

# Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

April 12, 2026 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

“Peace Be With You - I Send You”



## *Centering Words (Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:1)*

*In you I take refuge. In you I find life. May I keep you always before me.  
Be not dismayed, for Christ is alive, bringing hope and joy to our lives this day. Alleluia*



[www.betheluccontario.org](http://www.betheluccontario.org)

536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762

In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at 9:55am

Facebook, YouTube, Twitch, Twitter

Also available On Demand on Vimeo, Roku and

Amazon Fire TV

*Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.  
Quienquiera que seas y dondequiera que estés en el camino de la vida, eres bienvenido aquí.*

Bethel Congregational Church, UCC  
Sunday – April 12, 2026

**Prelude**

Music for Gathering

Sandy Gunn

**Call to Worship**

LEADER: Easter people, Christ is risen!

**PEOPLE: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

LEADER: Christ is risen indeed! Yet we, like Thomas, may find questions bubbling up: How do we know? What's the proof? Is Resurrection real?

**PEOPLE: Within our questioning, Christ appears.**

LEADER: We may find ourselves like the other disciples, witnesses of Christ's resurrection who struggle to understand the doubt of others.

**PEOPLE: Within our certainty, Christ appears.**

LEADER: Whether you come to worship full of certainty or doubt, you are welcome here, for we are all participants in the story of God's salvific work in the world, a story still unfolding all around us.

**PEOPLE: We gather to worship, believing that in certainty and doubt, the resurrected Christ dwells among us! Amen.**

**Unison Opening Prayer** (*John 20, Acts 10*)

Gracious and Eternal God, you are the one who calls us together and the one who sends us out in the world.

Remind us, as we gather, how good it is to dwell with you and one another. Stir our hearts to love boldly, freely, and joyfully.

Let us praise you with our whole lives and magnify your name by our works. We bless and honor you, O Faithful One, from generation to generation and from community to community.

Speak to our spirits and receive our worship.

Amen.

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew  
That I may love the way you love, and do what you would do.

2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
Until with you I will one will, to do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one desire:  
That every earthly part of me may glow with holy fire.

4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,  
But live with you the perfect life of your eternity.

## Breathe on Me, Breath of God

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*Edwin Hatch, 1886; alt.*

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new  
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,  
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me, one de - sire:  
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.  
Un - til with you I will one will, to do and to en - dure.  
That ev - ery earth - ly part of me may glow with ho - ly fire.  
But live with you the per - fect life of your e - ter - ni - ty.

# Welcome, Passing the Peace – Announcements

Bienvenida – Saludo de la Paz – Anuncios

- **Sundays** – Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am)
- **Wednesdays – 4:30pm** – OYS; 6pm Scouts(basement).
- Spiritual Studies w/ Rev. Heather Miner (*“The Tears of Things”* by Richard Rohr. ) – **SCHEDULE CHANGE** – no meeting this week! (Next meeting will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of May (May 12)
- **Thursdays 10am** - Qi-Gong/Tai Chi
- **Fridays – evenings** SWE Rehearsals (sanctuary/parlor)
- **Saturdays** –SSO Rehearsals
- **Upcoming Concerts**
  - Southland Wind Ensemble – Saturday May 9 at 4pm

*Para información en español, por favor hable con nosotros después del servicio.*

**Children’s Time**

**Jesus Appears to Thomas**

**Kids’ Video**

**\* Gloria**

Glory to the Creator

The Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be  
World without end, Amen, Amen.

C G/D C G/B G C G/B Am/C  
Glo-ry to the Cre -a -tor, the Christ the Ho- ly Spi- rit

5 G/D D<sup>7</sup> G C G<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup>  
three in one; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er

10 C G G/F C/E C/G G<sup>7</sup> C  
shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men.

## **Acts 2:14a, 22-32**

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them:

"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know--this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.

But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne.

Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

"This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## **Prayer of Yearning (*Psalm 16, John 20*)**

Jesus Christ, our Brother, our Savior,  
sometimes we are bold and sure  
that you are the Living One who defeated death  
and destruction for us all.

Sometimes we wonder at the ancient stories  
of your resurrection, and we are not so sure  
that things happened the way stories tell them.

