

Bethany Lutheran Church

4644 Clark Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90808

www.bethanylutheran.org

(562) 421-4711

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

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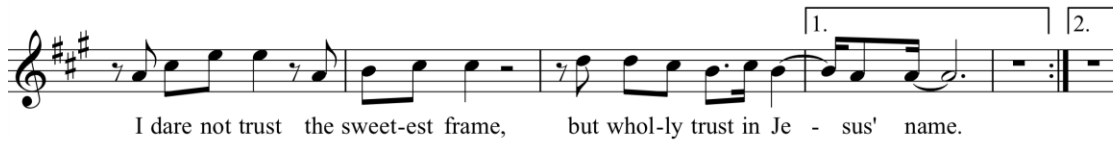
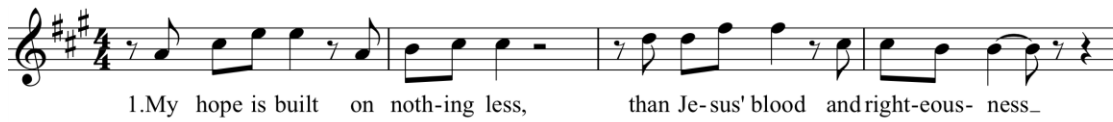
MAY 1, 2022

8:00 and 9:30 AM

WELCOME


OPENING HYMN:

“Cornerstone”



CHORUS





 2. When dark-ness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchang-ing grace,
 3. When He shall come with trump-et sound, oh may I then in Him be found



 In ev-'ry high and storm-y gale, my an-chor holds with in___ the veil___
 Dressed in His right-eous-ness a-lone Fault-less to stand be-fore___ the throne.

2 CHORUS




 Christ a - lone Corn - er - stone. Weak made strong in the Sav - iour's love.



 — Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.



 He is___ Lord.____ Lord of all.____ Christ a -



 Lord. Lord of all.

D.S. al fine

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Based on Isaiah 42)*

Leader: This is what God the LORD says,
He who created the heavens and stretched them out,
Who spread out the earth and all that comes out of it,
Who gives breath to its people, and life to all:
I the Lord, have called you in righteousness.

**People: He is our light,
He will open our eyes,
He has set us free.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: *(Based on Galatians 5)*

Leader: Since we have been set free through faith we have peace with God.

**People: Yet Lord, I confess, that I often lack peace.
For, I confess, that I am in bondage to sin and cannot free myself.
Though Christ has indeed set me free
I have returned to captivity
over and over again in words, deeds and actions,
sinning against You, O Lord.
I confess that I have not served others in love,
let alone loving and serving You with my whole heart.
For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me.
Forgive me, renew me, lead me,
and set me free to delight in Your will
and walk in Your ways,
to the glory of Your holy name.
Amen.**

Leader: Jesus Christ has set you free, by His captivity to the cross
you are released from sin's guilt and Satan's accusations:
Live in His freedom, freed to serve, freed to love,
freed to live in, for and through Him
through Who your sins are forgiven. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Acts 9:1-22*

Saul kept threatening to murder the Lord's disciples. He went to the chief priest and asked him to write letters of authorization to the synagogue leaders in the city of Damascus. Saul wanted to arrest any man or woman who followed the way of Christ and imprison them in Jerusalem.

As Saul was coming near the city of Damascus, a light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?"

Saul asked, "Who are you, sir?"

The person replied, "I'm Jesus, the one you're persecuting. Get up! Go into the city, and you'll be told what you should do."

Meanwhile, the men traveling with him were speechless. They heard the voice but didn't see anyone.

Saul was helped up from the ground. When he opened his eyes, he was blind. So his companions led him into Damascus. For three days he couldn't see and didn't eat or drink.

A disciple named Ananias lived in the city of Damascus. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

Ananias answered, "Yes, Lord."

The Lord told him, "Get up! Go to Judas' house on Straight Street, and ask for a man named Saul from the city of Tarsus. He's praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias place his hands on him to restore his sight."

Ananias replied, "Lord, I've heard a lot of people tell about the many evil things this man has done to your people in Jerusalem. Saul has come here to Damascus with authority from the chief priests to put anyone who calls on Your name in prison."

The Lord told Ananias, "Go! I've chosen this man to bring my name to nations, to kings, and to the people of Israel. I'll show him how much he has to suffer for the sake of my name."

Ananias left and entered Judas' house. After he placed his hands on Saul, Ananias said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way to Damascus, sent me to you. He wants you to see again and to be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Immediately, something like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. Then Saul stood up and was baptized. After he had something to eat, his strength came back to him.

Saul was with the disciples in the city of Damascus for several days. He immediately began to spread the word in their synagogues that Jesus was the Son of God. Everyone who heard him was amazed. They asked, "Isn't this the man who destroyed those who worshiped the one named Jesus in Jerusalem? Didn't he come here to take these worshipers as prisoners to the chief priests in Jerusalem?"

Saul grew more powerful, and he confused the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah. – GW®

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

8:00

"I Saw the Light"
~ by Hank Williams Sr.

