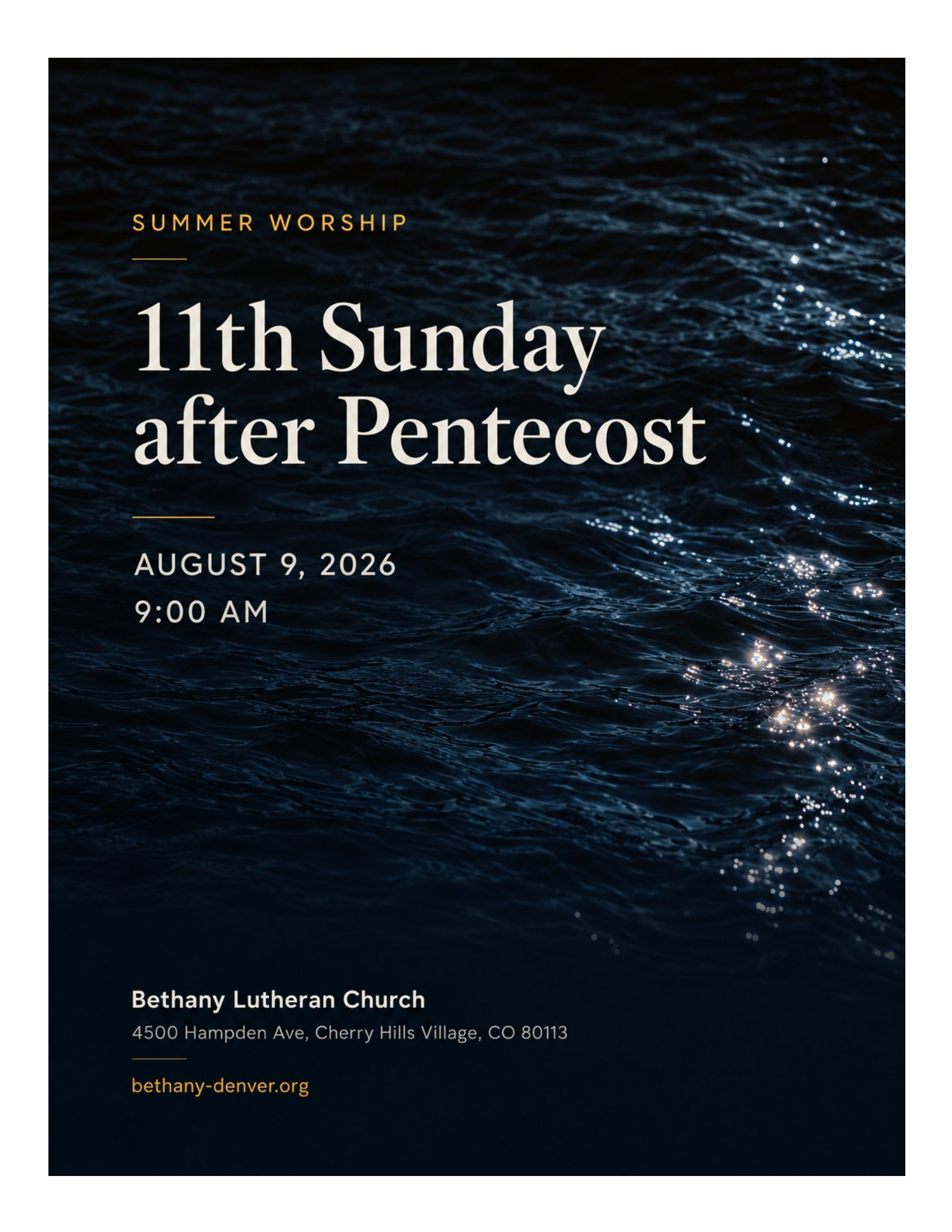




SUMMER WORSHIP

11th Sunday after Pentecost

AUGUST 9, 2026

9:00 AM

Bethany Lutheran Church

4500 Hampden Ave, Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

bethany-denver.org



Capital Campaign Update: We Are United in Faith!

Dear Bethany Family,

Thank you for your strong support of Bethany's United in Faith (UIF) Capital Campaign. Thanks to your generosity, we have received over 350 commitments totaling nearly \$5.8 million, with just under \$1 million already received toward those goals. We deeply appreciate this giving alongside your ongoing support for Bethany's General Fund.

If you have not yet made a commitment, it is not too late to join us this summer! Every gift strengthens Bethany's ministry, and you can submit your commitment card to the office or online at any time. Our Facilities Team and Church Council are currently prioritizing projects to align our timeline with this funding.

