

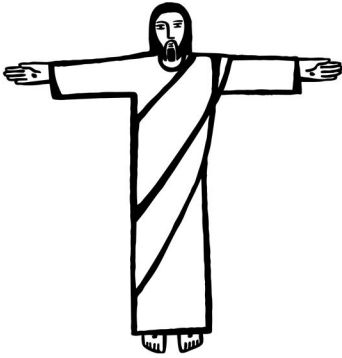


# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Worship with Holy Communion

April 7, 2024

## Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



We are glad you are here, and we pray God will be real to you as you worship with us. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation; therefore, we invite all people, including those of all races, ethnicities, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, ages, economic levels, and abilities. God loves all creation and holds us all, so we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We honor and appreciate the rich diversity of age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity and expression, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships. We commit ourselves to embracing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care.

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**Communion** - We will celebrate Holy Communion together via Zoom, as well as gathered in person. Please have bread/cracker(s) and a cup of wine/grape juice ready if you and those with you would like to participate. If you do not have access to wine or grape juice, you may receive Communion without the cup—Christ is present in the bread, as Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life.” (John 6:35)

## GATHERING

### Prelude



*Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. An all gender 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.*

## Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**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.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

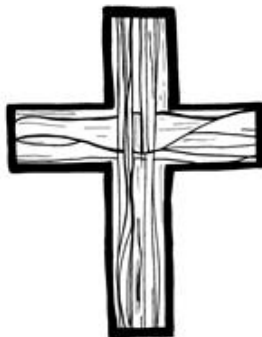
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**

**so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**



## Gathering Song of Praise

## A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

Verses 1-3



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall  
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives  
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the  
4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the por - tals of the  
5 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -  
stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! and with his faith - ful fol - l'wers  
sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they  
sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall  
cord: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.  
see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.  
say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."  
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



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

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

**Almighty God, with joy we celebrate our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

# WORD

## Scripture Reading

**Acts 4:32-35**

A reading from Acts.

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Scripture Reading

**1 John 1:1—2:2**

A reading from 1 John.

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## Gospel Reading

**John 20:19-31**

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

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

# Children's Time

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day

### We Walk by Faith



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
you are near and seek where you are found:  
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## Prayers of Intercession

*The response to each prayer is: God of Grace, hear our prayer.*

**Sharing of Peace** — *Take time to share the peace on Zoom and in person*

# COMMUNION MEAL

*For those worshipping virtually, please gather your bread and wine to participate in Holy Communion.*

## Offering

*You may use one of our options for giving: Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, Paypal, see our website [bethelpdx.org](http://bethelpdx.org) for link, online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> Additionally you may donate by mail or, if worshipping in-person, use the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for supporting the many ministries of Bethel!*

