

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 19, 2019



*Our Mission:
To Love God and Our Neighbor through Worship,
Growing in Faith, Caring for Each Other,*

WELCOME

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Lord is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today the Lord Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

If you are a guest or visitor today, a special welcome to you. You bless us with your presence. If we can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to let us know.

FLOWERS

The flowers on the reredos today are in loving memory of Sture and Norma Kursell, Carl and Evelyn Kursell, and Charles and Edna Probeck, given by Barbara Kursell and Family.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Members of Bethlehem: Ian Alton, Al Lewis

Friends and Family: Paul Anderson, Kathryn Arnstrom, Jim Anderson, Kathy Couty, Cheryl Deardurff, Julie Hayry-Argall, and the Hayry family, Helen Heffner, Diane Juell, Justin Kandell, Elaine Miraldi, Barbara Nash, Rose Shobutte, Len Skuta, and Duane Werner.

Our Homebound: Lois Demos, Jayne Josephson, Gerry Wickstrom, and Jim & Eleanor Wrath.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding Minister	Pastor Paul Carlson
Music Minister	Duane Werner
Lay Assistant	Bill Kursell

Liz Banks' Office/Secretary Hours:

Mon. 9am-1pm, Tues.- Fri. 9am- Noon

Phone: 815-726-4461

Email: welcome@blcjoliet.com

Pastor Paul Carlson's Hours:

Wednesday and Thursday 9am- Noon

Please call the office before coming to see Pastor Carlson as sometimes his ministry takes him away from the office.

Cell 630-418-0069

email: pastorpaul249@gmail.com

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Living God,
you have greeted us in our brokenness
and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us.
Risen to new life with you,
send us now to bear your healing love
into the wounded world,
in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The blessing of the living God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
surround and sustain you,
keep you from harm,
and fill you with courage.

C Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN #650 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace and share the good news. Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Christ is Arisen

Johann Kasper Ferdinand Fischer

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COMMUNION HYMN #708 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

412 E. Benton St., Joliet, IL 60432
Office phone: 815-726-4461
Website: blcjoliet.com

Pastor: Rev. Paul Carlson

Ministers: The People of Bethlehem

Assistant to the Pastor: Kyle Johnson

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 19, 2019 -- 9:30am

PRELUDE *Christ Lag in Todesbanden* Heinrich Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN #362 *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

GREETING

P Christ is risen

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead to bring everlasting hope, be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



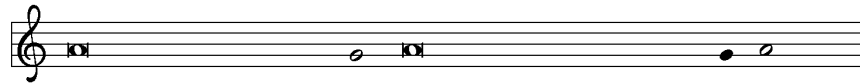
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



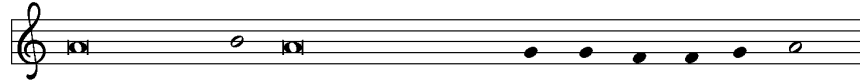
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER (sing)

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 debts

as we forgive our debtors;

