

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023

Pastor Dawn Busch

Serving the congregations of Medora, Belfield, Daglum

Musical Accompanists

Tami Elefson – Medora Jean Franklin – Belfield

A warm welcome to all visitors and friends.
We hope you are blessed by worshipping with us today.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Announcements

**Stand*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Gathering

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

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

Amen.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Have mercy, O God,

against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.

Hymn #315 – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in



bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Greeting

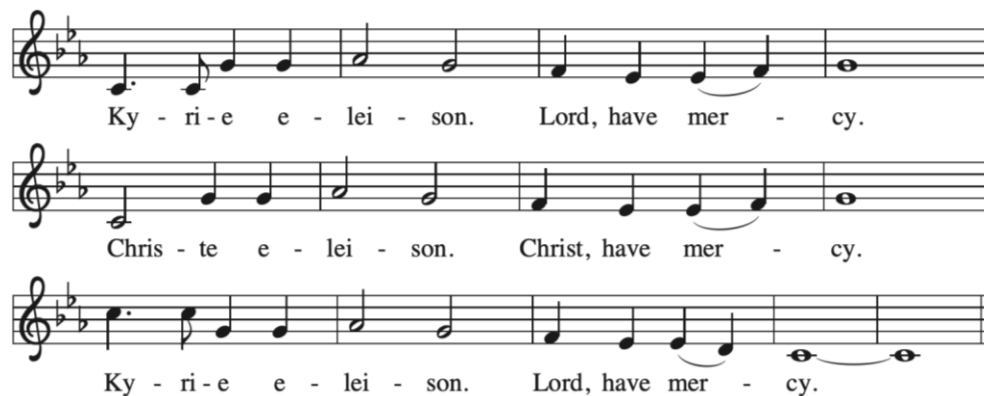
Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.
Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Song Of Praise



Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer Of The Day

Let us pray

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.

**Congregation is seated*

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship

as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ ²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 66:8-20

⁸Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

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

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

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

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

¹³**I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows –**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord.


Thanks be to God.

*Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation 

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Pastor Dawn 

Our hearts burn with-in us. As you open to us the scriptures

Repeat alleluia

Gospel: John 14:15-21

The holy gospel according to _____.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*Congregation is seated

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn #770 - Borning Cry WOV



1 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.
 2 “When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
 3 “In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 I’ll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I’ve be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
 If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell.”
I’ll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.”
I’ll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise.”



4 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.”

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
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**Stand*

Presentation for Holy Baptism

**Stand*

Mira is presented for Baptism

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

We renounce them

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

We renounce them

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

We renounce them

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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 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 to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

**Congregation is seated*

Thanksgiving at the Font

Baptism

Prayer/Laying on of Hands

Welcome

Sponsors: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and sharing God's sustaining and redeeming word to all the world.

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Prayer Response: God of New Life,
Hear our prayer.

Remembering those in our prayers: The Family of Tim O'Brien, The family and friends of Sergeant Jason Wallace, Bud Griffin, Larry Hanson, Lisa Solberg, Cory Tuhy, Halle Blain, Kathy Malkowski, Bryce Wigert, Glenda Buckman, Rosemary Walter, Kwirt Johnson, Dale Oyhus, Mary Knotts, Pastor Beth Parks, Bernadette Obrigewitch, Maurice Obrigewitch, Craig McLaughlin, Lanie Nichols, JoAnne Suomala, Norma Newton, Margaret Braun, Johnny Syminow, Mark Hinrichs, Becky Yadon, Lincoln Lee Johnson, Carmen Ruud, Carol Johnson, Monica Hushka, Mark Trechock, Janeen Nichols, Marilyn Oyhus, Mindy O'Brien, Chandler Nichols, Bennette Mansfield, those who have lost their jobs, those seeking Sobriety, those struggling with infertility, all troops and their families & those working for peace in our world.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you

**Congregation is seated*

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

One of the ways we worship God is through the giving of our offerings. We worship when we give our hearts back to God through singing, through prayer, and through our offerings. We receive back from God the gifts of forgiveness and grace. Through financial giving we praise God for the blessings of having the resources to offer back to God that which has been given to us. Please take a moment to prayerfully consider how God is encouraging you to share your gifts. If you have not already left your offerings as you came in, please do so as you depart. Or, you may give online at belfieldlutheran.org or medoralutheranchurch.org and click on the support tab. We give thanks for the gifts you offer and pray for God's abundant blessings in return.

