

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter April 7, 2024

# Welcome to Bethel! We're glad you're here!

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER • APRIL 7, 2024



# All Are Welcome!

We mean it when we say "all are welcome" – no matter where you are on your faith journey or how you identify. Your presence is important to us – we are not complete without you. Our Worship & Music team is continually listening and adapting our worship practices to reflect our desire to welcome ALL of God's children.

## Hospitality Details

We firmly believe that there is no age limit in GoD's house. Young or old, you are an essential part of our worship community. Families with young children are encouraged to sit near the front of the sanctuary so children can see what is happening. If a young child gets antsy during long periods of inaction like the sermon, they are welcome to quietly play in front of the sound table near the door.

Those participating in worship who find standing for long periods of time difficult are encouraged to take care of themselves and adapt the "Lutheran Aerobics" of frequent standing and sitting to meet their needs. Traditions of standing at certain times during the liturgy are not meant to cause pain or discomfort. Please sit or stand in ways that make your time with us comfortable.

#### If you need a restroom, you have options:

In the main building, one is located through the side door near the piano. It can also be accessed by going outside through the main door and re-entering the building using the door located under the bell tower. The restroom is to your left.

A larger, wheelchair accessible restroom with a baby changing table, is located in our back building. Go through the iron gate to the left of the sanctuary. As you enter the back building the restroom is immediately to your left. Feel free to ask the usher for directions as well.

## THANK YOU SO YERY MUCHILL

Cheers to all those whose work helps make Holy Week and Easter special at Bethel! Gold stars for everyone!



Thank you to those contributed to our Easter Basket project for the women at the shelter.

Thank you to the folks who worked to spruce up our parking lot, buildings, and grounds.

Thanks to our Breakfast and Egg Hunt organizers, pancake flippers, set-up/take crew, and dishwashers!

Thanks to ushers, readers, technical folks, offering counters, and chair movers!

Extra gold stars to Pr. Carolyn, Audrey Gale, and Lisa Herlocker for the extra work it takes to prepare and lead our extra seasonal worship gatherings.



## Prayer Requests

Yellow paper is available as you enter for you to write prayer requests on. Return the paper to an usher no later than during the Hymn of the Day. The reader will include it during the Prayers of the People.

It is our hope that this will help all those worshipping in the sanctuary and on online to hear the prayers.

## Contact Pastor Carolyn

Contact Pr. Carolyn first to double-check her office hours. She is available Tuesday – Thursday most weeks.

pastor@bethelroseville.org 916-781-3333 (office)

Introduction to the day: The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

## **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the diverse people of God.

**OPENING SONG/PRELUDE** Today is the Day ©Lincoln Brewster

(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)

## **WELCOME**

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit and turn to face the baptismal font.

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. Amen.

Look, here is water!

#### Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

## Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Look, here is water!

## Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Please turn and face the altar for the Gathering Song.



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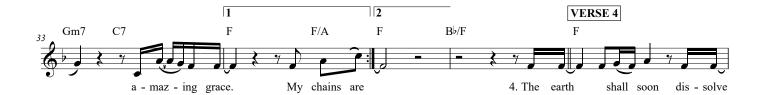
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## GREETING (ELW p. 138)

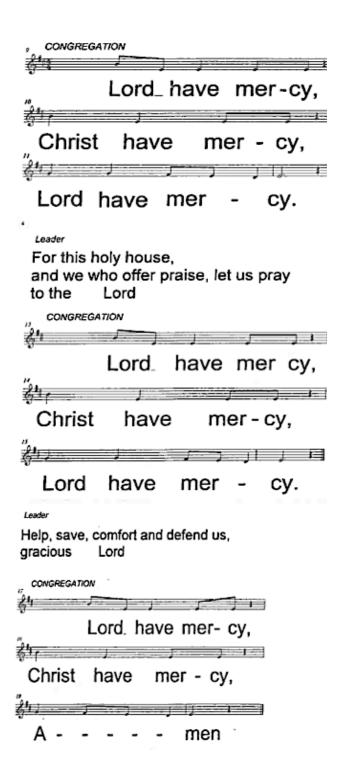
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE Kyrie ©Kent Alleluia Liturgy

