
Bethesda Lutheran Church

21590 Hwy 47, Isle, Minnesota 56342

April 5th, 2026

9:00 am



‡ GATHERING ‡

~ *The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.* ~

~ ***The gathering responds together with texts in bold print*** ~

WELCOME

THE JOY OF ALLELUIA | EASTER MESSAGE VIDEO

From ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry

CALL TO WORSHIP

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

The good news is dancing! The good news is on the loose! The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.

Let us worship our good-news Christ.

CALL TO AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as water is poured into the font.

The pastor leads the introduction, the gathering responds:

With that good news mind, let us go to God in prayer, trusting that Jesus Christ loves, claims, and seeks us.

Friends, let us pray: Gracious God, we want to be Easter people. **We want to shout your good news from the rooftop. We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you. We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid," but we are afraid. And we don't know where to look. And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing. So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people. We are best intentions and best laid plans. We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias." We are on our way, but we are not there yet. Show us how to embody your good news in this world. Show us how to be your Easter people. With hope for tomorrow, we pray, amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias," we belong to God. Jesus died and rose for you.

And there is nothing that could keep God's love at bay.

So join me in this good news declaration:

Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen



Morning Has Broken

ELW 556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with c - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Beloved of God, the immeasurable grace upon grace of our Christ Jesus, the rich mercy and unconditional love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Holy One, all over the world, people are gathering to hear the same story. All over the world, people are gathering to hear how death lost its sting. All over the world, people are gathering together, praying for a glimpse of you.

So like our neighbors all over the world, we pray, be here. Speak to us today. Soften the calloused parts of our hearts until we can sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more. With eagerness and hope, we run to the tomb. We sing alleluia. We bow our heads. We listen for you. Amen.

‡ **WORD** ‡

~ *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.* ~

POETRY READING

“Birdsong”

Poem by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Every morning the sun rises,
majestic and steady.
She is greeted
in all her strength
with the joyous cacophony of birdsong.
I like to believe this holy chorus
is the birds telling each other—
I’m here.
We made it through the night.
You’re not alone.
What good, good news.
I think the resurrection is a bit like that.
God is here.
We made it through the night.
We are not alone.
What good, good news.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 28:1-10

The holy gospel according to Matthew
This is the story of grace flowing down. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear

of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

This is the story of grace that covers us. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Reverend Christina Kadelbach



Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW 367



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n-ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith. **In the dark before dawn, we believe that God is alive. In the midst of our grief, we believe the Spirit is at work. In the chaos of our broken world, we believe that love is on the loose. For no stone could hold God back, and no violence could keep God's love from us. So today we sing, Alleluia! For somewhere in between our belief and doubt, hope lives. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Thanks be to God! Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following each prayer petition, the gathering responds:

God of resurrection. **Hear our prayer.**

PEACE

May the risen Christ, our Lord and Savior, fill you with unconditional love, mend you with mercy, and grant you perfect peace.

And also with you.

We are changed by Christ's peace and now we have the holy opportunity to extend that peace to others.

✠ **MEAL** ✠

~ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ. ~

OFFERING

Giving is an act of worship, our response to God's goodness and grace. Your gifts support the ministry of Bethesda Lutheran Church and extend God's love into the world. During this time, the table is set. For the healing of this world, let us give our tithes and offerings.

Ways to Give:

- Give electronically through Vanco Services.
- Use the giving app by scanning the QR code.
- Recurring or one-time online options

<https://app.autobooks.co/pay/bethesda-lutheran-church-of-malmo>

Thank you for your faithful and generous support.



OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. **You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister leads the liturgy for Holy Communion

The gathering responds:

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and from death to life, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The presiding minister continues. The gathering responds:

With all your saints, with the whole company of heaven, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Grounded in the hope of resurrection and the promise of God's enduring love, we pray: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Holy Communion is a gift of grace, where we receive the presence of Jesus in bread and wine and are reminded that we are deeply loved. All who hunger for mercy and hope are welcome at this feast. Jesus is the host, and the invitation is wide. Even across time and space, God is present in these gifts, and we, the community, are present to one another.

