

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SERVICES & MEETINGS

Berks Camerata Concert – this afternoon – 1:00 PM

Bible Study – Wednesday – 10:00 to 11:30 AM

Chime Choir – Wednesday – 6:30 PM

Craft Night - Wednesday – 7:00 PM

Sunday Morning Worship Service – April 26 – 9:00 AM

Sunday School Session – April 26 – following worship

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### **WORSHIP STATISTICS**

**4/12/2026**

In Person Attendance – 25

Virtual Attendance (YouTube Views) – 7

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THANK YOU TO THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Greeter: Ruthann Lutz & Linda Schroeder

Acolyte: Jameson Kleibscheidel

Lector: Janelle Stump

Ushers: Lynette Daniels – Luisa Follweiler

Cantor:

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***Pastor:*** Rev. Robert B. Peiffer, Ph.D.

***Cell Phone:*** 570-778-1245

***Email:*** bobpeiffer@alumni.nd.edu

***Church & Office Telephone:*** 610-756-6589

***Email:*** nbckempton@gmail.com

***Bulletin Secretary:*** Ruthann Lutz

***Phone:*** 610-756-6489

***Email:*** [ruthann\\_lutz@msn.com](mailto:ruthann_lutz@msn.com)

***Newsletter Coordinator:*** Jon Bond

***Email:*** bondart@ptd.net

***Organist/Choir Director/Chime Choir Director –***

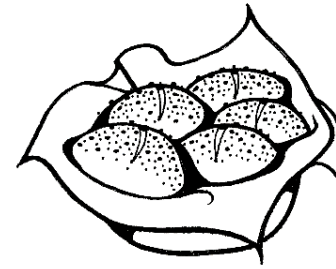
*LeAnne Zettlemoyer*

***Email:*** zett113@ptd.net

# *3rd Sunday of Easter*

*April 19, 2026*

*9:00 AM*



*Thank you for worshipping with us. Our songs of  
praise were more meaningful because your  
voice joined with ours!  
Please, come again!*

**Good Morning.**

We would like to welcome you to New Bethel to worship with our church family. Visitors know that it is our privilege to have you with us this morning. Please come back again soon. Upon exiting the church, take a moment to sign our Guest Register at the front doors.

**SILENT MEDITATION PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**PRAYER NOTES:** In your conversation with GOD this morning, listen to His invitation to serve, and let your eyes see His vision for our lives.

*"Even in life's messes - God blesses."*



† **ORDER OF WORSHIP** †

**THE PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(^ = PLEASE STAND, AS YOU ARE ABLE)

Worship Reminder: Congregational responses are to be read slowly and expressively. Thank you.

**^OPENING HYMN – No. 801**

"This Is the Day"

**^CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 116: 1-4, 12-19**

*I will call on the name of the LORD. (Ps. 116:13)*

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup> **for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;

I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name of the LORD:**

**"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."**

<sup>12</sup> How shall I repay the LORD  
for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God's people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in your sight, O LORD,  
is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup> O LORD, truly I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all God's people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the LORD's house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

**^PRAISE HYMNS**

**"Hosanna"**

I see the King of Glory coming on the clouds with fire;  
the whole earth shakes, the whole earth shakes.

I see His love and mercy washing over all our sin;  
the people sing, the people sing.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

I see a generation rising up to take their place  
with selfless faith, selfless faith.

I see a near revival stirring as we pray and sing  
we're on our knees, we're on our knees.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Heal my heart and make it clean, open up my eyes to the things unseen.

Show me how to love like You have loved me.

Break my heart for what breaks Yours,  
ev'rything I am for Your Kingdom's cause,  
as I walk from earth into eternity.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

## "Graves Into Gardens"

I searched the world, but it couldn't fill me.  
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade are never enough.  
Then You came along and put me back together,  
And ev'ry desire is now satisfied, here in Your love.  
Oh, there's nothing better than You.  
There's nothing better than You,  
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You.  
Now I'm not afraid to show You my weakness,  
My failures and flaws Lord, You've seen them all, and You still call me  
friend.  
Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley.  
And there's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again.  
Oh, there's nothing better than You.  
There's nothing better than You,  
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You.  
You turn mourning to dancing, You give beauty for ashes.  
You turn shame into glory, You're the only God who can.  
You turn graves into gardens,  
You turn bones into armies,  
You turn seas into highways,  
You're the only God who can.  
Oh, there's nothing better than You.  
There's nothing better than You,  
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You.  
Oh, there's nothing better than You.  
There's nothing better than You,  
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You.  
You turn graves into gardens,  
You turn bones into armies,  
You turn seas into highways,  
You're the only One who can.  
You're the only One who can.  
You're the only One who can.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**PASTOR:** Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us,

Blessed are you.

