

Reformation Sunday & Confirmation

October 25, 2026



Bethany Lutheran Church

4500 E Hampden Ave | Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

www.Bethany-Denver.org | 303.758.2820

+ We Prepare Our Hearts +

Prelude

Concerto in A Minor, BWV 593
I. Allegro

Bach/Vivaldi

Welcome to Worship

To fill out your digital connection card, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/BethanyConnect

Pastor Nate Preisinger



Processional

Highland Cathedral

arr. John Kuzma

Daniel Kingsley, bagpipe

Confirmands:

Elizabeth Catt-Rubald

Evelyn Preisinger

Garrett Hamilton

Asher Rodasti

Hope Jones

Michael Salvatore

Peyton Jones

Gioia Salvatore

Zosha Kahn

Jacob Schopp

Daniel Krell

Adelaide Schopp

Ryan Miller

Andy Walter

Emily Moy

Byron Williams

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Pastor Gary Sandberg

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We give thanks for the gift of baptism:

for water and promise, for grace freely given, for a love we did not earn.

We belong to Christ.

In baptism, God names us beloved,
joins us to the death and resurrection of Jesus,
and makes us part of a community of faith.

We belong to one another.

Through every season of life, God's promise remains:
in our believing and our doubting, in our wandering and our returning, in our
beginnings and all that comes next.

God's grace holds us.

Today we remember our baptism, and trust again the promise at the heart of our
faith:

We are saved by grace, called by Christ, and sent to love our neighbor.

Thanks be to God. **Amen.**



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap-ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg-ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king-dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Greeting

Deacon Debra Alba

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Children's Worship

Deacon Debra Alba

We Prepare to Hear God's Word Bless the Lord(10,000 Reasons) ACS 1097



+ We Encounter God's Word +

Today's Sermon is based on reading from:

Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

Gospel: John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord**

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Song of the Day

Borning Cry

ELW 732



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

+ We Worship God With Our Offerings +

Abundantly Bethany

Pastor Nate Preisinger

- **All Saints** Nov. 1, brunch at 11am
- **Community Campus Work Day!** Sat Oct 31
- **Beans and Rice** Nov 15
- **ESOL Organizing meeting** Oct 27

The Offering

You can give in the following ways; Thank you for your gifts!

- On our **website**, find the GIVE button in the header or under the Get Involved tab at: **Bethany-Denver.org**
- Through **SubSplash** - Use your phone's camera to scan this **QR Code** 
- Unlock your phone, hold near the **NFC card** (on pew back), and wait for the notification to appear
- **Mail** in your check to the office (4500 E. Hampden Ave. Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113)
- Sunday mornings, drop your offering in the plate as it is passed

Offering Music

Redeeming Grace

early American, arr K. Lee Scott

Laura Tribby, soprano

*Come all who love my Lord and master like old David, I will tell,
Though chief of sinners, I've found favor, redeemed by grace from death and hell.
Far as the east from west is parted, so far my sins, by his dying love,
From me by faith are separated, blest antepast of joys above.
I late estranged from Jesus wandered and thought each dangerous poison good;
But he in mercy long pursued me with cries of his redeeming blood.
Though like Bartimaeus I was blinded in nature's darkest night concealed.
But Jesus' love removed my blindness, and he his pardoning grace revealed.
Now I will serve him while he spares me, and with his people sing aloud;
Though hell oppose and sinners mock me, in rapturous songs I'll praise my God.
By faith I view the heavenly concert, they sing high strains of Jesus' love;
I fain would be with Christ above. Oh, with desire my soul is longing,
and faith would be with Christ above.*

Children Return to the Sanctuary

The Affirmation of Baptism

Dear friends, we give thanks for these young people of the Bethany Lutheran Church family, who are one with us in the body of Christ. Today, in the presence of God and this assembly, these individuals will make public affirmation of their baptism.

Address and Questions

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Confirmands, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

I do, and I ask God to lead and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these confirmands in their life in Christ?

We do, and ask God to help and guide me.

I now ask the Confirmands, and all those gathered in support of them this day, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce all the forces of this world that defy God?

We renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

We renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

We renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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**

Families and friends will be invited to gather around and lay hands on each person to be confirmed

Prayer of Confirmation

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in _____ the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm their faith, guide their life, empower them in serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life.

Amen

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, we give thanks for your servants Elizabeth, Garrett, Hope, Peyton, Zosha, Daniel, Ryan, Emily, Evelyn, Asher, Michael, Gioia, Jacob, Adelaide, Andy, and Byron. We rejoice in their faith journey that has led them to this holy moment. We ask O God, for you to guide, protect and inspire them in the years ahead; keep them from harm, guide them along right pathways and fill their life with an abundance of joy. Above all else, O God, give them a firm confidence in your promises of forgiveness, grace, and love so that they would be free to live fully and serve others joyfully. We pray these things in the name of the Father, +the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Let us celebrate the faith of these young disciples of Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

We Share God's Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share a blessing of peace with others around you.

After sharing the Peace, please be seated

+ The Community Meal +

Invitation to the Communion Table

Pastor Gary Sandberg

Celebration of Holy Communion

May you know God's presence in this moment.

God is with us here.