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

COMMUNION VIDEO

"Come To The Table"

Common Hymnal Unproduced Mark Alan Schoolmeesters, JonCarlos Velez Written by Mark Alan Schoolmeesters (BMI) © 2018 Common Hymnal Digital (BMI), Standing Room Only (BMI) (admin by CapitolCMGPublishing.com)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

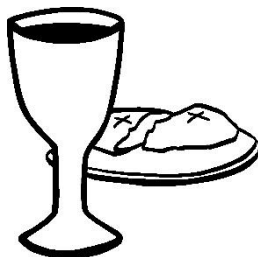
Loving Christ, thank you for the bread that nourishes our bodies. Thank you for the cup that quenches our thirst. Thank you for this community, which reminds us who we are. **Thank you for this Table that brings us together. Thank you for the music that lifts our spirits. Thank you for the promise that at this Table, and every table, you will be there. May this holy meal nourish us to go out into the world speaking of your good, good news. With joy and hope we pray, amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

~ God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world. ~

BLESSING

*After the blessing the gathering responds: **Amen.***



Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

ELW 365



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4
Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!!**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!!**

Acknowledgments: Texts and hymns from sundaysandseasons.com copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SAS028183. New Revised Standard Version updated edition Bible Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | Liturgy by Dr. Cláudio Carvalhaes | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org Additional Liturgical texts adapted for Bethesda Lutheran by Reverend Christina Kadelbach.

LIFE TOGETHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Life together announcements reflect the shared life of our congregation by highlighting upcoming events, service opportunities, and ways we continue to grow in faith together.

We invite you to read through what's ahead and participate as you are able. Your presence matters.

PRAYER & CARE LIST Jim Christensen, Sherry Whipple

As a community of faith, we are committed to holding one another in prayer & care. We invite you to pray for those listed here and offer support as you are able. To request prayers for yourself or someone else (with their permission). Please contact the church office.

WELCOME Friends in Christ, we're glad you're here. Your presence is a gift to this community. If you would like us to be in touch or want to learn more about Bethesda, you're welcome to share your name in the friendship/welcome notebook.

CHILDREN WELCOME Children are a gift we celebrate and are welcome at Holy Communion. We trust that worship belongs to people of all ages. A quieter, unstaffed nursery is available through the double doors to the left when exiting the sanctuary. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available in the narthex.

WELCOME NOTEBOOK Please take a moment to sign the friendship notebook in the black folder at the end of your pew. Passing it along is a simple act of hospitality that helps us learn one another's names and extend the warmth of Christ's welcome to all.

NAME TAGS Help your neighbors, and your pastor, remember your name! Name tags make it easier to connect and grow together in community. Sticker name tags are available near the guest book at the main entrance.

PASTORAL CARE Caring for one another is part of who we are. If you are hospitalized or going through a difficult time, please let Pastor Christina or one of our parish nurses know. We would be honored to support you.

COFFEE HOSPITALITY Coffee and conversation are part of how we care for one another. If you'd like to help serve coffee or share a treat, your presence makes a difference. Sign-up information is available, and contributions for the freezer are always welcome.

WORSHIP AT BETHESDA Join us for worship every Sunday at 9:00 am. Holy Communion is celebrated most Sundays.

LECTORS Thank you to those who share their voices in the reading of Scripture. Newly updated readings for the upcoming weeks are available on the table in the narthex.

COME SING WITH US If you enjoy singing, consider joining the choir as we begin again on Tuesday, April 14th at 3pm. Whether you've sung for years or simply love music, there is a place for you. Choir is a joyful way to participate in worship, build community, and share in the gift of song together. We would be delighted to welcome your voice. All Voices Welcome.

CRAFT SWAP & SUPPLY DRIVE Spring is the perfect time to organize and declutter those craft bins! Consider donating your gently used art and craft supplies to our upcoming Craft Swap and Supply Drive. Items will be collected the week before the event. On April 11, 9:00 am - Noon, join us for a community gathering where creativity meets generosity, share what you no longer need, and discover new-to-you supplies to inspire your next project.

