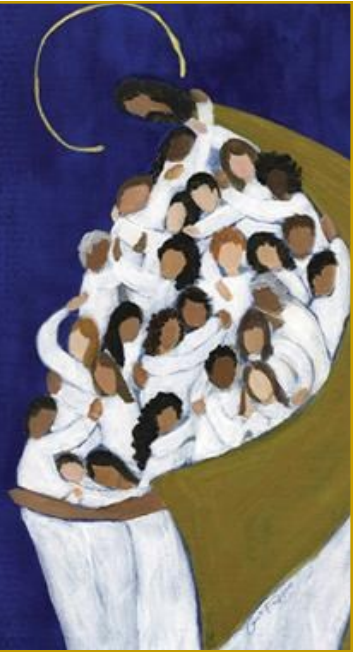


**Because  
I live,  
you also  
will live**

JOHN 14:19



## Bethel Lutheran Church

24 Cameron Road

North East, MD 21901

office@blcne.com | www.blcne.com

Pastor Zach: 301-395-3753

Email: pastorzach.blcne@gmail.com

### ***FRIENDS OF CHRIST ~ ALL OF OUR PEOPLE***

The Rev. Zachary Wright ~ *Pastor*

Mike Beiter (410-808-1074) ~ *Congregation President*

Sylke Bargsten (254-394-0582) ~ *Director of Music*

Ruth Ferretti (410-398-4062) ~ *Flower Coordinator*

The Rev. Bill Gohl ~ *Delaware-Maryland Synod Bishop*

***We celebrate the promise that all people are loved  
and enough in Jesus Christ as we worship, learn,  
and serve together.***

# *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

## *May 10, 2026*

*In our Lutheran Tradition, liturgy reminds us that we are one in Christ, so we do it together! You are invited to respond in community with the **bold print** and stand in body or spirit when indicated by the asterisks (\*).*

### EASTER PROCLAMATION & WELCOME

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

### PRELUDE

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! Lord God Almighty, in your great mercy, you sent your son to die for us. Grant us now the confidence we need to draw near you, to recognize and confess our sin, that we may receive your mercy and grace now and in the time of our need.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*~time of silent confession~*

God is merciful and gracious, loving us even when we were dead in sin, and granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who believe. As a called an ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN: *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life* (ELW 816)



**\*APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*KYRIE & CANTICLE OF PRAISE** (*Setting Four, page 147 & 149*)

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*in unison*)

**Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON:** *Ezekiel 43:1-7a (page 630)*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL READING:** *Psalm 66:8-20*

<sup>8</sup> Bless our God, you peoples;

let the sound of praise be heard.

<sup>9</sup> **Our God has kept us among the living  
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

<sup>11</sup> **You brought us into the net;  
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

<sup>12</sup> You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

<sup>13</sup> **I will enter your house with burnt offerings  
and will pay you my vows—**

<sup>14</sup> those that I promised with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

<sup>15</sup> **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;  
I will give you oxen and goats.**

<sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

<sup>17</sup> **I called out to God with my mouth,  
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil in my heart,  
the Lord would not have heard me;

<sup>19</sup> **but in truth God has heard me  
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,  
nor withheld unfailing love from me.



SECOND LESSON: *1 Peter 3:13-22 (page 183)*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (ELW 172)*

\*GOSPEL LESSON: *John 14:15-21 (page 83)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*~Gospel is read~*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: *Come Down, O Love Divine (ELW 804)*

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

THE PEACE OF THE CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Offerings can be placed in the offering plate on the small table as you walk in to the sanctuary. **This Easter season, we are taking up a***

***Noisy Change Offering for the Synod's Hunger Task Force. We're asking every household to gather their change and dollars. You can save them up and bring them on the last Sunday of the Easter season, May 17 or bring them in each week. Every cent counts. Your generosity matters!***



**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (*Setting Four, page 152*)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**\*SANCTUS** (*Setting Four, page 153*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy; and may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN:** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (ELW 392)*

**\*SENDING**

Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**\*POSTLUDE**



## FLOWERS

Teh flowers are dedicated to the glory of God in gratitude and thanksgiving for all mothers and mother figures, who share the love of God.

We are grateful for you!