Timeline and Fulfillment Details

The UIF campaign runs from June 2026 to June 2029. You can fulfill your pledge with a one-time gift or multiple payments over this three-year window. This timeline allows you to spread gifts across four separate tax years (2026–2029). If making recurring payments, we kindly ask that you begin this year (2026) so we can confidently launch our first phase of projects.

You can fulfill your commitment in the way that best suits your household:

- **By Check:** Payable to Bethany with "UIF Campaign" in the memo line.
- **Online/App:** Give digitally through our Subsplash app and choose "United in Faith."
- **Stocks:** Transferring appreciated stock offers great tax benefits. Transfer instructions can be found for download on the *Bethany Giving* page on the website. Contact giving@bethany-denver.org with any questions and for broker instructions.
- **IRA RMD:** If taking Required Minimum Distributions, you can direct a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to Bethany to fulfill your pledge and reduce your taxable income. Contact giving@bethany-denver.org to coordinate.

Thank you for your faith and partnership as we build the future of Bethany together!

With gratitude,

Stephanie Davy
United in Faith Chair

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE

“Nimrod” from Enigma Variations

Edward Elgar

WELCOME

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

Deacon Debra Alba



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

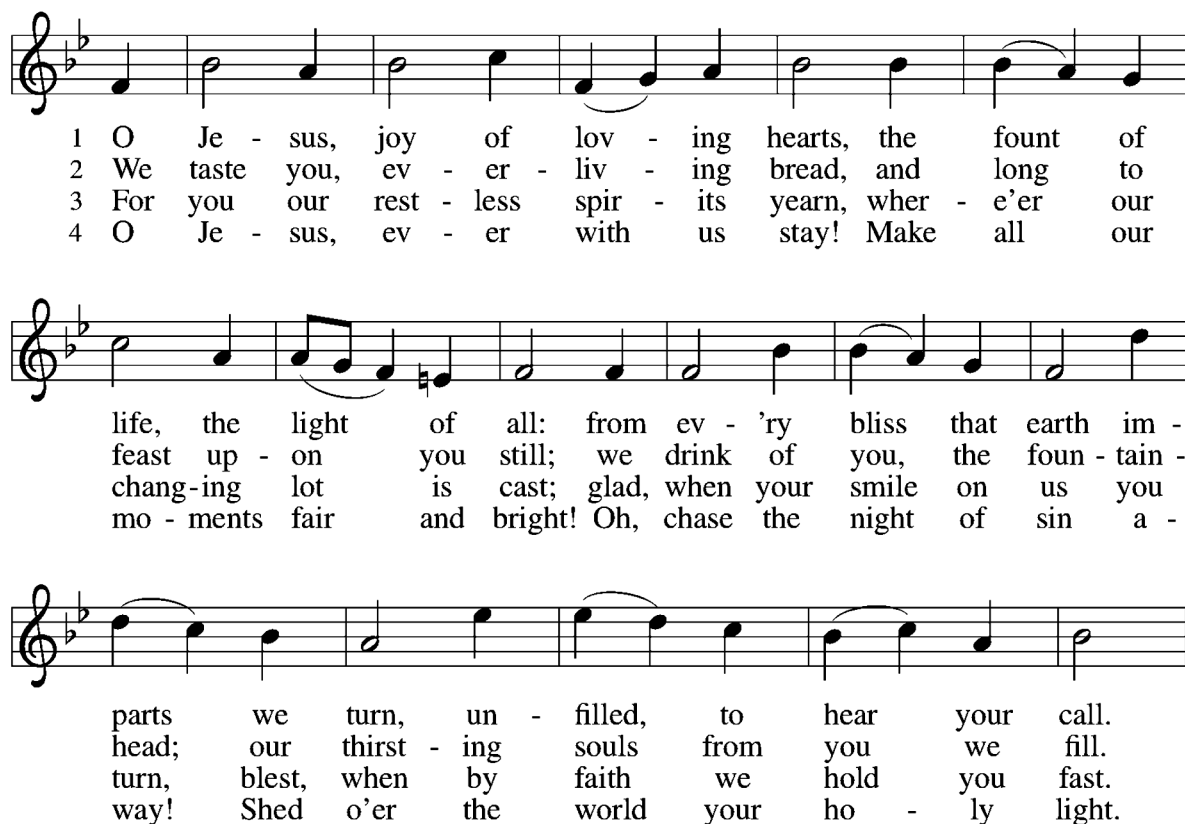
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

ELW #658

You are invited to face the cross as it enters.

