

BURR OAK – HESPER LUTHERAN PARISH

Pastor David Werges
Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

8:30am Burr Oak / 10am Hesper

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

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

ELW 781

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.

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

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

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For 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. The 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, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘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.’ “Since 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. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because 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

⁸ Bless 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.

¹⁰ For 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.

¹² You 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—

¹⁴ those 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.

¹⁶ Come 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.

¹⁸ If 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.

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

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 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, 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, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. 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, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 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 lives, were saved through water. 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, 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

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 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. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 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 "Comforting Side of God"

RESPONSE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Zion, Haste"

ELW 668

RECOGNITION AND BLESSING OF MOTHERS & MOTHER FIGURES

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

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.

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. 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

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

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

ELW 325

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, 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

Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory; because of
your steadfast love and faithfulness.

(Psalm 115:1)

“BE JESUSY” GRATITUDE PRACTICE FOR MAY

In gratitude for the gift of animals that bless our lives in many ways, when purchasing food for your pet, purchase an extra bag of pet food and donate it to the local humane society, or give a monetary donation.

Hesper Lutheran will be having a garage sale on Thursday May 14th from Noon to 6pm, Friday May 15th from 7am to 6pm, and Saturday May 16th from 7am to Noon.

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@bohllutheran.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.

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,
Nan/Parish Office: Phone 563-735-5925

Email: pastor@bohllutheran.org or
Email: secretary@bohllutheran.org.

First Lutheran and Decorah Lutheran are once again teaming up for VBS. We will have our Kick Off event on Monday, May 25 from 6:15pm to 7:15pm. Then VBS itself will be May 26-29 from 8:30am-noon. Early drop off is available beginning at 8am for families who might need that. <http://bit.ly/4mLqg0e> If you have any questions, you can email me (pastoreric@decorahlutheran.org) or Mandy Severtson (mandy@firstlutherandecorah.org)

The Highlands is hosting a plant sale to help raise funds for their garden funds. All items are free will donation, on May 16th from 9-4pm (or until sold out) at their new location 607 Highland Drive, Decorah.

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 & Hesper Vacation Bible School will be hosted June 15-18th, 6-8pm at Burr Oak Lutheran. Registration is in your May newsletter or can be found online on our church website. If there are any questions, please reach out to Nan. We look forward to having you!

The Board of Ed team is looking for white sheets for VBS June 15-18th. Please bring them to Burr Oak and leave them in the Sunday School room across from the art room. Thank you!

Water to Thrive

Decorah Middle School is partnering with water to thrive to build wells in Ethiopia, Tanzania, or Uganda. There is a donation bucket at the back of Burr Oak church. Over 800 million people do not have access to clean water. Every penny makes a difference.

DISCOVER THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP THROUGH THRIVENT

Join us for The Power of Membership workshop. We'll walk you through your membership benefits and show you how to make the most of them in your life and community. This event is for members or persons that want to find out more about Thrivent opportunities. Enjoy a 6:00pm social followed by 6:30pm webinar to be held at Winneshiek County Fair, Community Building, email or call gabriel.vilardo@thrivent.com or call 563-382-1809

Burr Oak Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 10, 2026

Organist: Renae McIntosh

Greeter(s): Jim & Cheryl Nagel

Reader: Denise Gjere

Acolyte:

Ushers: Wayne & Arletta Tweten, Fred & Cindy Leonhart

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

TODAY: Muffins with Mom following worship

MON. May 11th: 1:30 pm - EUNICE circle meets at Marlene McCabe. Marlene is Bible Study Leader

TUES, May 12th: Bible Study @ Highland Lutheran Church 2pm

9:15 am - DAWN circle meets. Barb Barth is Hostess and Bible Study Leader

THURS. May 14th: 6:30 pm - HOPE circle meets. Myrna Wilson is Hostess

SUN, May 17th: 8:30am Baccalaureate worship w/HC, fellowship to follow

MON, May 18th: NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to Meet Budget: \$3,300.00 Offering May 3rd: \$1,225.00

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 17, 2026

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud

Greeter(s): Barb Barth & Ferneva Brimacomb

Reader: Barb Barth

Communion Assistance: Barb Barth

Acolyte: Wyatt Koch

Ushers: Tom & Leslie Cook, Randy McIntosh, Tyler & Nicole Tweten

Hesper Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 10, 2026

Organist: Renae McIntosh

Greeter(s): Linda Folstad

Reader: Linda Folstad

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

TODAY: Muffins with Mom following worship, GARAGE SALE-PRE SALE SHOPPING!

TUES, May 12th: Bible Study @ Highland Lutheran Church 2pm

SUN, May 17th: 10am Baccalaureate worship w/HC

MON, May 18th: NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to Meet Budget: \$2,372.00 Offering May 3rd: \$1344.00

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 17, 2026

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud

Greeter(s): Donna Rasmussen

Reader: Donna Rasmussen

Communion Assistance: Donna Rasmussen

Salad Luncheon Fundraiser for Madelyn Wilkins Beisker

Madilyn is the daughter of Matt and Marcia (Wilkins) Beisker. When Madilyn was four years old, she was diagnosed with ADD, ODD and a sensory seeking impulsive disorder. Three months later, she was diagnosed with autism. With great support, Madilyn has gone from non-verbal to communicating very well; however, last fall she was unresponsive, then experienced seizures. After being airlifted to St. Mary's in Rochester, she received many tests and was diagnosed with Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis (ADEM), a rare autoimmune inflammatory disease of the central nervous system. Madilyn is a fighter and her family will continue to fight to ensure she is given the best future possible.

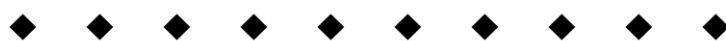
*****Salad Luncheon with Bake Sale*****

Sponsored by Glenwood Lutheran Church

1197 Old Stage Road, Decorah

Serving from 11:30am to 2pm on June 21, 2026

Menu includes a wide variety of Salads,
Open-Faced Sandwiches, Bars and Drinks



Both the Salad Luncheon and Bake Sale will ask a
FREEWILL OFFERING for the Beisker family