SEASONS OF LIFE SERIES Wednesday, April 15th 2026 11:00 AM – Noon. Join Pastor Christina on April 15th for a practical and compassionate conversation about one of the most loving things you can do for your family, getting your wishes organized before they need to know them. We'll talk through selecting scripture, hymns, readings, and the personal touches that make a service truly yours. Open to everyone, with time for questions to follow. Virtual attendance is available. Contact the church office for the livestream link. And because no good gathering at Bethesda ends without food, we'll close with a traditional funeral lunch.

NEEDED Our quilters are hard at work and they need your help! Clean, washed mattress pads and blankets are needed for batting. Simply leave donations outside the quilters' closet door. Thank you for supporting this beloved ministry!

CHRISTIAN LADIES AROUND THE LAKE All women are welcome to gather for Christian Ladies Around the Lake on April 16th at 12:30 pm at Tulibee Tavern. Monique Leith will share her faith story, and the group will receive a special update on Ukraine. Cost is \$20. Reserve your spot by contacting Lois at (320) 674-0136.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA HEARTLAND CONFERENCE SPRING GATHERING "*Steeped in Kindness*" Saturday, April 18th, 2026 8:30 am – 1:00 pm Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo. All are warmly invited to a morning of fellowship, worship, and joy. Guest speaker: Jason Kempthorne from Salem West. Cost: \$12 (includes lunch). Bring a friend and join us for a meaningful and uplifting time together.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

Monday, April 6th

11:30 am Pinochle

7:00 pm AA/Alanon

Tuesday, April 7th

9:00 am Chair Yoga

10:00 am WELCA meeting

Wednesday, April 8th

9:00 am Women's Bible Study

Thursday, April 9th

8:00 am ROMEOS (Men's fellowship & Study)

9:15 am Chair Yoga

Saturday, April 11th

9-12:00 pm Craft Swap

Sunday, April 12th, Second Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion



2026 ~ Easter Lily Dedications



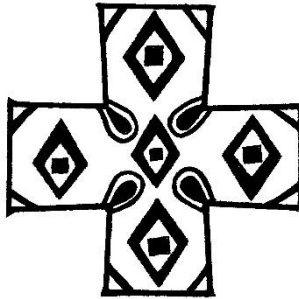
Name

Carol Bakken
David & Libby Brown
Elsa & Chuck Carlson
Rich & Karen Carron
Barb & Lee Forrester
Linda Gommer
Dianne & Del Jones
Pr. Christina & Jason Kadelbach
Darrell Kelly
Kathy Larson & Family
Janice & Wayne Olson
Cliff & Sharron Roberts
Darlene Ryan
Jenny Schuett
Dick & Sue Stebbins
Joanne & Dave Stueven
Mary Swanson
Sylvia Tapelt
Mary & Mark Vukelich
Bev Wedig
Winnie Zahradka

In Honor or Memory of

Family
Our Son, Matthew
Family
Grandchildren
Family
Family
Jack Spetz
Love Ones
Family & Loved Ones
George Larson
Family & Friends
Family
Joe Ryan
Dennis & Family
Loved Ones
Our Family
Del & Jenny
Family
Our Parents
Al, Jen & Travis
Randy & Family





Bethesda Lutheran Church blcmalmo.org

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E-mail address: blcmalmo@gmail.com

A member congregation of the NE MN Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Ministers: All People of Bethesda Lutheran Church

Pastoral Ministries: Reverend Christina Kadelbach

blc.reverend@gmail.com 218-213-6731

Church Secretary: Mary Braun

Music & Sound Technician: Jim Christensen

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN, Kathy Berland RN ANP

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or

Darlene Christensen 320-279-0097

Ushers: Mark & Mary Vukelich **Greeters:** Dianne and Del Jones

Lector: London Feland **Hospitality:** Rocky and Cindy VanVickle

April Altar Care: Linda Southworth and Carol Pantsari

Serving on Sunday, April 12th, Second Sunday of Easter

Ushers: Barry & Donna Ansell **Greeters:** Don & Donna Myhre

Lector: Merrily Jones **Hospitality:** Libby & David Brown, Larry Pantsari