

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: Acts 5:29-42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' ³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, stood up and ordered the men to be put outside for a short time. ³⁵Then he said to them, 'Fellow-Israelites, consider carefully what you propose to do to these men. ³⁶For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him; but he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and disappeared. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up at the time of the census and got people to follow him; he also perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case, I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone; because if this plan or this undertaking is of human origin, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them—in that case you may even be found fighting against God!' They were convinced by him, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹As they left the council, they rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonour for the sake of the name. ⁴²And every day in the temple and at home they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.

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 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer

various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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.' ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.' ²⁶A 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.' ²⁷Then 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.' ²⁸Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But 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 12th	Sunday: April 19th
Second Sunday of Easter	Third Sunday of Easter
9:15-Adult SS/Youth SS	9:15-Adult SS
9:30-Coffee Fellowship	9:30-Coffee Fellowship
10:30-Worship	10:30-Worship w/Communion
6:00-Prayer Group	SS Sing
April 6-15 Pastor & Family on Vacation	11:30-Potluck
Monday: April 13th	6:00-Prayer Group
7:00-Handbell Rehearsal	April 20-22 Pastor @ Central Plains Chapter STS – Schuyler, NE
Tuesday: April 14th	
8:30-Prayer Group	
9:30-Morning Coffee @ BLC	
Wednesday: April 15th	
7:00-Confirmation	
7:00-Council Meeting	
Thursday April 16th	
2:00-Circle Group	

Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, storm/flood/fire victims, those suffering any illness, Roger Shulz, Linda Galbraith, Marie Rogers, Jeanette Jardee, Shannon Hersom, Pat Boughey, Mary Roat, Todd & Elizabeth Wood, Jerry Runneberg, Myles Pedersen, Pastor John Mayer, Monica Isom, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Gloria Bell, Helen Dodge, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

Lectors: Shirley Kruse
Ushers: April 12-Julie Dawson & Michelle Gordon
 April 19-Julian Johnsen & Family
 April 30-Kelly & Dawn Gordon

Acolytes: Bethany Youth
Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00
Faith Promise \$12,762.00 Easter 61 Worship
 Sunday School \$0.00 Maundy Thursday 27 Good Friday 29
 Lent \$ \$190.00 Easter \$442.00
 Matins and a Meal \$22.00 Matins & a Meal 10

Birthdays: April 12th -Pat Boughey; 13-Dylan Hodgell
Anniversary: April 18th -Tom & Rhonda Shewell

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

An asterisk () indicates when to stand (as able)*

ORDER OF THE SERVICE

- PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL /
 WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS
 *CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56
 *HYMN *O Savior, Precious Savior* **LBW 514**
 *GREETING P.57
 *KYRIE P.57
 *HYMN OF PRAISE P.59
 *PRAYER OF THE DAY *(bulletin-in unison)*
 FIRST READING: **Acts 5:29-2**
 Psalm: **Psalm 148** *(bulletin – responsively)*
 SECOND READING: **1 Peter 1:3-9**
 *ALLELUIA VERSE P.62
 *THE HOLY GOSPEL: **John 20:19-31**
 *GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63
 CHILDREN’S SERMON
 SERMON
 HYMN *He Lives* **CH 368**
 APOSTLES’ CREED P.65
 OFFERING P.75
 *PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
 Leader: ...Lord in your mercy
Response: Hear our prayer.
 *BENEDICTION
 *HYMN *Jesus Shall Reign* **LBW 530**
 *DISMISSAL



April 12, 2026
Second Sunday of Easter

WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT TOGETHER IN CHRIST’S NAME

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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 and give to an usher. Please come again!

*We are a
 Christ-Centered
 Mission-Driven
 Traditionally-Grounded
 Congregationally-Focused
 Church.*