

Burlington Lutheran Church *Easter 5B*

134 E Victoria Ave, Burlington, WA
April 28, 2024

Burlington Lutheran Church

134 East Victoria Avenue Burlington, Washington

Sunday Worship 10am

Children's Church after the Children's Message

Nursery available downstairs for all children aged four and younger

The mission of Burlington Lutheran is "Being God's Love in our Communities"

Welcome! It is good to be together today!

- *We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation, which means welcome is extended to all to become partners in the full life and ministry of Burlington Lutheran, regardless of ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, socioeconomic status, or any other societal or religious barrier.*
- *If you'd like to communicate with the church office and/or Pastor Charis (such as a request to meet, address change, prayer request, signing up for weekly enews, etc), please fill out the yellow contact sheet in your bulletin and drop in an offering plate.*

- *Absolutely all are welcome to the communion table. In addition to homemade bread, gluten free crackers are available. Individual pre-filled glass cups of wine (red) and juice (white) are provided. If you'd rather not come forward to receive communion please ask an usher for a single-use communion kit.*
- *A gender neutral restroom is to the right as you exit the sanctuary, and another is down the stairs, past the entrance to the fellowship hall.*
- *If you or your child need a quiet place to be during worship, you are welcome to use the room behind the sound board. In the quiet room you can hear and see the worship service, there is comfortable seating, a diaper changing station, and toys for small children.*
- *This worship service is livestreamed on both Facebook and YouTube. If you prefer not to be shown on camera, you are invited to sit in the last four rows on the main floor, or in the balcony. During communion backs are visible.*
- *Please ask an usher if you have any questions!*

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PRELUDE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are on the ancestral homelands of the Upper Skagit peoples. We are grateful for their stewardship of our shared land and waterways since time immemorial. May we live consciously and respectfully, honoring treaties, and remembering that God created everything and we are to keep it sacred.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

See back of bulletin for calendar of upcoming events

GREETING FOR EASTER SEASON

We gather as a community who carries faith and hope in the Risen Christ.

We gather to celebrate

our God who dared to take on human flesh and dwell among us.

We gather to remember

that love will always be more powerful than death,

We gather to trust that

the future holds the wiping away of all tears

We gather to find strength

to be the hands of feet of Christ in this world.

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Welcome to worship.

OPENING SONG: "How Great Thou Art" ELW 856

**1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;**

Refrain

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!**

**2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;**

Refrain

**3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing
he bled and died to take away my sin;**

Refrain

**4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"**

Refrain

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,

flowing freely from your throne:

through the earth,

through the city,

through every living thing.

Now in these waters you shower us with mercy.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us.

Breathe upon this water

and awaken your church once more
as beloved participants in your love and work.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful Vinegrower, you make all things new in water and Word, feeding your people with love, joy, and peace. Lead us today and every day to the font of new beginnings. Teach us to love what you have commanded and to prune what does not nourish your creation, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ An angel from the Lord spoke to Philip, "At noon, take the road that leads from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) ²⁷ So he did. Meanwhile, an Ethiopian man was on his way home from Jerusalem, where he had come to worship. He was a eunuch and an official responsible for the entire treasury of Candace. (Candace is the title given to the Ethiopian queen.) ²⁸ He was reading the prophet Isaiah while sitting in his carriage. ²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, "Approach this carriage and stay with it."

³⁰ Running up to the carriage, Philip heard the man reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you really understand what you are reading?"

³¹ The man replied, "Without someone to guide me, how could I?" Then he invited Philip to climb up and sit with him. ³² This was the passage of scripture he was reading:

*Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent
so he didn't open his mouth.*

³³ *In his humiliation justice was taken away from him.*

*Who can tell the story of his descendants
because his life was taken from the earth?*

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, about whom does the prophet say this? Is he talking about himself or someone else?" ³⁵ Starting with that passage, Philip proclaimed the good news about Jesus to him. ³⁶ As they went down the road, they came to some water.

The eunuch said, "Look! Water! What would keep me from being baptized?" ³⁸ He ordered that the carriage halt. Both Philip and the eunuch went down to the water, where Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Lord's Spirit suddenly took Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip found himself in Azotus. He traveled through that area, preaching the good news in all the cities until he reached Caesarea.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Easter Alleluia" by Sean Bendickson

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ is risen, praise the Lord!

