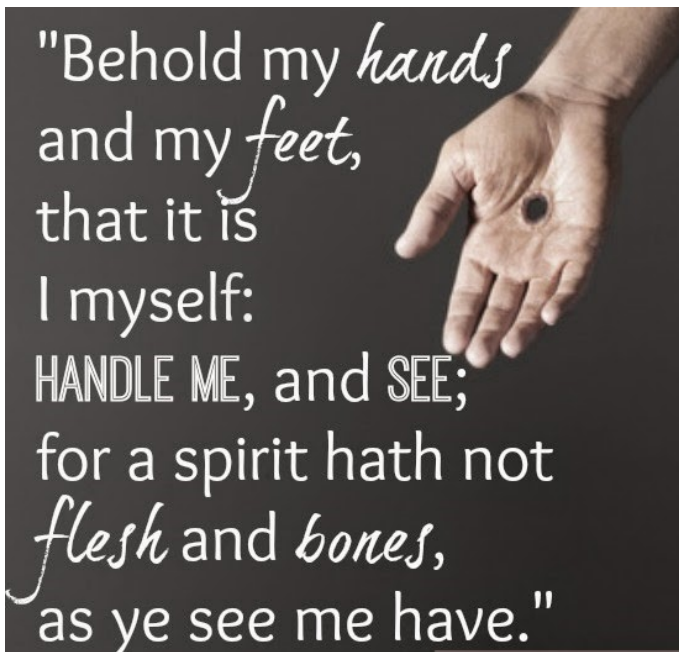


Welcome to Bethania Lutheran Kirke



Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

9:30 a.m.

BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

<http://www.bethanialutheran.org/bulletins/>

**Order of Worship
for
Sunday, April 14, 2024**

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

GATHERING

(Please rise)

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: How joyful it is, to celebrate the good news of God's love!

C: We are called to be Easter people!

P: Darkness cannot claim us!

C: Fear cannot bind us!

P: Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen, indeed! AMEN!

PROCESSIONAL & GATHERING HYMN

“Alleluia Jesus Is Risen” # 674

With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

SALUTATION

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

(Please be seated)

WORD

OUR FIRST LESSON is from the book of **Acts**; chapter 3, verses 12 through 19.

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

¹²Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, ²⁰so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, ²¹who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets." ²²Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you. "

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

OUR SECOND LESSON is from the book of First John, chapter 3, verses 1 through 7 .

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

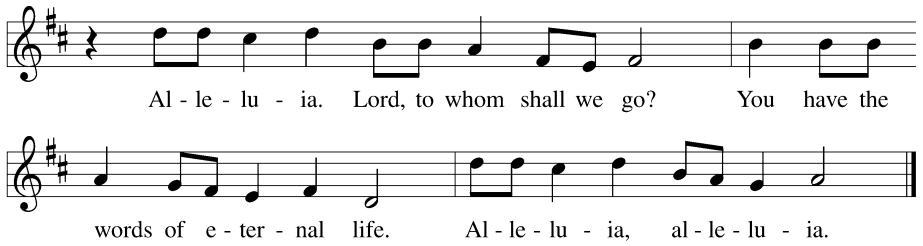
¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: This is the Spirit speaking to the church.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Please rise)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

^{36b} Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while

I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

MESSAGE

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY -

“We Who Once Were Dead” # 207

Lutheran Book of Worship—Green Hymnal

EASTER UNISON PRAYER

P: Let Us Pray,

**C: O God of Easter joy,
we come this morning
with glad shouts of acclamation.**

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

May this time of worship

help us to truly and fully experience this Risen Christ.

May we be transformed.

transformed into your butterfly people,

winging through the earth

with messages of beauty, hope and life.

Amen.

PRAYER SONG

(WOV# 751)

O Lord, hear my prayer,

O Lord, hear my prayer:

when I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer,

O Lord, hear my prayer:

come and listen to me.

PRAYERS

P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

P: O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty *especially* Jeff & Sue, Bonnie, Heather, Anita, Grete, Bettie, Kathy, Gene, Mike, Don, Joe, Julie N, Kim F. and all those we name in our hearts. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P:: O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died *especially* Glen Meldgaard. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER SONG (repeated)

(WOV# 751)

O Lord, hear my prayer,

O Lord, hear my prayer:

when I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer,

O Lord, hear my prayer:

come and listen to me.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Shaking of hands and sharing the peace with one another)

OFFERTORY

(WOV #761)

Now we offer you, our Father,
with the bread and with the wine
all our joys and all our sorrows,
all our struggles and our time.

In these gifts we see our oneness
throughout city and the field,
and we find a life of solace
where the scars of strife are healed. *Refrain*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: 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.

C: Amen

INTRODUCTION TO THE MEAL

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Creator God, you made the wonder that is earth,
inscribing soil, sky, and sea with life, energy, and glory.

Re-creating God,

when your Son came to restore your purpose for the earth,
he took the fruit of your abundance and the food of human labor.

Come among us now, and make us holy

in the sharing of your gracious abundance and our faltering endeavor.

