



# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

**Truth – Relevance – Inspiration**

**Saturday, April 10 at 4:00**

**Sunday, April 11 at 9:00**

*Second Sunday of Easter – 2021*

What Makes  
Our Easter Joy  
Complete?



Today's service is **Divine Service, Setting One** (Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, 151-166).

**WELCOME TO DIVINE SERVICE:** *We gather to receive God's gifts through Word and Sacrament!*

- ✦ **Visitors:** *Welcome! Let's get acquainted! How can we be a blessing to you? Please receive a visitor basket (available in our Narthex).*
- ✦ **Prayer Request:** *See a "yellow" card (Narthex) and the "Receive Prayer" section (end of folder).*
- ✦ **Young Children:** *Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex); Children's Message (please come forward).*
- ✦ **Phone:** *Please silence.*
- ✦ **Hearing Assistance:** *Available in Narthex.*
- ✦ **Service Folder:** *Get it on your smartphone: [www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com/ServiceFolder](http://www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com/ServiceFolder)*
- ✦ **Not comfortable inside:** *Receive at our main entrance; then listen from your car (FM 89.9)*

## GOOD NEWS:

L: He is risen!

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

## PRESERVICE CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION:

L: Let us pray: Dear Lord Jesus, You are God's only begotten Son;

C: **You were with the Father and the Holy Spirit before the creation of the world;**

L: You are the One through whom God the Father created all things;

C: **You are the Savior promised to Adam and Eve;**

L: You are the One about whom the Old Testament Scriptures were written;

C: **You came in the fullness of time;**

L: You put on flesh in the Person of Jesus;  
**C: You lived a sinless life in our place;**  
 L: You bore our sins and our punishment; and  
**C: You laid down Your precious life.**  
 L: We confess together:  
**A: I have sinned in countless ways;  
 My sins are a very serious matter;  
 I deserve death and punishment;  
 I am sincerely sorry for my sins;  
 I am trusting in You as my Savior; and  
 I beg for Your mercy and forgiveness!**  
 L: In response to your confession, *I have good news for you!* As a called and ordained servant of Christ, *and speaking by His authority*, I therefore, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## PRELUDE

**Sunday** ➔ Halle, Halle, Hallelujah arr. John Behnke

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### ↑ INVOCATION:

L: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN:** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven*

**Sunday Procession:** *We focus on Jesus!*

See the words below / LSB 477

- 1 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:  
 Sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
 Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
 He who on the cross a victim  
 For the world's salvation bled—  
 Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,  
 Now is risen from the dead.
- 2 Alleluia, Christ is risen!  
 Death at last has met defeat:  
 See the ancient pow'rs of evil

In confusion and retreat;  
 Once He died, and once was buried:  
 Now He lives forevermore,  
 Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,  
 Whom we worship and adore.

- 3 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Glory be to God on high:  
 Alleluia to the Savior  
 Who has gained the victory;  
 Alleluia to the Spirit,  
 Fount of love and sanctity!  
 Alleluia, alleluia  
 To the triune Majesty!

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**KYRIE** (Mark 10:46-52): *Let Us Pray:*

- L: O Lord, who bled for the world's salvation,  
**C: have mercy upon us.**  
 L: O Christ, who defeated sin, death, and Satan,  
**C: have mercy upon us.**  
 L: O Lord, who now lives forevermore,  
**C: have mercy upon us.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE:** *This Is the Feast*

See the words below / LSB 155

**Refrain:** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

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

## SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY:

L: The LORD be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: *Let us pray.* Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.** ↓ *Children, please come forward!*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

*Happiness – I will go to heaven!*

*MORE Happiness – My friends will go to heaven!*



## FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35 NAU

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1697 / Own Bible

Amazing unity and love among the believers!

<sup>32</sup> And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them. <sup>33</sup> And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales <sup>35</sup> and lay them at

the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM: 148 ESV

See Below / Front of LSB / Own Bible

Praise AND Reasons to Praise!

- 1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;\*  
praise him in the heights!
- 2 Praise him, all his angels;\*  
praise him, all his hosts!
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon,\*  
praise him, all you shining stars!
- 4 Praise him, you highest heavens,\*  
and you waters above the heavens!
- 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD!\*  
For he commanded and they were created.
- 6 And he established them forever and ever;\*  
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth,\*  
you great sea creatures and all deeps,  
8 fire and hail, snow and mist,\*  
stormy wind fulfill- ing his word!
- 9 Mountains and all hills,\*  
fruit trees and all cedars!
- 10 Beasts and all livestock,\*  
creeping things and flying birds!
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,\*  
princes and all rulers of the earth!
- 12 Young men and maidens to- gether,\*  
old men and children!
- 13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is ex- alted;\*  
his majesty is above earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints,\*  
for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

**SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1-2:2 NAU**

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1898 / Own Bible  
*This reading will be read during today's sermon!*

**↑ ALLELUIA and VERSE (LSB 156):**

See the words below / LSB 156

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.