(2x)

Gospel: John 15:1-8 (CEB)

"I am the true vine, and God my Father is the vineyard keeper. ² God removes any of my branches that don't produce fruit, and trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. ³ You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can't produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can't produce fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can't do anything. ⁶ If you don't remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. ⁸ God is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY: "Now the Green Blade Rises" ELW 379

- 1** Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2** In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 3** Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 4** When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to light a candle during the prayers.

When the reader says, "We bring you our prayers," the congregation sings:

The Spirit intercedes for us

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

The Spirit intercedes for us

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of God be with you always.

And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

OFFERING

Online giving is also available at burlingtonlutheran.org, [@burlingtonlutheran](https://www.venmo.com/BurlingtonLutheran), the Vanco Mobile app or by texting 360-727-0807.

MUSIC DURING OFFERING: "Abide" by Aaron Keyes, Aaron Williams, Jake Fauber

Offering Prayer

Risen One,

As you have generously given grace, you call us to live generously.

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your body in the world, through Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

COMMUNION

At Burlington Lutheran Church we celebrate open table communion which means the table is open to ALL, no exceptions. For those who would rather not come forward for communion, ushers will provide single-serve communion (grape juice or wine). If you are at home please gather your communion elements at this time. Come, taste and see that God is good!

Great Thanksgiving & Holy Communion

(To the tune of All Creatures of Our God and King)

Our Creator is with you

And Creator dwells with you, Alleluia, Alleluia

Lift up your hearts to our God

We lift them up and offer thanks

It is right to praise Creator

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

On the night Jesus was betrayed

At a shared table the Lord stayed

Alleluia, alleluia

He took the bread, said this is me

Blessed, broke and shared it, take and eat

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

After they ate Christ took the cup

Blessed, to the heavens held it up

Alleluia, alleluia

This is my blood that's shared for you

A covenant of love come true

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Christ said with bread remember me

And share this meal eternally

Alleluia, alleluia

All are welcome at this feast

Bread, cup, and love, come and receive

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Prayer of Jesus

(You are invited to say your heart's version of the Lord's Prayer)

Our loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sin, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Music During Communion: "When the Poor Ones" ELW 725

Prayer after Communion

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us, nourished us with your love, and you
send us forth to proclaim your goodness in this Easter season,
sharing the world-changing mission of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: "Great Things" by Phil Wickham, Jonas Myrin

Verse 1

**Come let us worship our King
Come let us bow at His feet
He has done great things
See what our Savior has done
See how His love overcomes
He has done great things
He has done great things**

Chorus

**O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain
O God You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high
O God You have done great things**

Verse 2

**You've been faithful through every storm
You'll be faithful forevermore
You have done great things
And I know You will do it again
For Your promise is yes and amen
You will do great things
God You do great things**

Bridge

**Hallelujah God above it all
Hallelujah God unshakable
Hallelujah You have done great things**

Chorus

DISMISSAL

**Alleluia! Go in peace, rejoicing!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES

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Worship Leaders: Pastor Charis Weathers & Sean Bendickson

Cover art: Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch, fresco, by Boeckl, Herbert, 1894-1966, in Seckau Abbey, Styria, Austria

UPCOMING BLC EVENTS & COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

TODAY: Church 2.0: Veterans for Peace, with Xavi Thorne

May 3-5: Youth camping at Rasar State Park (all can come!)

May 9: Quilting @ 9:30am (all welcome!!)

May 14: Women's Bible Study @ 10am

May 15: BLC Council Meeting @ 6:30pm

May 18: Synod Assembly at Grace Lutheran Church in Des Moines

May 19: Churches for Middle East Peace, in Bellingham, 5pm (Social Justice Team coordinating rides)

June 15: BLC in Berry Dairy Days parade

Aug 16 - 18: BLC Camping at Bay View State Park



BEING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

We are all God's beloved children and are recipients of God's radical love and grace. All are welcome in this church community. You are welcome here if you have ever felt excluded or judged because of your gender, ethnicity, race, religion, status, ability, sexual orientation, doubts or questions. We are a community committed to racial equity, and we believe in Jesus' commandments to love God and love neighbor. Join us!