Take these gifts of bread and-wine and make them for us

the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;

who, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread,

blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying,

“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it to his disciples, saying,

“Drink of this, all of you: this cup is the new covenant in my blood,
which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

P: Ever-creating God,
your Son Jesus invited his disciples to touch his risen body.
Come now in the power of your Holy Spirit,
and touch all that is still to be resurrected.
Touch all who live in fear; touch any who know daily hunger;
touch those who carry wounds and scars.
Touch all who are yet to see the salvation you bring through your Son;
touch any who are stumbling and tentative in their faith;
touch those who are disbelieving and still wondering.
Touch your whole church and make us one in you,
that your scars may again proclaim your glory,
and we may be united with your saints
in the coming of your kingdom, ever one God,
on earth as in heaven, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: Let us join our hands and hearts together in the prayer that our Lord
taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table; All are welcome.

(Please be seated)

SHARING THE MEAL

For in person, come up the center aisle, receive your communion wafer, carefully dip your wafer into the wine. If grape juice/ covid safe is preferred let the assistant know.

For at home using plain bread/crackers and wine/grape juice.

COMMUNION HYMN -

"Let Us Talents And Tongues Employ" # 649

With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

(Please rise)

COMMUNION BLESSING

L: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Let us Pray,
Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Go in courage and peace, proclaiming the Risen Lord to all! Be those who bring hope and justice to a hungry and hurting world! The peace of the Lord is with you now and forever.

C: AMEN.

SENDING HYMN -

"This Joyful Eastertide" #149

Lutheran Book of Worship—Green Hymnal

RECESSIONAL

A: We follow the cross of Christ into the world.

Congregation turns as the cross passes them—so they are facing the back of the church)

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

TODAYS WORSHIP LEADERS:

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Nuechterlein

Lector: John Barnes

Communion Assistants: Robin & John Barnes

Building Host, Acolyte & Offering Presenter: John Barnes

Coffee Hour: Altar Guild

Altar Flowers:

WORSHIP LEADERS NEXT WEEK (Sunday 4/21):

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Nuechterlein

Lector: Julie Hansen

Communion Assistants: Julie Hansen & Vicki Thiery

Building Host, Acolyte & Offering Presenter: Ed Young

Coffee Hour: Open

Altar Flowers:

Cans FOR K-9's



We are still collecting aluminum cans to help support the Racine County K-9 program.

Remember the food pantry. Suggested items: Canned dinners, Peanut butter, toilet paper, hygiene items, soup, and pastas.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Please consider hosting coffee hour. The coffee will be started by the building opener. Treats maybe store bought or homemade.

Sign up sheet is in the hearth room on the coffee table.



If you have anyone you would like to have added to the prayer chain **please contact Kelly Imhoff at 262-554-1558 or by email: bethaniaprayer-chain@wi.twcbc.com**

EMPTIES FOR CASH

"one persons junk is another persons treasure"

- ★ Bring in your empty inkjet cartridges—black or color.
- ★ Do not put any tape on the cartridge.
- ★ Place your empty cartridge in a zip type plastic bag. (ex: zip lock)

Bethania will receive \$2 per cartridge.

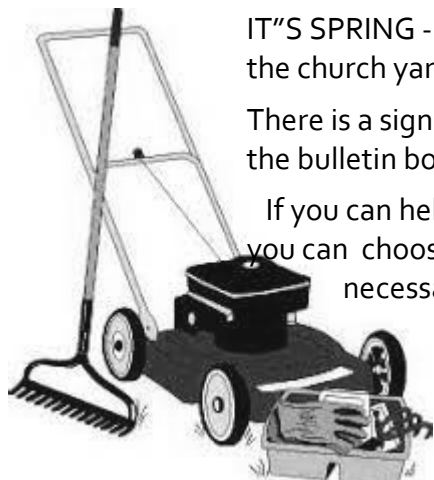
NO Toners please.

ALTAR FLOWERS

There are plenty of Sundays available to sign up for Altar flowers. They cost \$25 and the sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Pastors office.



Thread By Thread
Spring Change Over
Sunday April 21, 2024
Following worship



IT'S SPRING - Which means we need help with the church yard.

There is a sign up sheet for the weekly mowing on the bulletin board outside the hearth room.

If you can help with weeding—just come when you can choose a flower bed. No sign up necessary there's always weeds to pull.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Meldgaard funeral this past Wednesday.

Thank you for staying after church last Sunday to set up the hall, for coming early to open the building, for setting up communion, Serving coffee and kringle, and the luncheon, For shopping for supplies and for lining things up.



You are wonderful and your help is very much appreciated.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANIA....

Sunday, April 14, 2024 -

9:30 a.m. – Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30 a.m. –Coffee Hour

Monday, April 15, 2024 -

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.—Office Open

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 -

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.—Office Open

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 -

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.—Office Open

Thursday, April 18, 2024 -

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.—Office Open

Friday, April 19, 2024 -

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.—Office Open

Sunday, April 21, 2024 -

9:30 a.m. – Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30 a.m. –Coffee Hour