

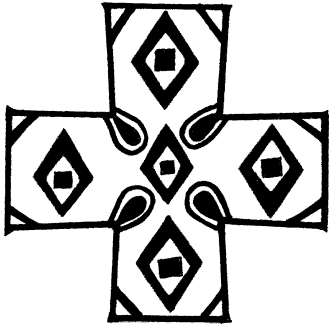


Fourth Sunday of Easter

Worship with Holy Communion

May 11, 2025

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.

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.

Address 5658 North Denver Avenue • **Portland, Oregon** 97217 • **Email** bethel@bethelpdx.org • **Website** www.bethelpdx.org

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Please stand in body or spirit and face the baptismal font

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of † the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

Gathering Song of Praise

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.



WORD

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:36-43

A reading from Acts.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

Scripture Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

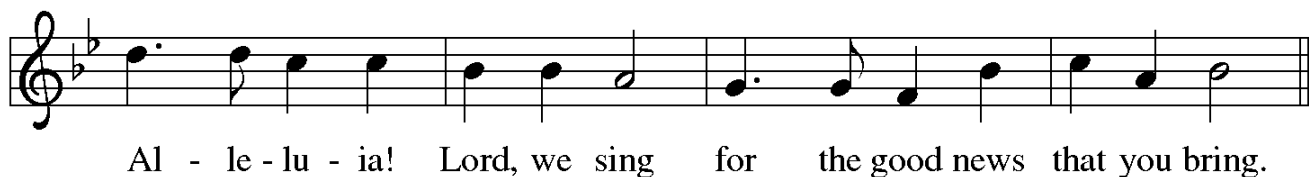
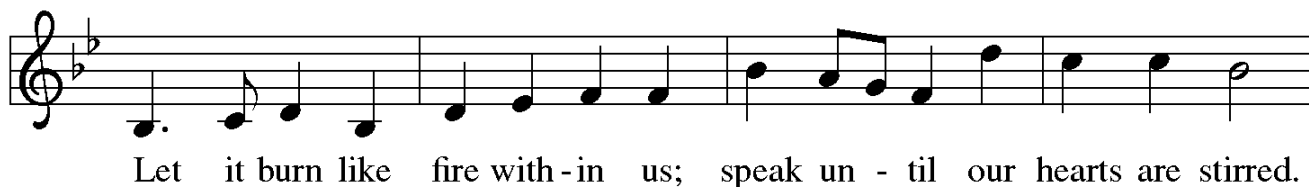
¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit



Gospel Reading

John 10:22-30

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

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

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

Please be seated.

Children's Time

Sermon

Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

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.



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.



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.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Prayers of Intercession

The response to each prayer is: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

Please be seated.

COMMUNION MEAL

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

Offering

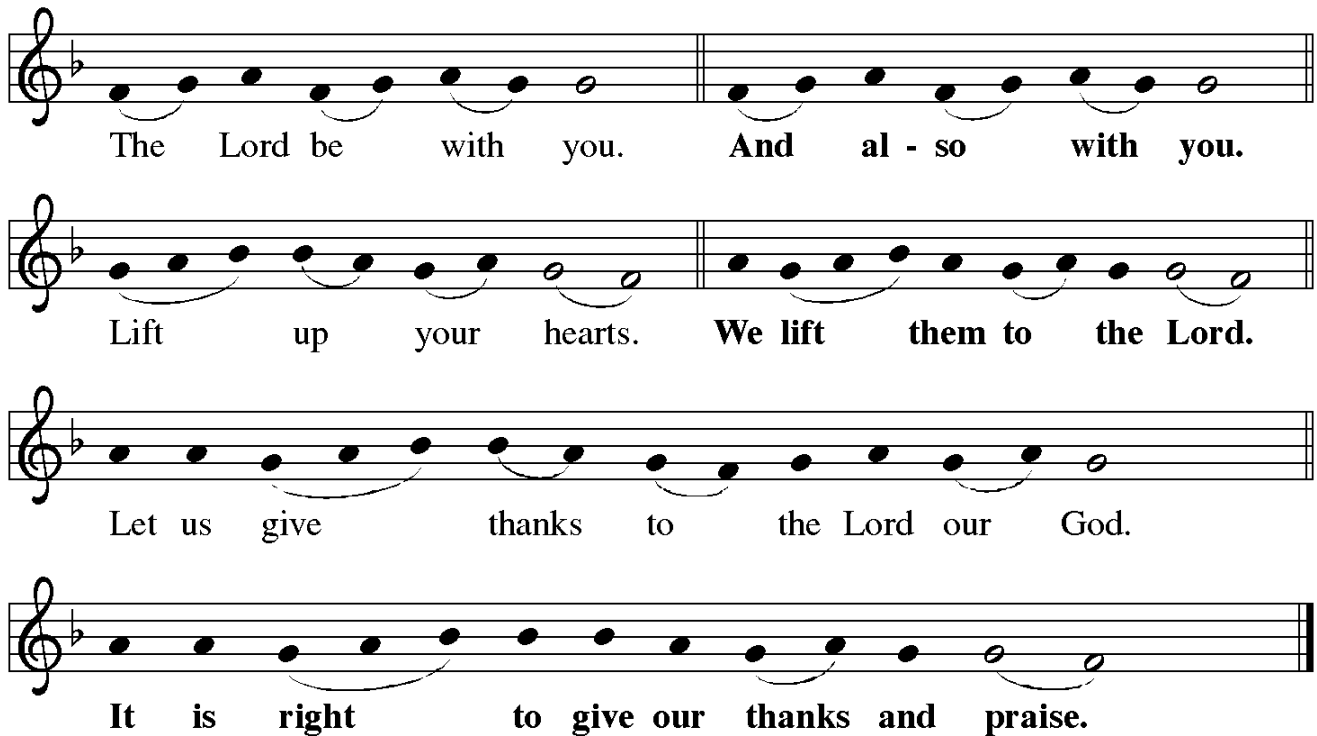
You may use one of our options for giving: Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, Paypal, see our website bethelpdx.org for link, online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> Additionally you may donate by mail or, if worshipping in-person, use the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary.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

Offering Prayer

Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Please stand in body or spirit.



