

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4500 EAST HAMPDEN AVENUE | CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE, CO 80113 | WWW.BETHANY-DENVER.ORG | 303.758.2820



The Feast of
John the Baptist
9:00am June 22, 2025



Learn & Grow in Your Faith

Discover Meaningful Spiritual Practices

Want to deepen your faith journey? The new Bethany Connect app offers teachings on spiritual practices to help you grow closer to God. Explore new ways to pray, reflect, and connect with your faith.

Download the new Bethany Connect app today!
Search "Bethany Connect" in the App Store or Google Play and
start your daily journey in faith.



+ WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS +

Prelude

Voluntary in A Major

William Selby

Welcome to Worship

Deacon Debra Alba

Song of Praise

Shout to the Lord

ELW 821



My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you. All of my days

I want to praise the won - ders of your might - y love.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise to the King.

Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of your hands; for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev -

- er I'll stand. Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

A Time of Confession

Holy and gracious God,

We confess that we have fallen short - in our thoughts, in our words, and in our actions.

We have done things we should not have done, and we have left good things undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not fully loved our neighbors.

We have often taken your gifts for granted. In your mercy, forgive us.

Turn us toward what is good and right, and lead us in the way of Jesus. Amen.

God's Gift of Forgiveness

Dear friends, God does not desire shame or punishment for us. God longs for us to turn away from that which does not give life and truly live. So hear this good news: In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven - completely and forever - in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Song

Praise the Lord! O Heavens

ELW 823

You are invited to face the cross as it enters.



- 1 Praise the Lord! O heav'ns, a - dore him; praise him, an - gels, in the height;
- 2 Praise the Lord, for he is gra - cious; nev - er shall his prom - ise fail.



sun and moon, re - joice be - fore him; praise him, gleam - ing stars and light.
God has made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.



Praise the Lord, for he has spo - ken; worlds his might - y voice o - beyed;
Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on high, his pow'r pro - claim;



laws which nev - er shall be bro - ken for their guid - ance he has made.
heav'n and earth, and all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name!

Text: *Foundling Hospital Collection*, London, 1796

Music: AUSTRIA, Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809

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

Almighty God,

**by your gracious providence your servant John the Baptist was born to Elizabeth and Zechariah.
Grant to your people the wisdom to see your purpose and the openness to hear your will, that the
light of Christ may increase in us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Addison Belle Corbett - Born: July 31, 2024

Parents: Austin and Lindsey Corbett

We gather at these living waters. Throughout history, God's saving action toward God's people has taken place through water. Let us pray:

Most Holy God, you created the seas, rivers, and lakes; you saved Noah and his family from the floods; you led the Israelites through the Red Sea and quenched their thirst with water flowing from a rock. Through the waters of the Jordan River, you proclaimed Jesus your own beloved son and so through these waters of baptism, you proclaim that we, too, are your own beloved children, now and forever. Amen.

Parents, do you wish Addison to be baptized into the promises of God?

R: I do.

We make promises and assume responsibilities at baptism. God promises us unconditional love and life forever, and we know that our journey of faith encompasses certain promises so that our lives reflect this love.

Parents, do you promise to: Live with your child among God's faithful people, bring your child to the Lord's table, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place the holy scriptures in their hands to nurture their faith and prayer life, so that they will know and trust God?

R: I do.

Parents, sponsors, people of God, do you promise to support and pray for Addison's new life in Christ?

R: We do.

Baptism: Addison Belle, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer: Sustain Addison with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Blessing: Addison Belle, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

