



A Christ-centered family who serves by sharing God's love and hope with all.

15 West 14th Street, Spencer, IA 51301 www.bethluthspencer.com

EASTER 5 APRIL 28, 2024 - 9:00 AM

Prelude: *"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"* John Newton, Chris Tomlin, & Louie Giglio; arr. by Mary McDonald

Welcome & Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Gathering Hymn: *"Now the Green Blade Rises"* ELW 379

Prayer of the Day (see slides or insert)

First Reading & Psalm Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31

Second Reading 1 John 4:7-21

Gospel Acclamation: ELW pg. 205 (setting 10)

Gospel John 17:20-26

Sermon Rev. Erma Wolf

Hymn of the Day: *"We All Are One in Mission"* ELW 576

Apostles Creed

Prayers of the Church God of grace, hear our prayer...

Sharing the Peace

Offering Music: *"Nothing But the Blood of Jesus"* Larry Shackley;

Tune: PLAINFIELD by Robert Lowry

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving, Words of Institution, Holy, Holy, Holy (ELW pg 207)

Lord's Prayer, Distribution

Communion Hymn: *"There in God's Garden"* ELW 342

Blessing

Sending Hymn: *"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"* ELW 843

Dismissal

Postlude: *"All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises"* Paul Baloche; arr. by

Lyndell Leatherman

WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome to worship! Thank you for joining us today— here at Bethany and in our livestream to homes near and far away. It is our hope that each of you experience the love of Christ this morning and His presence during our worship service today.

A special welcome to visitors— please sign the guest book in the Narthex. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew. These can help you get to know the others in your pew and they can help us to keep in touch with you. Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you would benefit from either of these, please speak with an usher.

For the 5th Sunday of the Easter season, John 15:1-8 is about how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world. (Sundays and Seasons v.20240130.1140 Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)

Our service today includes Holy Communion. **All who seek Christ's true presence promised to us through the bread and wine, body and blood of Jesus Christ, are welcome and invited to commune.** If you partake in Holy Communion, please indicate on the Fellowship Pad.

Worship leaders today are:

Rev. Erma Wolf

Elna Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist

Many thanks to our worship volunteers:

Greeter: Sue Metcalf

Reader: Sue Boblit

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Jody Vollmer, Kristin Bensen

Fellowship Hosts: Carol Anderson & Jill Meyer

Ushers: Russ Wright

Everyone in the Audio/Visual Booth

BEST WAY TO REACH PR PETER: Pastor Peter's cell phone: 218-368-1403, or email: bethany@bethluthspencer.com

PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

Health Concerns:

Darlene Stough, Kirk Andersen, Bess Madsen, Donna Jones, Lyle Youngdahl, Gary Hazelton, Karen Johnson (Janet Keck's sister), Emma Swanson (Greg and Linda Manwarren's niece)

Thanksgiving:

for Onalee & Russ Wright on birth of their granddaughter Della Renee Johnson (Congrats to Brianna & Jared, too!)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP Sundays after worship are a great time to chat over a cup of coffee and sweet treat. Meet new friends or catch up with old ones. All are welcome for fellowship & lively conversation in the church parlor.

FLAGFEST PLANNING will begin meeting on April 30th at 5:00. Our plan is to again have a parade entry and hospitality on the lawn. We hope many can participate as we follow Christ's example to offer love and hospitality to our neighbors and community during this year's Flagfest celebration.

RED GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST We invite you to share a geranium to decorate the sanctuary on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th. You may take them home after the service that day. The cost is \$5.00 each. See the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center and order by May 13th. *We would also like to extend an invitation to bring and share ANY flowers you love in shades of reds, oranges, yellows and golds to decorate for our Pentecost celebration.*

BLESSING OF QUILTS & KITS The annual shipment of kits and quilts for Lutheran World Relief is May 18th, so we will be blessing the items on May 12th. Thanks ladies for all your loving work on this project!

Stewardship Snippet ...

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. - I John 4:7

Steward-disciples know that God intends us to live in community, helping and relying on one another. We are stewards of community when we practice love for one another. What does that mean for you? How can we love people we may not like? © 2024, Rev. Robert Blezard

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 28

9:00 am Worship

10:15 am Fellowship

Tuesday, April 30

5:00 pm Flagfest Planning

Wednesday, May 1

9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group

7:00 pm Evening Prayer and Contemplation

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal at Bethany

Thursday, May 2

5:00 pm Caring Friends

Saturday, May 4

7:00 am Men of Bethany Bible Study (in person & via ZOOM)

Sunday, May 5

9:00 am Worship followed by Fellowship

10:15 am Fellowship



ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

If you would like to give online to support the ministries of Bethany Lutheran Church, scan this code for giving page on our website

Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:

Tuesday-5 pm, Wednesday-10 am

or

can be found on YouTube

search Bethany Lutheran Church, Spencer

Thanks to those from Bethany who put their FAITH IN ACTION and helped to cleanup East Leach Park for Earth Day!

Ladies, see posters on bulletin board for **upcoming activities** –

May 6 – BFFFFs Lunch at Plaza Mexico

May 15 – Afternoon Tea at Clay County Heritage Center

June 15 – Western Iowa Synodical Women’s Organization Convention