

BURR OAK – HESPER LUTHERAN PARISH

Pastor David Werges
Baccalaureate Sunday

May 17, 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

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

ELW 392

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: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, 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 1:6-14**

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;

let those who hate God flee.

2 As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;

as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;

let them also be merry and joyful.

4 Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;

I Am is that name, rejoice before God!

5 In your holy habitation, O God,

you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

6 you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;

but the rebels shall live in desert places.

7 O God, when you went forth before your people,

when you marched through the wilderness,

8 the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,

at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

9 You sent a bountiful rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance when it languished.
 10 Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
 32 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.
 33 You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.
 34 Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.
 35 How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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 17:1-11

The holy gospel according to **John**, the 17th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon "See My Hands and Feet"

RESPONSE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

ELW 886

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. 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.**

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.

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. 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.

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

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Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

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.

COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise

PREFACE

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Holy, holy, holy Lord. Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

COMMUNION SONG

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

ELW 471

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"

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Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ry one what God has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C: 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

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

ELW 742

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 today. We are happy to have you here! Holy Communion will be served at worship this morning. Communion will be served in a continuous line. Ushers will direct communicants forward, lectern side first. Please let the usher know if you wish to receive communion in your seat. Gluten – free wafers and juice are available. Let the pastor and server know your preference. May God bless our time of worship and fellowship together!

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

This morning, we are acknowledging our graduating seniors and wishing them well in their new adventures to come. Along with good wishes from their church family each graduate will receive a quilt made especially for them by our WELCA ladies, and a Milestone Ministry Pebble to mark this special occasion in their lives.



Graduating from High School

Burr Oak

Tristan Baker, son of James & Wendy Baker. Graduating from Decorah High School. He is pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering at Iowa State University.

Kaitlyn Bjork, daughter of Jason & Annette Bjork. Graduating from Decorah High School. She is pursuing a degree in Elementary Education at Luther College.

Micheal Kime, Son of Nick & Nicole Jevne. Graduating from Mabel-Canton High School. He is pursuing a degree in Composite Engineering at Winona State College.

Kaylee Larson, daughter of Kyle and Michelle Larson. Graduating from Oelwein online high school. She is entering the workforce.

Logan Smith, son of Nicole & Wayne Smith. Graduating from Decorah High School. He will be joining the US Air Force

Kinley Soiney, daughter of Troy & Trisha Soiney. Graduating from Mabel-Canton High School. She is pursuing a degree in Nursing and playing for the school's volleyball team at The University of Jamestown.

Kale Tollefsrud, son of Adam & Tonya Tollefsrud. Graduating from Mabel-Canton High School. He will be entering the workforce and continuing farming.

Jasera Tweten, daughter of Jason & Tera Tweten. Graduating from Decorah High School. She is pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education at NICC then UNI.

Isaac Underbakke, son of Brandon & Kim Underbakke. Graduating from Mabel-Canton School. He is pursuing a degree in Physical Therapy at UNI.

Tylar Wenthold, daughter of Trisha Ryan & Brad Darling, and Joel & Kandi Wenthold. Graduating from Mabel-Canton High School. She is pursuing a degree in Health Science/Radiology or Dental School at UNI.

Hesper

Savannah Phillips, daughter of Holly Dahl & Lance Phillips. Graduating from Mabel-Canton High School, pursuing a degree in Music Education at Luther College.

Paisley Timp, daughter of Cody & Jaime Vagts, and Lucas Timp. Graduating from Decorah High School.

Graduating from College

Mara Wyatt, daughter of Todd & Rhonda Wyatt. Graduating from Kirkwood Community College. She will graduate from the Dental Program in August, then start a job in Decorah.

Caleb Kammerer, son of Jon & Lisa Kammerer. Graduating from Wartburg College with a Sports Media Degree. He is going to work at EWALU this summer as the Day Camp Coordinator, while applying for jobs.

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

For you will give him everlasting blessings and will make him
glad with the joy of your presence.
(Psalm 21:6)

“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.

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!

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 Members: NEW PICTURE DIRECTORY

The joint councils have decided to do a New Picture Directory on our own. There are drop clothes installed at both churches if you choose to take your photo there. Please submit a family/individual photo of yourself using these backdrops or on your own. As you take them, submit to Nan, church secretary, who will be keeping them until we start compiling the Directory. **Deadline to get your information in is October 15th, 2026!** You can find the forms in your monthly newsletter or ask Nan, and she can get you a copy.

HAUGE LUTHERAN CHURCH Annual Memorial Day Luncheon

Saturday, May 23, 2026. Serving from 11 am - 1 pm. MENU: Pulled Pork/Shredded Chicken Sandwich, Baked Beans, Salad, Dessert & Beverage. Free Will Donation to support Hauge Lutheran Church & Cemetery.

Burr Oak Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 17, 2026

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud **Greeter(s):** Barb Barth & Ferneva Brimacombe
Reader: Barb Barth **Communion Assistance:** Barb Barth **Acolyte:** Wyatt Koch
Ushers: Tom & Leslie Cook, Randy McIntosh, Tyler & Nicole Tweten

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MON, May 18th: NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

TUES, May 19th: 1:30 pm - RUTH circle meets. Ann Hotvedt is Hostess

SUN, May 24th: 8:30am Worship, New Member Sunday, fellowship to follow.

Noisy offering collection for Kid's Lunch Club

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to Meet Budget: \$3,300.00 Offering May 10th: \$ 6,249.37

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 24, 2026

Organist: Rose Breitsprecher **Greeter(s):** Scott & Michelle Barth
Reader: Darlene Emery **Acolyte:**
Ushers: Marlene McCabe, Randy & Marie Tweten, Gary Zidlicky

Hesper Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 17, 2026

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud **Greeter(s):** Donna Rasmussen
Reader: Donna Rasmussen **Communion Assistance:** Donna Rasmussen

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MON, May 18th: NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

SUN, May 24th: 10am Worship, New Member Sunday.

Noisy offering collection for Kid's Lunch Club

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to Meet Budget: \$2,372.00 Offering May 10th: \$1,048.00

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – May 24, 2026

Organist: Rose Breitsprecher **Greeter(s):** Rachel Werges
Reader: Rachel Werges