Offering Song - Let the Vineyards be Fruitful Lord

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

**Stand*

Great Thanksgiving

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:
The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

..... Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:

The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

Amen, and amen.

Amen, and amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Congregation is seated*

Communion Song - Be known to us, Lord Jesus



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Communion Distribution

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward and hold out your hands in the form of a cross or a cradle to receive the body of Christ. Choose a cup of red wine or white grape juice. If you are only able to receive one of the two elements, please know that you receive the fullness of Christ in one element. You may choose to receive a simple blessing if you prefer. Please notify an usher or the pastor if you have difficulty coming forward and communion will be brought to you.

Special Music - "Clean"

*Stand

Song After Communion



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayer after Communion

Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Graduate Blessing

Sending

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

Blessing

Choir - "The Blessing"

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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From the Western ND Synod Addiction and Mental Health Task Force: May is Mental Health Month

John 14:15-21

Jesus promises to never leave us orphaned, but will send the Holy Spirit. Mental Health challenges are lonely, and even though we may not feel it, God Promises to be with us.

In the darkest moments our own mental health can be shaken. But, if in those moments we can strengthen our faith, friendships, and sense of community it may be easier to hold onto the idea that God hugs us in the most challenging moments by giving us “our people” to hold us strong & help us build resilience to strengthen our emotional health.

**We rejoice as Mira Morgan Ross is baptized today. Mira was born in Dickinson, ND, on December 9, 2015 to Anna Ross. Mira's baptismal sponsors are Carmen Waldo, Bailee Ross, and Irelynn Ross. Welcome to the Belfield church family!

** Today we recognize and celebrate the 2023 High School Graduates in our Parish. Keep them in prayer as they prepare for their graduation ceremony next week and as they move forward into the next chapter of their lives. Our 2023 graduates are:

McKenzie Bartell Riley Hugelen Tate Janda Haiden Morin

** Thank you to those that have given, we have raised \$550 toward this project.

The parsonage is in need of new windows on the main floor. The current windows are original to the house and frost up in the winter. 10 windows are needed at an average cost of \$2000 per window for a total of \$20,000 for all of them. If you would like to donate to this project, please do one of the following: Online donations can be given at: medoralutheranchurch.org or belfieldlutheran.org then click “Support” for either website. If you prefer to give by check, please put “Parsonage Fund” in the memo.

Today

8:30 am – Medora Lutheran Worship

9:00 am – Choir Practice

10:00 am – Belfield Lutheran Worship

6:00 pm – Bible Study at Dwelle’s home – please RSVP

Monday, May 15

6:30 pm – Belfield Council Meeting at Belfield Lutheran Church

Tuesday, May 16

3:30 pm – Pastor’s Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran Church

8:00 pm – AA Meeting at Belfield Lutheran Church

Wednesday, May 17

5:30 pm – Youth Group @ Belfield Lutheran Church

Thursday, May 18

7:00 pm – Bible Study at Belfield Lutheran Church

Friday, May 19

8:00 pm – AA Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church

Saturday, May 20

4:00 pm – Graduation at Belfield High School

Sunday, May 21

8:30 am – Medora Lutheran Worship

10:00 am – Belfield Lutheran Worship

11:45 am – Daglum Lutheran Worship

12:30 pm – Graduation at South Heart High School

2:00 pm – Graduation at Beach High School

6:00 pm – Bible Study at Dwelle’s home – please RSVP

Belfield, Daglum & Medora Lutheran Churches

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