

1st Peter Sermon Series for the Easter Season



Easter's Elect Exiles

**“What does it really mean
to be reviled for your faith?”**

**4th Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020**

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

(UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Livestream

Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Zoom

Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,
Mandi Diver – Choir/New Music Accompanist, David Ziegler - Handbell Director

CATECHISM SERVICE

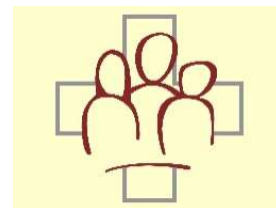
Today's service uses words from Martin Luther's Small Catechism as it teaches us about the basic elements of the Christian faith.

Encouragement in the Time of a Pandemic

All: We will get through this.

We will get through this together.

We will get through this by the grace and mercy of God.



Opening Hymn

Refrain

Lift High the Cross

LSB 837 sts. ref-1, 4-6



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a-dore His sa-cred name.



1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Cap-tain trod,
4 O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree,
5 Let ev-'ry race and ev-'ry lan-guage tell
6 So shall our song of tri-umph ev-er be:

Refrain



Our king vic-to-rious, Christ, the Son of God.
As Thou hast prom-ised, draw us all to Thee.
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.
Praise to the Cru-ci-fied for vic-to-ry!

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: These words remind us of our baptism. What is Baptism?

C: **Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.**

P: What benefits does Baptism give?

C: **It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.**

P: What does God's Word in Romans 6 teach us about Baptism?

C: **"We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."**

Baptism Verse

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy

LSB 590 st. 1



I Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

Confession and Absolution (Forgiveness)

P: What is Confession and Absolution?

C: **Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.**

P: Confess and admit your sins to God the Father.

C: ***I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. My Lord's name I have not honored as I should; my worship and prayers have faltered. I have not let his love have its way with me, and so my love for others has failed. There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I failed to help. My thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin. I pray You, Almighty God, merciful Father, for the sake of the innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.***

P: Do you believe that word of Christ's forgiveness I speak to you is from the Lord Himself?

C: ***I do.***

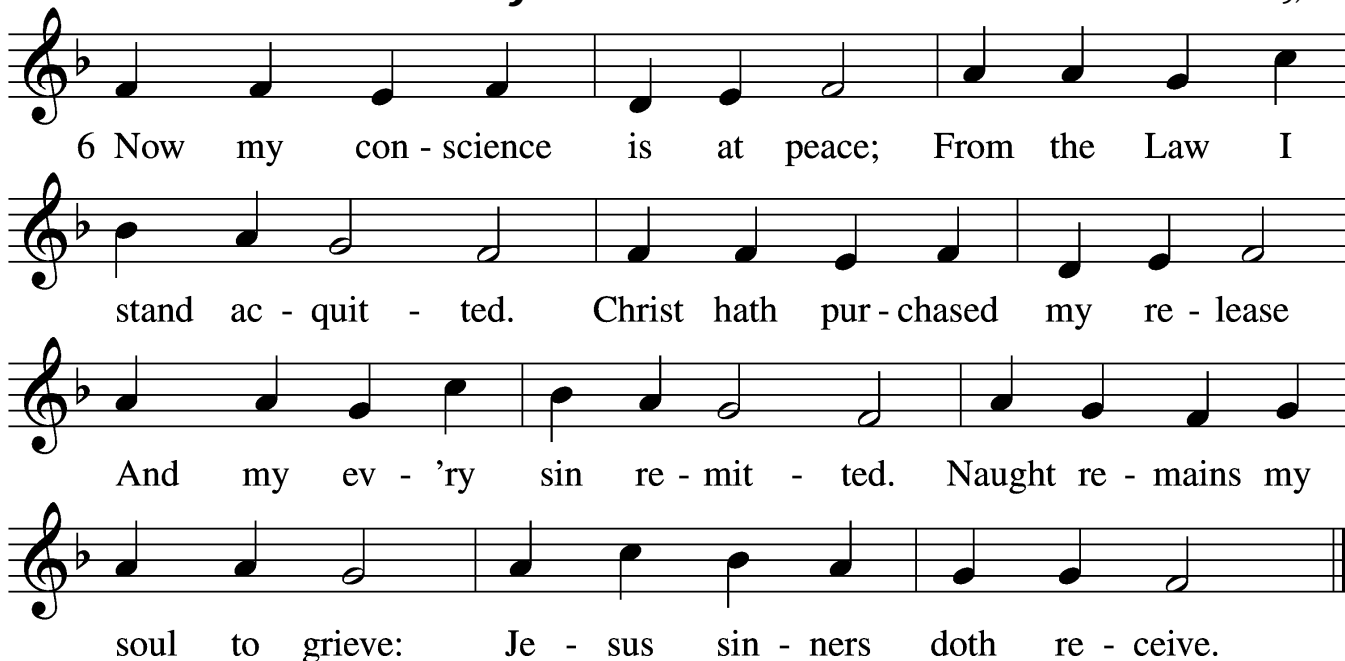
P: Receive the forgiveness Christ won for you by His Passion, death, and resurrection. By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ***Amen.***

Absolution Verse

Jesus Sinners Will Receive

LSB 609, stanza 6



6 Now my con - science is at peace; From the Law I
stand ac - quit - ted. Christ hath pur - chased my re - lease
And my ev - 'ry sin re - mit - ted. Naught re - mains my
soul to grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

Greeting, Collect (Prayer of the Day), and Luther's Morning Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us pray together.

