

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4500 East Hampden Avenue | Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113 | www.Bethany-Denver.org | 303.758.2820



Traditional Worship Service

November 16, 2025

8:30am

Holiday Worship Schedule

**We know that many are already making holiday plans
and
we hope worshipping at Bethany is part of those plans!**

Here is the holiday worship schedule:

Thanksgiving Eve – 6:30pm

Christmas Eve –

11:00am (NEW!)

1:30pm (Outdoor Christmas Pageant)

3:00pm

5:00pm

7:00pm

Christmas Day – Recorded – drops at 6:00am

Sunday after Christmas – 12/28 – 10:00am service only

Epiphany Sunday – 1/4 – 10:00am service only

Service of Remembrance – 1/4 – 11:30am in the Chapel

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE

Three Voluntaries
II. Andante I. Allegro

Denis Bédard

WELCOME

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

Pastor Nate Preisinger



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.

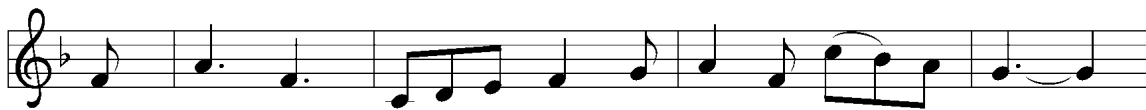
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the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

GATHERING HYMN

Come, We That Love the Lord

ELW #625

You are invited to face the cross as it enters.



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou-sand sa - cred sweets
4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;



join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -



sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.
heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad.
heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.
man-uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

Refrain



We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on:



we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826–1899, refrain
Music: MARCHING TO ZION, Robert Lowry

GREETING

Pastor Nate Preisinger

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

Cantor:



For hope, for joy, for peace in the world, let us pray to the Lord, let us



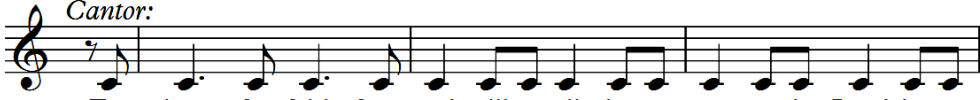
pray to the Lord.

Assembly:

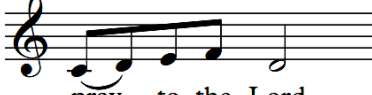


Lord, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor:



For love, for faith, for good-will to all, let us pray to the Lord, let us



pray to the Lord.

Assembly:

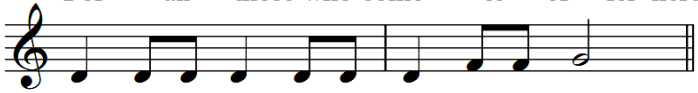


Lord, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor:



For all those who come to of-fer here their wor-ship and



praise, let us pray, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly:



Lord, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the feast of vic - to - ry, vic - t'ry for our God.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry, al - le - lu - ia. Wor - thy is Christ, the

Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free, free to be peo - ple of God.

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and

glo - ry are his. — This is the feast of vic - to - ry, vic - t'ry for our God.

This is the feast of vic - to - ry, al - le - lu - ia. Sing with all the

peo - ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A -

men. — This is the feast, this is the feast, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. —