Word Alive Band

9:30

"Born to Be a Shepherd"
and
"Abundawonderful Life in Jesus"

BLS K-2 Students

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *John 21:1-14*

Later, by the Sea of Tiberias, Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples. This is what happened. Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two other disciples of Jesus were together. Simon Peter said to the others, "I'm going fishing."

They told him, "We're going with you."

They went out in a boat but didn't catch a thing that night. As the sun was rising, Jesus stood on the shore. The disciples didn't realize that it was Jesus.

Jesus asked them, "Friends, haven't you caught any fish?"

They answered Him, "No, we haven't."

He told them, "Throw the net out on the right side of the boat, and you'll catch some." So they threw the net out and were unable to pull it in because so many fish were in it.

The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord." When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put back on the clothes that he had taken off and jumped into the sea. The other disciples came with the boat and dragged the net full of fish. They weren't far from the shore, only about 100 yards.

When they went ashore, they saw a fire with a fish lying on the coals, and they saw a loaf of bread.

Jesus told them, "Bring some of the fish you've just caught." Simon Peter got into the boat and pulled the net ashore. Though the net was filled with 153 large fish, it was not torn.

Jesus told them, "Come, have breakfast." None of the disciples dared to ask him who he was. They knew he was the Lord. Jesus took the bread, gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

This was the third time that Jesus showed Himself to the disciples after He had come back to life. – GW®

SERMON HYMN:

“Lord, I Need You”

1. Lord, I
 come, I con - fess. Bow-ing here, I find my__ rest. And with-out
 You, I fall a - part. You're the one that guides my__ heart. Lord, I
 need You, oh I need You. Ev - 'ry hour I need You. My
To Coda
 one de-fense, my right - eous-ness; Oh, God, how I need You.
 2. Where sin runs deep, Your grace is__ more. Where grace is found is where You
 are. And where You are, Lord, I am__
 __ free. Ho - li - ness is Christ in__ me. Where You are, Lord, I am
D.S. al Coda
 __ free. Ho - li - ness is Christ in__ me. Lord, I



SERMON: “Set Free From Misconceptions”

Text: Acts 9:1-22

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Verse 1:

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see**

Verse 2:

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed**

Chorus:

**My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace**

Verse 3:

**The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures**

Verse 4:

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine, Will be forever mine
You are forever mine**

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

+ *Holy Communion* +

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING: *(Based on Galatians 5:1 & 13)*

Leader: You have been set free in Christ.
Do not use your freedom to indulge in the sinful nature;
rather serve one another in love.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Be Thou My Vision”



1.Be Thou my___ vi - sion oh Lord of my heart.
 2.Be Thou my___ wis - dom and Thou my True Word.
 3.High King of___ hea - ven my vic - to - ry won.



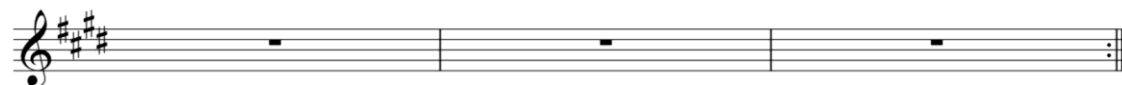
Naught be all else to me save that Thou___ art.
 I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me___ Lord.
 May I reach heav - en's joys oh bright heav - en's sun.



Thou my___ best___ thought___ by day or by night.
 Thou my___ great___ Fa - ther and I Thy true son.
 Heart of___ my___ own heart what ev - er be - fall



Wa - king or slee - ping, Thy___ pre - sence my light.
 Thou in me dwell - ing and___ I with Thee one.
 Still be my vi - sion oh___ ru - ler of all.



Still be my vi - sion oh___ ru - ler of all.

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“Cornerstone”

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“I Saw the Light”—Ministry of Music
~Hank Williams Sr.

“Lord, I Need You”

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“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

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“Be Thou My Vision” WOV 776

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Music: Irish tune; arr. Frank Ferko, b. 1950. Text and music: Public domain. CCLI Song #7064078
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THE BETHANY BLUEPRINT

Having been called to Faith in Christ, moved by the love of God the Father
and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
the members of Bethany Lutheran Church are committed to:

Worshiping Faithfully (Acts 2:42, 46)
Forming Spiritually (Colossians 1:10-14)
Serving Passionately (Ephesians 2:10)
Giving Proportionately (Luke 21:1-4)
Sharing Intentionally (Matthew 28:19-20)

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR TODAY'S SERMON OR PREVIOUS SERMONS AGAIN...

You can hear them as podcasts on our website www.bethanylutheran.org.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER THIS THURSDAY NIGHT

7:00 – 8:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Exalt the Lord who has established us. ~ Colossians 2:6-7

Jesus is the One who healed, served, taught us to pray and *gave His life* for us. In giving His life for our sins, Max Lucado said it succinctly, “He would rather go to hell for you than go to heaven without you.” Jesus taught us to pray:

- He told us a way to pray (Matthew 6).
- If we don’t know how to pray the Holy Spirit will help us (Romans 8).
- He told His disciples that they should always pray and not give up (Luke 18).
- He even prayed for Himself as well as His disciples and *all believers* (John 17).
- He said be joyful always, pray continuously, give thanks in all things (I Thessalonians 5).