C: **I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

Anthem

I Will Give Joyful Thanks

Adult Choir

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

I will give my thanks to the Father. I will give my thanks to the Son.

I will give my thanks to the Spirit. I will give thanks!

I will give thanks! I will give thanks!

Make a joyful noise to the Father. Make a joyful noise to the Son.

Make a joyful noise to the Spirit. Sing to the Lord!

Sing to the Lord! Sing to the Lord!

God's great mercy and love surround us. God's truth abound forever more.

God's name is exalted above the earth. Lift high the glory of the Lord.

Lift high the glory of the Lord, of the Lord. Sing to the Lord rejoice, alleluia.

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song. Sing to the Lord, Hosanna, Hosanna.

Come and give thanks to the Lord! Come and give thanks to the Lord, our God!

*Come before God's presence with singing. Come into His courts with a song.
Come into His gates with thanksgiving. Come and give thanks!
Come and give thanks! Come and give thanks!*

*I will give my thanks to the Father. I will give my thanks to the Son.
I will give my thanks to the Spirit. I will give thanks!
I will give thanks! I will give thanks! I will give thanks!
I will give thanks to the Lord! I will give thanks!*

Reading from the Early Church

Acts 2:42–47 (ESV)

⁴²The [believers] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

1 Peter 2:19–25 (ESV)

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song of Praise

All the Way My Savior Leads Me



1. All the way _ my Sav-ior leads _ me;
2. All the way _ my Sav-ior leads _ me;

Who have I _ to ask _ be-side?
O, the ful - ness of _ His love!



—
—

How could I doubt _ His ten - der mer - cy,
O, the sure - ness of His prom - ise



Who through life has been my _____ guide?
in the tri-umph of His _____ blood.

All the way _ my Sav - ior
When my spir - it, clothed, im -



leads _ me,
-mor - tal,

and cheers each wind - ing path I _____ tread,
wings its flight _ to realms of _____ day,



and gives me grace _ for ev - 'ry tri - al,
this my song _ through end-less a - ges:

feeds me with _ the liv - ing _____
"Je - sus led _ me all the _____



— Bread.
— way.

You _ = lead _____ me, and

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keep me _ from fall - ing. You _____ car - ry _____ me



close to _ Your heart, _ and _____ sure - ly _____ Your good-ness _ and mer - cy _ will _



—> After 2nd verse, continue to last line —>

— fol - low _____ me.



All the way _____ my Sav - ior leads _____ me.

Holy Gospel

John 10:1–10 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children’s Message

Acknowledgments

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires. © 2019.

This order of worship uses words taken from *Martin Luther’s Small Catechism*, 1986 edition, LCMS.

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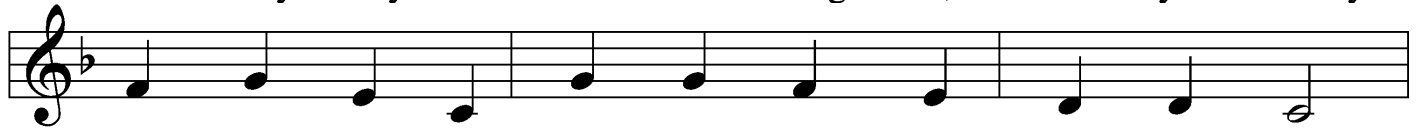
Hymn of the Day

All Depends on Our Possessing

LSB 732 sts. 1-2, 4, 6



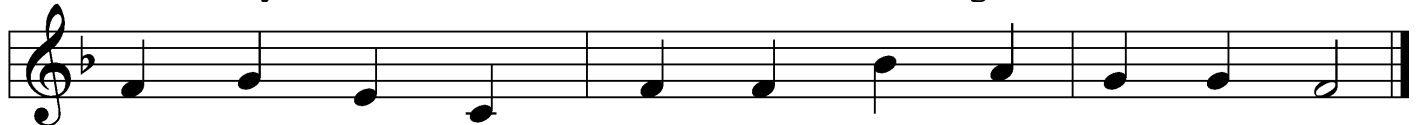
1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
2 He who to this day has fed me And to man - y
4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, Hope a - new my
6 If my days on earth He length - en, God my wea - ry