This is the feast of vic - to - ry, vic - t'ry for our God. This is the feast of

vic - to - ry, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dennis Graham

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.**

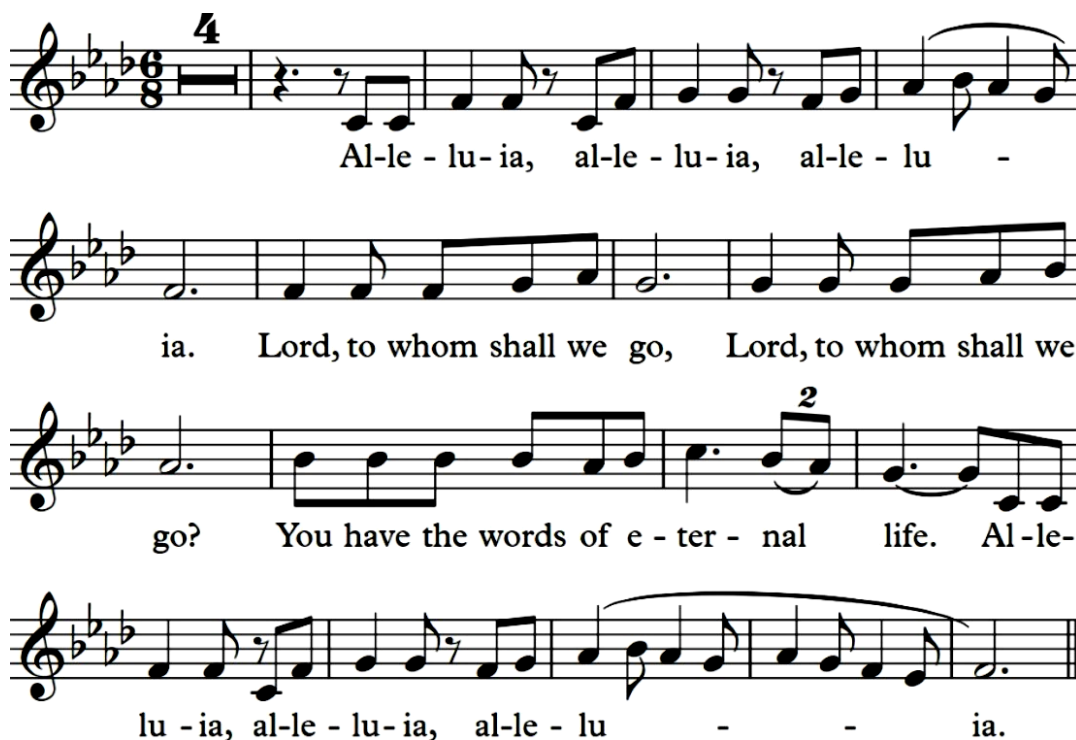
LESSON

Psalm 98

- ¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
² **O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**
³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**
⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**
⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**
⁹ The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu -

ia. Lord, to whom shall we go, Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le-

lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - - - ia.

GOSPEL

Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

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

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." ⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸ And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

⁹ "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

SERMON

Pastor Gary Sandberg

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rise, O Sun of Righteousness

ELW #657

1 Rise, O Sun of righ - teous - ness; with your
2 Rouse our hearts from slum - ber deep; may your
3 Gath - er in your scat - tered flock; give us
4 Burst the bars of stub - born pride; make the
5 Hon - or, praise, and glo - ry be to the

might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,
word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim
wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share
heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death
ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:

show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.
prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.
in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.
with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.
make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958

Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

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

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 Gary Sandberg

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

- **Bible Milestone Class**
- **Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Festival**

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

How Firm a Foundation

arr. Mack Wilberg

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said, who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?*

*In every condition, in sickness, in health, in poverty's vale or abounding in wealth,
At home or abroad, on the land or the sea as thy days may demand, so thy succor shall be.
Fear not, I am with thee; oh, be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid.
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose I will not, I cannot, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!*