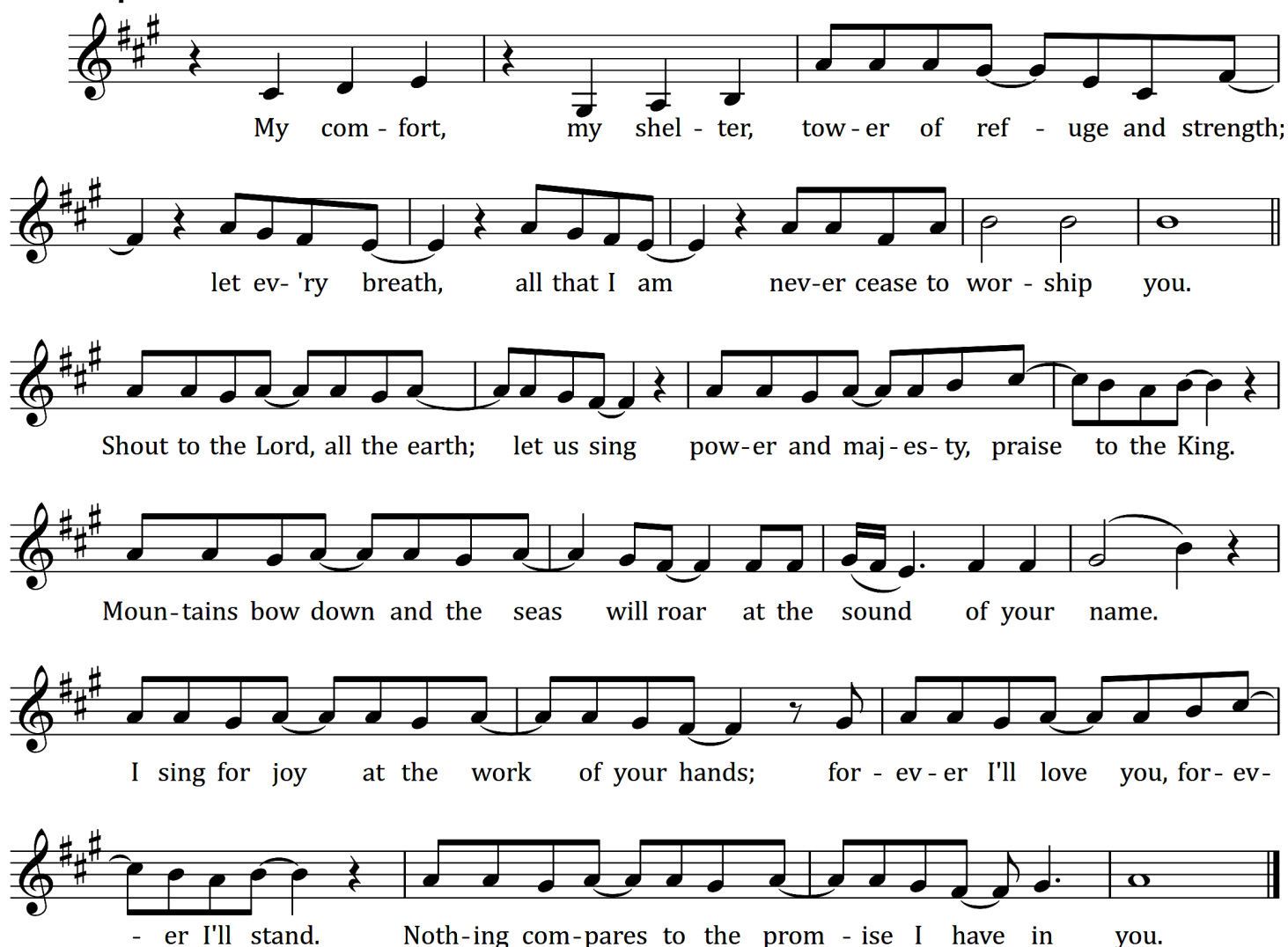
Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven.

Let us welcome our new sibling in Christ!

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a member of the body of Christ, child of God's kingdom on earth and in heaven.

Children's Worship

Deacon Debra Alba, Gayle Newell



My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;
let ev - 'ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.
Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise to the King.
Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands; for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev -
- er I'll stand. Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

+ WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD +

Today's Sermon is based on readings from:

Malachi 3:1-4

Sylvia Boedeker

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight — indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 1:57-67

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

⁵⁷Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

⁵⁹On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. ⁶⁰But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." ⁶¹They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." ⁶²Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. ⁶³He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. ⁶⁴Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. ⁶⁵Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

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

Sermon

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Sermon Notes

Song of the Day

Blessed Be the God of Israel

ELW 552



1 Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free,
2 Now from the house of Da - vid a child of grace has come,
3 On all by death im - pris - oned the sun be - gins to rise,



who vis - its and re - deems us, and grants us lib - er - ty.
a Sav - ior who will lead us to our e - ter - nal home.
the dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes,



The proph - ets spoke of mer - cy, of free - dom and re - lease;
Be - fore him goes the her - ald, fore - run - ner in the way,
to guide the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace;



God shall ful - fill the prom - ise to bring our peo - ple peace.
the proph - et of sal - va - tion, the har - bin - ger of day.
oh, bless our God and Sav - ior with songs that nev - er cease!

