



I am with you always

MATTHEW 28:20

Bethel Lutheran Church

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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.***

Holy Trinity Sunday

May 31, 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 (*).*

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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~

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” As a called and 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. Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty (ELW 413)*

*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 Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: *Genesis 1:1—2:4 (page 1)*

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

RESPONSORIAL READING: *Psalm 8*

Glo - ry and praise for ev - er - more.

Refrain: Glory and praise for evermore.

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever; and blessed is your holy and glorious name, praiseworthy and exalted above all for all ages.

Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory, praiseworthy and glorious above all forever.

Refrain: Glory and praise for evermore.

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.

Blessed are you who look into the depths from your throne above the cherubim, praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.

Refrain: Glory and praise for evermore.

SECOND LESSON: *2 Corinthians 13:11-13 (page 143)*

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



*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading*
(ELW 401) - verse 2

*GOSPEL LESSON: *Matthew 28:16-20 (page 26)*

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: *Rise, Shine, You People!* (ELW 665)

*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.**

PRAVERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of grace, **hear 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.*



***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**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you his peace.

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN:** *Come, Join the Dance of Trinity (ELW 412)*

***SENDING**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**



FLOWERS

The flowers are dedicated to the glory of God, by Juliana and Mark Mortenson in honor and memory of loved ones.

SERVER SCHEDULE

	Greeter	Reader	Usher	Acolyte
5/31	Ruth Ferretti	Paul Markkula	Mark Andrichyn	Nathan Pelino
6/7	Glenda Berczik	Steve Bird	Bill Matthews	Alex Pelino

If you would like to help serve on a Sunday morning, let Pastor Zach know (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.

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

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. Interested? Talk to Pastor Zach or Amy Weaver.

Vacation Bible School is July 27-30. We need your help! If you're interested in helping, let Pastor Zach know. There is a sign-up sheet in the back and we will have a volunteer meeting on Sunday, June 14th.

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. Sign-up to help today

We've had a great Spring Kids Club. Our last Kids Club will be Wednesday, June 10th.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

May 17	Worship—41	Offering—\$3,127
May 24	Worship—55	Offering—\$1,975

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 31st—Holy Trinity Sunday

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

Monday, June 1st

- 7:00pm Sisters of Serenity NA Group

Tuesday, June 2nd

- 6:30pm North East AA Group

Wednesday, June 3rd

- 7:30am Museum of the Bible (meet at St. Philip's, 5320 Limestone Road, Wilmington)
- 7:00pm AA Meeting
- 7:00pm Al-Anon Meeting

Thursday, June 4th

- 8:30am Men's Bible Study (meet at JoJo's in Elkton)
- 12:00pm Children's Sermon (via Facebook, YouTube, and Beacon)
- 4:00pm Nicanor Feeding Ministry
- 6:30pm Women's AA Group

Friday, June 5th

- 8:00pm AA Meeting

Saturday, June 6th

- 5:00pm Pastor Tom Bible Study

Sunday, June 7th—Second Sunday after Pentecost

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