

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

May 11, 2025 - Setting 12

Pastor Calvin Konop, Presiding

Karina Roth, Musical Director



*Belonging to Christ, Sharing Christ on the North Shore & Beyond!*

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## Introduction— Fourth Sunday of Easter

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

## Prelude

**Karina Roth**

## Welcome & Announcements

## Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

In the name of ✝ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.  
**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in

captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** *Making Their Way* **ACS 979**

### **Greeting**

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** **ACS page 31**

**Song of Praise** **ACS page 31**

### **Prayer of the Day**

O God of peace, **you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Children's Time**

On the way up the aisles, the children will be collecting coins for the "Holy Cow" fund, which will support ELCA World Hunger. *Find that loose change and hand it to a kiddo!*



**First Reading:** **Acts 9:36-43**

<sup>36</sup> Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup> Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup> So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that

Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup> Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:**

**Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**Second Reading:**

**Revelation 7:9-17**

<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup> And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup> I said to him,

“Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup> For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. <sup>16</sup> They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; <sup>17</sup> for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**ACS page 33**

**Gospel:**

**John 10:22-30**

The holy gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup> At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. <sup>30</sup> The Father and I are one.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Calvin Konop**

**Hymn of the Day**

*Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

**ELW 789**

**Blessing of Seniors and Quilt Presentation**



**Apostles' Creed**

**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.**

## **Prayers of God's People**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence.)*

You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bless our graduates who stand in thresholds looking back and looking ahead. Grant them a sense of both gratitude and anticipation. Send your Spirit to bring awareness of how we grow our life long with our whole person—our minds, bodies, spirits, and emotions. Give them a profound sense of what it means to place our way within the way of Jesus. Increase in them the gift of faith, a love for Your Word, a heart for prayer, a song of praise and a sensitive ear to your spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care *(especially . . .)*. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection

made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **Offering**

#### **Offering Prayer**

Risen One, **you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

ACS page 36

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **Words of Institution**

ACS page 37

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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**

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. All are welcome!



*Bethlehem Lutheran Church believes in the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion, and we practice eucharistic hospitality. **All persons**, whether visiting or a member, are welcomed to Communion.*

## Communion Music

*Be Known to Us*

ACS page 40

*Nothing Can Trouble*

ACS 1033

## Post Communion Blessing

### Prayer After Communion

Living One, **in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

### Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

*Let Us Enter In*

ACS 985

### Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### Postlude



Karina Roth



**Today we are Celebrating our 2025 High School Graduates!** Please join us in the Fellowship Hall following the service for cake, pictures and fellowship with the graduates and families. Blessings and congratulations to: **Jordan Backstrom; Jessen Conlan; Kaj Erickson; MaTaya Fairbanks; Rayce Gibson; Jake Mixdorf; Rohan Rude; Clayton Smith; Naomi Tracy-Hegg and Reuben Youngdahl.**

**We are celebrating Mothers and Women today!** Thank you to all of our female role models in our lives and in this congregation. Take a moment today and call someone you love.





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### **This Week at Bethlehem:**

Sun May 11	8:40 AM	Choir practice
	10:00 AM	Worship Service with Sunday School
	11:15 AM	Fellowship with the graduates
Mon May 12	7:45 AM	AP testing
	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting
	6:30 PM	Executive Council
Wed May 14	12:00 PM	AP Testing
	12:30 PM	Text Study
	5:30 PM	Community Meal
	6:00 PM	Contemporary Worship Service
	6:30 PM	Confirmation
Thurs May 15	8:00 AM	Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Quilting
	11:45 AM	AP Testing
Fri May 16	-----	Clarity Hearing
Sun May 18	8:40 AM	Choir practice
	10:00 AM	Worship Service with Sunday School
	2:00 PM	Care Center Worship Service

**The May Mission of the Month** Our May Mission of the Month will be about creation care. We will be donating to the **Eco-Faith Network**. Their mission is to *live out God's call to be stewards of the earth for the sake of the whole creation*. The EcoFaith Network of NEMN Synod is made up of congregations, individuals, and other partners across the Northeastern Minnesota Synod and beyond. We can designate our funds to be used for grants to churches to create pollinator gardens, or start community gardens, or plant trees, or many other conservation projects. **Member Challenge:** Join us on Tuesday May 20th at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall to make **Solar Light Kits for Ukraine**. All are welcome.

**This week marks the last Wednesday Worship for the season, May 14th** Wednesday activities will resume this fall.

**Traveler Cards and Local Grocery Cards** are available from BLC to members of the community that need help. Please contact the office.

**Coffee An':** *Have you taken a turn serving for our fellowship time on Sundays?* Please sign up to bring some treats to share.

**Wednesday Text Study:** Join us at 12:30 pm on Wednesdays for a study of the scripture lessons.

**Men's Bible Study:** Every Thursday morning, beginning at 8:00 to 9:15 am. Contact Mike Chmelik for information, 218-387-1790

**Free Bibles:** Help yourself to a large print English Standard Version Bible, on the counter in the Narthex.

**Quilters are seeking more helpers!** Every Thursday morning at 9 to 11:30am. No experience necessary. We have several lovely kits ready for sewing. You are invited to the fun!

Last day of Sunday School:  
 May 18, 2025



**Thank you, Teachers!**

On-line giving is encouraged using this QR Code  
 or through automatic transfer.  
 (Forms are available online & the office.)



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