



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 29, 2018

WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are glad you are here and we pray God will be real to you as you worship. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Knowing God loves all creation and holds us all, we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We welcome everyone and honor the rich diversity and giftedness that age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships.

PRELUDE

GATHERING & WELCOME

Call to Worship to Honor Our Immigrant and Refugee Sisters and Brothers

Pastor: The need to care for and the need to be cared for is another expression of the same basic idea. Such needs are organic whether psychological or spiritual.

Congregation: **Therefore, whenever the individual is cut off from nourishment from others, the result is a wasting away, a starvation, a failure of one's life to be sustained and nourished.**

Pastor: The human spirit cannot abide the enforced loneliness of isolation. We literally feed on each other.

Congregation: **Where this nourishment is not available, the human spirit and human body both sicken and die.**

Pastor: The purpose of all arrangements and agreements under which people live in society is to nourish one another with one another.

Congregation: **Life feeds on life; life is nourished by life. It is life's experience with itself that establishes the ground for eternal life.**

Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. A gender neutral restroom is located behind the worship space next to the church office. Please ask the Usher or Greeter for assistance. There is also a rocking chair in the rear of the Sanctuary. Please use it as you wish.

GATHERING SONG

Christ, Be Our Light



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



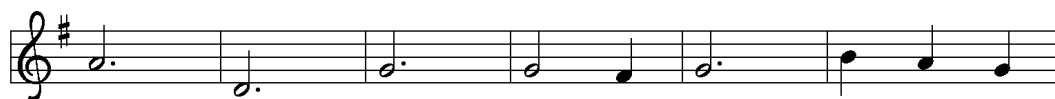
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



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.

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



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Refrain
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain
God; to make all things new.

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious and glorious God, in the midst of our loneliness and despair, we still hear your voice echoing through our souls calling us to serve your people. Help us, we pray to heed the anguish of those who live with the uncertainty of their lives. Help us listen to the sound of your creation, the music of life demanding life and calling us toward justice and peace. We pray this in the name of the Risen God, Jesus Christ. Amen.

FIRST READING

I John 4: 7 - 21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

P: Holy Word, holy wisdom.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

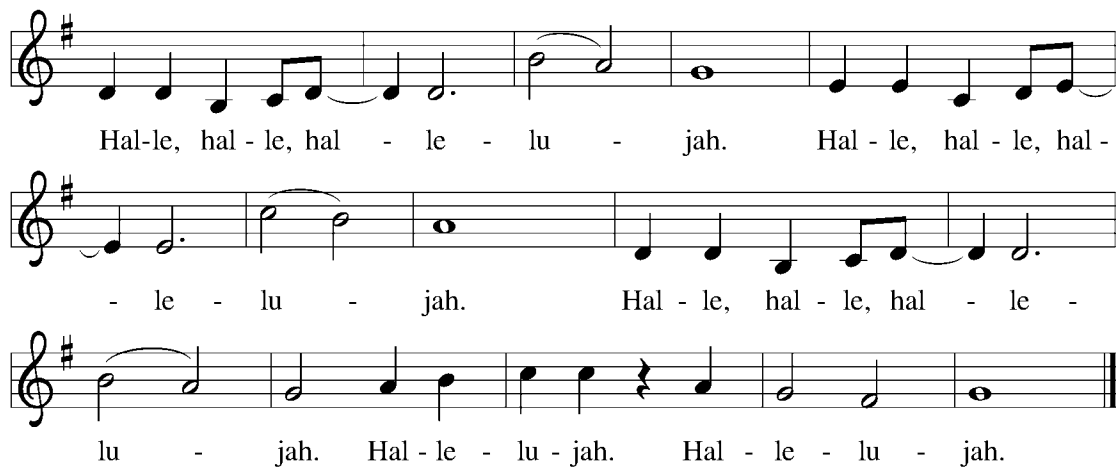
"Oscar's" story is a composite of multiple stories that share the truth of the experiences of those detained at NORCOR and other facilities. This protects the identities of the detainees.



Oscar has lived in the United States since he was eight years old, and this is home for him and his family. He finds comfort in reading the Bible, and in drawing. This helps calm his mind and gives him hope while in captivity. He reports that the last time he came into NORCOR, his drawing pencils were

seized along with most of his personal possessions. Sometimes NORCOR lets detainees keep their items; sometimes they take everything, even their clothes — it seems arbitrary and feels punitive.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 15: 1 - 8

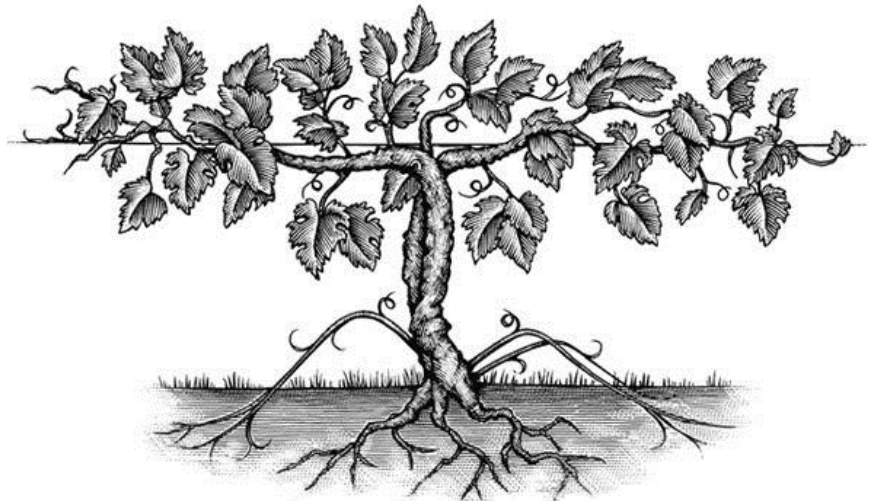
[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

