



Burlington Lutheran Church

Easter 6B

134 E Victoria Ave, Burlington, WA
May 5, 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!*

May 5, 2024
EASTER 6B

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 and feet of Christ in this world.

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Welcome to worship.

OPENING SONG: "All Are Welcome" ELW 641

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus

Refrain

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us

Refrain

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger

Refrain

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter

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

God of visions, reversals, and unexpected futures, prepare our hearts for your unexpected grace. Form us to be a community that is constantly surprised by your goodness, and that is known by our wide, embracing, love, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 10:1-48 (CEB)

There was a man in Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion in the Italian Company. ² He and his whole household were pious, Gentile God-worshippers. He gave generously to those in need among the Jewish people and prayed to God constantly. ³ One day at nearly three o'clock in the afternoon, he clearly saw an angel from God in a vision. The angel came to him and said, "Cornelius!"

⁴ Startled, he stared at the angel and replied, "What is it, Lord?"

The angel said, "Your prayers and your compassionate acts are like a memorial offering to God. ⁵ Send messengers to Joppa at once and summon a certain Simon, the one known as Peter. ⁶ He is a guest of Simon the tanner, whose house is near the seacoast." ⁷ When the angel who was speaking to him had gone, Cornelius summoned two of his household servants along with a pious soldier from his personal staff. ⁸ He explained everything to them, then sent them to Joppa.

⁹ At noon on the following day, as their journey brought them close to the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. ¹⁰ He became hungry and wanted to eat. While others were preparing the meal, he had a visionary experience. ¹¹ He saw heaven opened up and something like a large linen sheet being lowered to the earth by its four corners. ¹² Inside the sheet were all kinds of four-legged animals, reptiles, and wild birds. ¹³ A voice told him, "Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!"

¹⁴ Peter exclaimed, "Absolutely not, Lord! I have never eaten anything impure or unclean."

¹⁵ The voice spoke a second time, "Never consider unclean what God has made pure." ¹⁶ This happened three times, then the object was suddenly pulled back into heaven.

¹⁷ Peter was bewildered about the meaning of the vision. Just then, the messengers sent by Cornelius discovered the whereabouts of Simon's house and arrived at the gate. ¹⁸ Calling out, they inquired whether the Simon known as Peter was a guest there.

¹⁹ While Peter was brooding over the vision, the Spirit interrupted him, "Look! Three people are looking for you. ²⁰ Go downstairs. Don't ask questions; just go with them because I have sent them."

²¹ So Peter went downstairs and told them, "I'm the one you are looking for. Why have you come?"

²² They replied, "We've come on behalf of Cornelius, a centurion and righteous man, a God-worshipper who is well-respected by all Jewish people. A holy angel directed him to summon you to his house and to hear what you have to say." ²³ Peter invited them into the house as his guests.

The next day he got up and went with them, together with some of the believers from Joppa. ²⁴ They arrived in Caesarea the following day. Anticipating their arrival, Cornelius had gathered his relatives and close friends. ²⁵ As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in order to honor him. ²⁶ But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Get up! Like you, I'm just a human." ²⁷ As they continued to talk, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. ²⁸ He said to them, "You all realize that it is forbidden for a Jew to associate or visit with outsiders. However, God has shown me that I should never call a person impure or unclean. ²⁹ For this reason, when you sent for me, I came without objection. I want to know, then, why you sent for me."

³⁰ Cornelius answered, "Four days ago at this same time, three o'clock in the afternoon, I was praying at home. Suddenly a man in radiant clothing stood before me. ³¹ He said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayers, and your compassionate acts are like a memorial offering to him. ³² Therefore, send someone to Joppa and summon Simon, who is known as Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, located near the seacoast.' ³³ I sent for you right away, and you were kind enough to come. Now, here we are, gathered in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has directed you to say."

³⁴ Peter said, "I really am learning that God doesn't show partiality to one group of people over another. ³⁵ Rather, in every nation, whoever worships God and does what is right is acceptable to God. ³⁶ This is the message of peace God sent to the Israelites by proclaiming the good news through Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all! ³⁷ You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism John preached. ³⁸ You know about Jesus of Nazareth, whom God anointed with the Holy Spirit and endowed with power. Jesus traveled around doing good and healing everyone oppressed by the devil because God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses of everything he did, both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him up on the third day and allowed him to be seen, ⁴¹ not by everyone but by us. We are witnesses whom God chose beforehand, who ate and drank with him after God raised him from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell on everyone who heard the word. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶ They heard them speaking in other languages and praising God. Peter asked, ⁴⁷ "These people have received the Holy Spirit just as we have. Surely no one can stop them from being baptized with water, can they?" ⁴⁸ He directed that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited Peter to stay for several days.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Easter Alleluia" by Sean Bendickson

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ is risen, praise the Lord!

(2x)

Gospel: John 15:12-17

¹² This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask God in my name, will be given to you. ¹⁷ I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY: "A New Commandment"

**A new commandment I give unto you,
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
By this shall people know you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another;
by this shall people know you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.**

(repeat)

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: "I Don't Have Much" by Taylor Leonhardt

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: "Beautiful Savior" ELW 838

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: "Jesus Loves Me" ELW 595

1 Jesus loves me! this I know,
for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong,
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! he who died
heaven's gates to open wide;
he will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in. *Refrain*

3 Jesus loves me! he will stay
close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die,
he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

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

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UPCOMING BLC EVENTS & COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

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: Pentecost with El Camino & Upper Skagit Elders 10am

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

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Stay Connected Virtually via Facebook & Instagram



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