

# BURR OAK – HESPER LUTHERAN PARISH

*Pastor David Werges*  
*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

May 14, 2023

8:30am Burr Oak / 10am Hesper

Office Phone: 563-735-5925 Website: [www.bohlutheran.org](http://www.bohlutheran.org) Email: [info@bohlutheran.org](mailto:info@bohlutheran.org)

Pastor Phone: 641-220-0205 Pr. Email: [pastor@bohlutheran.org](mailto:pastor@bohlutheran.org)

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

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

*~ Silence is kept for reflection ~*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN

*"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

ELW 631

### GREETING

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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: 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.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Amen.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE***“Glory to God”*

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P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

**C: 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, A-men.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**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.**

**LISTEN****FIRST LESSON****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.”

R: This is the word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 66:8-20**

8Bless our God, you peoples;

**let the sound of praise be heard.**

9Our 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.**

11You 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.**

13I 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.**

15I 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.**

17I 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;**

19but 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 unailing love from me.**

## **SECOND LESSON**

## **1 Peter 3:13-22**

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but 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; <sup>16</sup>yet 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. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For 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, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who 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. <sup>21</sup>And 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,

<sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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*“Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?”  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL**

**John 14:15-21**

L: The holy gospel according to **John**, the 14th chapter.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This 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.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: **Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**      **“The ‘Just-In-Case’ God”**

**RESPOND**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Now Thank We All Our God”*

ELW 840

**NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

All the earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of renewal and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick in mind, body, or spirit. Bring comfort to those that are grieving. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures. Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers, anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child. Support all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints. Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY**

***“Create in Me a Clean Heart”***

**# 186**

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

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

## 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.

## SENDING

### BLESSING

P: The God of all, who raised ☩ Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

C: Amen.

### SENDING SONG

*"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"*

ELW 763

### DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. To Love and Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### POSTLUDE

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Welcome to all who are worshiping with us this morning. We are happy you are here! May God bless our time of worship and Fellowship together!

### BE JESUSY GRATITUDE PRACTICE FOR MAY

*In gratitude to God for the gift of animals, when purchasing food for your own pet, pick up an extra bag of cat food or dog food and donate it to a local animal shelter, or check out their needs list for most wanted items. Consider volunteering your time by walking or fostering an animal.*

### TAKE HOME VERSE

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

*(Psalm 66:16)*

## BACCALAUREATE

Graduates will be recognized at Baccalaureate worship services in Burr Oak & Hesper on Sunday, May 21, 2023. If you have a high school or college graduate in your family, please let us know at your earliest convenience by completing and returning the Information form printed in the April Newsletter. Forms may be mailed or emailed to the Parish Office (3794 – 188<sup>th</sup> Ave. Decorah, IA), Email: [secretary@boh Lutheran.org](mailto:secretary@boh Lutheran.org).

**Families are also invited to attend the Area Council of Churches Community Baccalaureate service on Sunday, May 21 at 4:30PM at Mabel First Lutheran.**

## RAISING OUR SPIRITS TOGETHER

Free 5-week Program ~ Wednesdays from April 26 through May 24

**Lansing Class: 12:00 – 1:30 pm    Waukon Class: 5:30 – 7:00 pm**

You are invited to join this program offered by Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Lansing. Raising our Spirits Together is a program that teaches participants how to utilize cognitive behavioral therapy to feel better. In small groups we will pray for each other and support each other's wellness. Visit [LansingLutherans.org](http://LansingLutherans.org) to enroll.



**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

New members will be formally welcomed into our Parish family on Pentecost Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in becoming a member of Burr Oak or Hesper Lutheran, know of someone new in the area or who may be interested please contact Pr. Dave – Phone: 641-220-0205, Email: [pastor@boh Lutheran.org](mailto:pastor@boh Lutheran.org) or Nan in the Parish Office at 563-735-5925, or Email: [secretary@boh Lutheran.org](mailto:secretary@boh Lutheran.org).

## BURR OAK BAZAAR PROJECT

The Bazaar Committee placed three sets of three white kitchen towels in the back of the church. They are available for anyone who would like to hand-embroider them for the Bazaar. Please sign the form if you take a set home to work on. Thank you!

## Prayer Concerns



Jonathan Allen, Vi Hoffland, Ron Knutson, Paul Korsness, Landon Hageman, Stanley Vongroven, Ron Lippe, Stacy Nelson, Daisy Jones, Diane & Jason Daft, Marilyn Helland, Evelyn Schnitzler, Glenn Thunberg, Brenda Headington, Gary Stortz, Joyce Kallevang, Diane Eiken, Joann Gregg, Family of Gerald Kroshus.

**Please pray for military personnel currently deployed and those below serving stateside, elsewhere or in the reserves:** Mason Falck, Cameron Korsness, Jordan Grecko, Parker Whalen, Collin Tweten, Anthony Brown, Dylan Foltz & Wesley Smith.

**Please also pray for all other soldiers, sailors, airmen, coasties and marines who work to defend us.**

Pr. Dave is available to bring communion, visit and offer spiritual care to those in need. Please contact Pr. Dave at 641-220-0205 or call the Parish Office at 563-735-5925 or email [info@boh Lutheran.org](mailto:info@boh Lutheran.org) if you or someone you know would like a visit. Please call the Parish office if there is someone you would like included in Prayers or to update their status to help us maintain an accurate Prayer Concerns list.

**Burr Oak Lutheran Church**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY - May 14, 2023**

**Organist:** Renae McIntosh    **Greeter(s):** Travis & Melissa McCabe & Family

**Acolyte:** Logan McCabe

**Scripture Reader:** Cindy Schnitzler    **Ushers:** Wayne & Arletta Tweten, Fred & Cindy Leonhart

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**MON, May 15th:** NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!

**TUES, May 16th:** 1:30 pm - RUTH circle. Ann Hotvedt hostess at church

**SUN, May 21st:** 8:30 am - Baccalaureate Worship w/HC. Coffee & Fellowship following worship

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Needed to Meet Budget: \$1,630.00    Offering May 7, 2023: \$2,011.00

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS May 21, 2023**

**Organist:** Kathy Tollefsrud    **Greeter(s)/Reader:** Myrna Wilson

**Communion Assistant:** Frank Snell    **Ushers:** Ben & Kim Lange, Randy McIntosh

**Hesper Lutheran Church**

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY - May 14, 2023**

**Organist:** Renae McIntosh    **Greeter/Scripture Reader:** Linda Folstad

**Ushers:** Dan & Sondra Hotvedt, Rhonda Hovden

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**MON, May 15th:** NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!

**SUN, May 21st:** 10 am - Baccalaureate Worship w/HC

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Needed to Meet Budget: \$1,384.00    Offering May 7, 2023: \$777.00

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - May 21, 2023**

**Organist:** Kathy Tollefsrud    **Greeters:** Josh & Kayla Simiele and family

**Scripture Reader & Communion Assistant:** Kayla Simiele    **Ushers:** Phil & Joyce Richert