Matthew 22: 37-39



BURLINGTON LUTHERAN CHURCH

134 East Victoria Avenue, Burlington, WA

burlingtonlutheran@gmail.com + www.burlingtonlutheran.org

Church Office Phone - 360-755-0729

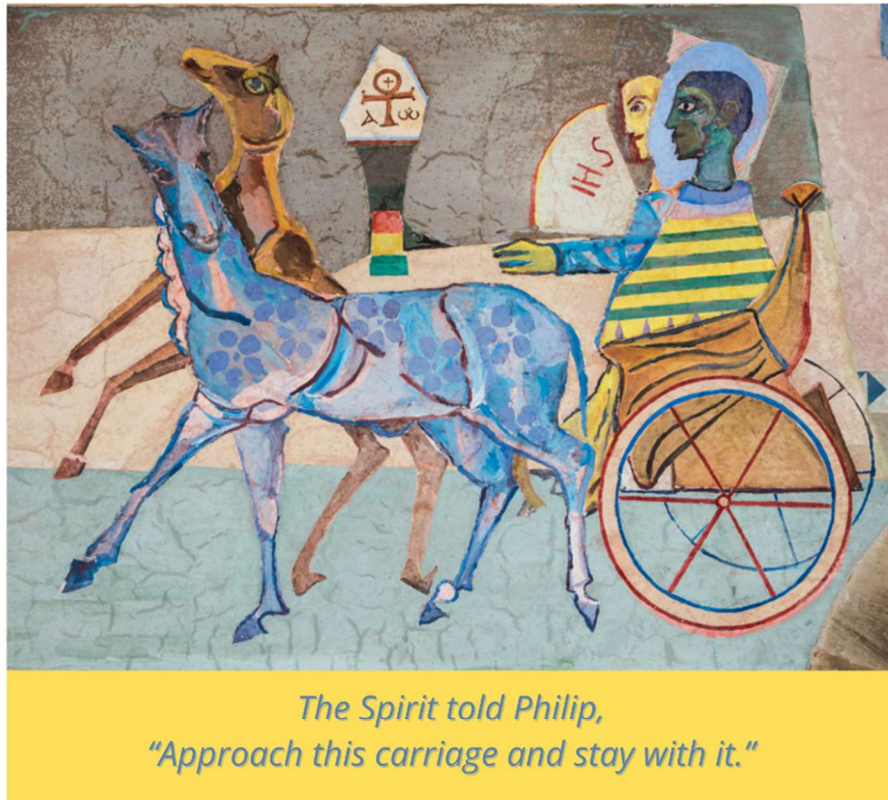
Pastor Charis Weathers burlingtonlutheranpastor@gmail.com

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thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;**

Refrain

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
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For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,

flowing freely from your throne:

through the earth,

through the city,

through every living thing.

Now in these waters you shower us with mercy.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us.

Breathe upon this water

and awaken your church once more
as beloved participants in your love and work.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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so he didn't open his mouth.*

³³ *In his humiliation justice was taken away from him.*

*Who can tell the story of his descendants
because his life was taken from the earth?*

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The eunuch said, "Look! Water! What would keep me from being baptized?" ³⁸ He ordered that the carriage halt. Both Philip and the eunuch went down to the water, where Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Lord's Spirit suddenly took Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip found himself in Azotus. He traveled through that area, preaching the good news in all the cities until he reached Caesarea.

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P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

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SONG OF THE DAY: "Now the Green Blade Rises" ELW 379

- 1** Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2** In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
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- 3** Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
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your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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When the reader says, "We bring you our prayers," the congregation sings:

The Spirit intercedes for us

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

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PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of God be with you always.

And also with you.

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MUSIC DURING OFFERING: "Abide" by Aaron Keyes, Aaron Williams, Jake Fauber

Offering Prayer

Risen One,

As you have generously given grace, you call us to live generously.