**HOLY GOSPEL: John 20:19-31 NAU**

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1686 / Own Bible

The day Jesus rose and the following Sunday!

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O LORD.**

<sup>19</sup> So when it was evening on that day, the first *day* of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace *be* with you." <sup>20</sup> And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> So Jesus said to them again, "Peace *be* with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

<sup>22</sup> And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

<sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, *their sins* have been forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they have been retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

<sup>25</sup> So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails,

and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> **After eight days** His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace *be* with you." <sup>27</sup> Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed *are* they who did not see, and yet believed."

<sup>30</sup> Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> **but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.**

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.** ↓

**HYMN: *The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done***

See the words below / TLH 210 / LSB 464

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
Now is the victor's triumph won;  
Now be the song of praise begun.  
Alleluia!

2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,  
But Christ their legions hath dispersed.  
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.  
Alleluia!

3 The three sad days have quickly sped,  
He rises glorious from the dead.  
All glory to our risen Head!  
Alleluia!



## 1. Having It All:

a. Learning and Experiencing: <sup>1</sup> **What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life--** <sup>2</sup> **and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us—**

i. Did you notice the four key words in verse 1? **BEGINNING; HEARD; SEEN; and TOUCHED**

ii. Promised, then revealed:

b. Proclaiming: <sup>3</sup> **what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.**

c. Completing our Joy: <sup>4</sup> **These things we write, so that our joy [our inner happiness] may be made complete.** // Right now, through Jesus, we are forgiven and heaven-bound, **so we have joy!** But what completes our joy?

## 2. God Is Light: <sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from Him [Jesus] and announce to you,

that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

3. Fellowship with God: <sup>6</sup> **If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;** <sup>7</sup> **but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.** // What MATTERS is **what we DO**, not what we say!

a. When we ARE repentant (*sorry for our sins and believing in Jesus*)...

b. When we ARE NOT repentant...

4. Our Sin – Deceived or Forgiven: <sup>8</sup> **If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.** <sup>9</sup> **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** <sup>10</sup> **If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.**

a. What is sin?

b. What does it mean to confess? **Admit..., be sorry..., and trust...**

c. What should encourage us to confess?

## 5. Attitude and Comfort:

a. <sup>2:1</sup> **My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.**

b. **And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;** <sup>2</sup> **and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.**

## Conclusion:

- **Truth** – Jesus IS the Promised Messiah!
- **Relevance** – We have Easter joy – He is risen!
- **Inspiration** – Let us make our joy complete by sharing God’s saving truth with others (*using the “How Good Is Good Enough” brochure – understanding our sin; good news for sinners; how God’s eternal blessings are received; and living as Christians!*)

**Sermon Copies:** Available in the Narthex!

**HYMN:** *The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done*

See the words below / TLH 210 / LSB 464

**Refrain:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell;  
The bars from heav’n’s high portals fell.  
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.  
Alleluia!
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,  
From death’s dread sting Thy servants free  
That we may live and sing to Thee.  
Alleluia!

**APOSTLES’ CREED:** *See back of either hymnal*

↑ **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:** *Let Us Pray*

**After Each Petition:** L: LORD, in Your mercy.

C: **Hear our prayer.**

## Conclusion:

L: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.** ↓

**PLEASE PRAY** during the week for the requests listed in the Participation Guide insert. Thanks!

## OFFERTORY

**Sunday** ➔ Soul Adorn Thyself With Gladness  
Johann Walther

**OFFERING:** An offering plate is available for your use in the center aisle near the organ. We express our trust in God and thanks for His gifts when we tithe!

## THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### LORD’S SUPPER SELF-EXAMINATION:

**BEFORE RECEIVING** – See below. For an explanation, read the “New Visitors” brochure or contact Pastor.

### Do you understand and agree?

1. I believe the Bible is God’s Word!
2. I am baptized!
3. I am sorry for my sins!
4. I believe in Jesus for eternal life!
5. I desire to live for Christ!
6. I believe the Lord’s Supper is Jesus’ very body and blood, along with the bread and wine, to assure me of God’s forgiveness!

**Alcohol-Removed Wine:** *In the center of each tray!*

**Visitors:** *Please share your contact info the pastor!*

### CURRENT DISTRIBUTION NOTES:

1. **Pulpit side;** line up in the center aisle – *keep whatever distance is comfortable for you.*
2. Receive the Supper; then return to your pew via the side aisle.
3. **Lectern side;** same as above.
4. Those receiving in their pews.

### ↑ PRAYER FOR RIGHT RECEPTION OF THE

**LORD’S SUPPER:** *Let Us Pray*

L: O LORD, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called us to be Christians and granted us the forgiveness of sins.