Words and music on following page





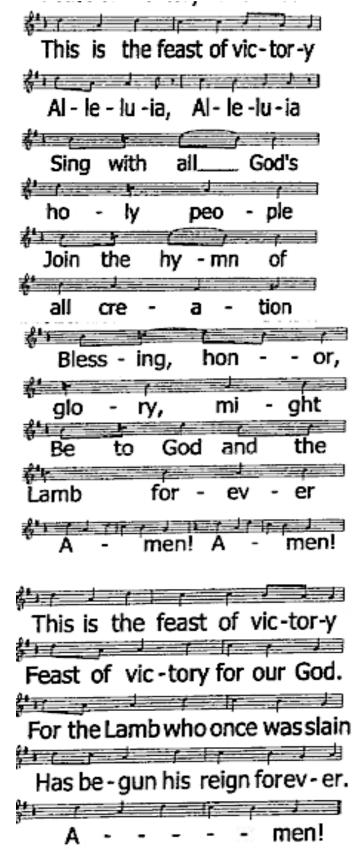
**HYMN OF PRAISE** 

This Is the Feast

Kent Alleluia Liturgy

Words and music on following page





## PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35 (Jeri Wartena)

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

A reading from Acts.

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

**PSALM:** Psalm 133 (Jeri Wartena)

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

**SECOND READING:** 1 John 1:1--2:2 (Jeri Wartena)

The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.

A reading from 1 John.

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup> and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

## KIDS' MESSAGE (Jeri Wartena)

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

## **SERMON** (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the Hymn of the Day.



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## CREED (ELW p. 104)

## We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

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

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Jeri Wartena)

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.

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for those living under conditions of war in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, and other areas throughout the world. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you. Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Additional prayer requests provided by congregation members will be added here by reader.

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.

#### Amen.

## PEACE (ELW p. 143)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

## MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **OFFERING**

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us. Thank you so much for your continued support.

As offerings are brought to altar, the congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the song

## OFFERING SONG Let the Vineyards be Fruitful Let the vine - yards be fruit ful 0 Lord: Fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Ga-ther a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, That may be fed with we the of life. bread Ga - ther the dreams of hopes and all;



## **OFFERING PRAYER**

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.
Amen.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus

who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:

carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

#### **Amen**

## LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 145)

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 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

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

All are welcome to join our communion celebration.

Please have a seat and follow the directions of pastor Carolyn and the usher.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

Amen.

## **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please rise in body and/or spirit for the Blessing.

#### **BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope

+ bless you now and always.

Amen.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS (ELW p. 146)

After **brief** announcements related to the ministry of Bethel are shared from the podium microphone, the congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit and turn to face the font.

## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!** 



To meet our 2024 Operating Expenses each month, Bethel needs \$9995. Your generosity helps us to meet our ministry goals.

## Giving in March

3/3 = \$4088.06 3/10 = \$1630.06 3/17 = \$490.06 3/24 = \$1345.06 3/31 = \$1860.06

Total for Month = \$9413.30 TOTAL for February = \$6719.22

Thanks for your ongoing support of Bethel's Ministries!

## **Consider Online Giving**

Sign up for Online Giving at our website, bethelroseville.org

If you prefer to give by traditional check, please mail it into the church office at 1050 Douglas Blvd., Roseville CA 95678 or drop it into the basket during worship.

## Use the QR code below to access e-giving from your phone



## Upcoming Scripture Readings

3rd Sunday of Easter

- Acts 3:12-19
- Psalm 4
- I John 3:1-7
- Luke 24:36b-48

## Today's Worship Team

**Usher:** Jeri Wartena **Reader:** Jeri Wartena **Sound:** Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson Kids Message: Jeri Wartena Musician: Wing and a Prayer

## Next Week's Worship Team

**Usher:** Kary Pfennig **Reader:** Patrick Gale **Sound:** Rick Mendonsa

**Zoom:** Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson **Altar Guild:** Loraine Anderson **Kids Message:** Lisa Herlocker

Musician: Audrey Gale



## Sunday School for All Ages

(following worship)

Our two "Lisas" will have the kids in Lentz Hall for Bible Stories and crafts.