## SERVER SCHEDULE

	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Usher</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>
5/10	Stacy Carey	Heather Bolton	Paul Markkula	Alex Pelino
5/17	Marie Lynch	Bob Berczik	Gretchen Brown	Nathan Pelino

If you would like to help serve on a Sunday morning, let Pastor Zach know ([pastorzach.blcne@gmail.com](mailto:pastorzach.blcne@gmail.com)).

## SERVICE NOTES

A **special and warm welcome** to everyone here this morning – seekers, members, and guests. We are glad you are here to join our church family for worship!

For worship, you'll need the bulletin and the cranberry-colored hymnal in the pew back in front of you. The liturgy is indicated by page number and can be found in the front half of the hymnal. The hymns are indicated by hymn number and found in the back half of the hymnal.

If you find yourself needing to leave the worship space for any reason (cough, noisy child, overstimulated, etc.), the service is being livestreamed to the television in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to worship in there and come back into the sanctuary when you're ready.

## COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

**The communion table is God's table.** Jesus invites all who desire to partake of His body and blood to come forward and receive God's amazing grace in the promises of forgiveness and eternal life. At **communion distribution**, please come forward to the altar rail, filling in the space from right-to-left. Pastor Zach will hand you a wafer to eat. You may then take wine from the tray (center ring is grape juice), drink it, and dispose of your cup in the basket as you return to your seat. If you want a blessing instead, please indicate this by folding your arms across your chest.

*All hymns are under Bethel's CCLI license (#11313912) and streaming license (#20849338). All rights reserved, unless otherwise indicated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you'd like to learn more about Bethel or want to join this church family, talk to Pastor Zach.

Rogation Sunday is scheduled for next Sunday, May 17th. You're invited to bring flowers and wear work clothes. After worship, we'll do some mulching, weeding, and planting. There are indoor jobs, too!

Kids Club continues to meet on Wednesdays from 2-3PM. If you're available to hang out on Wednesday afternoons, sign-up in the back.

Vacation Bible School is 27-30. We need your help! If you're interested in helping, let Pastor Zach know. Keep an eye out for a meeting in the next month.

Last Day of School Snacks will be on Friday, June 12 from 12PM-2:30PM. Plan on joining us. Sign-up sheet will be up soon!

We plan to participate in Elkton Alliance's "Jump into June" on Friday, June 5th from 5PM-8PM. We need volunteers to share about our church, pass out information, help with our activity, and have a smiling face for whoever walks by. Interested? Talk to Pastor Zach or Amy Weaver.

Our next Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Ups will be: June 13, August 15, October 10 We'll gather and head out in crews at 8:45AM to our portion of 272 and be done around 10:15AM.

### OUR STEWARDSHIP

April 26	Worship—44	Offering—\$3,435
April 3	Worship—121	Offering—\$1,385

Please fill the wood food basket in the back for the St. Mary Anne's food pantry. Specific needs: **shelf-stable milk, add-water-only pancake mix, canned meat (tuna, chicken, Vienna sausages), peanut butter & jelly, and cereal**

\*Make sure to check those expiration dates.



If you would like to give online, you can use the QR code, which will redirect you to our giving platform.

*Thank you for you for your faithfulness and generosity.*

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mike Beiter	Linda Stoflet	Cathy Heaps	Rayanne Lavery
Steve Bird	Terry Fuss	Stacy Igo	Lori Scott
Pastor Zach			

If you have a question, concern, or a new idea, make sure to tell someone!

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

*Blue print indicates a church event.*

*Regular print indicates an outside community event.*

## Sunday, May 10th—Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 10:00am Youth Sunday School
- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service

## Monday, May 4th

- 7:00pm Sisters of Serenity NA Group

## Tuesday, May 5th

- 6:30pm North East AA Group

## Wednesday, May 6th

- 1:30pm Bethel Kids Club
- 7:00pm AA Meeting
- 7:00pm Al-Anon Meeting

## Thursday, May 7th

- 9:00am Men's Bible Study
- 12:00pm Children's Sermon (via Facebook, YouTube, and Beacon)
- 2:00pm Choir Rehearsal
- 4:00pm Nicanor Feeding Ministry
- 6:30pm Women's AA Group

## Friday, May 8th

- 8:00pm AA Meeting

## Saturday, May 9th

- 5:00pm Pastor Tom Bible Study

## Sunday, May 17th—Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 10:00am Youth Sunday School
- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service
- 11:45am Rogation Sunday Spring Cleaning