A Statement of Our Faith (Apostles' Creed)

Pastor Gary Sandberg

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

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.

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.

Prayers of the People

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.

Abundantly Bethany

To fill out your digital connection card, go to www.tinyurl.com/BethanyConnect.

- ♦ **Vacation Bible School/Day Camp:** Begins TOMORROW!! Sign up now!
- ♦ **Ecuador Mission Trip:** Faith Shares
- ♦ **Nametags:** fill out form now, order to be placed Tuesday, Jun 24

Financial Update: These figures are from our fiscal year starting July 1, 2024 through June 15, 2025.

July 1 to June 15	Budgeted	Actual
Contributions	\$1,999,356	\$1,928,740
Expenses	\$2,087,099	\$2,097,594
Deficit	-\$87,743	-\$168,854

We encourage you to review your giving. All gifts that help us close the gap on this deficit will go a long way toward sustaining vibrant ministry in the coming year.

+ WE WORSHIP GOD WITH OUR OFFERINGS +

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**
- **Mail** in your check to the office (4500 E. Hampden Ave. Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113)
- Sunday mornings, drop your offering in the silver plate at the doors as you exit



Offering Music

I Am the Light of This World

Rev. Gary Davis

Dave Craven, Neil Hanson, Scott Nixon

*Just as long as I'm in this world, I am the light of this world.
Said you don't believe in Jesus, and not a word he said.
When he come all the way down to Lazarus's grave, and raise him from the dead.
Now we got fiery fingers, Lord, and we got fiery hands.
When I get up in heaven, gonna play in that fiery band.
Well shout out over the water, I won't be here long.
My soul is anchored in Jesus, the world won't do me no harm.
Well, prayer is the key to heaven, and faith unlocks the door.
That's why my god gave me the key, and said take it where I go.
Well I've been confirmed, and God knows I ain't ashamed.
The Holy Ghost is my witness, and the angels done signed my name.*

Children return to the Sanctuary

+ THE COMMUNITY MEAL +

Invitation to The Communion Table

Pastor Gary Sandberg

Celebration of Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

Bethany welcomes all to receive the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion. An usher will direct you forward where you can receive communion by dipping the bread into the wine, or pick up a pre-packaged communion set or a gluten-free communion set from the tray in front of your seating area. Groups are welcome to visit a communion station together. Those who are not receiving communion are invited to cross their arms across their chests to receive a blessing.

Communion Distribution

Communion Music

Wayfaring Stranger

traditional

Dave Craven, Neil Hanson, Scott Nixon

*I'm just a poor, wayfaring stranger, traveling through this world alone.
There is no sickness, no toil nor danger, in that fair land to which I go.
I'm going there, to see my father, I'm going there, no more to roam.
I'm just going, over Jordan, I'm just going, over home.
I know dark clouds, will gather round me, I know my way is rough and steep.
But beauteous fields, arise before me, where God's redeemed their vigils keep.
I'm going there, to see my mother, she said she'd meet me, when I come.
So I'm just going, over Jordan, I'm just going, over home.
I'll soon be free, from every trial, this form shall rest, beneath the sod.
I'll drop the cross of self-denial, and enter in that home with God.
I'm going home, to see my savior, I'm going home, no more to roam.
I'm just going, over Jordan, I'm just going, over home.*

Communion Song

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

ELW 249

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent
that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en, our
way for God with - in, and let us all
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther
for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Table Blessing