✠ Meal ✠

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Pastor Nate Preisinger

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

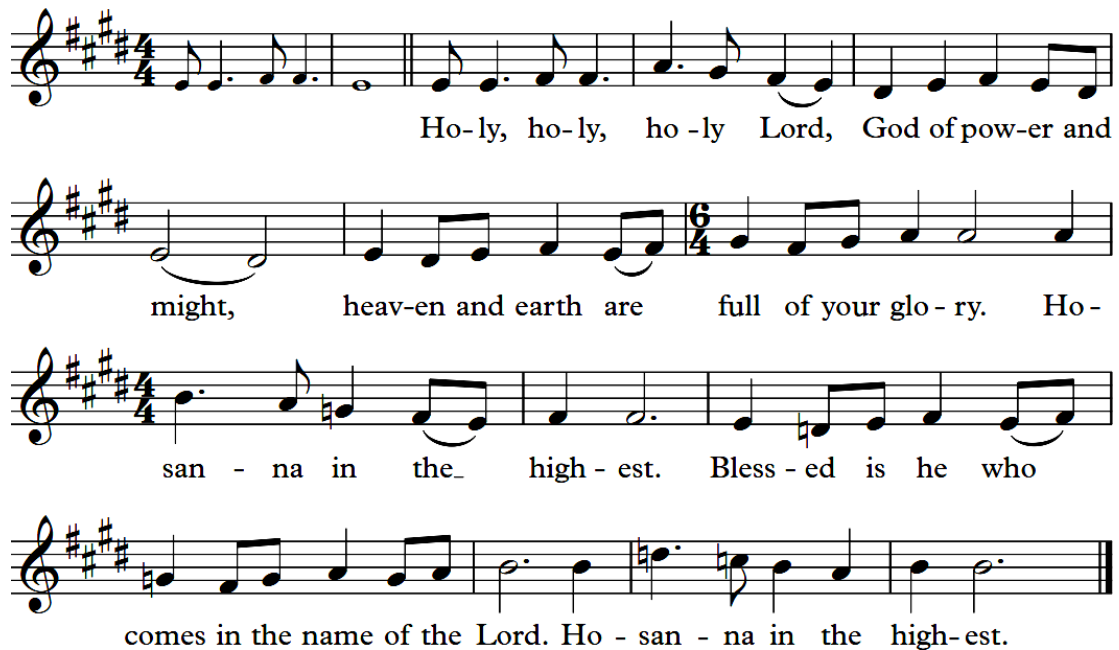


The Lord be with you. And al- so with you. Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord. Let us give_ thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 in the_ high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. 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 my sin, have
mer-cy, mer - cy on me. Lamb of God, you_
take a-way my sin, have mer-cy, mer - cy on me.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace, Grant us your peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

It Is Well with My Soul

arr. Mark Hayes

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought: My sin not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
And, Lord, hast the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul.
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom-is - es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