C: **Make us ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins,**

L: and grant us grateful hearts that we may give thanks to You, O Father, to Your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD:** *Spoken on the evening before He finished His saving work!*

**PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST:** *Jesus Lived, Suffered, and Died to Remove Our Sins!*

**L:** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**L:** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess  
♦Your holy cross and passion, ♦Your blessed death, ♦Your rest in the tomb, ♦Your resurrection from the dead, ♦Your ascension into heaven, and ♦Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**LORD'S PRAYER:** *See back of either hymnal*

**A: Our Father who art in heaven...**

**PAX DOMINI:** *The Peace of the Lord*

**L:** The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI:** *Lamb of God*

See the words below / LSB 550

Your only Son, no sin to hide,  
But You have sent Him from Your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod,  
And to become the Lamb of God.

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,  
I love the holy Lamb of God!

O wash me in His precious blood,  
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Saturday: Please come forward now!

Sunday: Please be seated. ↓

**Sunday** ➔ **DURING DISTRIBUTION:**

Rejoice Wagoner  
Easter Music by Gayle

**LORD'S SUPPER DISMISSAL**

↑ **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:** *Let Us Pray*

**L:** Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN:** *He Is Arisen! Glorious Word*

See the words below / LSB 488

He is arisen! Glorious Word!  
Now reconciled is God, my Lord;  
The gates of heav'n are open.  
My Jesus did triumphant die,  
And Satan's arrows broken lie,  
Destroyed hell's fiercest weapon.

O hear what cheer!

Christ victorious, Rising glorious, Life is giving.  
He was dead but now is living!

**BENEDICTION:** *Receive and Be Blessed*

**L:** The Lord – *the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit* – ♦be within you to refresh you, ♦be before you to guide you, ♦be around you to protect you, ♦be beneath you to uphold you, and ♦be above you to bless you.

**C: Amen.** ↓

**POSTLUDE and CANDLE EXTINGUISHING**

**Sunday** ➔ He Lives

A.H. Ackley (I serve a risen Savior)

**TODAY'S SERMON – Benefit, Share**

- ♦ Get a Copy: *In the Narthex*
- ♦ Watch or Listen: *Website, Podcast, Email*

### THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS

- ♦ **Living the Lutheran Lectionary:** 10:00
- ♦ **Attend:** Inside or Zoom

### SATURDAY SCHEDULE

- ♦ **Bible Class:** 3:00 (Inside or Zoom)
- ♦ **Divine Service:** 4:00 (Inside or Parking Lot)

### SUNDAYS – After Service Blessings

- ♦ **Receive Prayer:** See a Stephen Minister: Norma S, Bill S, Jerry H, or Alan C
- ♦ **Refreshments** (10:15): Join us down the hall
- ♦ **Bible Class and Sunday School** (10:30):
  - ⇒ **BC:** 9<sup>th</sup> to adults (CLR) (Inside or Zoom)
  - ⇒ **Sunday School:**
    - 3 years to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade (Upper Room)
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Middle Office)

### NEXT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY



### THANKS FOR SERVING ON 4/10 & 4/11

**Altar Guild:** Don & Carol D

**Saturday:** Music: Kathy G; Usher: Matt K

**Sunday:** Organist: Gayle P

Pastor Team: Jerry H

Ushers: Terry T, Larry H, John H, Klaus K

Refreshments: Doris C, Miriam E

Sunday School: Stacey J, Jerry H

**Financial Team:** Natalia F, Jerry H

### THANKS FOR SERVING ON 4/17 & 4/18

**Altar Guild:** Kathy G, Heather H

**Saturday:** Music: Kathy G; Usher: Matt K

**Sunday:** Organist: Gayle P

Pastor Team: Matthias M

Ushers: Terry T, Larry H, John H, Klaus K

Refreshments: Doris C, Miriam E

Sunday School: Heather H, Cedrick H

**Financial Team:** Natalia F, Ken H

### OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION – Thanks!

- Needed Each Week (budget): **4,648**
- Received Last Week (actual): **10,399**
- Budget Versus Giving (YTD): **+10,143**
- Spending Versus Giving (YTD): **+3,995**

### THE LAST DAYS OF JESUS – STUDY

**The Final Lesson – DON'T MISS OUT:**

- **The Death of Death – The Resurrection of Jesus** (4/10 at 3:00 & 4/11 at 10:30)

## Connect With Us

**Website:** [BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com](http://BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com)

**Facebook:** "Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma"

**Church Office:** Monday – Thursday, 9:30 to 3:30

**Childcare Center:** Monday – Friday, 6:45-6:00

**Pastor Green:** [RevRLGreen@aol.com](mailto:RevRLGreen@aol.com); 440-292-5915

**Podcast:** "Benefit from the Bible" (listen to the sermons)

**Address:** 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134

**Kathy Green:** [Secretary@blc7500.com](mailto:Secretary@blc7500.com); 440-845-2230

**Tricia Wise:** [ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com](mailto:ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com); 440-884-0430

**Church Body:** [lcms.org](http://lcms.org) District: [oh.lcms.org](http://oh.lcms.org)