

BURR OAK – HESPER LUTHERAN PARISH

Pastor David Werges
Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

8:30am Hesper / 10am Burr Oak

Office Phone: 563-735-5925 Website: www.bohlutheran.org Email: info@bohlutheran.org

Pastor Phone: 641-220-0205 Pr. Email: 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 sins 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

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

ELW 807

GREETING

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

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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. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BAPTISMAL HYMN verse 1

“Borning Cry”

ELW 732

LILAH WHITE HOLY BAPTISM (BURR OAK, Insert)

BAPTISMAL HYMN verse 2-4

“Borning Cry”

ELW 732

LISTEN

FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:42-47

The baptized, devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

² The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters.

³ You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return

abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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 10:1-10

The holy gospel according to **John**, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

RESPONSE

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Have No Fear, Little Flock”

ELW 764

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.

BLESSING OF QUILTS & KITS (Burr Oak)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of righteousness. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison chaplains serving near and far. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. Bring an end to oppression and save us from the temptation of violence or vengeance. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured. Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING/NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

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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: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

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: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!"

ELW 413

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Prayer Concerns

Jonathan Allen, Stacy Nelson, Diane & Jason Daft, Trisha Ryan, Gwen Allen, Anthony McCabe, Kory Courtney, Lorraine Peterson, Kirsten Dejarlais Snell, Diane Eiken, Sue (Hovey) Caputo, Marcia Fawcett, Steve Headington, Brooke Tweten, Juanita DeLong, Barb Halverson, Leah Barth, Logan McCabe.

Praying for our members in Care Facilities

Pat Perkins, Dean Rasmussen, Dorothy Anderson, Ron Knutson, Marilyn Helland, Vi Hoffland, Mark Folstad, Don Keefe, Charlie Schnitzler, Evelyn Schnitzler, Marilyn Newhouse, Harold Stoen.

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, Dylan Foltz, Wesley Smith & Braden Peterson.

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@bohllutheran.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.

TAKE HOME VERSE

Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong; we are
God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

(Psalm 100:3)

"BE JESUSY" GRATITUDE PRACTICE FOR APRIL

Practice Care for the Environment. Plant bee-friendly flowers and shrubs, or a tree, purchase environmentally friendly products, recycle. Increase your awareness of the global climate crisis.

Read the ELCA's Climate Crisis Social message at www.elca.org/ClimateCare

Noisy Offering collection today is for Kid's Lunch Club! Kid's Lunch Club provides free lunches to youth through age 18 during the summer months. Your donations make it possible for kids to have nutritious meals when they are home from school during summer vacation.

Hesper Lutheran will be holding a Garage Sale on May 14 thru 16th at the church. We are still accepting items for the sale. If you have questions or need assistance please reach out to any Hesper Council member. At this time we could also use bags (plastic sacks or brown paper sacks). If you have some you would like to donate please let us know. All donations not sold at the sale will be donated to The Depot Outlet.

Reach out to any Hesper Council member:

Mike Dahl: 563-419-1606

Rhonda Hovden: 563-379-3840

Lori Phillips: 563-419-5502

Rhonda Wyatt: 563-379-5271

Savannah Phillips: 563-202-4734

Janelle Halverson: 563-379-6355

BACCALAUREATES

Baccalaureate will be held on May 17th at 8:30 am in Burr Oak & 10:00 am in Hesper. If you have a graduating senior this year, from High School or College. Please email Nan @ secretary@bohlutheran.org for a form and to be added to our list of graduates to be recognized on May 17th worship. We look forward to recognizing our graduates and celebrating this milestone event with them.

The Area Council of Churches will be hosting their Baccalaureate worship on May 3rd at 4:30 at Mabel First Lutheran.

New members will be formally welcomed into our Parish family on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2026. Those who have transferred their membership to Burr Oak or Hesper Lutheran in the past year will also be welcomed during worship on Pentecost Sunday. If you would like to become a member, know of someone else who may be interested, or are aware of an individual or family new in the area who may be searching for a church home, please let Pr. Dave or Nan know so a follow-up contact can be made.

Pr. Dave – Phone: 641-220-0205,

Email: pastor@bohlutheran.org or

Nan/Parish Office: Phone 563-735-5925

Email: secretary@bohlutheran.org.

On Sunday, May 3rd, silvery dogwood and American cranberry bush seedlings will be given away to anyone who wants one following worship services in recognition of Arbor Day, Earth Day and Soil and Water Conservation Week. A tree planting demonstration will be held at Hesper following the 10 am service.

We will also be blessing Farmers & Equipment for the upcoming planting season.