✠ Sending ✠

BENEDICTION

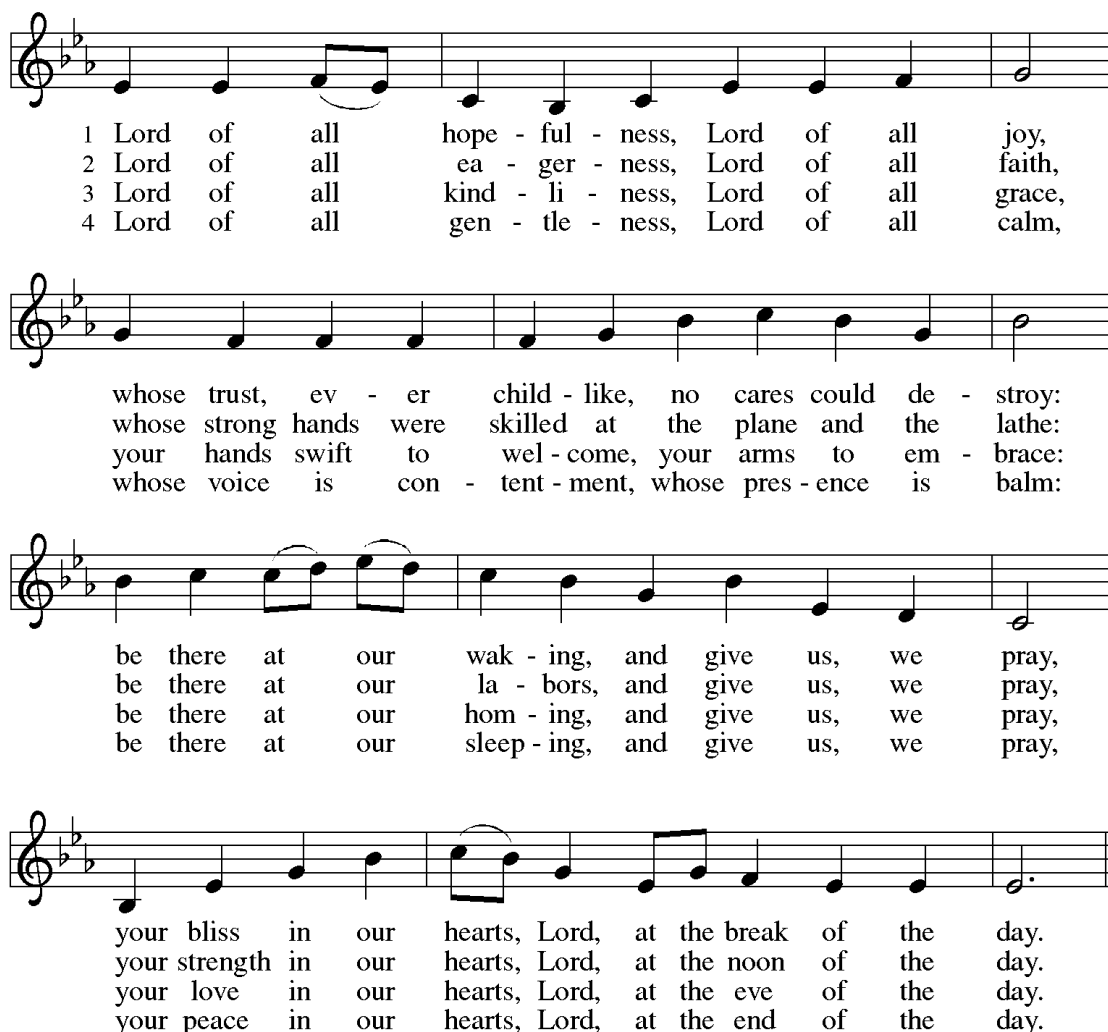
Pastor Gary Sandberg

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.