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our

life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -

parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.
Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

GREETING*Pastor Gary Sandberg*

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.

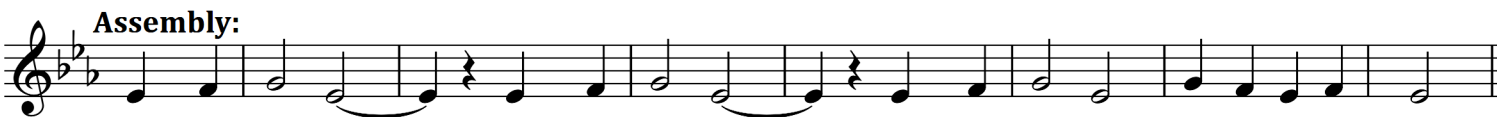
KYRIE

Leader:



In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

Assembly:



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer- cy, Lord, have mer- cy, mer - cy on us all.

Leader:



For the reign of God, and for peace through-out the world, for the



u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord:

Assembly:



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer- cy, Lord, have mercy, mer-cy on us all.

Leader:



For your peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the



strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord:

Assembly:



Lord, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer- cy, Lord, have mer- cy, mer- cy on us all.

Leader:



Help, save, and de - fend us, O God. A - - - men.

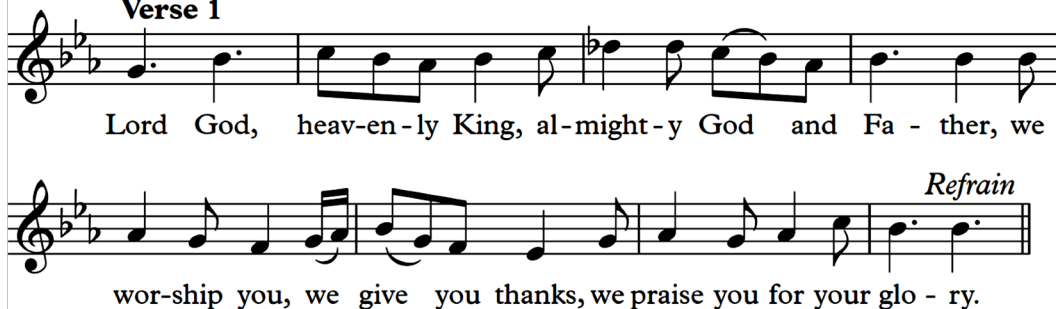
HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



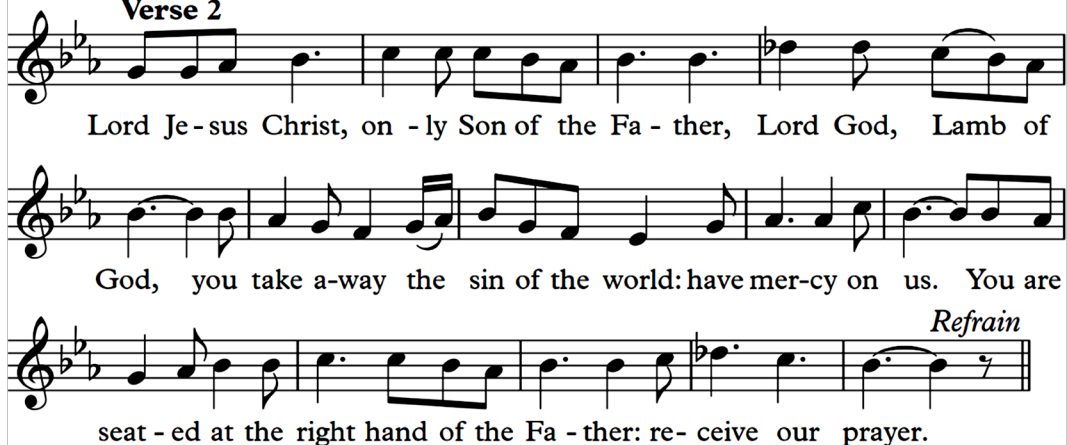
Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple, peace to God's peo-ple,
Peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Verse 1



