

*New Life Lutheran Church  
Little Bethany Lutheran Church  
May 1, 2022  
3rd Sunday of Easter/ Seeds of Hope Sunday*



Little Bethany & New Life Lutheran Churches  
Pastor Randy Whitehead

*"Disciples of Jesus Growing Disciples of Jesus"*

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*Deadlines: Sunday announcements - Tuesday A.M., Newsletter - 15th of month*

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Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 10:00 am - 2:30 pm.

**Little Bethany & New Life Lutheran Churches  
May 1, 2022**

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Pastor: Randy Whitehead  
Readers: Jessica Nelson  
Organist: Joyce Peterson

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**P:** This is the day that the Lord has made.

**C:** Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**OPENING PRAYER** (In Unison)

**Almighty God, on this Seeds of Hope Sunday we ask you to grant your blessing upon the seeds, the soil, the water, those who labor in the fields, and for all of creation. Lord, to continue to bless the seeds of cooperation and commitment, faith and hope in our community. Bless us, and your whole church, as we strive to serve you. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**

*This Is My Father's World*

LBW #554

**BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P:** God, our Creator, you have ordered seedtime, sunshine, rain, and harvest. You have created the seed, the soil, and the water so there may be food for all people. Too often, Lord, we have failed to honor and care for these gifts.

**C:** **Almighty God, you have created all that we humans need to sustain our earthly lives. We confess that we have too often neglected to care for your creation. We have carelessly used the soil, air, and water. We have forgotten how to love, and we have forsaken the needs of future generations. Our concern too often is for our immediate satisfaction, and our greed threatens others, both present and future. Forgive us, and set us on a new pathway—one more pleasing to you. We pray all of this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**P:** Through Jesus Christ, God knows us and accepts us as we are. God hears our prayers and forgives us all our sins. Rise up renewed and refreshed on the pathway of life.

### First Reading: Acts 9:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup>He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

### Psalm: Psalm 30

<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up  
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD my God, I cried out to you,  
and you restored me to health.**

<sup>3</sup>You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful;  
give thanks in holy remembrance.**

<sup>5</sup>God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.  
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

<sup>6</sup>**While I felt secure, I said,  
"I shall never be disturbed.**

<sup>7</sup>You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."  
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

<sup>8</sup>**I cried to you, O LORD;  
I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

<sup>9</sup>"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?  
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"

<sup>10</sup>**Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me;  
O LORD, be my helper."**

<sup>11</sup>You have turned my wailing into dancing;  
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

<sup>12</sup>**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;  
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

## **Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14**

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup>singing with full voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

<sup>13</sup>Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

<sup>14</sup>And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

## **Gospel: John 21:1-19**

<sup>1</sup>After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup>A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” <sup>19</sup>(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

## CHILDRENS SERMON

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

LBW #143

**OFFERING** (Offering will be received during the hymn of the day)  
You can use the QR code to give online



### OFFERTORY PRAYER (In Unison)

For the hospitality of your good earth,  
for the people you have given us to love,  
for the task you called us to do,  
we give thanks, gracious God.  
Receive our offerings as a testimony of our faith and  
gratitude. Amen

## THE BLESSING OF THE SEEDS, THE SOIL, AND THE WATER

### Blessing of the Seeds

**P:** Almighty God, Creator and Sustainer of heaven and earth, you give seed to the sower and bread for food,

**C:** Nourish, protect, and bless the seed which we sow in hope, so that by your good providence and bountiful giving it may bring forth fruit in due season and be gathered with heart-felt thanksgiving to satisfy the needs of all your creation.

### Blessing of the Soil

**P:** O Loving Lord, Eternal Giver of Life, We give thanks that we again behold on every side the awakening of nature in answer to your call to arise from winter's sleep;

**C:** As you cheer our spirits with freshening grass, budding trees, and unfolding plants, grant us ever-grateful hearts, able to praise you for the promise of your provision. Bless the soil from which so many blessings spring, and give us courage to cling always to your unchanging love for us and all people.