P: Holy Word, holy wisdom.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY

Love Divine, All Love Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al-might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Our welcome extends to the Communion Table. We recognize that this is Christ's Table and Christ's invitation. Please come forward as you are invited. If you prefer not to receive Communion at this time, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – just fold your arms across your chest so that we know you prefer a blessing. Wine is served from the first chalice; grape juice is served from the second. We also offer gluten-free bread and individual cups of wine.



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN

Healer of Our Every Ill



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

| Stewardship of Service | Today: | Next week - May 6: |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ministers: | All Baptized Members of Bethel | All Baptized Members of Bethel |
| Pastor: | Pastor Michael Keys | Pastor Michael Keys |
| Pastor: | Pastor Christine Core | Pastor Christine Core |
| Musician: | LeAnn Michaels | Timmy Straw |
| Usher: | | |
| Reader: | Holly Redfern | Jared Burdick |
| Communion: | PJ Bentley and Mary Bentley | |

SENDING HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C: **Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world! Go in peace to do as you have been told: to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coming Up:

May 5 Oregon Synod Regional Gathering, West Linn Lutheran
 May 19 Cabaret & Cabernet
 June 10 & 17 Sunday Parkways - please be aware that streets abutting Bethel will be closed off for bicyclists and you may need to allow extra time for parking.
 June 16 & 17 Pride 2018 Weekend! If you're interested in being involved: Staffing the Sacred Space Booth – this is a safe place for festival goers to stop for conversation, prayer, a blessing or the offer of Holy Communion. We are present at the Festival to hold space to serve others, to declare clearly everyone is loved and no one is ever excluded from the love of God.
 Pride Parade – Sunday, June 17 – more information to come.

A thank you! Flowers! Birthday cards! Singing! WOW! Thank you everyone for being a part of my birthday celebration April 15. It was such a fun day and you made it all very special. (And to those who asked: yes, indeed, I worked in a short afternoon nap – the rest helped me celebrate with gusto into the evening!)

Here's to another year of adventure – filled with joy and laughter and surrounded by all of you – our beloved community.

Pastor Christine

| Prayer Requested for: | Prayer Concern: | Prayer Contact: |
|--|---|---------------------|
| For all victims of shooting violence | Peace and comfort and that our distress of our hearts become action to prevent more violence | Bethel Staff |
| Vance | Prayers for healing | Gabe Moody-Burghard |
| June and Wayne Hassebrook | Prayers following the death of June's sister Gladys | Pr. Christine |
| Justin Richardson | Prayers for the family of Karen Carpenter's nephew Justin, killed suddenly in a car accident, and particularly for Justin's mother Christy Richardson | Karen Carpenter |
| Elizabeth Presberg | For healing and comfort, as her health is fragile | Joann Noll |
| Katie Reitel | Prayers of healing, strength and comfort for Katie and support for her family | The Bentleys |
| David Lingnau | Prayers for healing and comfort; prayers for Stephanie and the rest of the Burdick family | Pr. Christine |
| Shirley and Jeff Kolpin | Prayers of healing for Jeff; peace and comfort for Shirley | Cate Milburn |
| Our prayers continue for many among us: for Bertha Anderson, the family of Skip Getman, Dennis Mitchell, Dale Tersey, Timothy Collins, Elizabeth, Rob, Jacob Bard, Miles Bard, Annalu Lingnau, Ben Lingnau, Jr., Ben Lingnau III, Paul Beezhold, Dorothy Hansen, Mary Rix, Patricia Connor, Bob & Nancy Leon, Steve Garrick. | | |

WORSHIP NOTES FOR EASTER SEASON

In 2016, the Oregon Synod of the ELCA became the first in the synod to declare themselves a "Sanctuary Synod." The statement - passed by all of us through our governing body - encourages us to "become Sanctuary churches ready to protect refugees and undocumented sisters and brothers from arrest and deportation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers."

Bethel joins with the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice to lift up immigrants who live and work in our community. We give thanks for the many gifts and talents they bring to our nation. We give thanks for all who live in our community who came here to escape poverty, oppression or violence; and for those who came seeking opportunity. We open our hearts to provide welcome and accompaniment to people facing persecution and oppression. As faithful people of God, we pray for all immigrants and refugees.

In part, our worship this blessed Easter Season will help us focus on the suffering of our immigrant sisters and brothers and, we pray, deepen our commitment to them.



Festivities begin at 6pm

SNAPPY live music! **RAUCOUS** silent auction! **DELICIOUS** food and drink!
Please call the church office to reserve your table: \$20 per ticket; \$150 for a table of 8.

Our menu this year comes from the culinary talents of our favorite
Argentinian chef, Sonia Fornoni. Delectable delights include: Empanadas!
And a special desert: Arrollado de Dulce de Leche!

All proceeds to benefit the **BETHEL DROP IN CENTER**
Do Good, Be Joyous, and Bring your **DANCING SHOES!**