Let us gather in unity and pray at Bethany’s National Day of Prayer. In addition to prayers, songs and candle lighting, we will have a message from Pastor Nader Hanna, “Caring for Refugees and Afghan Refugees” including prayers for them. We welcome those from the community that have been invited and look for ways to greet them. All are welcome!

~ Community Impact Committee

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE BETHANY BULLET?

The *Bethany Bullet* is a weekly capsule of worship highlights, and important information about events taking place at BLC. If you would like to receive the *Bethany Bullet* please email Aimee Coleman (acoleman@bethanylutheran.org) with your name and email address.

The purpose of the *Bethany Bullet* is to bolster you in faith, build you up in the key Biblical themes shared the previous Sunday in worship, to bring to mind the important issues on Bethany's plate, and to broaden your awareness of opportunities of service to your Lord, your church, and your community. Tell a friend about the *Bethany Bullet*!

HOUSEHOLD HUDDLE



One of the key characteristics of Households of Faith is that they spend time with one another. The Biblical idea of households is far beyond just the nuclear family that may share the same four walls. In the pages of Scripture households included multiple generations, different vocations, and many permutations. A Household Huddle is a time of directed activity that will foster spiritual habits, invite conversations and be open to welcoming others. We would like to encourage you to engage in a household huddle at least once a week.

The pattern for a Household Huddle includes the following:

- **SHARE** your highs and lows.
- **READ** a Bible verse or a story.
- **TALK** together about how the reading impacted you, share what you think God might be teaching you and ask some questions about the reading.
- **PRAY** for one another.
- **BLESS** one another in words and actions.

It will take time to get into a pattern or rhythm with the members of your household so we suggest scheduling the same time and day each week when you begin. To get you started we will provide a basic outline for your household huddle.

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 1st

READ this week: *Acts 9:1-22*

TALK about the readings:

- *What does this text reveal to you about God?*
- *Looking at the text from the lens of being “Set Free” what is someone being set free off/from?*
- *Can you relate to needing to be “set free” from something similar as what you identified above?*
- *What do you believe God might be teaching you through this text?*
- *How will you that lesson change the way you live this week?*

PRAY for one another:

Thinking about what was shared in your household huddle, how can you pray for one another today?

BLESS one another in words and actions:

Have someone read the blessing from the Sunday service on page 11 of this bulletin, to your household.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Thursday from 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM.

Closed Fridays.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF

Greetings Bethany Lutheran Church! We recently took in a young Ukrainian couple (ages 27 and 25, no children) who fled the Ukraine. We currently have them staying at a local hotel in Los Alamitos. We are asking members if anyone can help with the following things:

- An available room or apartment they can rent or allow them to stay in until they get on their feet.
- A small vehicle to use or possibly purchase.
- Employment in the area of logistics. I can forward a resume, if needed.
- Gift cards to any local restaurants, grocery stores or clothing stores. (They arrived with only one suitcase for the both of them!)

If you have any questions please feel free to call or text me at (562) 712-2507. Thank you!

~ The Deeble Family

WE GIVE HIM BUT HIS OWN

At Bethany we know that “our stuff is not our stuff!” All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from Him. We also know that giving is a spirit-given compulsion. For Jesus Christ, in whose likeness we are being transformed daily, is the ultimate giver. Your gifts fund ministry that give people Jesus. His words, His promises, His presence, His gifts, His comfort, His strength are given through the gifts you are now giving Him. We thank and honor you for these gifts, because they thank and honor Him!

There are multiple ways to give to Bethany Lutheran Church including:

Giving Online Text to Give Online Bill-Pay, US Mail, Offering Basket

Please see the GIVING link on Bethany’s website for more information on how to make your offering. **If you need further assistance, contact our Financial Administrator at mshaefter@bethanylutheran.org**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DONATIONS

Our Monumental VBS is just around the corner and we are in need of some supplies so we can get to work creating and amazing set. We will be putting out a more detailed list of donations soon but this list we need completed by May 8th. Please contact Pastor Seth ASAP (smoorman@bethanylutheran.org) if you are able to provide any of the following:

TO DONATE:

Moving Boxes (not boxes from Amazon, etc.)

8-Small (17 x 11 x 11)

5-Medium (21 x 15 x 16)

1-Large (27 x 15 x 16)

1-XL (24 x 20 x 21)

One 100 foot Roll of Ram Board (the thick kind)

Carpet Tubes x 5 (4 inch diameter, must be longer than 5 1/2 feet)

Home Depot Gift Cards (any amount, but use SCRIP and support Bethany!)

Two rolls of clear packing tape (thicker is better)

One roll of black duct tape

TO BORROW:

Four M or L trigger clamps (must open to more than 5 inches)

One Christmas Tree Stand