## **Blessing of the Water**

**P:** Gracious God, Fountain of Living Water

**C:** **Water gives sustenance and nourishment to the soil and the seed. Gift the soil, the seed, and the sower with gentle rain. Let it come at the right time, in the proper amounts so that the seed may flourish and grow. Bless this water, and send us favorable weather so that the harvest will be bountiful.**

**P:** Let us pray:

**C:** **God, our Creator, you have ordered seedtime, sunshine, rain, and harvest. You have created the seed, soil and water so there may be food for all your people. May we honor and care for these elements that sustain our earthly life. As the food nourishes our body may we be filled with praise and thanksgiving for our Creator. Amen**

## **THE PRAYERS**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)**

**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.**

### **THE DISTRIBUTION**

**SENDING HYMN**

***Now the Green Blade Rises***

**LBW #148**

## **BENEDICTION**

P: The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,

**C: And you give them their food in due season.**

P: You open wide your hand,

**C: And satisfy the needs of all your children.**

P: The Lord God bless you and keep you as you go out into his world. His face shine on you and shower you with his grace. The Lord give you breath and life, full and abundant, now and forever.

## **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE PARISH**

### **May 1st - Seeds of Hope Sunday**

9:00 am Coffee Hour

9:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Joint Worship with Little Bethany at New Life

11:00 am Potluck

### **May 4th - 6:00 pm Confirmation Orientation**

6:30 pm WOW

### **May 7th - 10:00 am WELCA kits & quilts**

2:00 pm Grades 6-8 Hamar & Our Saviors Cemetery Clean-up

4:00 pm Grades 9-12 Friborg Cemetery Clean-up

### **May 8th - Mother's Day**

8:45 am Worship at Little Bethany

9:00 am Coffee Hour

9:00 am Sunday School - Last Day!

10:00 am Worship at New Life - Sunday School Sings



**Open house bridal shower for Morgan Lider, bride-to-be of Ben Brenden**

Saturday, May 14 from 3–5pm

New Life Lutheran Church

Ben and Morgan are registered at Macy's and Target.

Thanks to everyone who bought one or more raffle tickets for the beautiful quilt. Special thanks to Barb Watterud and Janice Rudh for designing and sewing it. WELCA made \$318.00, Awesome! The money will be used to buy more quilt and kit supplies when needed. Congratulations to the luck winner of the quilt, Merlin Watterud! Special thanks also to Pastor Randy for making the raffle tickets! Great job! The next date for WELCA to meet to work on quilting and kits is Saturday, May 7th at 10:00 am please bring your own lunch.

Things we need for WELCA kits:

10-15 sewn bags

Bath towels 27 x 52 (about) dk color, new or used

Bar soap of any kind, need to bars each for 2 different kits

Thanks!

- Quilts and Mission Committee

Janice Rudh invites all of the ladies that want to hand-stitch a quilt to her house starting Monday, May 2nd at 9:00 am, or whenever you can arrive, weather permitting. Any Questions call Janice.

**Confirmation Orientation**

May 4th 6:00 pm

We will have a brief introduction for parents and students that will be entering 7th and 8th grade in the 2022 - 2023 school year.

Dinner and Worship on Wednesdays (WOW) will be held following orientation.

## Vacation Bible School

June 5th thru 9th

Time TBD

Be sure to sign up your student age 4 year old preschool - 5th grade for VBS so that we can have a head count for food and activities.

We are in need of parent and youth volunteers, if you are available, please sign-up!



## Youth Cemetery Clean-up

**Has been postponed to May 7th**

2:00 - 3:30 pm Grades 6-8 will clean-up Hamar and Our saviors cemeteries.

4:00 - 5:00 pm Grades 9-12 will clean-up Friborg cemetery.

This is a good opportunity for confirmation students to earn service hours. You could also bring your mentor and use it as a mentor meeting!

Memorial Day Program

Monday, May 30th at 10:00 am

at New Life Lutheran Church

Free will donation lunch, to following the outdoor Taps, in the fellowship hall.