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

**Risen One,**

**you call us to believe and bear fruit.**

**May the gifts that we offer here**

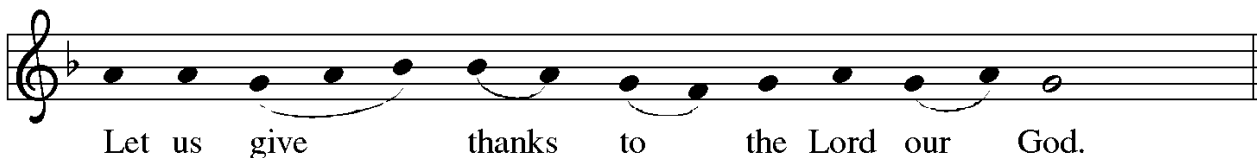
**be signs of your abiding love.**

**Form us to be your witnesses in the world,**

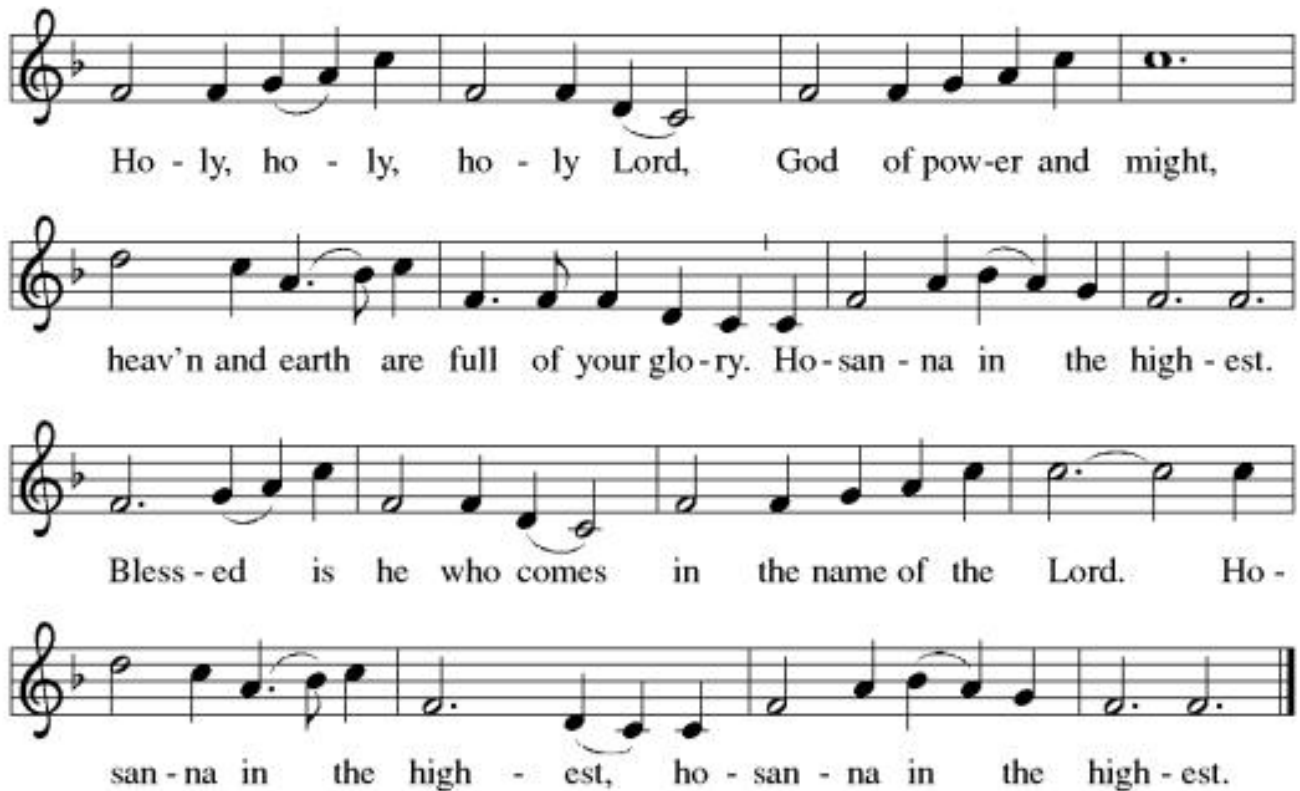
**through Jesus Christ, our true vine.**

## Great Thanksgiving

*The Pastor will guide you when to take the bread and cup to eat and drink.*



*The Thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n 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.

*The presiding minister continues with the Thanksgiving at the Table. At the end, all say: **Amen.***

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is 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.**

## **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

### **Communion Music**





# SENDING

## Announcements

### Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

### Sending Song

### The Sending.

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



<b>Stewardship of Service</b>	<b>This week – April 7, 2024</b>	<b>Next week – Apr. 14, 2024</b>
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Musician/Music Director	Jamie Vandenberg	Shlomo Farber
Reader	Lisa Siems	TBA
Zoom Host	<b>Joann Noll</b>	<b>Volunteer needed!</b>

*Hymns shown on this bulletin are licensed via Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number SAS10330*

*All other music used with the artist permission*

## Pray For:

**Pray for the people in Israel, Palestine, and all of the Middle East** as they suffer war, violence, terror, and retribution. Show the world a path to peace and justice.

**Let us continue to pray for all victims of gun violence.**

**Pray for peace and justice in Ukraine, Holy Land, and Yemen.**

**Pray for peace and justice and safety among our houseless neighbors.** Help us understand how we can share your love with them.

**Pray for Bethel leaders**, including Pastor Leon LaCross, Music Director Shlomo Farber, Admin Assistant Kerry Czuba, the 2024 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

**Pray for the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center Board as they prepare for the Summer 2024 Day Camp.** Send us excellent applicants for Staff and for our new Director, Marie Houk.

**Pray for Shlomo Farber**, that his family and friends in Israel may be safe.

**Pray for our children**, who have returned to classes and studies. Pray they are safe on wet, dark streets. Give them stamina and joy!

