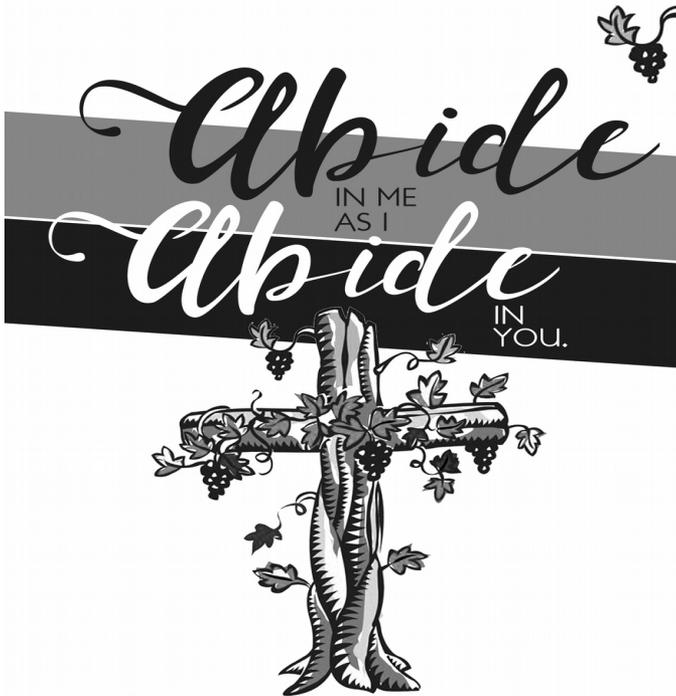


CHRIST
IS OUR
stone
Corner  **Bethel**
Lutheran Church



John 15:4, NKJV

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church

22 Brook Street, Morris, MN 56267

Pastor Rob Sauers (320-392-5524) (cell: 320-589-5458)

rfsauers@gmail.com

www.morrislutheran.org

Sunday Worship: 10:00am - Bible Class 11:15am



A member congregation of the *Church of the Lutheran Confession*

✠ Fifth Sunday of Easter ✠

April 29, 2018

Pre-Service Meditation – Psalm 150

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! ² Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! ³ Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! ⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! ⁵ Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! ⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

Hymn #296 – Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth

Invocation – p. 5

[We invoke (call upon) the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit]

Confession & Absolution – pp. 5-6

[We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness]

Introit – Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

[Having received the Lord's forgiveness, we are glad to enter into His courts with praise and thanksgiving. This entrance is made in the Introit with the Lord's own Word, often from the Psalms.]

- P** A little while, and you will see me no longer;
C and again a little while, and you will see me.
P I will extol you, my God and King,
C and bless your name forever and ever.
P Every day I will bless you
C and praise your name forever and ever.
P The Lord is gracious and merciful,
C slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
P All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
C and all your saints shall bless you!
P My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,
C and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.
P A little while, and you will see me no longer;
C and again a little while, and you will see me.

Gloria Patri – p. 6

[Latin for "Glory to the Father" ~ We glorify the Triune God]

The Kyrie – p. 7

[Greek for “O Lord” ~ We approach our Lord with a cry for help and mercy]

Gloria in Excelsis (Hymn #237 v. 1)

[Latin for “Glory in the Highest” ~ A hymn glorifying and praising our God]

All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again;
Oh, thank Him for His goodness!

The Collect for the Day – p. 9

[The main thoughts for the day are “collected” together in this prayer]

First Reading – Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." ³⁴ And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Gradual – Mt 28:7; He 2:7; Ps 8:6; Ro 6:9; Jn 14:23

[A liturgical response of Scripture verses.]

- P** Christ has risen from the dead.
C [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor,
P He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;
C he has put all things under his feet.
P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
C death no longer has dominion over him.
P Alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him,
C and we will come to him and make our home with him.
Alleluia.

Triple Hallelujah – p. 10

[Hebrew for "Praise the Lord" - We Praise God for giving us His Word.]

Epistle Reading – 1 John 4:1-11

¹ Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴ Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵ They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. ⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Confession of Faith – Apostle's Creed – p. 12

[We boldly confess what we believe]

Hymn #342 – Chief of Sinners Though I Be

Sermon Text – John 15:1-8

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Sermon – Remain in Jesus

- I. So that we may find strength for faith
- II. So that we will produce the fruits of faith.

Offertory – p. 12

[In this prayer we offer God our hearts, asking Him for the best of all gifts: the Holy Spirit]

Offering of Thankful Hearts

[With thankful hearts, we offer our gifts to God]

General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

[We offer our petitions and thanks to God]

Hymn #411 – From Eternity, O God

Prayer for the Church – p. 14

[We ask God to bless what we have heard and learned today]

The Benediction – p. 14

[We receive God's blessing for another week]

Hymn #544 (4-6) – While Yet the Morn is Breaking

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✠ Announcements ✠

Sunday Bible Class – In our Sunday Bible Class hour, we will continue our study of Luther's Large Catechism. We are studying the Lord's Supper.

Midweek Bible Class – Our Midweek Bible Class continues this Wednesday at 7:00 pm. We have just begun a new topic - “Heaven and Hell.” Come join us at the parsonage or online on our youtube site: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BethelLutheranCLC/live>.

Candidates for Immanuel Professor Call - The Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary invites "all pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the Church of the Lutheran Confession" (CLC Constitution) to nominate an individual or individuals to fill the vacancy which will be created by the retirement of Professor Paul Schaller at the end of the 2018-19 academic year. The position would require the ability to teach in a variety of areas, which may include courses in English (high school and college) and history (high school, college, and potentially seminary). With the duties including teaching God's Word to adult males, the person is to be a male (1 Tim. 2:12). To fill a current need on campus, this individual would need to be able to provide spiritual counsel and encouragement to students in the Word of God, understanding and addressing the particular challenges that students often face today, preferably someone who is pastorally experienced. This person may potentially serve as the Dean of Students, one who counsels and disciplines students on campus. The position would, God-willing, commence with the 2019-20 academic year. Those submitting nominations are strongly encouraged to verify that the individual would be willing to be nominated and would need to include information regarding their nominee's educational background and teaching and/or professional experience, also indicating how the person might help our school in supervising extracurricular activities or serving in administrative positions. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight July 15, 2018 (letters postmarked July 1, 2018) to: Dr. Daniel Schierenbeck; 23 SE 240th Rd.; Warrensburg, MO 64093; email: danschierenbeck@gmail.com.

CLC Call News - Faith Lutheran, Markesan WI, has called Principal Ted Quade, Messiah Lutheran, Hales Corners WI, to be principal/teacher.

<u>Fruits of Faith: 4/22/18</u>	
Worship Attendance:	32
Bethel General:	\$1078.00
Parking Lot:	\$500.00
ILC SAF:	\$20.00
CLC CEF:	\$40.00