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your body in the world, through Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

COMMUNION

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Great Thanksgiving & Holy Communion

(To the tune of All Creatures of Our God and King)

Our Creator is with you

And Creator dwells with you, Alleluia, Alleluia

Lift up your hearts to our God

We lift them up and offer thanks

It is right to praise Creator

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

On the night Jesus was betrayed

At a shared table the Lord stayed

Alleluia, alleluia

He took the bread, said this is me

Blessed, broke and shared it, take and eat

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

After they ate Christ took the cup

Blessed, to the heavens held it up

Alleluia, alleluia

This is my blood that's shared for you

A covenant of love come true

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Christ said with bread remember me

And share this meal eternally

Alleluia, alleluia

All are welcome at this feast

Bread, cup, and love, come and receive

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Prayer of Jesus

(You are invited to say your heart's version of the Lord's Prayer)

Our loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sin, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Music During Communion: "When the Poor Ones" ELW 725

Prayer after Communion

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us, nourished us with your love, and you
send us forth to proclaim your goodness in this Easter season,
sharing the world-changing mission of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: "Great Things" by Phil Wickham, Jonas Myrin

Verse 1

**Come let us worship our King
Come let us bow at His feet
He has done great things
See what our Savior has done
See how His love overcomes
He has done great things
He has done great things**

Chorus

**O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain
O God You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high
O God You have done great things**

Verse 2

**You've been faithful through every storm
You'll be faithful forevermore
You have done great things
And I know You will do it again
For Your promise is yes and amen
You will do great things
God You do great things**

Bridge

**Hallelujah God above it all
Hallelujah God unshakable
Hallelujah You have done great things**

Chorus

DISMISSAL

**Alleluia! Go in peace, rejoicing!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES

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Worship Leaders: Pastor Charis Weathers & Sean Bendickson

Cover art: Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch, fresco, by Boeckl, Herbert, 1894-1966, in Seckau Abbey, Styria, Austria

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Aug 16 - 18: BLC Camping at Bay View State Park



BEING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

We are all God's beloved children and are recipients of God's radical love and grace. All are welcome in this church community. You are welcome here if you have ever felt excluded or judged because of your gender, ethnicity, race, religion, status, ability, sexual orientation, doubts or questions. We are a community committed to racial equity, and we believe in Jesus' commandments to love God and love neighbor. Join us!

Matthew 22: 37-39



BURLINGTON LUTHERAN CHURCH

134 East Victoria Avenue, Burlington, WA

burlingtonlutheran@gmail.com + www.burlingtonlutheran.org

Church Office Phone - 360-755-0729

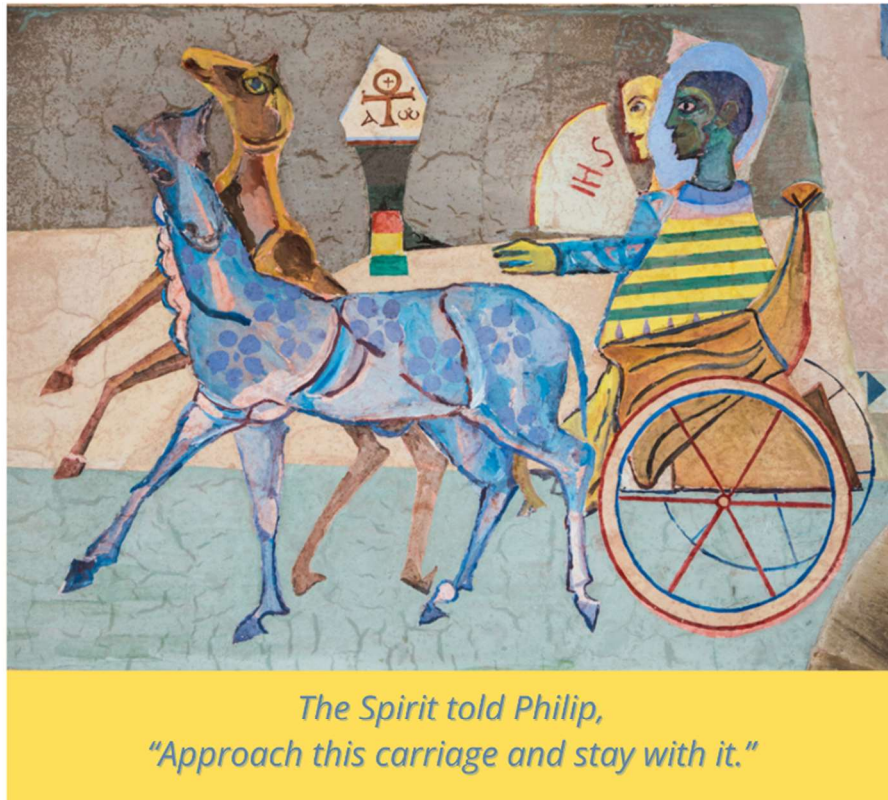
Pastor Charis Weathers burlingtonlutheranpastor@gmail.com