### **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

### **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

### **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

**PASTOR:** Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **TODAY'S LESSONS:**

*Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.*

### **FIRST READING: ACTS 2:14A, 36-41**

*Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>36</sup> "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

## **RESPONSE: "Psalm 27: The Lord Is My Light"**

The Lord is my light,  
The Lord is my light,  
The Lord is my light and my salvation.

## **SECOND READING: 1 PETER 1:17-23**

*The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.*

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

## **^ GLORIA PATRI:**

***"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end." Amen.***

## **^ GOSPEL: GOSPEL: LUKE 24:13-35**

*The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.*

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests

and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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## **^ THE APOSTLES' CREED:**

***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD.***

***He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.***

***He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.***

***He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.***

***He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.***

***He will come again 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.*

**PASSING OUR FAITH ON TO OUR CHILDREN**

**SERMON**

Rev. Robert Peiffer

“Low Sundays”

**^HYMN – No. 242**

“In the Garden”

**PASSING OF PEACE**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**MORNING OFFERING**

We share our Tithes and Gifts

**^PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS**

**^THE DOXOLOGY:**

*"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."*

**^PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**^THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

*All: 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen*

**^BENEDICTION:**

*May the strength of God pilot us; May the wisdom of God instruct us; May the hand of God protect us; May the word of God direct us. Be always ours this day and forevermore. Amen.*

**^CLOSING HYMN – No. 20**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

**^WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD**

**^POSTLUDE**



**DURING THE WEEK PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS  
THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

**THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS:**

Dick Albright, Michael Aulenbach, Carla Bartholomew, Sandra Bauscher, Tina Billig, Pastor Dave Blich, Brenda Derr, Darryl Dieter, Jay Drey, Trista Fulmer-Smith, Sharon (Henry) Griffiths, Tim Haring, Felicity Herring, Tiffany Hoch, Casey Hoffman, Ernie Kanas, Bethany Keck, Emily Keck, Zoie Keck, Blair Keim, Cindy Keiser, Deb Kenney, Davis Knauer, Emma Laigaie, Judy Lenhart, Peggy Light, George Megerle, Mary Beth Mogus, Andy Miller, Diane Miller, Bonnie Moll, Heather Munsey, Lloyd Pettit, Steve Schwoyer, Kevin Smith, Margaret Snyder, Melanie Wessner, Cassie Wolfe, Joanne Zawada-Paskoff, Reuben Zettlemoyer and Ben Ziehmer.

**THOSE WHO ARE SHUT INS:**

Forrest Graff, Pat Graff, Lillie Henninger, Myrna Kamp, Michael Kirkhoff, Nancy Kleinsmith, Sandy Long, Lester Lutz, Christie Ryan, Delano and Sandra Schucker.

**THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY:**

Cooper Dunn, Amanda Kertsmar and Trista Fulmer-Smith.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This morning the altar flowers are presented by Lynette Daniels in memory of Doreen Miller.

**THANK YOU:** Thanks go out to Lynette Daniels for leading us in worship last week while Pastor Peiffer was on vacation.

**BERKS CAMERATA:** Join us this afternoon at 1:00 PM as the Youth Chamber Music Ensemble - Berks Camerata – will be performing here at New Bethel. Following the performance join us in fellowship and light refreshments. Proceeds from a freewill offering will help fund furniture upgrades for the Schoolhouse. Beginning in the Fall, the Schoolhouse will host various community support groups, including GriefShare and NAMI Connections.

**BETHELFEEST 6:** This year Bethelfest 6 will be held on Friday, June 5, from 5-9pm. Dave Kline and his musical guests will perform a variety of folk, gospel and bluegrass music. Please consider volunteering to make our annual event a success. Contact Jon Bond or Steve Brendlinger. Sell refreshments, donate baked goods, set up and tear down tables and awnings, sell and collect tickets, place posters and yard signs, grill hot dogs and burgers...you name it-we'll take it! All profits benefit our local mission and those in need. A portion of last year's profit was given to the Walnuttown Fire Company to help the families of the firefighters who were tragically killed this past month.

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

**JUNE 30** – Vince's Cheesesteaks will be at the Kempton Fire Co. on Tuesday June 30 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. For every sandwich sold, \$1.00 will be donated back to New Bethel to support our Local Mission Fund. This is a take-out only event. Buy sandwiches and support this worthy cause!!

**CALLING ALL MUSICIANS:** We are continuing our rehearsals for the Chime Choir and also an Adult Vocal Choir. Both rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 6:30 PM for Chimes and 7:15 PM for Adult Choir. Come and join the fun and help us praise the Lord through music! Anyone interested is welcome.

**BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY BY & FOR LAY PEOPLE:** Our Bible Study sessions are every Wednesday morning at the same time – 10:00 to 11:30 AM. Coffee and snacks are available. Anyone is welcome to join even if you have not attended any in the past.

**2026 FLOWER CHART:** The 2026 Flower Chart is now hanging down on the bulletin board with many dates available for you to place flowers on the altar. Pick your dates today!

**TINY DEVOTIONAL LIBRARY:** Looking for a new devotional? Take a moment and check out our tiny devotional library in the corner of the vestibule by the chair lift. There are many choices for you to use to enhance your devotional time.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:** We are always looking for people to serve as worship assistants. So if you are looking for a way to offer your time the Worship Committee is looking for more worship assistants – greeters, ushers, lectors and communion assistants. The time involved is minimal and time is something that anyone can donate! If you are interested, contact Ruthann.

**CRAFT NIGHT:** Join the crafters Wednesday evenings as we gather to craft and enjoy fellowship time in the comfort of the Sunday School area. Craft Nights are held 2 hours, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. It doesn't matter what the craft is, come and enjoy! Even if you do not have a craft that you are working on you are invited to join us for the fellowship.

**WEIS GIFT CARDS:** Since we have been offering Weis Gift Cards we have raised an average of \$500 a year for our local mission Community Outreach. So if you are looking for a gift card for a gift? Why not purchase a Weis gift card Everyone has to shop for food and by purchasing a gift card you can benefit our Community Outreach. That's two pluses in one! Our Weis program benefits New Bethel's Community Outreach, so every card sold is a gift twice over! Please see Vicki or Shirley Wessner after church or contact Vicki at 484-357-6371 or [wessner@verizon.net](mailto:wessner@verizon.net) to purchase a card. The cards may be used in the Kutztown, Hamburg or Fogelsville Weis stores. Thank you to anyone who has purchased one or more of these gift cards over the years.

**THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS:** If you are a Thrivent member and receive Thrivent Choice Dollars did you know you could designate them to New Bethel Church? It's easy to do but if you need the information on how to designate them there is a flyer down at the bulletin board or talk to your Thrivent representative.

**TITHE.LY:** If you would like to contribute or make your weekly offering to New Bethel and can't make it to church try TITHE.LY! By donating this way you are able to make a one-time donation or set up recurring donations. Tithe.ly deposits the funds directly to the Church's bank account at the same time tracking your donations on a yearly basis. Their website is <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1308566>

**NEW BETHEL ENDOWMENT FUND:** As you plan your financial legacy please consider New Bethel Church in your plan. Our endowment fund will accept monetary gifts including stock that would be deposited into our brokerage account. Having a strong endowment fund will help to keep New Bethel going strong for future generations.

**ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE:** Thank you! Recent financial donations have been earmarked for our church endowment fund. The fund balance as of mid-April is now \$122,462.00. Your donations to this ongoing fund help to ensure a financially healthy church for generations to come. Heartfelt thanks to all who support our endowment!

**ON-LINE SERVICE INFORMATION:** Can't get to church on Sunday morning? If you would like to view the service just go to nbchurchkempton.org and click on the Youtube link on our home page. There you will find videos of our recent services that are available for viewing.

**PASTORAL CARE:** When you are in need of pastoral care, please have a family member contact Pastor Peiffer at 570.778.1245 or call the church at 610.756.6589. If you are in the Lehigh Valley Hospital, please let admissions know your church code is #457.

**2026 NEW BETHEL CHURCH BOARD**

|                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jon Bond – President         | Linda Foulke – Vice President    |
| Barb Dieter – Secretary      | Lynette Daniels                  |
| Marge Hamm                   | Penny Rhodes                     |
| Janelle Stump                | Sherry Stump                     |
| Luisa Follweiler – Treasurer | Tanya Lang – Financial Secretary |



**ALBANY TOWNSHIP PANTRY**

**First Tuesday of each month - 2:00 to 4:00 PM**  
Kempton Community Center

Food pantry and social services are open to Albany Township residents and families in need. Resources are also available for those who are struggling with financial challenges (ex. Utility bills) or need help applying for food or medical assistance. If you have any questions about your options, contact Friend, Inc. at 610-683-9011.

**FRIEND, INC. Food Pantry**

During these times let us not forget those less fortunate than we are. If you are able, please consider donating any nonperishable items. For the month of April we will be collecting pasta and things you might serve with a pasta meal.

In addition to food items, please consider donating personal items such as shampoo, soap, etc. and household items (laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, etc.). These last items are things that we often overlook.

Friend, Inc. also collects pet food to help families in need provide for their pets. These items will be distributed by Friend, Inc.

***Thank You All For Your Generosity!***