Pastor Carolyn will meet with the adults in her office AND via Zoom. They will be using the book, *The Forty Parables of Jesus*, by Gehard Lohfink.

The Zoom link will be open at 10:25, and the conversation will begin at 10:30.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://usO2web.zoom.us/j/89637655924?pwd=eTJ6OVIEMV ZDcG53OG1KdW5hV2E1dz09

> Meeting ID: 896 3765 5924 Passcode: 295449





Are you on social media?

Have you "liked" and "followed" Bethel on
Facebook and Instagram?

This is the best way to get reminders of upcoming events and to see photos of recent activities. Just search for Bethel Roseville CA on either platform to connect with us.



Looking for a little end of the week fun? Want to try something new this Spring?

Join Bethel friends

Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm
in Lentz Hall for games and fellowship.

Bring your own food and drinks – and board games you'd like to play with the group.

This is a low-key activity for all ages and skills.

Bring a friend and join the fun!

# Lutheran Lobby Day

Registration now open!

Sign-up by Tuesday, May 7th

Wednesday
May 15th, 2024
8:30 am - 4 pm
Sacramento, CA

And what does the Lord require of you but to **do justice** and to **love kindness**and to **walk humbly** with your
God?

-Micah 6:8

lutheranpublicpolicyca.org

Questions? Email sjorgensen.loppca@gmail.com

## "Noisy Offering!"

Please consider dropping a little spare change into the basket when it comes your way as a "noisy offering." Encouraging the participation of our youngest members in worship is important to us. When they help collect the offering each week, they may be confused when folks don't drop something in the basket. We keep the loose change offering separate and donate it to a local charity every few months. Watch for our latest total soon!

# Called to Work for Justice

Through Baptism, we are called to be agents of peace and justice in this world. The work of the ELCA in our time includes that of being a Publicly Engaged Church.

In California, this is done through involvement with the Lutheran Office of Public Policy (LOPP-CA) which hosts live advocacy briefings on Wednesdays at noon. During the half-hour Zoom meeting, listeners get an update on state and federal legislative priorities and direct a quick advocacy activity.

Follow this link:

https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/advocacyinfo-questions to check out Advocacy, Info, and Questions.



April 2 - Maggie (Herlocker) Vergara

April 4 - Iver Villanueva

April 5 - Matt Herlocker

April 10 - Peter Seiler-Garman

April 15 - Madelynn McBain

April 16 - Alta Winters

April 19 - Olivia D'Antonio

April 22 - Wendy Gale

April 30 - Bruce Seiler

Blessings to all of our April Birthdays; please let us know if we accidently left you off this list!

## Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church

Following the example set by Jesus Christ and being mindful of our Lutheran heritage of acceptance through God's grace, we welcome all to God's table. We invite all who are seeking God's love and grace to join us in worship and fellowship. We welcome all because God welcomes all, knowing that God's love is all-inclusive and stronger than any pressure to conform to the labels this world gives us.

We commit to providing a safe and welcoming place for people of any age, ethnic or national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome and love all no matter their socio-economic circumstances, outward appearance, immigration status, political affiliation, or anything that could seemingly divide us. The nature and extent of one's addictions, physical and mental health, or criminal history have no bearing on our commitment to welcome all.

We affirm today, tomorrow, and for all of our days, that we will intentionally strive to live as people of faith, people of compassion, people of love, and people of grace.

We invite you to come as you are to Meet, Pray, & Love together.

In this joyful Easter Season, we celebrate the risen Christ, gather in Christ's name and gain strength to go forth in our daily lives, proclaiming with our words and deeds that we have seen the Lord.

The Lord is risen! Let us rejoice and be glad!

No matter where you are on your faith journey, we invite you to explore with us. Welcome.

Worship Gathering at 9:00am each Sunday Sunday School for All Ages at 10:15am (Sept - May)



Carolyn Brodt, Pastor
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