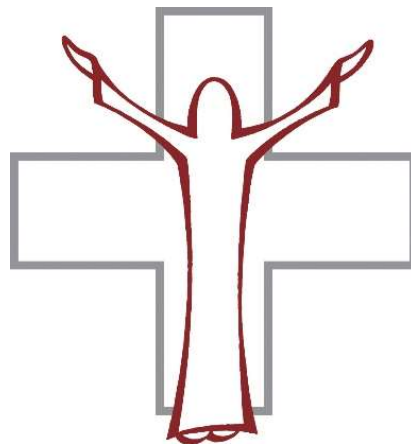
grace and bless - ing, Though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me Is and ev - er shall be mine.
heart will quick - en; All my long - ing shall be stilled.
soul will strength - en; All my trust in Him I place.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en By their God are
He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, He who dai - ly
To His lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der Soul and bod - y
Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing, Like a stream a -



not for - sak - en And will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me Will re - main my help di - vine.
I sur - ren - der, For on God a - lone I build.
way is glid - ing; Safe I an - chor in His grace.



“What does it really mean to be reviled for your faith?”



Confession of Faith 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed and Luther's explanation

P: Confess with your mouth what you believe in your heart: Romans 10:9
that Jesus is Lord and that God raised him from the dead

C: ***I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.***

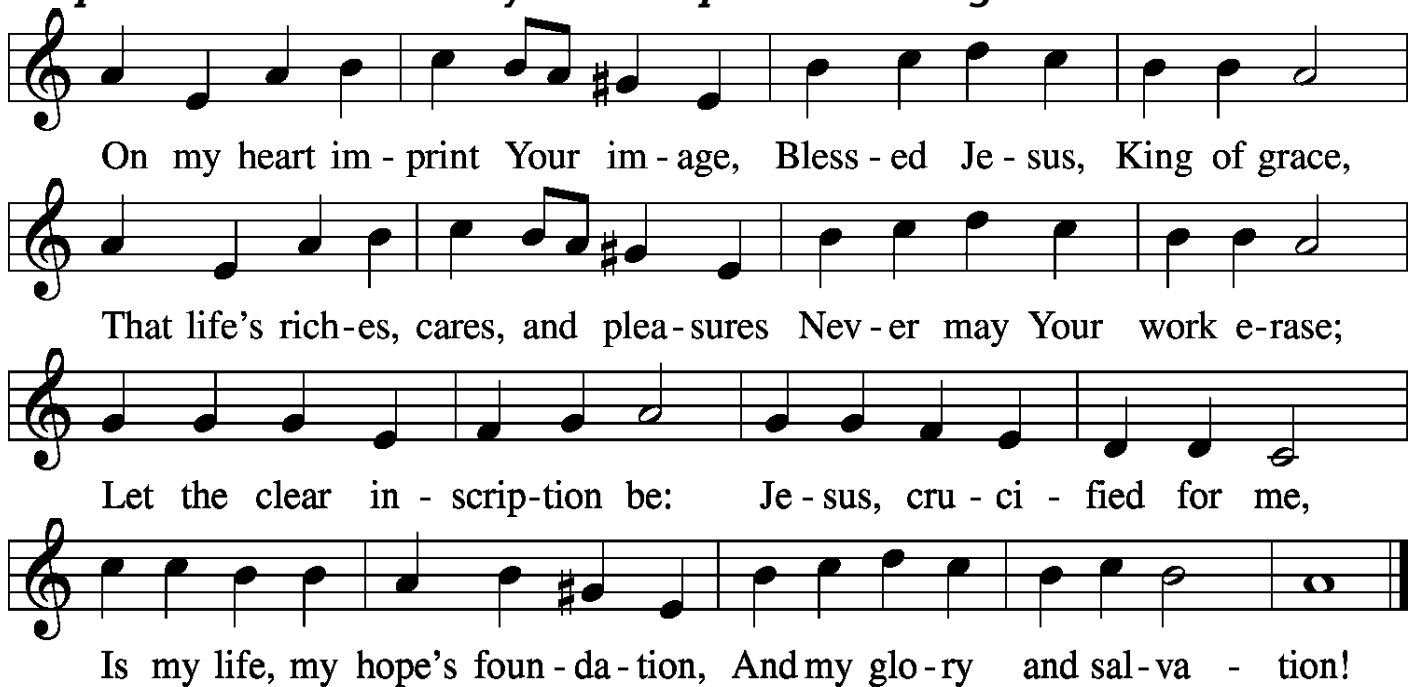
P: What does this mean?

C: ***I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.***

Response

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

LSB 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,
That life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures Nev - er may Your work e - rase;
Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,
Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Prayers

P: The Lord invites us to pray saying:

C: **Our Father who art in heaven.**

P: What does this mean?

C: **With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.**

P: Therefore, we bring our prayers to You this day, Father. . .

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Closing Words Based on Luther's Small Catechism

P: We have prayed as the Lord has taught us.

We have said, "But deliver us from evil." What does this mean?

C: We pray that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us to be with Him for eternity.

P: The Church concludes the prayer saying, "For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen." What does this mean?

C: This means that I should be certain that these requests are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn Children of the Heavenly Father

LSB 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Announcements