

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER  
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope*  
APRIL 19, 2026 PASTOR ELAINA SALMON

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

THE GATHERING

*(Please stand.)*

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

P Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

C **Amen.**

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.  
Merciful God,  
you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.  
You lead us beside still waters.  
We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.  
We thank you for the waters that nourish us.  
Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.  
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.  
Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us.  
Fill us with the breath of peace.  
Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,

and for making us a new creation.  
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever.

**C**     **Amen.**

**Gathering Song**     *“As We Gather at Your Table”*

*As we gather at your table,  
as we listen to your word,  
help us know, O God, your presence;  
let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story  
till we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet  
how to make Love's vict'ry known.*

*Turn our worship into witness  
in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you,  
bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion  
to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image  
in the world you died to save.*

*Gracious Spirit, help us summon  
other guests to share that feast  
where triumphant Love will welcome  
those who had been last and least.  
There no more will envy blind us  
nor will pride our peace destroy,  
as we join with saints and angels  
to repeat the sounding joy.*

**Call to Worship**

**P**     Christ is Risen!

**C**     **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**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.**

**Hymn of Praise**     *“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”*

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
his the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
his the victory alone.*

*Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
has redeemed us by his blood."*

### **Prayer of the Day**

- P** O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## THE WORD

### **Children's Sermon**

#### **The First Reading** Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

- A** The Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm 116**

- A** I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,
- C** **for the Lord has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**
- A** The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
I came to grief and sorrow.

**C** Then I called upon the name of the Lord:  
“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”

**A** How shall I repay the Lord  
for all the good things God has done for me?

**C** **I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord.**

**A** I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all God’s people.

**C** **Precious in your sight, O Lord,  
is the death of your servants.**

**A** O Lord, truly I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

**C** **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

**A** I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all God’s people,

**C** **in the courts of the Lord’s house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

### **Second Reading** 1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person’s work, live in fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand.)*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

*“Alleluia, Alleluia Give Thanks”*

*Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

*Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
Jesus has died and has risen.*

*Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

## **Gospel Luke 24:13-35**

Now on that same day two disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

*(Please be seated.)*

**Sermon**

**Rev. Elaina Salmon**

*(Please stand.)*

**Hymn of the Day**

*“Day of Arising”*

*Day of arising,  
Christ on the roadway,  
unknown companion walks with his own.  
When they invite him,  
as fades the first day,  
and bread is broken, Christ is made known.*

*When we are walking,  
doubtful and dreading,  
blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,  
yet Christ walks with us,  
ever awaiting  
our invitation: Stay, do not part.*

*Lo, I am with you,  
Jesus has spoken.  
This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:  
when the church gathers,  
when bread is broken,  
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.*

*Christ, our companion,  
hope for the journey,  
bread of compassion, open our eyes.  
Grant us your vision,  
set all hearts burning  
that all creation with you may rise.*

**Prayers of the People**

A     Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*(a moment of silence)*

A     Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,

**C     receive our prayer.**

- A Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,  
C **receive our prayer.**
- A God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God,  
C **receive our prayer.**
- A Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God,  
C **receive our prayer.**
- A Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God,  
C **receive our prayer.**
- A Eternal Light, we give thanks for all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God,  
C **receive our prayer.**
- A God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.  
C **Amen.**

### **Sharing of Christ's Peace**

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.  
C **And also with you.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## THE MEAL

### **Invitation to the Offering**

- P God has given us life in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In gratitude, let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to God's service.

### **Offering**

*(Please stand.)*

**Offering Song**      *“Here is Bread”*

*Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.*

*Refrain*

*In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.  
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.*

*Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified. Refrain*

**Offertory Prayer**

- A      Merciful God,  
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus,
- C      **Amen.**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

- 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 our thanks and praise.**
- P      O God most mighty, O God most merciful,  
O God our rock and our salvation,  
hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty.  
When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child;  
When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom.  
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,  
and the psalmists cried out for healing,  
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.  
He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression,  
he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,  
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

**C Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

**C Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

**C Amen.**

**P** O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.  
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.  
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.  
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,  
O God our strength and our song,  
you show us a vision of a tree of life  
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.  
Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son,  
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,  
life in you, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**P** Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

**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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

**P** Christ is made known to us in the breaking of bread.  
Receive the risen Lord.

*(Please be seated.)*

## Communion Distribution

## Communion Songs

*“Lamb of God”*

### LAMB OF GOD

*Mass of a Joyful Heart*  
Steve Angrisano

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music © 1997, Steve Angrisano. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

