



# Welcome to Worship!

Sunday, April 26, 2026 ~ 8:30 AM

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1620 Milwaukee Ave NE, Aberdeen, SD

(605) 225-9740 † [www.bethlehemaberdeem.org](http://www.bethlehemaberdeem.org) office@bethlehemaberdeem.org †

[www.facebook.com/BethlehemAberdeen](https://www.facebook.com/BethlehemAberdeen)

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

PRELUDE

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name* - Setting by Paul Manz

WELCOME & INVITATIONS

CENTERING TIME

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. 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. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

*The Peace of the Lord*



1 *La paz del Se - ñor, la paz del Se - ñor, la*  
 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the  
 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the  
 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the



*paz del Re - su - ci - ta - do: la paz del Se -*  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the



*ñor a ti ya mí, a to - dos al - can - za -*  
 Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's  
 Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -  
 Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to



*rá; la paz del Se - ñor a ti ya*  
 chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for  
 ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right  
 share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not



*mí, a to - dos al - can - za - rá,*  
 me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.  
 now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.  
 live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

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**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Glory to God*

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**You take away the sin of the world;**

**Have mercy on us;**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father:**

**Receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**You alone are the Lord,**

**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**In the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

**CHILDREN'S GOOD NEWS TIME**

SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION

*Christ, Our Peace*

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

The image shows a musical score for two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system ends with a double bar line. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

SCRIPTURE

Numbers 6:22-27

**Red:** page 109, **Brown:** pages 150-151; **Gray:** page 150

<sup>22</sup> The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>23</sup> “Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying: Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them:

<sup>24</sup> The Lord bless you and keep you;

<sup>25</sup> the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup> the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

<sup>27</sup> “So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.”

Psalm 4

**Red:** page 425, **Brown:** page 584; **Gray:** page 571

<sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah*

<sup>3</sup> But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself;  
the Lord hears when I call to him.

<sup>4</sup> When you are disturbed, do not sin;

ponder it on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*

<sup>5</sup> Offer right sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> There are many who say, “O that we might see some good!

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!”

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart  
more than when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> I will both lie down and sleep in peace,  
for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

*To You, before the Close of Day*

**To you, before the close of day,  
Creator of the world, we pray.  
Your grace and peace to us allow  
and be our guard and keeper now.**

**Save us from troubled, restless sleep,  
from all ill dreams your children keep;  
so calm our minds that fears may cease  
and rested bodies wake in peace.**

**A healthy life we ask of you,  
the fire of love in us renew,  
and when the dawn new light will bring,  
your praise and glory we shall sing.**

**Creator, this we ask be done  
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son,  
whom with the Spirit we adore,  
with you, one God forevermore.**

Text: Compline office hymn, c. 6th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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

(Use QR code to access prayer list.)



*Congregation Response:* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

#### THE 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.**

#### PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please take a moment to echo Jesus as you share a greeting of peace with your neighbors:*

**Peace be with you.**

#### OFFERING

#### OFFERING MUSIC

*O Light Whose Splendor Thrills* - Setting by Michael Burkhardt

#### OFFERTORY

*Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Abounding God, **you call us to be good stewards of our resources. Use what we have given today to be a blessing to others, so that all may experience your peace and grace. Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

### BENEDICTION

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.

In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

*Refrain*

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;  
blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;  
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -  
dark-ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

*Refrain*

Shine on me, shine on me;  
Shine on me, shine on me;

SENDING WORDS

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

*That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright* - Setting by David N. Johnson

*Today's Ministers*

Preaching.....Pastor Matt Spoden  
 Presiding ..... Pastor Jeff Whillock  
 Assisting Minister ..... Mandy Boe  
 Musicians ..... Darlyne Johnson & Pam Fauth  
 Visual Communications Tech..... Sue Helling  
 Livestream Tech..... Teri Johnson  
 Sound Techs..... Hugh Dahme (Peter Hemke) & Gabe Harmel

*The Sanctuary & Chapel have a Hearing Loop to assist those with hearing loss. Activate the T-coil feature on your hearing aid or use a Loop Listening device (available from the usher). If you have questions, we'll be happy to connect you with another Hearing Loop user.*

**Radio Broadcast** - Our Sunday 8:30 a.m. service is **broadcast** each Sunday morning at **10:45 on KGIM 1420 AM/98.5 FM.**

**The Globe Offering will go to The Groton Area Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) chapter.** Donations given to the Globe Offering will help support local high school students participating in a Global Medical Service trip to Belize. Through this opportunity, students will travel to underserved communities where they will help operate mobile health clinics alongside trained medical professionals. During the trip, students will assist with patient intake, basic health screenings, health education, and organizational support for the clinic. This hands-on experience allows them to grow their skills while serving individuals and families who may otherwise have limited access to healthcare. Students participating in this trip represent communities across Northeast South Dakota and are preparing to use this experience to better serve others both globally and locally when they return home. Your generosity helps provide medical supplies, travel expenses, and training needed to make this mission possible. Most importantly, your support allows students to be the hands and feet of Christ by serving others with compassion, care, and respect.

## Giving to Bethlehem

Scan the QR code for our simple, online giving portal. It's the easiest and most convenient way to consistently support the ministries of Bethlehem. As always, thank you for your generosity.



SCAN ME

Questions about your giving? Contact Jeannie,  
Director of Administration at [jhaaland@bethlehemaberdeen.org](mailto:jhaaland@bethlehemaberdeen.org).

## CONNECT with Bethlehem

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM

in the East Fellowship Hall

**CONNECT** is a time to explore membership in greater depth and is the first step to becoming a member. All are welcome! Please contact Doug Eisenbeisz at 225-9740 if you are interested in attending an orientation or have any questions.



## PRE-K FUNDRAISER!

**Monday, April 27 from 5-8pm!**

**Dine-In, Drive Thru, or Carry Out**

**10% of all sales will go to Bethlehem Pre-K!**



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
REGISTRATION OPEN!

**JUNE 1-5**

**8:45 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
REGISTER OR GO TO:  
[vbspro.events/p/blcvbs2026](https://vbspro.events/p/blcvbs2026)



## Registration is OPEN for 2026-2027 Pre-K School Year

We offer Pre-K only or Pre-K with Out of School  
Time (full time daycare) for children  
age 4 and 5 by September 1, 2026.



For more information  
or to register visit  
[www.bethlehemaberdeen.org/  
teach/pre-k](http://www.bethlehemaberdeen.org/teach/pre-k)

## WOMEN'S CHOIR

**Women's choir will sing on Sunday, May 10** for Mother's Day,  
please contact Mallory if interested.

Two brief rehearsals will be held on April 26th and May 3rd  
@ 11:00 AM in the Choir Room.

# First Communion Class

First Communion class will be held on **Wednesday, June 10 from 5:15 – 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.** Students will receive their First Communion during worship on Sunday, June 21 at 8:30 or 10:10 a.m. or Wednesday, June 24 at 6:15 p.m.

At Bethlehem, families are welcome to decide when their children will receive First Communion. Most children take the class in mid to upper elementary, though any age is welcome. An adult is required to be at the class with the student.

**Registration with the church office by June 4 is required.** Contact Cyndi Holtz, Director of Children's Ministries, at 225-9740 or [choltz@bethlehemaberdeen.org](mailto:choltz@bethlehemaberdeen.org) with any questions.