+ GOD SENDS US TO SERVE +

Sending Invitation and Blessing

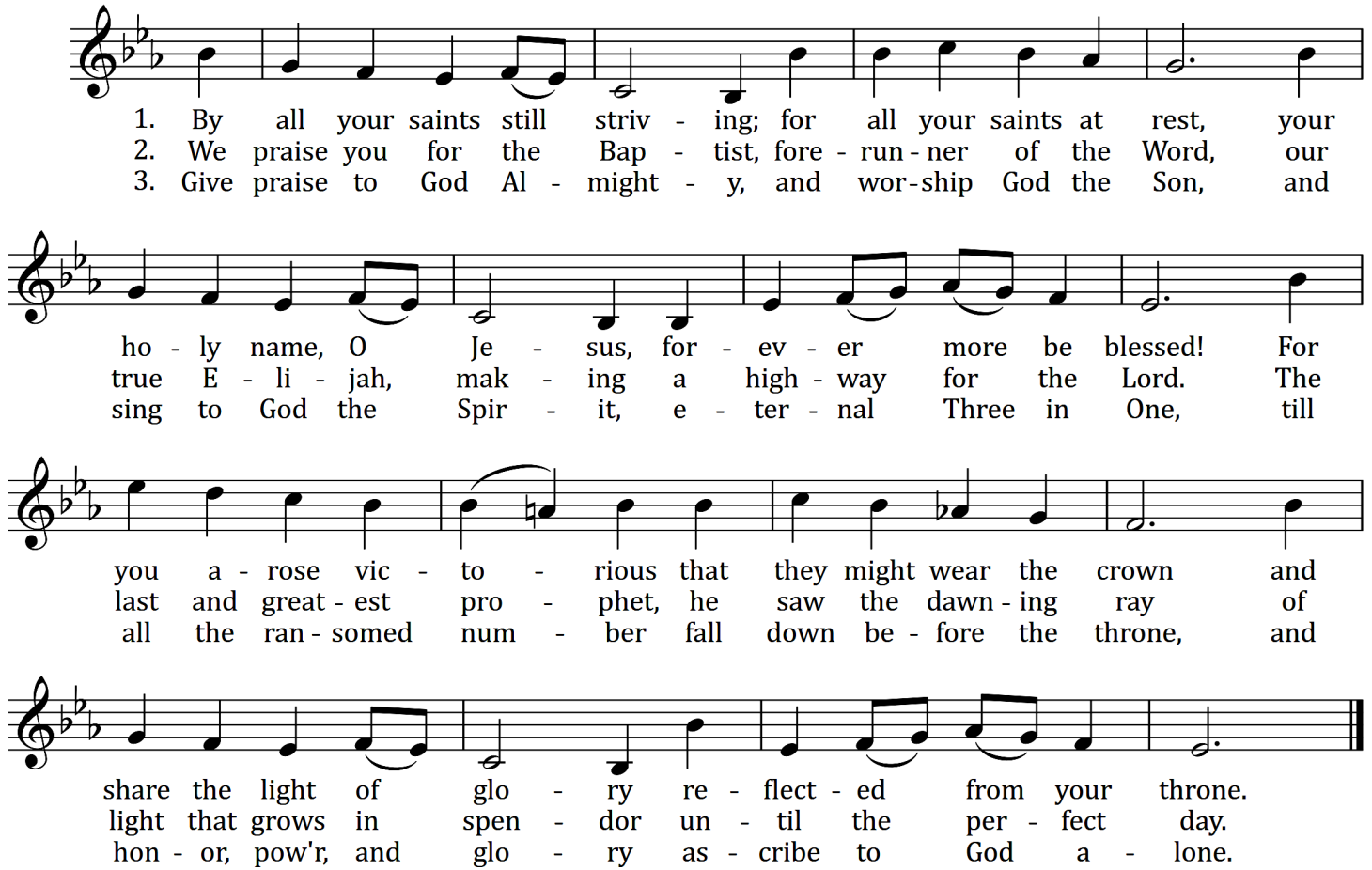
Pastor Nate Preisinger

Song of Sending

By All Your Saints

ELW 421

You are invited to face the cross as it recedes to the center.



1. By all your saints still striv - ing; for all your saints at rest, your
2. We praise you for the Bap - tist, fore - run - ner of the Word, our
3. Give praise to God Al - might - y, and wor-ship God the Son, and

ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er more be blessed! For
true E - li - jah, mak - ing a high - way for the Lord. The
sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One, till

you a - rose vic - to - rious that they might wear the crown and
last and great - est pro - phet, he saw the dawn - ing ray of
all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne, and

share the light of glo - ry re - flect - ed from your throne.
light that grows in spen - dor un - til the per - fect day.
hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone.