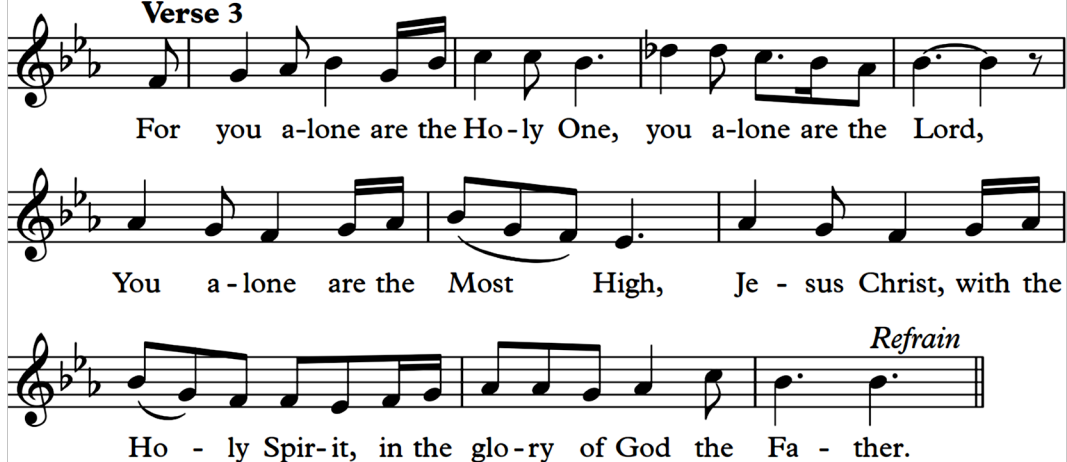
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Verse 2



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of
God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us. You are
seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.

Verse 3



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Gary Sandberg

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON/NEW SCHOOL YEAR BLESSING

Deacon Debra Alba

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Deacon Debra Alba

✠ WORD ✠

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Marie Friedemann

Dear Lord, may the scriptures we read today ground us in the joy of the resurrection, that we might grow in God's grace. May we find opportunity to live out your Gospel message as we share this good news with the world. **Amen.**

LESSON

Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them."⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down)⁷ "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).⁸ But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim),⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation.¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame."¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we
go? For you have the words, you have the words, the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

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

²² Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

SERMON

Pastor Nate Preisinger

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

ELW #755



1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver
2 As a moth - er stills her child, thou canst
3 When at last I near the shore, and the



life's tem - pes - tuous sea; un - known waves be - fore me
hush the o - cean wild; bois - t'rous waves o - bey thy
fear - ful break - ers roar twixt me and the peace - ful



roll, hid - ing rock and treach - 'rous shoal; chart and
will when thou say'st to them: "Be still." Won - drous
rest, then, while lean - ing on thy breast, may I



com - pass come from thee. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
sov - 'reign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
hear thee say to me: "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor Nate Preisinger

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

BLESSING OF 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.

✠ OFFERING ✠

ABUNDANTLY BETHANY

Pastor Nate Preisinger

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

- ♦ **Bethany in Community** (see pg. 13)

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 **BethanyConnect (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)
- Unlock your phone, hold near **NFC card** (on pew back), and wait for the notification to appear
- **On Sundays**, drop your offering in the silver plates as they are passed.



OFFERING MUSIC

Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled

S.T. Reiff

Lorena Perry, soprano

*Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me.
In my Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you.
I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come again and receive you unto myself;
That where I am ye may be also.*

CHILDREN RETURN TO THE SANCTUARY

✠ MEAL ✠

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Pastor Gary Sandberg

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...
...we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,
bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

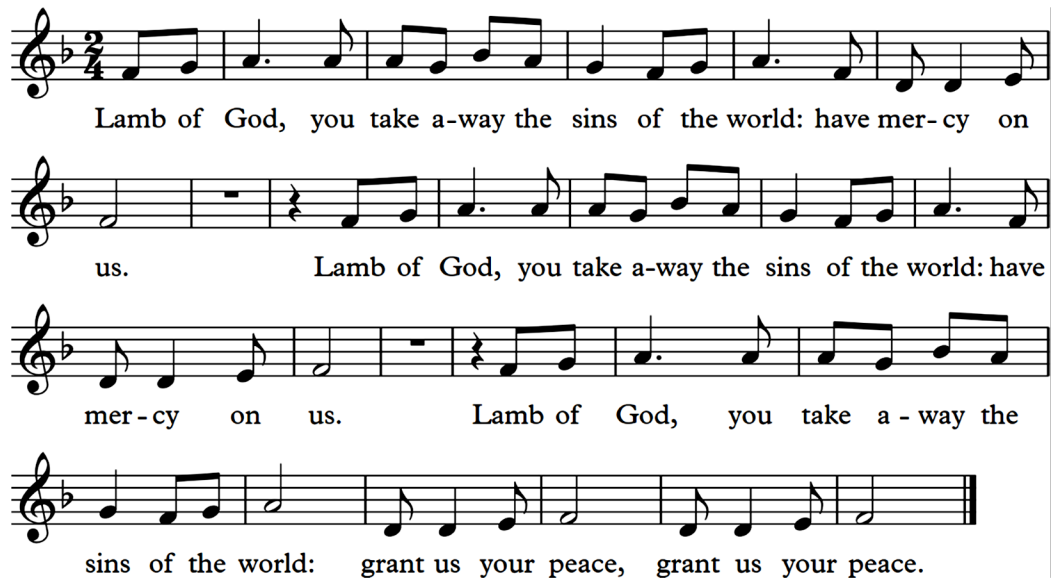
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. 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