Come to this table with grateful hearts.

We lift our hearts to God.

Let us be thankful for Christ's promise of grace.

With gratitude, we receive this gift.

Blessing of the Bread and Wine

The Lord's Prayer (ecumenical translation)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen

Communion Instruction

Receive communion by dipping the bread into the wine. Pre-packaged communion sets are alcohol free; gluten-free options are available. Groups are welcome to visit a communion station together. Those who are not receiving communion are invited to cross their arms across their chest to receive a blessing.

Communion Distribution

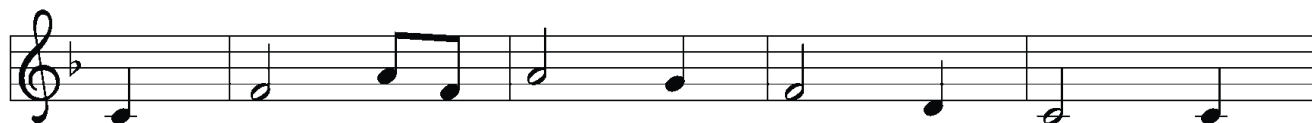
Communion Music

Great Peace Have They

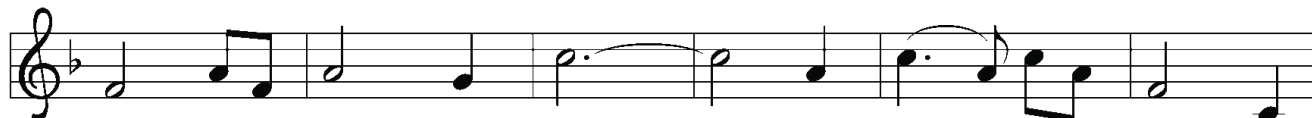
Jean-Baptiste Lully

Laura Tribby, soprano

*Great peace have they which keep thy commandments,
great peace have they which love thy law.
And nothing shall offend them or make them afraid.
For they shall see thy kingdom, and dwell in peace with thee.
I have longed for thy salvation and loved thy commandments;
Make thy face to shine on thy servant, and teach me, Lord, to do thy will.
Thy word is my delight, and thy strength is my fortress.
Peace have they which keep thy commandments,
great peace have they which love thy law.*



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Table Blessing

+ God Sends Us To Serve +

Sending Invitation and Blessing

Pastor Nate Preisinger



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

Dismissal

Pastor Nate Preisinger

As we go forth into the week ahead we remember our calling as the people of Bethany. Together we will:

Worship and encounter a God who loves us;

Embrace healthy dialogue that promotes unity over division;

Respond to the needs of the world through generosity and action.

With this as our mission, go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Paul Manz

Things to Know About News & Events

Worship:

- **All Saints Sunday:** Nov. 1, Brunch 11am

Education/Faith Formation:

- **Book discussion** of "Low Anthropology" by David Zahl on Dec 6 and 13.

Hospitality:

- **Women of Bethany!** Save the date of Oct 27, Tuesday at 11:30
- **XYZ Halloween Party** When was the last time you attended a Halloween Party? Oct 27 10am
- **Community Campus Work Day!** Oct 31, 8am-12p
- **All Saints' Day** Brunch Potluck Sunday, Nov 1, 2026 @ 11:30 AM following 10am service
- **Usher Training** - Sunday, Nov 8

Outreach:

- **Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains** – Home for the Holidays Donation Drive Nov 4
- **Brian Tennien Memorial Rice and Bean Breakdown** for Metro Caring Sunday, Nov 15th
- **Global Mission:** Bethany's Global Mission Ministry proposals- Nov 17
- **Integrated Family Community Services (IFCS)** Fresh Thanks - Sat, Nov 21
- **LFSRM's Refugee Youth Empowerment Program Needs SUPPLIES!**

Other:

- **Confirmation Project** - Emily Moy - donations can be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall today.

**Look for full details for all our news and events on the
Bethany website: [Bethany-denver.org/news](https://bethany-denver.org/news)**

Things to Know About Worship

Welcome to Bethany! If you have questions or would like to consider making Bethany your church home, visit our website, [Bethany-Denver.org](https://bethany-denver.org), or stop by the Newcomer Nook after worship. The pastoral team, consisting of Pastor Gary Sandberg (he/him), Pastor Nate Preisinger (he/him), Deacon Debra Alba (she/her) and Director of Pastoral Care Janet Mortinsen (she/her), is available to speak with you.

Participating in Worship: There will be times during worship when you are invited to stand, but if it is more comfortable or more meaningful for you to remain seated, please feel free to do so.

Communion Statement: Everyone gathered for worship is invited to take part in Communion. Jesus did not place any barriers around who received communion and neither does Bethany. Everyone gathered for worship is invited to take part in Communion. Alcohol-free and gluten-free elements are available.

Hearing Assistance Device: Please see the Sound Tech in the A/V booth at the rear of the Sanctuary if you need a hearing assistance device.

Children at Bethany: Children and youth are a blessing from God and we love having children in the Sanctuary! Additionally, we offer several options for children and families to feel comfortable in a variety of spaces on Sunday mornings:

Flowers are given today in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Davin & Mary Anderson