

5th 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: Christ is a living stone, precious in God's sight, and on him we build our lives.
- All: **We are God's people, and we proclaim God's mighty acts, for we have been called out of darkness and into the light.**
- One: Once we were not a people, but now we are God's people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.
- All: **With hearts lifted in praise, we come to worship.**

*Morning Prayer

*Hymn *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* Ph-417

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Christ, our way, our truth, our life, you have shown us the way, so clearly and fully. You have not simply told us how to live, you have shown us. But we still don't get it. We do not believe all you have said to us; we do not trust the way you have shown us. Help us, O God. Forgive us. Open our ears to your truth, open our eyes to your way, and lead us into new life. *(Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and personal confession.)*
...through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Beloved, believe the good news. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Jesus prepares a place for us, Jesus brings us close to him, Jesus answers us even in our unbelief. **We are God's own people. Thanks be to God. 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!
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 7:55-60

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

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

- One: In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.
- All: **Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**
- One: Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.
- All: **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**
- One: Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.
- All: **My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**
- One: Let your face shine up- on your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

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 14:1-14

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

Sermon

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn

O Jesus, I Have Promised

PH-388

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is truly right...

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.

Words of Institution

We Share the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

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

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell, the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn *Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing* PH-108

We Leave to Serve God

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Response *Song of Hope* PH-432

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's worship leaders: Rev. Lori Kleppe;
Julie Aanes, Lay Leader; and Sue Updegraff 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.

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, May 3

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship w/the Lord's Supper
Fellowship following

Tuesday, May 5

4:00 p.m. NEIQG

Next Sunday, May 10 Mother's Day

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship
Fellowship following

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.

Rev. Lori L. Kleppe, Pastor
208 N. Vine St.
West Union, IA 52175
563-422-3238 (O)
563-380-8187 (C)
bethelwu@gmail.com
or lori.kleppe@gmail.com

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



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

**5th Sunday in Easter
May 3, 2026**