, branch and any other information you would like to add. If you have a family member who was a veteran please send: name, rank and time served. Thank You!

Thank You Church Members & PTL! We are so grateful for all the generous support given to Bethlehem Lutheran School. As you know, we made significant improvements for Kindergarten and the Library while switching rooms last year. Now we have also been collecting money for new custom-made wood bookshelves for the library. These will not only look beautiful, but they will provide space to expand our collection in the future. So many donors made these projects possible. Thank you to all the individuals who contributed to the bookshelves! We could not have done this without you. Thank you also to the PTL for covering the remaining cost of the bookshelves through money raised at the Gala/Auction this past fall. The people of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School have certainly given cheerfully and God will certainly continue to bless such generosity for the good of His people and to the glory of His name. Thank you! Your servants in Christ, Pastor Dodgers and the School Staff.

RECITATION & PRAYER FOR SCHOOL AND HOME

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

What are the Ten Commandments?

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it Holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What is the Apostles' Creed?

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian

church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

- Additional Memory Work for the week may be recited.
- A hymn may be sung.
- Scripture Reading and Devotion Lesson
- Prayers and Intercessions

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.

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Learn-by-heart all or some of the provided text as age and ability of your household allows.

Where is this [the Office of the Keys] written?

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." John 20:22-23

What do you believe according to these words?

I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.



If all Jesus had to do was die, then why is Easter such a big deal?

Easter is a very important day. Easter is the day that we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

After Jesus was crucified, His disciples were very sad. It seemed like their God and friend had been defeated and killed. They had forgotten that Jesus told them that He would rise from the dead. They must have thought Mary Magdelene was crazy when she told them that Jesus had appeared to her at the tomb where He was buried. But her story was true! Jesus was alive! He had risen from the dead!

Later, Jesus appeared to His disciples many times to prove it. And that's just what He did, He proved it! By His resurrection, He proved to the world that He was victorious over death and paid for our sins completely. Now, the first words you hear in church on Easter Sunday are: "The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"



Parents: Help your children to recognize the different places in our worship service which speak of Jesus' resurrection (the Creed is a good example). Point out some of the symbols in the church that might aid in their understanding of the resurrection. Remind them that we join in His resurrection through our Baptism!



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