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

Postlude on “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

Paul Fey

Things To Know About News & Events

- ♦ **Food Collection:** We'll gather food donations during the summer months for our partner, Integrated Family Community Services (IFCS). IFCS offers a free food market and serves over 1,000 families each month. For Sundays in **June**, it's any kind of cereal. Monetary donations will also be accepted—use the Give button on the website. We've collected almost 190 boxes of cereal so far. Let's continue to help IFCS keep their cereal shelves stocked each week. In July, for those who might be looking ahead, we will be collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly.
- ♦ **Breakfast with the Bible:** This is a weekly Bible study Tuesdays, 9:00-10:00am in the church Library. For the summer, Vicky Daub and Clara O'Connell are facilitating this Bible study. All are welcome!
- ♦ **Rainbow Trail Day Camp/VBS at Bethany Lutheran Church:** Day Camp is a fun filled week of Bible Study, Arts & Crafts, Recreation, Music and lots & lots of fun! Kindergarten—5th grade meets Monday – Friday, Jun 23 – 26, 9:00am – 2:30pm and Jun 27, 9:00am – 12:00pm (with closing program at 11:30am, cookout & celebration following program). Preschool from 9:00am – 11:30am daily. We have limited spaces so be sure to get your registration in as soon as possible so you don't miss out. For questions contact Gayle Newell at 303-758-2820 ext. 352 or Gayle@Bethany-Denver.org. Register using this QR code. 
- ♦ **Nametags:** Would you like a Bethany nametag? Fill out the form at <https://tinyurl.com/BLCnametag> and we will place an order **Tuesday, Jun 24**. Email Office@Bethany-Denver.org with questions.
- ♦ **Celebrate our Day Camp volunteers:** Join in for a night of pizza and fun at Urban Air, **Wednesday, Jun 25**, 5:00-7:00pm at the Urban Air in Quebec Village. Register today in the Bethany App! Email kate@bethany-denver.org for more information.
- ♦ **Pride 5K: Saturday, Jun 28**, 9:30am. Pastor Gary and Karen invite you to join them in jogging or walking the Pride 5K. The casual race meets by Civic Center Park and the State Capitol. Join the Bethany Rainbow Connection team by registering at: www.https://runsignup.com/Race/Register/RaceGroup-1?raceId=132053. Can't be there that day, but want to support our team fund raising? Make a donation at www.https://runsignup.com/Race/132053/Donate/Derms4LC2B9gOZjv.
- ♦ **Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver/Holy Hammers:** Upcoming volunteer dates: **Saturday, Jun 28** & Saturday, Aug 9, 7:50am-3:30pm, Augustana Homes (5088 E Dakota Ave, Denver); Saturday, Jul 19, 9:00am-4:00pm, Production Shop (430 S Navajo St, Denver). Register at <https://vhub.at/HolyHammers>. No prior construction experience necessary. Please contact Kevin Dempsey at kmdmpsy@aol.com with questions or more information.
- ♦ **Incoming 6th - graduated 12th Graders Movie Night: Wednesday, Jul 9**, 7:30-10:00pm, in the Courtyard. Come for an outdoor movie night at Bethany! We will have s'mores, popcorn, and more, and we plan to watch "National Treasure". Can't wait to see you there!
- ♦ **Women of Bethany Brunch: Saturday, Jul 12**, 9:30am. Sharon Boell has invited us to her home in SW Denver for brunch. Egg casseroles and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish, fruit, bread, or pastries to share. Sign up online on www.bethany-denver.org at the Bethany News link by Wednesday, Jul 9. The address and directions will be given to those registered. We hope to see many of you, and new faces too! All are welcome to WOB events.
- ♦ **June's Blood Drive:** Thank you to those who participated in the Vitalant Blood Drive last week. Thirteen units of blood were donated. Although Vitalant had hoped for more donations, this drive could potentially save/enhance the lives of 36 patients. The next opportunity to donate blood at Bethany will be Wednesday, Aug 20, 10:00am – 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks Bethany for your generosity!