Amid our doubts, bless us with your peace.

Bless us with the joy and assurance of your presence,  
wherever we are in our journey of faith.

In your compassionate name, we pray. Amen.

## ***Words of Grace***

“Peace be with you!” Jesus said to his disciples, both those who saw and believed *and* the one who questioned. Today Jesus Christ also bestows his peace and presence upon us: “Peace be with you!” Amen.

## **Prayers of the People (Joys and Concerns)**

### **The Lord’s Prayer (*Unison*)**

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**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**

# Offering

## Invitation to Generosity (Pastor)

Please remember to send your offerings in so that we can continue our ministries.

(If you want a portion of your offering to be designated as something specific, just write that in the message area.) If you forget to write a note with the offering – just email us ([info@BethelUCCOntario.org](mailto:info@BethelUCCOntario.org)) or message us through Facebook.

**Giving Options: In person** – *We are not yet “passing the plate”. You may leave your offering in one of the offering plates (front of the sanctuary, or usher’s table in the rear).*

**Give online** at [www.betheluccontario.org](http://www.betheluccontario.org),



To use a credit or debit card, use the yellow “Donate” button (processed by PayPal – no PP account required), or green Tithe.ly button (Processed by Tithe.ly)



Use **ZELLE** (through your bank website or via the stand alone app) to transfer your offering to us directly from your bank. When you use Zelle, we are “Bethel Congregational Church” Our verified Zelle email is [info@betheluccontario.org](mailto:info@betheluccontario.org)



**MAIL** - Just mail your check to Bethel Congregational Church  
536 N Euclid Ave, Ontario CA 91762.



**QR Code** – Scan the code to send your offering to us through PayPal

## Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Generous One, may these gifts be a blessing to those in need,  
a source of hope for those in despair, comfort for those who grieve,  
encouragement for those who doubt, a balm for those in pain.

May our generosity reflect our gratitude  
and our giving be another source of praise. Amen.

**Special Note – next week (April 19) we will be receiving our special “One Great Hour of Sharing” offering.**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery.

Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.

Thank you for your gifts!



Our love offering to the world.



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

One Great  
HOUR  
OF SHARING

\*Singing into Mission **Dona Nobis Pacem** (*This song is a canon!*)

First, we will all sing the three sections in unison, Then we will sing as a round.

Group 1 will start at the beginning, then when they reach the second section,

Group 2 starts at the beginning. When Group 2 reached the 2<sup>nd</sup> section, Group 3 starts at the beginning.

When each group reaches the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> section, they return and sing the 1<sup>st</sup> section again, until all are once again singing the first section.

1. Dona nobis pacem, pacem.

Dona nobis pacem.

2. Dona nobis pacem

Dona nobis pacem

3. Dona nobis pacem

Dona nobis pacem

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## Dona Nobis Pacem

Canon ①

Dona no-bis pa-cem, pacem. Do - na no - bis pa -

8 ②

cem. Do - na no - bis pacem. Dona nobis pa - cem.

17 ③

Do - na no - bis pacem. Dona nobis pa - cem.

## Responsive Benediction (*John 20*)

Jesus called out to his disciples, “Peace be with you!”

**We praise Jesus, our Lord and our God, for this peace.**

Jesus breathed upon the disciples  
[breathe out so all can hear] and said,  
“Receive the Holy Spirit!”

**We praise Jesus, our Lord and our God,  
for the Holy Spirit who accompanies us.**

As disciples of Jesus Christ, go out into the world  
with power—to forgive, to touch wounds  
with healing hands, and to live out the love, life,  
and power of our Lord and our God.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**Postlude**

Carillon



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Live Stream Worship Sundays at 10 am on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitch](#)

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*God sends us to serve, but God does not send us alone.  
The Spirit is with us in the world, guiding our steps and protecting our paths.  
Christ yearns for us to be one in ministry and service,  
and one in community and faith—a unity that we discover  
through the Spirit’s miraculous power in our lives.  
Sent to serve, we are sent not only with the power of the Spirit,  
but also with the power of unity with one another.  
Embracing this unity with both the Holy Spirit and one another  
opens a path to the “complete joy” that Christ prays we may one day know.*