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

How I Love Your Word

Mark Hayes

Lorena Perry, soprano

*I love your word, it gives me light. It guides me through the darkest night.
Your law is perfect in every way. How I love your word.
Sweeter than the honeycomb, more precious than the finest gold,
Rich with treasures new and old, your word gives life to me.
When I am frightened, you calm my fears. When I am troubled, your word is clear
That in every moment you are here. Your word brings peace to me.
I choose to follow your commands. Your ways I want to understand.
I long to learn all that I can from the wisdom in your word.
Your words I treasure deep within. They comfort me and discipline
That I may have no cause to sin. Your word brings righteousness.*



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found:
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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TABLE BLESSING

✠ SENDING ✠

BENEDICTION

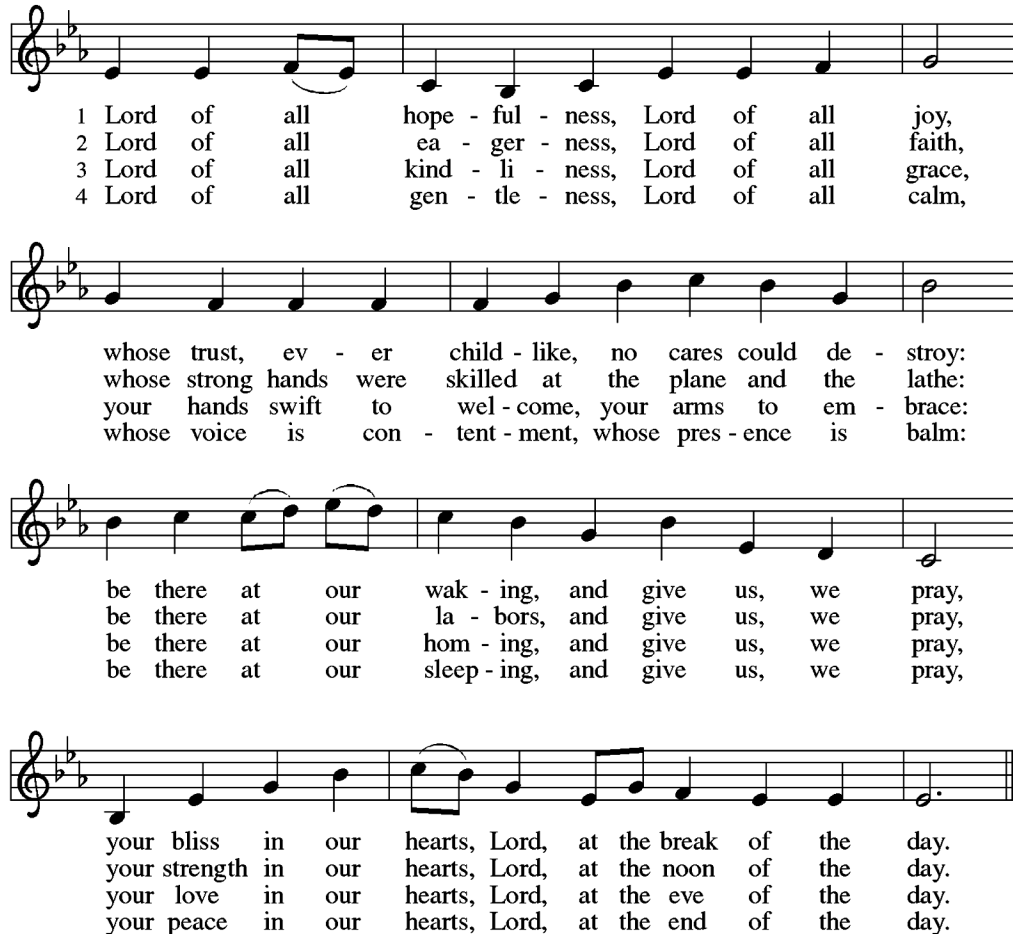
Pastor Nate Preisinger

SENDING HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

ELW #765

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



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

DISMISSAL

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

Preisinger

Pastor Nate

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

Menuet Gothique

Léon Boëllmann

Things To Know About News & Events

- ♦ **Nametags are in!** If you ordered a nametag in the recent past, come to the Mission Center desk and see if yours is here!
- ♦ **Summer Food Drive:** Every **Sunday through Sep 6** we'll collect food to support the IFCS no-cost food market. **Jul 5 - 26** please bring boxes of cereal (all kinds). They can always use other items too such as peanut butter and jelly, canned fruits and vegetables, crackers, snack bars, etc. If you'd prefer to make a cash donation, please use the Give button on Bethany's website and select IFCS in the drop-down menu.
- ♦ **Whiz Kids Tutoring:** Interested in tutoring and mentoring elementary students? Stop by the table in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, Aug 16** and talk with a representative from Whiz Kids! Help local students build confidence, improve their reading skills, and experience the encouragement of a caring adult. As a tutor, you'll not only help a student grow in learning but also demonstrate Christ's love through your time, encouragement, and friendship.
- ♦ **Vitalant Blood Drive:** Bethany will host a blood drive for Vitalant on **Wednesday, Aug 19**, in the Fellowship Hall from 10:00am–1:00pm. To schedule an appointment, visit www.donors.vitalant.org and use blood drive code 0377 or call 877-258-4825. Please contact Janet Mortinsen if you have questions at Janet@Bethany-Denver.org.
