

Bethany United Church of Christ

April 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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 115)

Leader: Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,

Congregation: for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

L: Our God is in the heavens; he does whatever he pleases.

C: The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.

L: Put your trust in the LORD! He is our help and our shield.

C: You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!

L: The LORD has been mindful of us; he will bless us;

C: he will bless those who fear the LORD, both small and great.

L: May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth!

C: We will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD!

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn of Praise #130 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, forgive us. We do not follow Jesus as we should, nor do we obey his words to us, even when they are clear, even when they are relatively easy. We avoid almost anything that might make us seem unusual to others, even if this means we miss out on the abundant life Jesus offers us. We try to fit in with the world around us, and so we sin. Forgive us, and fill us with your Holy Spirit. Give us a desire to follow Jesus and not worry what the world thinks of us. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, who died for us and was raised from the dead. 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 – Ezekiel 34:1-24

New Testament lesson – John 10:1-16

Sermon “The Hireling”

*Hymn of Response #373 (SS) “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer

Offering, Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn of Commitment #110 (SS) “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

*Charge and Benediction

Amen! We go forth to serve.

*Choral Response: “God Be with You” #177 (SS) (v. 1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY – Rev. Darwin Smith

Women’s Fellowship will meet Wednesday, May 6, at 1:30 p.m. Marian Bland will present the program. Please bring one photo of your Mom for the program. Audene Schrader is hostess.

Clover Road Christian Church (785 Clover Rd., Hannibal, MO) will host *Aspire*, an event for women, next Saturday, May 2. Doors open at 5 p.m. The event features ministry and music. See the bulletin strip for ticket pricing and more info.

The Warsaw Women’s Expo will be Saturday, May 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Warsaw Brewery (900 N 5th). It will feature speakers, vendors, snacks, and giveaways. Registration is required by Saturday, May 2, for \$25/person. More details are available on the “Warsaw Public Events” Facebook page. The organization’s email is WarsawPublicEvents@gmail.com.

May-June Upper Rooms are now available in the entryway.

SAVE THE DATES:

May Women's Fellowship: Wednesday, May 6, 1:30 p.m.
Retreat House Service: Sunday, July 12, 10 a.m.
All-Day Bible School: Monday, July 13
Women's Event: Saturday, August 22, 10 a.m.
Men's Event: Sunday, November 8, 6 p.m.
Women's Bible Study: Mondays, 9:30 a.m.
Confirmation Class & Sunday School: Sundays, 9 a.m.

Ann MacArthur is greeter today, Teresa Beeler 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.

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