BINGO

April 26th, at Calmar Lutheran Church. Doors open at 2:30 game starts at 3. Buy in is \$20 cards are \$5

The Hesper Public Cemetery will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 9th, 2026 at 10am at the Hesper Lutheran Church Kitchenette. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

Glenwood Lutheran Church, [1197 Old Stage Rd](#), will celebrate the restoration of its historic 1909 Hinner pipe organ. Join us for a short program and slide show in our auditorium May 3 at 1:30 pm. The program will continue at 3 pm in our beautiful sanctuary with Luther College Organist, Professor Alexander Meszler, and several of his students. Treats and coffee to follow. We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you!

FLC Seeks to Hire Custodian Applications due: May 2, 2026 | Preferred Start Date: May 21, 2026

First Lutheran Church in Decorah, Iowa seeks a dependable, detail-oriented, and self-motivated person to care for our church building and grounds. The Custodian will maintain a clean, safe, and welcoming environment for worship, ministry programs, and community events in our recently renovated and expanded facility.

You're Invited!!

We would love you to join us for the 50th Annual Laura Ingalls Wilder Celebration Parade on Saturday June 27th, 2026! FIFTY Years ago a group of forward-thinking, Burr Oak neighbors got the Master's Hotel whipped back into shape and started a tradition of celebrating the Ingalls Family and the time they spent in Burr Oak. The sky is the limit! We love to see all sorts of entries at our parade! Floats! Animals! Marching Bands! Classic vehicles! We could run that list on for many paragraphs! The sky is the limit! The parade is FREE of charge and happens at noon on June 27th. Please email us with your questions and we'll get you on the list to join us! Email: nell@kvikradio.com

Burr Oak Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – April 26, 2026

Organist: Rose Breitsprecher

Greeter(s): Mark & Heather Suckow

Reader: Heather Suckow

Acolyte:

Ushers: Don & Carol Schnitzler, Eric & Jess Rediske

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

TODAY: Lilah White Baptism, Noisy Offering collection for Kid's Lunch Club

WED, April 29th: Meal for ALL: 6-6:30 Wednesday School 6:30-7:30,

Confirmation: 6:30-7:30 ALL @ Hesper

SUN, May 3rd: 8:30am worship, Rogation Sunday, Blessing of Farmers & Equipment

TUES, May 5th: Church Council: BO @ 6:30, Joint @ 7, H to follow. All at Burr Oak

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to Meet Budget: \$3,300.00 Offering April 19th: \$1,268.00

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 3, 2026

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud

Greeter(s): Judy McIntosh & Carol Thunberg

Reader: Diane Lovstuen

Communion Assistance: Diane Lovstuen

Acolyte: Colton Koch

Ushers: Scott Barth, Myrna Wilson, Ben & Kim Lange

Hesper Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – April 26, 2026

Organist: Rose Breitsprecher

Greeter(s): Todd & Janelle Halverson

Reader: Janelle Halverson

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

WED, April 29th: Meal for ALL: 6-6:30 Wednesday School 6:30-7:30,

Confirmation: 6:30-7:30 ALL @ Hesper

SUN, May 3rd: 10am worship, Rogation Sunday, Blessing of Farmers & Equipment

TUES, May 5th: Church Council: BO @ 6:30, Joint @ 7, H to follow. All at Burr Oak

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to Meet Budget: \$2,372.00 Offering April 19th: \$945.00

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 3, 2026

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud

Greeter(s): Josh and Kayla Simiele Family

Communion Assistance: Kayla Simiele

Reader: Kayla Simiele

A big THANK YOU, to everyone for the kind words and gifts on Administrative Professionals Day. My family and I are very blessed to have such a wonderful job! -Nan

Join Luther College Ministries for Holden Evening Prayer Around the World - April 27

Luther College neighbors and friends are invited to join in singing Holden Evening Prayer on Monday evening, April 27 at 8:00 p.m. in the Center for Faith and Life Recital Hall (back of the building). We join with others around the nation and world who will be singing and reflecting on springtime and new life, and recognizing the 40th Anniversary of Vespers '86, the beloved service composed by Marty Haugen (Luther College class of 1973!). Monday evening's service of Holden Evening Prayer will take place as part of our weekly Emmaus gathering, which includes singing, scripture reflection, and the sharing of communion. All are welcome! Contact ministry@luther.edu for more information.



BURR OAK, IOWA



***“Laura’s Sack Lunch”
Drive Thru Meal***

When: Sunday, May 3rd 11 A.M. – 1 P.M.

Where: Burr Oak Lutheran Church Parking Lot
2358 360th St., Burr Oak, Iowa

Serving Your Choice of Two
WINNESHIEK CO. CATTLEMEN’S FAVORITES

Ribeye Steak Sandwich Meal - \$15

-or-

1/3 lb. Cheeseburger Meal - \$10

Meal includes chips, cookies and water

***PROCEEDS TOWARDS
REPLACING SIDING AND
WINDOWS IN THE MUSEUM***