- ♦ **Habitat for Humanity Metro Denver volunteers needed:** **Saturday, Aug 22**, 10:00am-2:00pm, Aurora ReStore; **Sat, Sep 26**, 7:50am–3:30pm, Griffith Station Homes. Register to volunteer at <https://vhub.at/HolyHammers>. Contact Kevin Dempsey for questions at kmdmpsy@aol.com.
- ♦ **Photo Directory:** All Bethany members are encouraged to participate in an online church directory to be compiled and published in the Fall. Individual and family photos will be taken in the Chapel on Wednesday, **Sep 2** (4:30pm-6:30pm). Can't make it? Send individual head shot photos to Directory@Bethany-Denver.org.
- ♦ **Veteran Servant Corps Project: Friday, Sep 4**, 10:30am–3:00pm. Volunteers are needed to serve a cook-out the residents and the staff at the Fitzsimons Veterans Community Living Center (1919 Quentin Street, Aurora). Duties include grilling food, serving food, taking orders, serving drinks and interacting with the Veterans. Please join in on Labor Day weekend to serve these Veterans lunch and to thank them for their service. **To sign up contact Vicky Daub at lvdaub2@gmail.com.**
- ♦ **Walk To End Alzheimer's:** Please join the Bethany Walkers Group at this year's Walk on **Sep 19** to raise research funds to wipe out this horrible disease. Either meet at 8:30am at Denver City Park behind the Museum of Natural History on the lawn across from the Check-in booth or in the Bethany Church East parking lot to carpool at 8:00am. Please register and donate to our Bethany Walkers team page at <http://tinyurl.com/AlzheimersWalk26>
- ♦ **Minding Your Balance classes:** Tuesdays, **Sep 29-Oct 27**, 1:00pm–2:15pm, Room 412. Good balance is necessary for daily activities which is essential to maintaining independence. Losing balance and fear of falling are two commonly voiced concerns. Susan Chandler, from Denver Ki-Aikido, will offer a 5 week "Minding Your Balance" series. The cost for this series is \$75. Space is limited so please sign up online at www.bethany-denver.org at the Bethany News Link by **Sep 22**. For questions, please contact Janet Mortinsen. At Janet@Bethany-Denver.org.
- ♦ **Dear Bethany,** Thank you all for your many kind words, cards, hugs, and gifts. It has been my privilege to serve God and the people of Bethany for so many years. I will miss you all, but you are in good hands. And I will be back to worship with you in a few months. Thank you, Sarah

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.
- ♦ **Safety:** Bethany Lutheran Church is committed to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. If at any time you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or have concerns, please speak with one of our staff or designated leaders. We are here to listen and to support you.
- ♦ **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 friendly staffed Nursery, please speak with an Usher.

Today's flowers in front of the pulpit are from Mom & Dad Sandberg in honor of Pastor Gary & Karen's 40th wedding anniversary!