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 Thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season.

*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.

Please be seated

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Music



SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

Amen.

Sending Song

The Sending.

Alleluia! Christ has risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



Stewardship of Service	This week – May 11, 2025	Next week – May 18, 2025
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Music Director	Colin Shepherd	Jamie Vandenberg
Zoom Host	Joann Noll	Volunteer needed!

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 all of the Middle East, Ukraine, Kashmir 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 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 2025 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

Pray for the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center Board in thanksgiving for Elizabeth DeLozier as she begins as director of the Summer Youth Program and that we receive excellent applicants for our other positions.

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

Pray for Julia Rankin as she continues her education at seminary.

Pray for Sean Fitzgerald (Nikki Bucholz), Kim Bucholz's son-in-law who has been deployed to the Middle East.

Pray for our children, as spring arrives, that they blossom where ever they find themselves planted.

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
- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) and her daughters as Faith's health diminishes.
- **David Giles** as he discontinues treatment for lung cancer.
- **Leo Lawrence** for recovery from neuropathy surgery.
- **Laura Day**, mother of Natalie Peterson, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- **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.
- **Lorraine Griffey** for health, stamina, and joy.
- **Rick Van Dyke**, brother to Jim Van Dyke, as Rick lives with the uncertainty of his illness and works with his medical team to prepare for treatment.
- **Darin Schmidt**, a former Bethelite, and his wife Jessica, as they navigate a diagnosis of liver cancer.
- **Bob Enke**, cousin of JulieAnn Edman, for continued health and safety.
- **Miles Bard** for health and stamina.
- **Pam Coffman** as she navigates treatment for lung cancer.
- **Marlo Edman** who is recovering after surgery.
- **JulieAnn Edman** for upcoming back surgery.
- **Dean Peterson** for conditions related to cerebral amyloid angiopathy.
- **Jon Roschke and family (Svea's brother-in-law)** as he undergoes cancer treatments.
- **Nash Ababu**, as he recovers from a series of mini strokes.

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

Especially for **Scott Burris and family** as they mourn their stepmom, **Mae Burris**, who died on April 14th after being in hospice.

Prayers for the family of Mark Sjostrom (Svea's Uncle). He passed away at home after a long battle with cancer.

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 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:

05/11 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

05/11 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom

05/14 6:30 PM New Horizons Band Practice

05/15 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Bethel Happy Hour: Zoom

05/17 9:00 AM Garden Clean-up (Parking Stirps)

05/18 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

05/18 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom

05/18 11:15 AM Council Meeting

05/18 11:15 AM Parking Lot Parlay (Sign-up is in the back of church)



Saturday, May 17, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Garden Clean Up at Church and the Parsonage (Nash's Garden areas)
The Garden is need of attention.

Come by with gloves and tools to help get the gardens looking spiffy



AT BETHEL

JUNE 11

JULY 9

AUG. 13

JOIN US IN THE PARKING LOT

**HOT DOGS/VEGGIE DOGS PROVIDED
BRING SIDES TO SHARE**

5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

**SET UP 5:00 PM TO 5:30 PM
TAKE DOWN 7:00 PM TO 7:30 PM
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**Bethel Lutheran's
Special Congregational Meeting**

June 8th at 11:15 AM

to vote and approve the 2025 Constitution

**Reception following to celebrate
the 4th anniversary of Pr. Leon's ordination**

PARKING LOT PARLAY

Beginning Sunday, May 18th and every Sunday after service (11:15 AM), the plan is to set up a table in the parking lot and be outside to connect with our neighbors. There will be coffee!

Volunteers include a captain and 4 crew members. Use Sign-up Genius or sign-up in the back of church.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4CABAC2CA4F49-56774407-parking>



2025 Summer Day Camp Program
@ Bethel Youth Drop-In Center

Program Dates/Times: June 30 through August 8
 MTWThF, 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Ages: entering 1st through 6th in Fall 2025
 Register at www.bethelpdx.org/summer-program
 Email: ydic@bethelpdx.org
 Phone: 503-285-4919
 Address: 5658 N. Denver Ave
 Portland, OR 97217

Save the Date

Saturday, June 21st at 6:00 PM

Shlomo Farber - Bethel's music director - is hosting a student recital and a special concert with his band - New Horizons Big Band!

Add this event to your calendar!
Evening begins at 6:00 PM with cocktails
6:15 PM Student Recital
6:45 PM New Horizons Big Band Concert & Reception

Please feel free to bring snacks to share.
RSVP – Link on Blast

MAY 25, 2025
4:00 PM

JAZZ
WITH
NORTHWEST TEMPO

AT BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5658 N. DENVER AVE.

bethelpdx.org **Donations accepted**