

Bethany Lutheran Church

4644 Clark Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90808

www.bethanylutheran.org

(562) 421-4711

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER + + + **MAY 8, 2022**
MOTHER'S DAY **8:00 and 9:30 AM**

PRESERVICE MUSIC: **“Morecambe”** Organ
~ Joe Utterback

“Assurance”
~ J. Bert Carlson

“Thine”
~ Aaron David Miller

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” LSB 475



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry That love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to - day with



of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
strew His way; Let all the world re - joice and say:
can - not die, And sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord The life laid down, the life re - stored:



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

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Based on Isaiah 42)

Leader: You have been set free from sin and are now servants of God.

**People: For the wages of sin is death,
but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: (Based on Galatians 5)

Leader: I tell you, my brothers and sisters, you have been set free in Christ!
I ask you, my brothers and sisters,
have you used your freedom to indulge in the sinful nature?
We know this ought not be, rather we ought to serve others in love.

**People: Most merciful God,
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 12:1-17

About that time King Herod devoted his attention to mistreating certain members of the church. He had James, the brother of John, executed. When he saw how this pleased the Jews, he arrested Peter too. This happened during the days of Unleavened Bread. After capturing Peter, Herod had him thrown into prison with sixteen soldiers in squads of four to guard him. Herod wanted to bring Peter to trial in front of the people after Passover. So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was praying very hard to God for him.

The night before Herod was going to bring Peter to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers. His hands were bound with two chains, and guards were in front of the door. They were watching the prison.

Suddenly, an angel from the Lord stood near Peter, and his cell was filled with light. The angel nudged Peter's side, woke him up, and said, "Hurry! Get up!" At that moment the chains fell from Peter's hands.

The angel told him, "Put your shoes on, and get ready to go!" Peter did this. Then the angel told him, "Put your coat on, and follow me."

Peter followed the angel out of the cell. He didn't realize that what the angel was doing was actually happening. He thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guardposts and came to the iron gate that led into the city. This gate opened by itself for them, so they went outside and up the street. The angel suddenly left Peter.

When Peter came to his senses, he said, "Now I'm sure that the Lord sent His angel to rescue me from Herod and from everything the Jewish people are expecting to happen to me."

When Peter realized what had happened, he went to the home of Mary, the mother of John Mark. Many people had gathered at her home and were praying. Peter knocked on the door of the entryway, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer. When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so happy that instead of opening the door, she ran back inside and reported, "Peter is standing at the door!"

The people told her, "You're crazy!" But she insisted that Peter was at the door. They said, "It has to be his angel."

But Peter kept knocking. When they opened the door, they were shocked to see him. Peter motioned with his hand to quiet them down and told them how the Lord had taken him out of prison. He added, "Tell James and the other believers about this." Then he left and went somewhere else. – GW®

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

"The Lord's Prayer"

Men's Chorus

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *John 10:22-30*

The Festival of the Dedication of the Temple took place in Jerusalem during the winter. Jesus was walking on Solomon’s porch in the temple courtyard.

The Jews surrounded Him. They asked Him, “How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Messiah, tell us plainly.”

Jesus answered them, “I’ve told you, but you don’t believe me. The things that I do in my Father’s name testify on my behalf. However, you don’t believe because you’re not my sheep. My sheep respond to my voice, and I know who they are. They follow me, and I give them eternal life. They will never be lost, and no one will tear them away from me. My Father, who gave them to me, is greater than everyone else, and no one can tear them away from my Father. The Father and I are one.” – GW®

SERMON HYMN: *“Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord”* LSB 771



1 Be still, my soul, be - fore the Lord, For
2 You need not mul - ti - ply your words Nor
3 Wait, then, in qui - et con - fi - dence, Your
4 Be still, my soul, be - fore the Lord; On

God is al - ways near. Be - fore your mind is
pray with prac - ticed art. Be - yond all speech, God
anx - ious thoughts at rest. God knows your needs be -
God in pa - tience wait. God’s love, un - seen, sur -

moved to pray, God lis - tens and will hear.
un - der - stands The hun - ger of your heart.
fore you ask And works for what is best.
rounds your life; God’s help will not be late.

