

2nd Sunday of Easter

*Indicates that all who are able are invited to stand.

Bold type invites the people to respond.

PH by hymns denotes the large hymnal &

STF is the blue soft sided hymnal.

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Lighting the Candles and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship:

One: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. By his mercy God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

All: **We rejoice, for we are children of God.**

One: We proclaim our faith: no power can overcome Christ's love, and as His body, we have received salvation.

All: **In love and joy, we praise the Lord!**

*Morning Prayer

*Hymn *Christ Is Alive* Ph-108

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Embodied God, you pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, inspiring us with the grace and patience that you have shown to us time and again. We experience your presence, but are quick to judge those who do not believe as we do. We look down on those who ask for proof, we scorn those who scoff at our faith. Forgive us and soften our hearts. Remind us of our own human doubts, that we might have compassion for all and freely share your grace. *(Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and personal confession.)*...through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and

unfading, kept in heaven for us. Thanks be to God for such a hope. Alleluia!

Words of Peace

Since we have received the peace of Christ, let us share that peace with one another. The peace Christ be with you all!

*Congregational Response *Glory Be to the Father* PH-579

We Listen For God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Reading ends: A new teaching, with authority!

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 16

One: Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

All: **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

One: But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

All: **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names up on my lips.**

One: O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

All: **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

One: I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

All: **I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

One: My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit it rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

All: **For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

One: You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Lesson

1 Peter 1:3-9

Reading ends: A new teaching, with authority!

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

Reading ends: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn *Thine Is the Glory* PH-238

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Response: hear our prayer.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. Amen.

Offering

Thank you for your gifts of financial support of Bethel's ministries which may be placed in the offering plate near the main entrance to the sanctuary either before or following worship.

*Congregational Response

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

*Affirmation of Faith

Life in Christ is life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.26

*Hymn *Lift High the Cross* PH-371

We Leave to Serve God

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Response *Song of Hope* PH-432

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's worship leaders: Rev. Lori Kleppe; Stephen Bartenhagen Lay Leader, and Linda Johansen, Musician.

Pastor Kleppe would welcome visiting you in your home or at a coffee shop in town. Her contact information is 563-380-8187 or lori.kleppe@gmail.com

Beverages are available in the narthex and may be enjoyed during worship. You are invited to help yourself.

Members and friends of Bethel who seek healing and wholeness in their lives are kept in prayer during worship. Today we are remembering – Cathy Bemiss, Teri Brockway, Don Durscher, Sarah Updegraff Murray, Kirk Bruso, Rose Marie Knight (Julie Larson's mom), Darwin Schrage, Mike Schroyer and Victor Schmitz (home).

Stoney Brook – Kate Ewing, Kathy Meyer
Good Samaritan Center – Peggi Pape
Eastern Star Decorah – Doyle Gorden
Maple Crest – Tex Heyer
Copper Creek – Sandy Schnor

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Today, April 12

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship w/Diaconate quarterly offering

Fellowship following

Tuesday, April 13

9:30 a.m. Diaconate

Thursday April 16

10:00 a.m. Bible Study Stoney Brook

Next Sunday, April 19

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

Fellowship following

Session Meeting

Welcome to Worship at Bethel Presbyterian Church!

-The order of service is found in your bulletin and projected on the screen.

-An * shows the time when the congregation stands. If it is more comfortable to remain seated, please do so.

-Restrooms are found on each level of the church. An usher will help you find your way. Fully accessible restrooms are located in the basement.

-A nursery room is available but we welcome hearing the sound of small children.

-Communion is offered on most first Sundays of the month. All are welcome to receive the elements of the meal. An usher will invite you forward or servers may come to you in the pew.

-We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. If your schedule allows, please join us for a time of fellowship following the service.

Upcoming Opportunities

***April 22** Join us in the fellowship hall for a NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) presentation led by Norman & Susan Friederich, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. A light supper will be served at 6:00 p.m.

***April 29** Now What? Funeral, Graveside, or Celebration of Life? Join Lori as she helps you outline the manner in which you would like to have friends and family gather at the end of your life.

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Welcome to worship at
Bethel Presbyterian Church,
where everyone is welcome.

2nd Sunday in Easter
April 12, 2026