**Pray for the teachers, school staff, parents, guardians, and grandparents** who teach our children and keep them safe.

### Pray for the following:

- **Mark Sjostrom**, Svea's uncle, as he recovers from cancer treatments and health complications
- **Neil Marshall** (Nash's Portland family) as Neil undergoes treatment for a brain tumor.
- **Faith Moser and her daughters** (mother of Joann Noll) as Faith moves into assisted living.
- **David Gyles** for his improved lung health.
- **Leo Lawrence** for recovery from neuropathy surgery.
- **John Knight and family** as John continues in memory care.
- **Laura Day**, mother of Natalie Peterson, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- **Chuck Huntley**, brother of Marjorie Strieff, for his ongoing health.
- **Glenn Chase**, in thanks for his continued good health.
- **Jackie Calder**, in thanks for healing and health that allows her to travel and to accomplish loving volunteer work.
- **JulieAnn Edman** for continued strength and healing.
- **Lorraine Griffey** for health, stamina, and joy.
- **Betty Jean Iacono**, sister of Marjorie Strieff, as she heals from recent heart difficulties.
- **Rhonda Pederson**, after a liver cancer diagnosis.
- **Jerry Jacobson**, grandfather of Julia Rankin, who is currently in the hospital.
- **Cari Catlow**, for treatment and recovery from a broken leg.

**Pray for all those who have passed away that they experience the loving embrace of God's love.**

**Continuing prayers for well-being for our loved ones Timothy, Elizabeth, Faith, Jim, Rob, Jacob, Miles, Andrew, Nash, Matthew, and Patricia--may they walk in light and peace.**

**Pray in thanksgiving for all the blessings received this week.  
Especially for Gary & Pat Andeen with a clean bill of health and Amy Bishop McDonald who has recovered and is doing well.**

**Pray we know that God is close and that we are open to receiving and sharing God's love.**

**Pray for Bethel Lutheran Church.**

### **Mark Your Calendars...See what's happening at Bethel and Beyond this week:**

04/07 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
04/07 10:00 AM Easter Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom  
04/07 11:15 AM Congregational Meeting  
04/10 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Cash Oregon  
04/11 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Cash Oregon (Last Day)  
04/11 Noon Crafternoon w/Pr. Leon  
04/11 4:30-5:30 PM Happy Hour on Zoom  
04/13 9:00 AM – Pack the Trailer for Value Villiage  
04/14 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
04/14 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom (BPITS do sermon)

The Bethel Community is thankful to those who donated Easter Lilies for Easter Service and flowers for outside.

Anonymous  
Karen Anderson  
Ray & Ronda Bard  
Fred & Kerry Czuba  
Holly Redfern  
Margorie Strieff

Nash and Joann Noll for making the planters in front of the church look beautiful.

Please pick up and take home any lilies you have sponsored.

Now that you've cleaned your closets and have brought those bags to Bethel or saved them to bring to Bethel on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 9AM. Your help is needed to load the truck. Come to Bethel where loading will begin at 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

Thank you for supporting the Youth Drop-In Center!





**Clean out your closets for the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center!**  
**Collect Bags & Boxes**

Collect Bags & Boxes - Bring to 3rd Floor of the Church or Save for Collection Day on **April 13th** by 10 am or Bring to the Tigard Value Village on April 13th at 11 am!

**We Are Collecting** - Clothes, Small Household Goods, Books & Media

**Clothes** - men's, women's, & children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, belts, backpacks, etc.

**Household Textiles** - bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

**Small Household Goods** - kitchen items, pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces, hand-held appliances, home decor, knick-knacks, toys, games, small electronics, toys, etc.

**Books & Media** - paperback, hard cover - all genres, *media needs to be boxed separately, no encyclopedias or text books*

Please use kitchen trash bags for clothes, shoes, and textiles and tightly pack boxes of small household goods. Separate books from household goods and media. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.



**For More Information Contact:**

Tana Bishop  
 tsm14400@comcast.net  
 503-740-4918

**Bethel Youth Drop-In Center**

5658 N Denver, Portland OR 97217



Bethel Lutheran Presents  
**Jazz Concert with Northwest Tempo**

Donations accepted

April 28  
 at  
 4:00 PM

5658 N. Denver Ave.  
 Portland, OR 97217

[bethelpdx.org](http://bethelpdx.org)




**send**

**Share Jesus' peace**

Many congregations "pass the peace" during worship. People shake hands or give hugs and share a short greeting of peace. All of us share the peace of Jesus when we care for others.

Think of one way you share Jesus' peace for each of the letters in the word PEACE.

**P**  
**E**  
**PLAY WITH FRIENDS**  
**C**  
**E**

 Thank you, Jesus, for your peace. Amen

**This week**

Watch for butterflies and hatching birds. Celebrate the new life of Easter!

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**kids Celebrate**  
 Second Sunday of Easter



**gather**

Welcome to worship. Today is the second Sunday of Easter. Did you know that the Easter season is much longer than one day? This is wonderful news!

Count the crosses, the eggs, and the butterflies. Add them all together and you'll know how many days are in the Easter season.



\_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Crosses      Butterflies      Eggs      Days of Easter