Stay Connected Virtually via Facebook & Instagram



venmo





Burlington Lutheran Church *Easter 5B*

134 E Victoria Ave, Burlington, WA
April 28, 2024

Burlington Lutheran Church

134 East Victoria Avenue Burlington, Washington

Sunday Worship 10am

Children's Church after the Children's Message

Nursery available downstairs for all children aged four and younger

The mission of Burlington Lutheran is "Being God's Love in our Communities"

Welcome! It is good to be together today!

- *We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation, which means welcome is extended to all to become partners in the full life and ministry of Burlington Lutheran, regardless of ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, socioeconomic status, or any other societal or religious barrier.*
- *If you'd like to communicate with the church office and/or Pastor Charis (such as a request to meet, address change, prayer request, signing up for weekly enews, etc), please fill out the yellow contact sheet in your bulletin and drop in an offering plate.*

- *Absolutely all are welcome to the communion table. In addition to homemade bread, gluten free crackers are available. Individual pre-filled glass cups of wine (red) and juice (white) are provided. If you'd rather not come forward to receive communion please ask an usher for a single-use communion kit.*
- *A gender neutral restroom is to the right as you exit the sanctuary, and another is down the stairs, past the entrance to the fellowship hall.*
- *If you or your child need a quiet place to be during worship, you are welcome to use the room behind the sound board. In the quiet room you can hear and see the worship service, there is comfortable seating, a diaper changing station, and toys for small children.*
- *This worship service is livestreamed on both Facebook and YouTube. If you prefer not to be shown on camera, you are invited to sit in the last four rows on the main floor, or in the balcony. During communion backs are visible.*
- *Please ask an usher if you have any questions!*

April 28, 2024
EASTER 5B

PRELUDE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are on the ancestral homelands of the Upper Skagit peoples. We are grateful for their stewardship of our shared land and waterways since time immemorial. May we live consciously and respectfully, honoring treaties, and remembering that God created everything and we are to keep it sacred.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

See back of bulletin for calendar of upcoming events

GREETING FOR EASTER SEASON

We gather as a community who carries faith and hope in the Risen Christ.

We gather to celebrate

our God who dared to take on human flesh and dwell among us.

We gather to remember

that love will always be more powerful than death,

We gather to trust that

the future holds the wiping away of all tears

We gather to find strength

to be the hands of feet of Christ in this world.

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Welcome to worship.

OPENING SONG: "How Great Thou Art" ELW 856

**1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;**

Refrain

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
how great thou art! How great thou art!**

**2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;**

Refrain

**3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing
he bled and died to take away my sin;**

Refrain

**4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"**

Refrain

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,

flowing freely from your throne:

through the earth,

through the city,

through every living thing.

Now in these waters you shower us with mercy.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us.

Breathe upon this water

and awaken your church once more
as beloved participants in your love and work.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful Vinegrower, you make all things new in water and Word, feeding your people with love, joy, and peace. Lead us today and every day to the font of new beginnings. Teach us to love what you have commanded and to prune what does not nourish your creation, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ An angel from the Lord spoke to Philip, "At noon, take the road that leads from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) ²⁷ So he did. Meanwhile, an Ethiopian man was on his way home from Jerusalem, where he had come to worship. He was a eunuch and an official responsible for the entire treasury of Candace. (Candace is the title given to the Ethiopian queen.) ²⁸ He was reading the prophet Isaiah while sitting in his carriage. ²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, "Approach this carriage and stay with it."

