

Bethany Lutheran Church

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| 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER | + | + | + | MAY 29, 2022 |
| ASCENSION SUNDAY | | | | 8:00 and 9:30 AM |

PRELUDE:

“Sounds of Joy”

~ Susan E. Geschke

Intermediate Bells

WELCOME

THE ACCOUNT OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD: *Luke 24:44-53*

Then He said to them, “These are the words I spoke to you while I was still with you. I told you that everything written about me in Moses’ Teachings, the Prophets, and the Psalms had to come true.” Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. He said to them, “Scripture says that the Messiah would suffer and that He would come back to life on the third day. Scripture also says that by the authority of Jesus people would be told to turn to God and change the way they think and act so that their sins will be forgiven. This would be told to people from all nations, beginning in the city of Jerusalem. You are witnesses to these things.

“I’m sending you what my Father promised. Wait here in the city until you receive power from heaven.”

Then Jesus took them to a place near Bethany. There He raised His hands and blessed them. While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken to heaven.

The disciples worshiped Him and were overjoyed as they went back to Jerusalem. They were always in the temple, where they praised God.

– GW®

CALL TO WORSHIP: based on *Psalm 47:5-9*

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises!

Leader: Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

People: For God is the King of all the earth;

Leader: God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.

People: The Lord is highly exalted. God has gone up with a shout,

Leader: Sing praises to God, sing praises!

People: Sing praises to our King, sing Praises!

**All: Sing praises to God the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: “On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build” LSB 492

1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of my as -
2 Since Christ re - turned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me ob -
3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing Your as -
cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and
tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er
cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for
ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I
rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There
my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let
know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.
all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.
me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Leader: Ascended Lord, You call us to lift our eyes to the hills in recognition that our help comes from You on high;

**People: Yet, we are so naturally captivated by ourselves,
that we vacillate between believing we need no help,
and doubting You're able to help.
Forgive us and come down to us in mercy.**

Leader: Ascended Lord, Scripture calls us to fix our eyes on You;

**People: Yet, we are so easily distracted from that which matters most,
Your kingdom and Your righteousness.
Forgive us and come down to us in mercy.**

Leader: Ascended Lord,
You commission Your church to go and work while it is "day"
before the "night" comes at Your returning.

**People: Yet, we are too often filled with apathy,
and are happy to wait for Your return.
Forgive us and come down to us in mercy.**

Leader: He who is Ascended, Jesus Christ,
does come down to you in mercy;
and in these very words, your sins are forgiven
in the name of the Father, and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

SONG OF PRAISE:

“Ignite”

1.Lord You

call us, to be peo-ple of peace___ To

re-con cile and to re - deem___ Lord we're

will - ing but we are weak___ give us

strength to serve all___ we___ meet to the

weak and the poor made known May Your love through us be_ shown Spir - it of God ig-

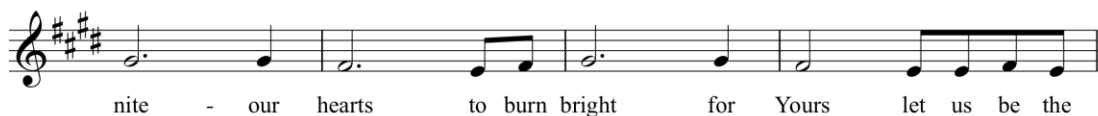
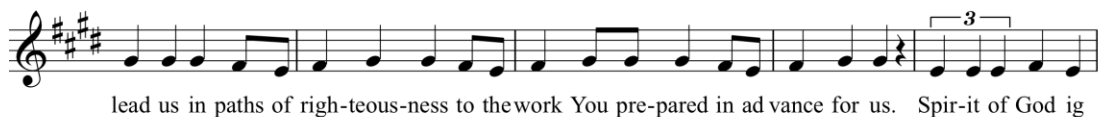
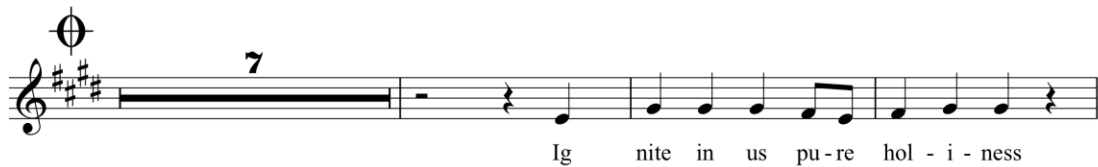
nite - our hearts to burn bright for Yours let us be the

light to all all the dark (Lord You)

to Coda 2nd Time



d.s. al Coda



PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Leader: Almighty God, Your only Son was taken up into heaven and in power intercedes for us. May we also come into Your presence and live forever in Your glory; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 1:1-11

In my first book, Theophilus, I wrote about what Jesus began to do and teach. This included everything from the beginning of His life until the day He was taken to heaven. Before He was taken to heaven, He gave instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles, whom He had chosen.

After His death Jesus showed the apostles a lot of convincing evidence that He was alive. For 40 days He appeared to them and talked with them about God's kingdom.