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

DISMISSAL

Pastor Gary Sandberg

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

Three Voluntaries
III. Allegro

Denis Bédard

Things To Know About - News & Events

- ♦ **Senior High Mission Trip info session:** Are you going to be entering 9th-12th grade in the fall of 2026? Then this meeting is for you! Come on **TODAY** to learn the initial details for our summer mission trip in 2026! We are so excited to once again offer a faith-forming experience for our high school youth this summer. Come to room 412 at 11:20am on 11/16 to learn more.
- ♦ **Bethany's Bible Milestone: TODAY**, 11:30am - 1:00pm, Great Hall. This class is for children in grades 2nd - 5th and their adult caregivers. You are invited to enjoy a light lunch together and to participate in engaging and creative cross-generational learning activities around the theme of the Bible. Next **Sunday, Nov 23**, each child will be blessed and presented with a Bible during worship at the 10:00am service.
- ♦ **Rejoicing Spirits: TODAY** 4:00-6:00pm, Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church 21755 E Smoky Hill Rd. Aurora, 80015. Rejoicing Spirits is an inclusive worship space for people with cognitive and intellectual disabilities, their caregivers, families and anyone who seeks an open, joyful and creative worship experience. If you would like more information regarding the Rejoicing Spirits experience or volunteering, please contact: Pastor Margot at pastor@lordofthehills.org.
- ♦ **Bethany Information Sessions:** New Members will be received on **Sunday, Nov 23** at both worship services and a tour of the Bethany campus will be offered at 11:20am - meet in Room 400.
- ♦ **Family Promise Volunteers Needed:** Christ the Savior Lutheran Church is hosting Family Promise the week of Thanksgiving, **Nov 23-30**. Volunteers are needed to host overnight, drive the van, and prepare dinner on the night of the 23rd. Thank you, Theo Umlauf, for arranging to move the beds Sunday the 30th to the next host church. If you have any questions, please call Jean Scott at 303 756-2106 or email her at stlax@comcast.net.
- ♦ **Thanksgiving Eve: Wednesday, Nov 26.** Worship service at 6:30pm (Holden Evening Prayer) followed by a Pie Festival in the Fellowship Hall. We need pies! Sign up to bring a pie, to help setup, help with worship, and help with cleanup after the pie fest at the yellow bubble on the website home page. Please bring pies to the Fellowship Hall by 6:00pm that night. Thank you!
- ♦ **Senior Ministries:** The gatherings continue on Tuesdays through May 20, 10:00am-1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Any special activities will be communicated via our email list. If you'd like to be on the email list, contact Janet at Janet@Bethany-Denver.org. Join us for community fellowship, chapel, and lunch. Lunch is served at Noon each week, for a suggested donation of \$10/person. Payment can be either online or by check/cash. Check Bethany's website for the Nov/Dec schedule.
- ♦ **SNAP Benefits:** 600,000 Colorado SNAP recipients are directly impacted by the absence of these Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits. Rocky Mountain Synod Bishop Meghan Johnston Aelabouni - "Today, I ask you to answer God's call to love and serve our neighbors who are affected by this crisis." There are many organizations in the Denver Metro Area that Bethany supports. Consider donating food, time or money to these, or any other organization you support: Metro Caring, Integrated Family Community Services, SAME Cafe and Bienvenidos Food Bank. Google them for more information.

Childcare Workers: We are hiring! Bethany is looking for reliable, fun, and nurturing childcare workers for our Sunday morning nursery. Hours are Sunday mornings from 8:00am-11:30am. Hiring will be dependent upon completion of a Safe Gatherings background check and Online Child Abuse Prevention Training to ensure all safety standards are met. For more information about the position, please contact Debra Alba at Debra@Bethany-Denver.org.

HOW TO HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

- ♦ **MomCo (formerly MOPS) Bake Sale:** Put away your mixers and bakeware and let MomCo do the baking for you this Thanksgiving! Come browse our bounty of baked goods at the annual MomCo bake sale fundraiser held on **Sunday, Nov 23** from 8:00am-11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. We will be selling pies, breads, candies, cookies and our special cake pops! Our MomCo at Bethany group is so grateful to the congregation for its continued support over the last 30 years! MomCo is an international, outreach organization whose goal is to provide support and community for mothers with children of all ages.
- ♦ **Christmas Decorating: Sundays, Nov 30, Dec 7, 14, and 23.** We need lots of Christmas elves to decorate the inside and outside of the church after the 10:00am services during Community Time. Each Sunday we'll add more decorations. Please meet in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday where we will assume decorating tasks assigned throughout the church to make it as easy as possible. Let's make the church sing with tidings of great joy! Questions? Please contact Kristin at kmjanicek@aol.com.
- ♦ **Angel Tree for Lutheran Family Services:** The Angel Tree in the Narthex is full of Christmas tags for kids in their Foster Care Program. Select a tag from the tree or sign up at signupschedule.com/Bethany. All tree tags will include guidelines, gift requests and gift labels. Please label each gift with the recipient number and gift 1 or 2. All gifts need to be at church by **Sunday, Dec 7**. Thank you for making Christmas special for these kids.

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/



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:** 8:30am Traditional - worship follows traditional Lutheran liturgy.
10:00am Casual 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. Worship leaders are generally dressed more casually.
- ♦ **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 Nursery, please speak with an usher. The Nursery will not be staffed during our 8:30am service but you are welcome to use it with your child.

Flowers in front of the pulpit today are given by Barb Magg in loving memory of Else and Karl Magg.