³⁰ Running up to the carriage, Philip heard the man reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you really understand what you are reading?"

³¹ The man replied, "Without someone to guide me, how could I?" Then he invited Philip to climb up and sit with him. ³² This was the passage of scripture he was reading:

*Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent
so he didn't open his mouth.*

³³ *In his humiliation justice was taken away from him.*

*Who can tell the story of his descendants
because his life was taken from the earth?*

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, about whom does the prophet say this? Is he talking about himself or someone else?" ³⁵ Starting with that passage, Philip proclaimed the good news about Jesus to him. ³⁶ As they went down the road, they came to some water.

The eunuch said, "Look! Water! What would keep me from being baptized?" ³⁸ He ordered that the carriage halt. Both Philip and the eunuch went down to the water, where Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Lord's Spirit suddenly took Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip found himself in Azotus. He traveled through that area, preaching the good news in all the cities until he reached Caesarea.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Easter Alleluia" by Sean Bendickson

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ is risen, praise the Lord!

(2x)

Gospel: John 15:1-8 (CEB)

"I am the true vine, and God my Father is the vineyard keeper. ² God removes any of my branches that don't produce fruit, and trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. ³ You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can't produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can't produce fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can't do anything. ⁶ If you don't remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. ⁸ God is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY: "Now the Green Blade Rises" ELW 379

- 1** Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2** In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 3** Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 4** When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome to light a candle during the prayers.

When the reader says, "We bring you our prayers," the congregation sings:

The Spirit intercedes for us

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

The Spirit intercedes for us

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of God be with you always.

And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

OFFERING

Online giving is also available at burlingtonlutheran.org, [@burlingtonlutheran](https://www.venmo.com/BurlingtonLutheran), the Vanco Mobile app or by texting 360-727-0807.

MUSIC DURING OFFERING: "Abide" by Aaron Keyes, Aaron Williams, Jake Fauber

Offering Prayer

Risen One,

As you have generously given grace, you call us to live generously.

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your body in the world, through Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

COMMUNION

At Burlington Lutheran Church we celebrate open table communion which means the table is open to ALL, no exceptions. For those who would rather not come forward for communion, ushers will provide single-serve communion (grape juice or wine). If you are at home please gather your communion elements at this time. Come, taste and see that God is good!

Great Thanksgiving & Holy Communion

(To the tune of All Creatures of Our God and King)

Our Creator is with you

And Creator dwells with you, Alleluia, Alleluia

Lift up your hearts to our God

We lift them up and offer thanks

It is right to praise Creator

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

On the night Jesus was betrayed

At a shared table the Lord stayed

Alleluia, alleluia

He took the bread, said this is me

Blessed, broke and shared it, take and eat

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

After they ate Christ took the cup

Blessed, to the heavens held it up

Alleluia, alleluia

This is my blood that's shared for you

A covenant of love come true

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Christ said with bread remember me

And share this meal eternally

Alleluia, alleluia

All are welcome at this feast

Bread, cup, and love, come and receive

Christ is here now, at this table

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Prayer of Jesus

(You are invited to say your heart's version of the Lord's Prayer)

Our loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sin, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Music During Communion: "When the Poor Ones" ELW 725

Prayer after Communion

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us, nourished us with your love, and you
send us forth to proclaim your goodness in this Easter season,
sharing the world-changing mission of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: "Great Things" by Phil Wickham, Jonas Myrin

Verse 1

**Come let us worship our King
Come let us bow at His feet
He has done great things
See what our Savior has done
See how His love overcomes
He has done great things
He has done great things**

Chorus

**O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave
You free every captive and break every chain
O God You have done great things
We dance in Your freedom awake and alive
O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high
O God You have done great things**

Verse 2

**You've been faithful through every storm
You'll be faithful forevermore
You have done great things
And I know You will do it again
For Your promise is yes and amen
You will do great things
God You do great things**

Bridge

**Hallelujah God above it all
Hallelujah God unshakable
Hallelujah You have done great things**

Chorus

DISMISSAL

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