

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we have celebrated with joy the festival of our Lord's resurrection. Graciously help us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

FIRST READING: Act 4:32-35

³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵ They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

PSALM: Psalm 148

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

² **Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**

³ Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

⁴ **Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

⁶ **He established them for ever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

⁸ **fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

⁹ Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

¹⁰ **Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**

¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

¹² **Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!**

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1—2:2

¹ We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ² this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— ³ we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷ but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our

sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. ² My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ² and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸ Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Today: April 7th

Second Sunday of Easter

9:15-Adult SS

9:30-Youth SS

9:30-Coffee Fellowship

10:30- Worship w/Communion

4:00-Laurens Care Center Svc

5:00-6:30-Youth Group @ FCC

Tuesday: April 9th

7:30AM-Prayer Group

9:30-Morning Coffee

Wednesday: April 10th

7:00-Council Mtg

Sunday: April 14th

Third Sunday of Easter

9:15-Adult SS

9:30-Youth SS

9:30-Coffee Fellowship

10:30- Worship

Lectors: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm victims, those battling COVID-19, Gina Ehlers, Pete Runneberg, Myra Walstead, Elizabeth Dunbar, Bob Winkelmann, Linda Booth, Monica Isom, Don Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Rodolfo Rezarin, Ely Kleszczelski, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Helen Dodge, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

Lector: Pat Boughey

Ushers: April 7th-Tom & Rhonda Shewell

April 14th-Linda Galbraith & Michelle Gordon

Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00

Faith Promise \$ 10,030.00

Worship 56

Sunday School \$0.00

Adult SS 0

Youth SS 0

Lenten \$5.00

Easter \$839.00

Birthdays: April 8-Myra Reese, April 9-Sandy George; 10-Taylor

Farmer; 12-Pat Boughey; 13-Dylan Hodgell

Anniversary: April 8-Katy & Jeremy Roling

***Please note that the blue CH (Celebration Hymnal) is located under the pew in front of you.**

Altar Flowers:

An asterisk () indicates when to stand (for those who are able)*

ORDER OF THE SERVICE

PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P.56

*HYMN *The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done*

LBW 135

*GREETING

P.57

*KYRIE

P.57

*HYMN OF PRAISE

P.60

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

(bulletin-in unison)

MEDITATION ON GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

PSALM: Psalm 148

(bulletin -responsively)

SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1—2:2

*ALLELUIA VERSE

P.62

*THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

*GOSPEL RESPONSES

P.63

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor David Klappenbach

HYMN *Because He Lives*

CH 358

NICENE CREED

P.64

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: "...Lord, in your mercy."

Response: "hear our prayer."

*THE PEACE

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERING / *Let Us Break Bread Together*

LBW 212

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

P.67

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P.68

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P.69

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

P.71

*LAMB OF GOD

P.72

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

BLESSING

P.72

*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

P.72

*BENEDICTION

P.76

*HYMN *He Lives*

CH 368

*DISMISSAL

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April 7, 2024
Second Sunday of Easter

**WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT
TOGETHER IN CHRIST'S NAME**

213 S. Harrison, PO Box 151

Laurens, IA 50554

Ph. 712-841-2181

Email: bethanylnc@gmail.com

Pastor David Klappenbach

Cell 419-603-8350 Home 712-841-2532

Shirley McKiernan, Organist

Website: www.bethanylutheran-laurens.org

To our visitors! Welcome to our Sunday Service. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the visitor card in front of you. Please come again!

Welcome to our Communion Sunday Service.

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the Communion/Visitor card in front of you. Please come again!