

Third Sunday of Easter

April 10, 2016



BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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STAND

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

M: Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 9:1-19a (NIV)

¹ Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

¹³ "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

PSALM

Psalm 2

Refrain



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone



Refrain

May God be gracious to us and bless us*
and make his face shine upon us;
may your ways be known on earth,*
your salvation among all nations.
May the nations be glad and sing for joy,*
for you rule the peoples justly
and guide the nations of the earth.

Refrain

Then the land will yield its harvest,*
and God, our God, will bless us.
God will bless us,*
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 5:11-14 (NIV)

¹¹ Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. ¹² In a loud voice they were saying:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”

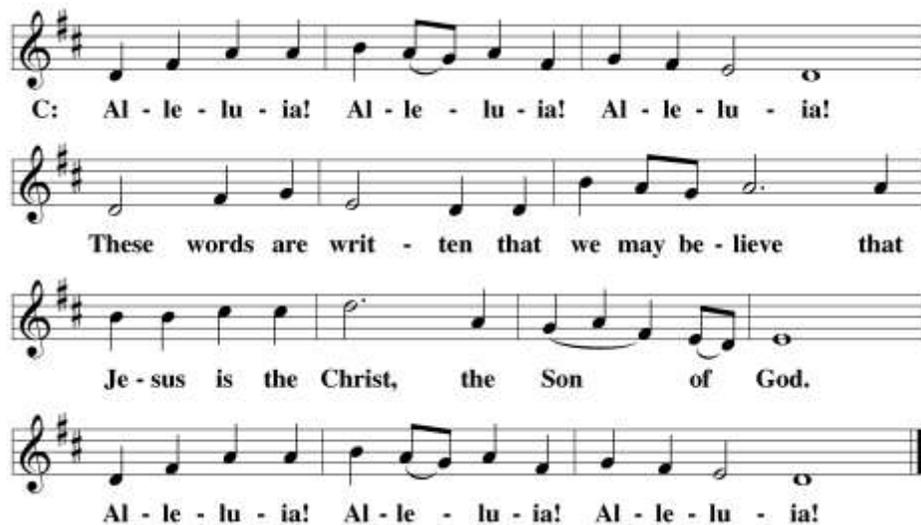
¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!”

¹⁴ The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia. (Luke 24:32 cf. NIV)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

GOSPEL

John 21:1-14 (NIV)

¹ Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³ "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

⁵ He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?"

"No," they answered.

⁶ He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.

⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.

¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY— #580—*Every Morning Mercies New*

SERMON (*sermon text John 21:1-14*)

"Jesus Blesses Our Labors"

STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

C: Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.

M: Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.

C: Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.

M: Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.

C: Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.

M: Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.

C: Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we give thanks for personal blessings.

Silent prayer.

M: Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his coming to us in Word and sacraments, for his giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

C: Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.

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.

BE SEATED

HYMN #463—*Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*

STAND

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



HYMN #560—*I Hear the Savior Calling*

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News And Notes

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME!

Welcome to worship! We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us today. Guests, if there is anything we can do to make your worship more meaningful, please do not hesitate to ask us. Pastor, the ushers, and all members of our Bethany family stand ready to serve you. May the Lord bless your worship!

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

A special "thank you" to those who served their Lord by serving us this morning, our violinists, our organist, and our ushers. Thank you for edifying and beautifying our worship with your service.

BETHANY'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 25-29

Bethany's Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 25—29, 2016. We will need volunteers to help with this annual outreach event. We are seeking help in planning/coordinating, teaching, cooking, and in helping/assisting. If you are willing and able to help, please consider setting aside one, several, or all of those days to be part of this ministry of Bethany Lutheran Church. Many hands are needed to make this go smoothly, as we anticipate somewhere between 25 and 30 students, which has been the norm in recent years. THANK YOU for considering this important ministry.

WEST DEER COMMUNITY DAYS AUGUST 5 AND 6

Bethany congregation has in recent years manned a booth at West Deer Community Days, which this year will take place Friday and Saturday, August 5th and 6th. We will be looking for people who are willing to help us plan the event. This involves determining what we will do, what we will hand out, and how we will recruit volunteers. In recent years, many good community contacts have been made at this event. If you can help plan, let Pastor know, and if you would like to be the coordinator... that is all the better! Thank you,

LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP

In last Sunday's worship, 37 people were fed and strengthened by the Word of God and 28 took communion.

Our Walk For God

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
11 <i>Pastor at Ohio Pastor's Con- ference</i>	12 <i>No Bible Study</i> <i>Pastor at Ohio Pastor's Confer- ence</i>	13	14 <i>7:00p Ministry Vision Committee</i>	15	16	17 <i>9:00a Adult Bible Study and Sunday School</i> <i>10:30a Worship</i> <i>Happy Birthday Anna Vioral!</i>
<i>Serving next Sunday: Altar: Kluender; Greeter: Kurth; Ushers: Team A (H)</i>						