Once, while He was meeting with them, He ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for what the Father had promised. Jesus said to them, "I've told you what the Father promises: John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

So when the apostles came together, they asked Him, "Lord, is this the time when You're going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

Jesus told them, "You don't need to know about times or periods that the Father has determined by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to you. Then you will be my witnesses to testify about me in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After He had said this, He was taken to heaven. A cloud hid Him so that they could no longer see Him.

They were staring into the sky as He departed. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood near them. They asked, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking at the sky? Jesus, who was taken from you to heaven, will come back in the same way that you saw Him go to heaven." – GW®

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN:

“10,000 Reasons”



Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul; Wor-ship His ho - ly name_ Sing like
nev - er be-fore O my soul; I'll wor-ship Your ho - ly name._
1.The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing, it's time to sing Your song
_ a- gain._ What - ev - er may_ pass, and what - ev - er lies be- fore_ me,
let me be sing-ing when the eve - ning comes.

Verse 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Tag

Worship Your holy name
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

Ending

Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name
Worship Your holy name, Worship Your holy name

SERMON: "Set Free: Freed to Trust His Eternal Promise"

Text: Acts 1:1-11

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Amazing Grace"

1. A maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2. The Lord has prom - ised good to me. His
3. Through ma - ny dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4. Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and
5. All thanks to Christ, whose death in love, grace

saved a wretch like me! I
Word my hope se - cures; He
have al - rea - dy come; His
mor - tal life shall cease, A -
to the world re - vealed By

Once was lost, but now am found, Was
will my shield and por - tion be, As
grace has brought me safe so far, His
ma - zing grace shall then pre - vail in
wa - ter and Word, His Bo - dy and blood, His

blind, but now I see!
long as life en - dures.
grace will see me home.
hea - ven's joy and peace.
grace to me is sealed!

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.**

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.

Leader: What do we mean when we say that “the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are His now and forever”?

People: It means that God has all glory and is worthy of our praise;
that He alone has the power to grant our prayers and petitions;
and that He is the King who has all good gifts in His control;
for He Himself has commanded us to pray and promised to hear us.
Amen, amen, means ‘yes, yes, it shall be so.’”
(Luther's Small Catechism)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING:

Leader: Now the Risen and Ascended Lord Jesus bless you and keep you,
make His face to shine upon you and give you His peace.

People: Alleluia! Amen!

CLOSING HYMN: "Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious" LSB 495



1 Look, ye saints, the sight is glo - rious; See the Man of
2 Crown the Sav - ior! An - gels, crown Him! Rich the tro - phies
3 Sin - ners in de - ri - sion crowned Him, Mock - ing thus the
4 Hark, those bursts of ac - cla - ma - tion! Hark, those loud tri -



Sor - rows now! From the fight re - turned vic - to - rious,
Je - sus brings; On the seat of pow'r en - throne Him
Sav - ior's claim; Saints and an - gels crowd a - round Him,
um - phant chords! Je - sus takes the high - est sta - tion;



Ev - 'ry knee to Him shall bow. Crown Him! Crown Him!
While the vault of heav - en rings. Crown Him! Crown Him!
Own His ti - tle, praise His name. Crown Him! Crown Him!
Oh, what joy the sight af - fords! Crown Him! Crown Him!



Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crowns be - come the
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown the Sav - ior
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Spread a - broad the
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! King of kings and



vic - tor's brow. Crowns be - come the vic - tor's brow.
King of kings. Crown the Sav - ior King of kings.
vic - tor's fame. Spread a - broad the vic - tor's fame.
Lord of lords! King of kings and Lord of lords!

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“On Christ’s Ascension I Now Build” LSB 492

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604-40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873-1964, alt.

Tune: *Etlich Cristlich lider*, Wittenberg, 1524; setting: Paul G. Bunjes, 1914-98.

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10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

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“Amazing Grace” LSB 744

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, sts. 1-4, alt.; A Collection of Sacred Ballads, Richmond, 1790, st. 5;

Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829; setting: Joseph Herl. B. 1959.

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“Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious” LSB 495

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855. Tune: William Owen, 1813-93; setting: Joseph Herl, b. 1959

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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**!

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION: As we are working through portions of St. Luke’s book of Acts, we hear over and over again the words, “and the Lord added to their number.” That same Lord works the same today as He did back then. We in turn, like the first disciples, give Him all thanks and praise for all those individuals and families He continues to add to our “number.” We are thrilled to welcome and grow with all those the Lord adds to our Bethany Household. If you are new(er) to Bethany and are interested in congregational membership please email Pastor Kevin Kritzer at: kkritzer@bethanylutheran.org



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 29th:

READ this week: *Acts 1:1-11*

TALK about the readings:

- Luke, the author of Acts, writes to “Theophilus” this could be an individual. The name means “lover of God.” How does it make you feel that perhaps, as one who loves God, this very book is written directly to you? From what might that “set you free”?
- What does this text reveal to you about God?
- Re-read vs. 7-9. From what is Jesus setting the disciples free with these words?
- Can you relate from needing to be set free from a similar issue?
- What do you believe God is teaching you through this text?
- How will 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.

The Church Office will be closed Monday, May 30th in observance of Memorial Day.

We are joyful to live in freedom to select our leaders. We are called to pray for "*rulers and for everyone who has authority over us.*" Preparation for voting takes time... June 7th is near... be ready. ~ Community Impact Committee

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 mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org**