

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 16, 2024



Bethany Lutheran Church
2515 Madison Ave., Burlington, IA
Phone: (319) 752-3621
www.bethanyburlington.org

Bethany's Mission Statement: Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning and Love - we are God's people.

We are so glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We hope everyone feels welcome as we strive to serve and strengthen each other in faith toward God and in love toward all. Now, as you wait for the service to begin, please relax, enjoy the music, and quiet your heart before God.

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

ELW indicates that hymns or liturgy are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship-red hymnal

PRELUDE

Welcome, Announcements, Celebration Bank

(money given to Human Concerns Fund)

We Gather to Acknowledge God's Presence

(Please stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

BLESSING OF FATHERS

God of all creation,
pour out your blessing on all fathers
and those who provide fatherly care.
You have made them in your image
and given them children to love and care for in your name.
Bless them with a heart like your heart:
discerning and thoughtful, bold and decisive,
compassionate and loving.
As they model for their children
the life that is lived by faith and not by sight,
grant them courage under pressure
and confidence in your power.
When troubles threaten to overwhelm them,
grant them your coping calm.
When doubts give rise to anxiety,
shore up their trust in your promises.
When joy fills their days,
grant them a keen gratitude for your abundant supply of grace.
Season them with a lively sense of humor, Lord,
for it will make life richer for us all.
In all circumstances preserve them as your own.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

(Please stand)

OPENING HYMN

"Built on a Rock"

ELW Hymn 652

GREETING

P: 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.**

Kyrie


Refrain




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

Refrain



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: **Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image. Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and to make no peace with oppression. Help us, like those of generations before us who resisted the evil of slavery and human bondage in any form and any manner of oppression. Help us to use our freedoms to bring justice among people and nations everywhere, to the glory of your Holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We Listen to God's Word

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

- L: It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;
to herald your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night;
on the psaltery, and on the lyre,
and to the melody of the harp.
- C: For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**
- L: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
- C: Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts of our God;
they shall still bear fruit in old age;
they shall be green and succulent;
that they may show how upright the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

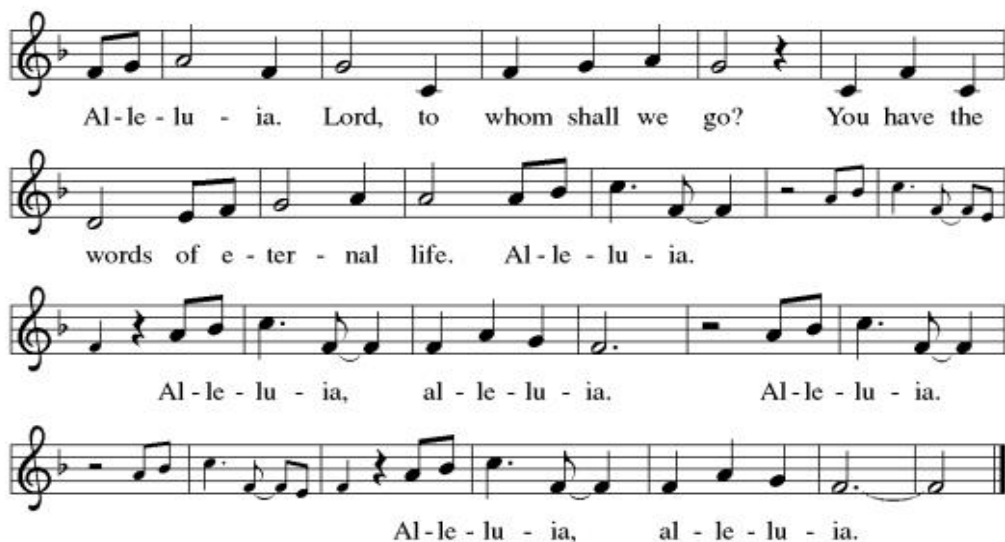
¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

- L: Word of God, word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

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.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Gospel according to Mark the 4th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

L: The gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Misha McFarland-Pollock

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

ELW Hymn 679

We Respond to God’s Word

THE APOSTLES’ CREED *(unison)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. *
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

(Please Stand)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

(Please be seated)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

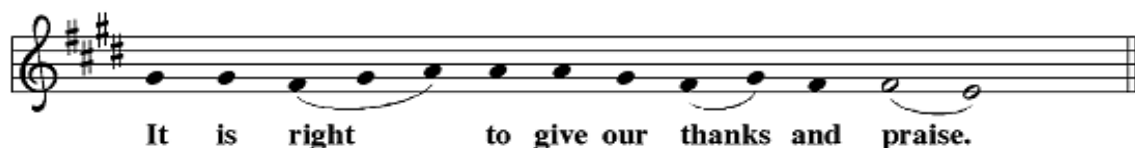
Each petition concludes:

P: Merciful God,

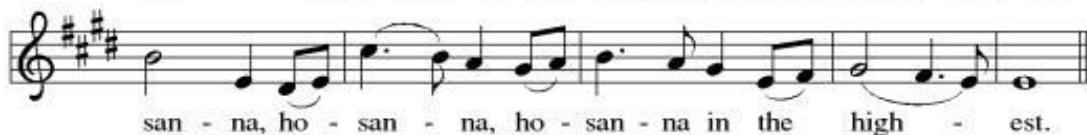
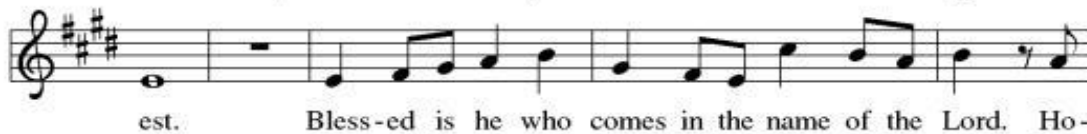
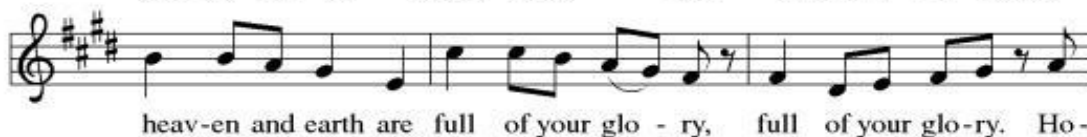
C: **receive our prayer.**

We Share in the Holy Meal

(Please stand)



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

(Please be seated)

LAMB OF GOD



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, Lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION BY INDIVIDUAL GLASSES

(Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

All who believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to commune. Children who do not commune are welcome to come for a blessing. You will be given a wafer. The glasses of dark liquid are wine; the middle ring is juice. There is a bowl of water if you would like to remember your baptism.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“There Is A Balm In Gilead”

ELW Hymn 614

(Please stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Lord, God, you gave your Son, both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the Godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to His; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING *(unison)*

C: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace † bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

ELW Hymn 547

THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector: Jessica King
Usher: Susan Swanson
Communion: Mike Hopp; Teresa Morehead
Greeters: Ginny Mesecher
Missionary Support: Open
Altar Flowers: Bill Mundt – Welcome to Bethany, Misha & Bruce!
Remember in prayer: Marian Chaddock, Jim & Bev Felland, Genieve Hingst

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A Cry Room for infants is available up the stairs and to the right.
There are Kids Celebrate children's bulletins available for youngsters
who'd like to have their own reference to the lessons for this week.
Ask our usher for help.

Please join us for coffee and donuts in the fellowship
hall following the worship service. We would like to
get to know you and offer our friendship.

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ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Today: **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**
Welcome Pastor Misha!
9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting

Next Sunday: **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**
9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 a.m. Ice Cream Social Meeting
10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

For anyone that is helping with the Ice Cream Social this year, their will be another meeting, next Sunday, June 23rd, following worship at 10:15am in the meeting room off of the Fellowship Hall.

CHURCH OUTREACH DONATIONS

June donations will be canned meats (i.e. canned tuna, chicken, etc...)! Please place your donations in the cart in the foyer. Thank you, everyone for your generosity!

A HEARTFELT "THANK YOU" FROM PASTOR PETE

Sunday afternoon, June 9th, 2024

My dear Bethanians,

I just finished looking through all of this morning's cards and gifts--you folks are really somethin'! One thing I *didn't* say this morning in my "speeches" is how thankful I've been to God and to you throughout our time together that you've not only **accepted** what I do and how I do it; you've also **encouraged** it--I always had the feeling that, in a real sense, you were rooting for me, cheering me on, so to speak. I never heard anyone say, "AMEN!!!", or "Preach it, brother!", but I *felt* it. There were a few Sunday mornings when I was feeling kinda low, but it didn't take long for the atmosphere in that sanctuary to pick me up with a living reminder of why I like being a pastor so much. Trust me when I say that I won't be the only one "missed"--so will *you!*

By the way, it was nice to get the "old people" joke book--I'm sure I'll enjoy its contents even more once I'm out of my second childhood.

With much affection,
Pr. Pete

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www.bethanyburlington.org

***Pastor Misha's contact info: 412-628-6382 ;
damisha.mcfarlandpollock@gmail.com***

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Our Staff

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Cory Byrne
Kim Engle
Wendy Bell
Michelle Huppenbauer
Pam Crable

Pastor
Organist/Choir Director
Stephen Minister Coordinator
Office Administrator
Financial Secretary
Custodian