**SERMON: *“Set Free”*
Text: Acts 12:1-17**



1. For all the faith - ful wom - en Who served in days of old,
 2. Re - call the out - cast wom - an With whom the Lord con - versed;
 3. O God, for saints and ser - vants, Those named and those un - known.
 4. All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



To you shall thanks be giv - en; To all, their sto - ry told.
 Christ gave her li - ving wa - ter To quench her deep - est thirst.
 In whom through all the a - ges Your light of glo - ry shone,
 All praise the Ho - ly Spir - it, Who binds the Church in one!



They served with strength and glad - ness In tasks Your wis - dom gave. —
 Like hers, our hearts are yearn - ing; Christ of - fers us His Word. —
 We of - fer glad thanks - giv - ing And fer - vent prayer we raise —
 With saints who went be - fore — us, With saints who wit - ness still, —



To You their lives bore wit - ness, Pro - claimed Your pow'r to save.
 Then may our lips be burn - ing To wit - ness to our Lord.
 That, faith - ful in Your ser - vice, Our lives may sing Your praise.
 We sing glad Al - le - lu - ias And strive to do Your will.

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

APOSTLE'S CREED: (** catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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

For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are alcohol free.

The wafers next to the Christ candle side are gluten free;

for those with dietary restrictions, please take a gluten free wafer.

For those wishing to use a self-contained communion chalice, let an usher know.

In our 9:30 a.m. service we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.

DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

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: "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun" LSB 868

1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun Thy dai - ly
2 In con - ver - sa - tion be sin - cere, Thy con - science
5 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest this day All I de -
Δ 6 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
stage of du - ty run; Shake off dull sloth and
as the noon - day clear; Think how the all - see - ing
sign or do or say That all my pow'rs with
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye
joy - ful rise To pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
God thy ways And all thy se - cret thoughts sur - veys.
all their might In Thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

POSTLUDE: "Toccata in Seven" Organ ~ John Rutter

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"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing" LSB 475

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615;
setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941. Text: © 1958, renewed 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd.
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"Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord" LSB 771

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., born 1923. Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950.
Text: © 1985 GIA publications, Inc. Music: © 1984, 2006 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

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“For All the Faithful Women” LSB 855

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., alt. © 1993, 1997, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

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setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941. Tune: Public domain

“Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun” LSB 868

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711. Tune: François H. Barthélémon, 1741-1808;

setting: *Lutheran Worship*, 1982. Text and tune: Public domain.

WEEKLY CHIMES

THE PARISH LIFE OF BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4644 CLARK AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA 90808

562-421-4711

www.bethanylutheran.org

WEEK OF
MAY 8 – 15, 2022

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.

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 8th:**

READ this week: *Acts 12:1-17*

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?*

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 9 of this bulletin, to your household.*

THE SAME TEXT WILL BE EXPLORED AT ALL IN-PERSON WORSHIP SITES:

Bethany Lutheran in Long Beach, Holy Cross in Cypress; and of course on the Live Streamed via our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/BethanyLutheranLongBeach> at Bethany's 9:30AM Worship Service.

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.

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!*

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

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

Closed Fridays.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS ALMOST HERE!

VBS June 27-July 1 from 8:30AM to Noon!

**Visit Bethany's website (www.bethanylutheran.org)
and check out our VBS webpage!**

Send your kids on a desert adventure!

At Monumental VBS, kids celebrate God's greatness!

**Direct link to register children ages 5 (entering Kindergarten)
through entering 6th grade. <https://bit.ly/VBSregister22>**

**Join our VBS Team for a week of fun as we celebrate:
God's Monumental Greatness!**

Direct link to volunteer to help with VBS.

Volunteers are for those entering 7th grade to Adult! <https://bit.ly/VBSvolunteer22>