

## Bethany United Church of Christ

April 20, 2025

### Resurrection of the Lord

*As you prepare your heart for worship it might be helpful to read through the call to worship and the prayer of confession and think about them.*

Prelude and Bell Ringing  
Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Call to Worship (from Psalm 118)

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

**Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever!**

L: Out of my distress I called on the LORD;

**C: the LORD answered me and set me free.**

L: The LORD is my strength and my song;

**C: he has become my salvation.**

L: Open to me the gates of righteousness,

**C: that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.**

L: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

**C: This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

L: This is the day that the LORD has made;

**C: let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Prayer of Invocation

\*Hymn of Praise #139 "Thine Is the Glory"

Call to Confession

Unison Confession of Sin

**Heavenly Father, forgive us. We go through life supposing we are disciples of Heavenly Father, forgive us. We too often take this day for granted. Even worse, we sometimes trivialize it so that it becomes another day of mere fun and games, showing off clothing, and having a big meal. We minimize the true importance of this day, the day when you finalized the gifts of grace and eternal life through your Son Jesus Christ. Much of our Easter celebration is sinful, for it hides the truth and power of the resurrection. Forgive us, and fill us with your Holy Spirit. Bring home to our hearts and minds what you did**

**in the resurrection of Jesus, so that our lives are filled with that power, and it can change us to be better disciples of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

\*GLORIA PATRI

Invitation to the Children (Jesus Loves the Little Children)

Children's time

*Pre-K to Grade 2 children dismiss to church entryway for Sunday School*

Scripture

Old Testament lesson - Isaiah 65:17-25

New Testament lesson - Luke 23:54-24:12

Sermon "Best- and Worst-Case Scenario"

\*Hymn of Preparation #432 (SS) "According to Thy Gracious Word"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Offering, Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn of Commitment #136 "The Day of Resurrection" (tune #231)

\*Charge and Benediction

**Amen! We go forth to serve.**

\*Choral Benediction "Christ Arose!" #416 (SS) (*refrain only*)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

TODAY - Rev. Darwin Smith

This year's theme for Bible School is Dare to Daniel with a focus on prayer. If you'd like to help with meals, snacks, lessons, crafts, music, group activities, or anything else, please contact Pastor Joel Schlatter or Tami Roskamp.

The May-June Upper Rooms are available in the church entryway.

SAVE THE DATES:

- Church moves to 10 a.m.: Sunday, June 1, and weeks after
- Bible School: Friday, June 27
- Retreat House Sunday: Sunday, July 20

Steve Mulch is greeter today, Bruce Roskamp next week. Thanks to the greeter, Rev. Smith, the musician, AV tech - all who helped with the service.

WELCOME ALL! If you are a visitor, please sign the guest register and come again.

HE IS RISEN!

HAPPY EASTER!

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