

6th 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: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of praise be heard! God has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.

All: **We went through fire and through water, yet God has brought us out to a spacious place.**

One: Come and hear what God has done for us, all who fear God.

All: **Surely God has listened to us and heard our prayers! Blessed be God, who is steadfast love.**

*Morning Prayer

*Hymn *Come, Thou Almighty King* Ph-139

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, We love you imperfectly: we do not always keep your commandments. We love each other imperfectly: we hurt those you call us to love through our actions and our inaction. We love ourselves imperfectly: we struggle to believe that we are truly your children, made in your image. Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit, make us more faithful that we might live as Christ has shown us, reflecting your love and grace. *(Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and personal confession.)* ...through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Because Christ lives, we also live. Not because of anything we have done, not because of our belief or faithfulness: we live because Christ lives. **This is the Christ who forgives us. This is the God who is in us. This is the Spirit who is with us. Alleluia! Praise be to God!**

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! **And also with you.**

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

We Listen For God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Acts 17:22-31

Reading ends: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved. Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm

Psalms 66:8-20

One: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

All: **Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

One: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

All: **You brought us in to the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

One: You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

All: **I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

One: those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

All: **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**

One: Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

All: **I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

One: If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

All: but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

ONE: Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Second Lesson

1 Peter 3:13-22

Reading ends: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

John 14:15-21

Reading ends: This is the Gospel of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn *Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak* PH-426

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

New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.22

*Hymn *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* PH-466

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 Farrah Fritz,
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.

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Today, May 10 Mother's Day
10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship
Fellowship following
Monday, May 11
9:30 a.m. Diaconate
Thursday, May 14
9:30 a.m. Sewing Circle
Next Sunday, May 17
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. If
helpful 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.

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, Babe
McCoy

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

Happy Mother's Day to all of the mom's or women
who have been a motherly influence in our lives.

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BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A People and a Place where God is made Known



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

6th Sunday in Easter
May 10, 2026