



*“Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have believed.”*

– John 20:29

BETHANY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Bethany Lutheran Church (ELS)

Welcome to Bethany! You have joined us for the most important time we spend together as a congregation. Each week we gather around God's Word and sacraments with the sure promise that Jesus is present wherever two or three come together in his name. We also rely on his promise to build us up and strengthen us in our faith through his Word and sacraments.

The order of service is outlined in this folder. Hymns will be sung from the hymnals located under the seats in front of you.

Restrooms are located next to the coatracks just off the entryway.

An offering will not be taken during the service. An offering plate is located on the table in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to give an offering.

Should you have any questions or need any type of assistance, please feel free to ask the usher or the pastor.

About Bethany: Bethany is a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS). We are in full fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We would love to become better acquainted with you at your convenience. For more information, contact Pastor Smith at mksmith@blc.edu or 515-232-1544.

Bethany Lutheran Church (ELS)

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Ames, Iowa 50010

(515) 232-1544

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Michael K. Smith

Find us on the web at bethanyames.net.

Order of Service – Rite Two (beginning on p. 60)

See also “Prayers for Worship” on p. 40 in the front of the hymnal.

The Hymn – #341 (vss. 1-6) – “Awake, My Heart, With Gladness”

The Introit

P: As newborn babies, desire the pure milk of the Word. Alleluia!

Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you. O Israel, if you would listen to me! Sing aloud to God our strength, and make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob.

C: ♪ **Glory be to the Father....**

The Collect for the Day

P: O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

The First Lesson – Acts 2:14a, 22-32

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them: ²²“Men of Israel, hear these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man recommended to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know. ²³This man, who was handed over by God’s set plan and foreknowledge, you killed by having lawless men nail him to a cross. ²⁴He is the one God raised up by freeing him from the agony of death, because death was not able to hold him in its grip.

²⁵“Indeed, David says concerning him:

I saw the Lord always before me.
Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.

²⁶Therefore my heart was glad,
and my tongue rejoiced.

My flesh also will rest in hope,

²⁷ because you will not abandon my life to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life.

You will fill me with joy in your presence.

²⁹ “Gentlemen, brothers, I can speak confidently to you about the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹ he saw what was coming and spoke about the resurrection of Christ, saying that he was neither abandoned to the grave nor did his flesh see decay.

³² “This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that.”

The Psalm of the Day – Psalm 16 (p. 9 in red book)

The Second Lesson – 1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. ⁵ Through faith you are being protected by God’s power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

⁶ Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials ⁷ so that the proven character of your faith – which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Alleluia (p. 67)

P: Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.
Alleluia.

C: ♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Gospel Lesson – John 20:19-31

P: The Holy Gospel for this Sunday is written in the 20th chapter of the Gospel according to St. John, beginning at the 19th verse.

C: ♪ Glory be to you, O Lord!

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, “Peace be with you!”

²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you.” ²²After saying this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whenever you forgive people’s sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe.”

²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P: This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C: ♪ Praise be to you, O Christ!

The Apostles’ Creed (p. 68)

**The Chief Hymn - #377 (vss. 1-5,8) - "Why Should Cross and
Trial Grieve Me?"**

The Sermon - 1 Peter 1:3-9 - "We Have a Living Hope"

The Offertory (pp. 70-71)

The Prayer of the Church (pp. 96-97)

The Hymn - #346 - "Death is Dead, the True Life Liveth"

**The Closing Hymn - #366 (vss. 4-8) - "Ye Sons and Daughters
Of the King"**

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Announcements

- Both the Ladies and Council meet following the worship service today.
- The Voters meet next Sunday following the worship service for the regular quarterly meeting.
- On Sunday, April 26, we will celebrate the confirmation in the Christian faith of Braelyn Knutson and Parker Woodbury. Please keep our confirmands in your prayers!
- The annual Circuit 7 Lay Education Conference will be held Saturday, April 25 at Prince of Peace - Mason City from 9:30am-3:00pm. ELS Pres. Obenberger will present on "Acknowledging and Cultivating Sanctified Churchmanship in Jesus' Name."

Visiting with us today? Please sign the guest register in the entryway or use the QR code.



This Week at Bethany

Wednesday	7:00pm	Bible Study
Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:00am	Worship (w/ Communion)
	11:15am	Voters
	1:00pm	Confirmation Class
	7:00pm	ISU Bible Study