*“Come, Let us Eat”*

*Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
Our Lord's body let us take together,  
our Lord's body let us take together.*

*Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,  
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.*

*In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,  
in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.  
In the presence of our Lord we gather,  
in the presence of our Lord we gather.*

*Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,  
rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.  
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,  
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.*

*(Please stand.)*

### **Communion Blessing**

**P** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**C** **Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

**A** Holy One,  
through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.  
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.  
In the name of Jesus,  
**C** **Amen.**

SENDING

### **Blessing**

**P** God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
bless you now and forever.  
**C** **Amen.**

### **Sending Song** “*Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!*”

*Alleluia! Jesus is risen!  
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!  
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!*

*Refrain  
Jesus is risen and we shall arise.  
Give God the glory! Alleluia!*

*Walking the way, Christ in the center  
telling the story to open our eyes;  
breaking our bread, giving us glory:  
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. Refrain*

*Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:  
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.  
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!  
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. Refrain*

## **Dismissal**

**P**     Go in peace to nurture with love and serve with hope.  
**C**     **Thanks be to God!**

## *PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY*

Ed Anderson	Monica Johnson	Charlotte Pohlman
MariLynn Bergmark	Pat Johnson	Misty Pounder
Sue Blender	Jessica Kean	Brilee Robbins
Sharon Bolerjack	Zepplyn Killmer	Ken Rose
Hazel Brant	Lenny Kobilca	Frank Roy
Scott Browne	Carrie Koon	Ben Sabourin
Evelyn Cahill	Rev. John Lang	Bernie Schroeder
Tom Casey	Nancy Lang	Tim Schroeder
Gary Cobbett	Sue Lucheon	Virginia Schroeder
Jim Connelly	Scott Lundgren	Josh Shaw
Beau Dowling	Dede Machowski	Sharon Skopec
Finley Engnell	Ashley Maestre	Gene Sobba
Elwood Faulhaber	Hanna Mau	Gary Sperka
Abby Galvin	Jim McKeever	Dom Thielmann
David Gilchrist	Ruth Ann Miller	Rick Vorel
Terri Hacker	Omni Rook Myers	Kyle Williams
Charlie Hagedorn	Linda Nelson	George Woollet
Mike Hoffman	Dave Nommenson	

For Sean Acosta, Dustin Johnson, Steve Kleinfelder, Damen McDermott, Chad Peters and all others serving our country and their families.

For those we name in our hearts, and for those who have not yet found Jesus.

### Acknowledgements

Prayer of the Day, Prayers of the People, Offertory Prayer, Prayer after Communion, Blessing, Liturgies and Dismissal from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #43914

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America and used by permission. All rights reserved.

*As We Gather at Your Table* Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

*This is the Day* from *This Far By Faith* Music by Less Garrett © 1967 Scripture in Song, a division of Integrity Music

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks* Text and Music: Donald Fishel; arr. Betty Pulkingham ©1973 Word of God Music

*Day of Arising* Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*Lamb of God* from *Mass of a Joyful Heart*. Music © 1997, Steve Angrisano. Published by OCP Publications.

*Come, Let us Eat* Text: Billema Kwillia, b. c. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.

Text sts. 1-3 © Lutheran World Federation. Text st. 4 © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 4: Hymns for Baptism and Holy Communion*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!* Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Hymns reprinted with permission from OneLicense.net Annual License A-70879 and CCLI License 4049530

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SERVING TODAY** — Pam Laasch

**MUSICIANS** — Ruth Gerike and Sue Gray

**ACOLYTES** — Isabel Dixon and Madelyn Dixon

**TECH CREW** — Gary Gray and Zach Howell

**DONATIONS TO THE OPEN PANTRY** were given in memory of Al Albrecht by Marilyn Molitor, Pamela Driscoll and Jenny Draeger.

**DONATIONS TO THE OPEN PANTRY** were given by Susan Stolz and Ellen McNeeley.

### **MUSIC AVAILABLE**

If a hymn number is listed with a song, you can find the music in the red hymnal in your pew. We have packets available at the back table that include the songs for the day.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** is available to support Bethany Church. It is fast, easy and secure. You can schedule a weekly or monthly contribution that is automatically debited from your savings or checking account. Make a one-time donation to a special fund; even direct the gift in honor or in memory of someone. Visit our website: [bethanylemont.org](http://bethanylemont.org) and click the Donate button on the homepage.