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

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

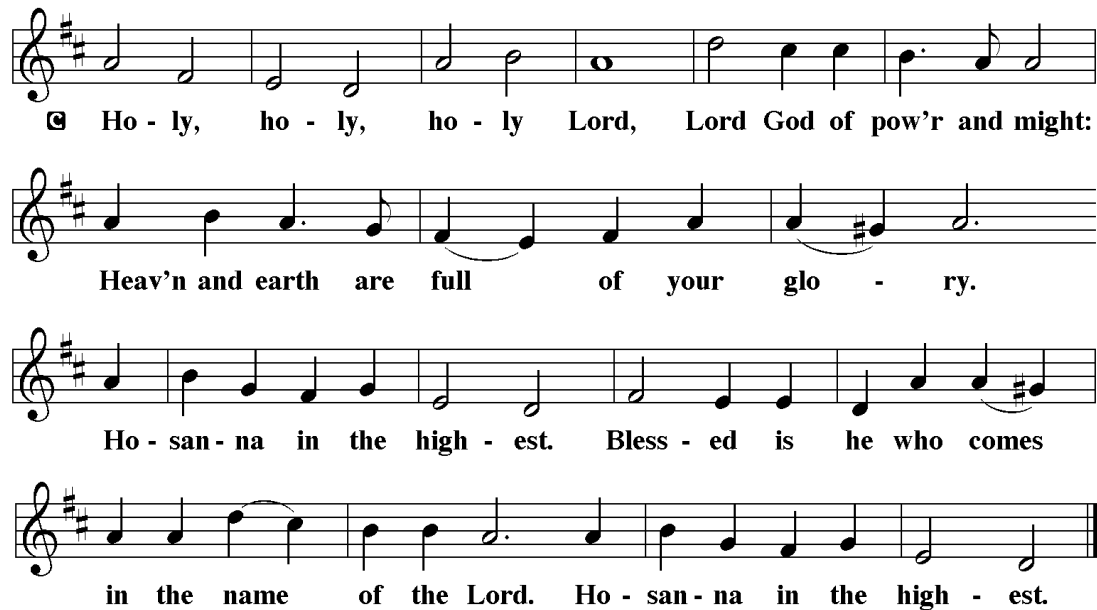
OFFERING PRAYER

A Risen One,
as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore,
meet us now in this meal.
Nourish us to follow you,
using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary,
and all for your love's sake.
C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right...praise your name and join your unending hymn.



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

HYMN OF THE DAY



☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.
☐ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and
strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.
Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through 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.**

FIRST LESSON: Acts 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of pagan believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' own testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always

C **And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words. **Peace be with you.***

OFFERING

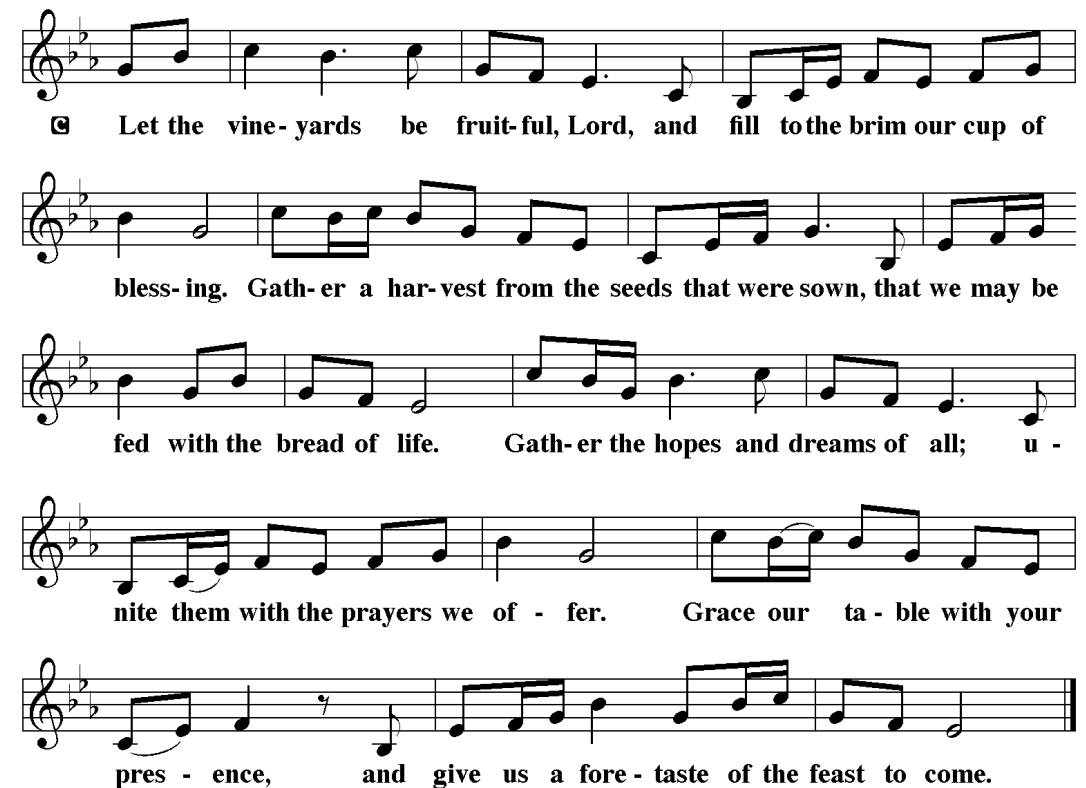
OFFERTORY

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Kyle Johnson

OFFERING HYMN

As the ushers bring our gifts to God forward, we join in our offering hymn.



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

SERMON

Pastor Paul Carlson

HYMN OF THE DAY #377

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in the God, the Father Almighty, creator of the 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.

THE PRAYERS

P Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

A . Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C **Amen.**

P The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 148

The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

⁴**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

⁶**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**

⁹mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹²**young | men and maidens,
old and | young together.**

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful
servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near
the LORD. | Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: John 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.