- ♦ **Volunteers Needed at IFCS Fresh Market:** More adults are needed to join the existing Bethany team that volunteers at the Integrated Family Community Services' (IFCS) Fresh Market on the first Wednesday of each month 8:00am- 11:30am. Volunteers will shepherd and guide the IFCS clients as they shop in the Market, and may help restock the shelves in the Market as able. IFCS is located at 3370 S. Irving St in Englewood. Please contact Kevin Dempsey at kmdmpsy@aol.com or 303-699-1629 for additional information and/or to become part of our team.
- ♦ **Bethany Foundation scholarships** available to students attending Lutheran colleges. Lutheran colleges offer a smaller class size, like minded students and staff who serve as mentors helping students grow in faith and education. Consider a Lutheran college for your higher education. Questions? Contact: Jill at monsensjill@gmail.com or Susan at susanjunge@comcast.net.
- ♦ **Bethany has an App!** The new Bethany Connect App features sermons, music, devotionals, meditations, and much, much more with new features added all the time! Download the Bethany Connect App in the Google Play or Apple App store.

For more information and to see other announcements, please sign up for the email blasts by contacting the office - 303.758.2820, or visit www.Bethany-Denver.org/Bethany-news/



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING RESCATE!

To date we
have raised
\$20,998!

Our Goal is
\$30,000



HEALTH KIT

SOAP
COMBS
NAIL CLIPPERS
TOWELS
HAND CREAM
VITAMINS
SMALL TOY



SCHOOL KIT

SCHOOL BACKPACK
COLORED PENCILS
SHARPENER
SCISSORS
GLUE STICK



OTHER ITEMS

DRY ERASE
MARKERS
PACKING TAPE
BATTERIES
AA/AAA/D
DRILL BIT SET
HOSE - 60 FT

RESCATE is a Christian mission in Riobamba, Ecuador. Bethany is sending a multi-generational team to work alongside RESCATE this summer from July 12-20th.



Please look for an Ecuador Team member, following the service, at our booth in the Fellowship Hall for more information.

BETHANY CAMPS!

Day Camp VBS

June 23-27

Experience camp on-campus at Bethany! Rainbow Trail Lutheran Bible Camp Staff and Bethany Youth help lead Bible studies, songs, arts and crafts, and games for children!
Register Here:



Art Camp

July 14-17

Children ages 4 and up learn Bible stories and complete craft projects connected to the stories!
Held in On-campus in the Bethany Art room
9:00am-12:00pm each day.
Register here:



Bethany Lutheran Church | 4500 East Hampden Avenue | Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

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, 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.
- ♦ Bethany Lutheran Church values people of diverse race, sexual identity, ethnicity, and political affiliation. **All are welcome at Bethany Lutheran Church** and this community is enriched because you are here. We are together for good!
- ♦ **Sunday Worship services:** 9:00am One worship service in the summer - Memorial Day weekend thru Labor Day weekend. Worship style may be Traditional - follows traditional Lutheran liturgy or Blended – a flow of worship that includes the elements of Lutheran worship with music that spans multiple genres and brings some creative ways to engage the theme of the day.
- ♦ **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.
- ♦ **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.
- ♦ **Worship Servants:** Thank you to all the A/V team, Ushers, Communion Servers, Altar Guild, Musicians, Embrace Volunteers and Sacristans for your work to greet people and make worship happen. We always welcome Worship Servants - go to www.signupschedule.com/Bethany to sign up!
- ♦ You are welcome to bring beverages into the Sanctuary but please use a covered container. And enjoy your food outside the Sanctuary (although we understand small children may need snacks!).
- ♦ **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:
 - ⇒ **Fidget Station:** We know that all of God's children (young and old) are wonderfully and fearfully made in the image of God. And, at Bethany, ALL are welcome to worship. Available outside the Sanctuary's north doors is a Fidget Station. Children and adults are invited to use these fidgets and art supplies to aid in your spiritual growth and presence in worship. Please return items to the station when you are finished.
 - ⇒ **Busy Bags:** Near the Sanctuary doors you will find premade bags perfect for littles. Grab one on the way in and return it on the way out.
 - ⇒ **Nursery:** For directions to our Nursery, please speak with an usher. You are welcome to use it with your child.