

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Transfiguration Sunday



Traditional Worship Service

January 11, 2026

8:30am



Bethany's Social Justice Ministry invites you
to an engaging. . .

Book Study

Sunday, February 22nd

11:20am -12:30pm

Room 210

We'll be discussing, "The God who Sees – Immigrants, the Bible and the Journey to Belong" by immigration advocate, Karen Gonzalez. In the book Karen recounts her family's migration from Guatemala to the US. Along her journey she encounters Jesus and begins to follow him.

Copies of the book will be available at the Mission Center for a suggested donation of \$15.
For more information please contact Deacon Debra at debra@bethany-denver.org.

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE

Allegro Maestoso

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME

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.**



1 Oh, won - drous im - age, vi - sion fair of
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in -
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by
 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and



glo - ry that the church may share, which Christ up - on the
 car - nate Lord holds con - verse high, and from the cloud, the
 deigns to man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be
 this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful
 Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one, we pray you, bring us



moun-tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 Ho - ly One says, "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
 theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.
 song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
 by your grace to see your glo - ry face to face.

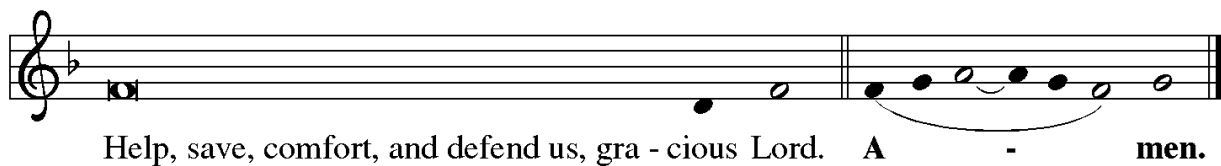
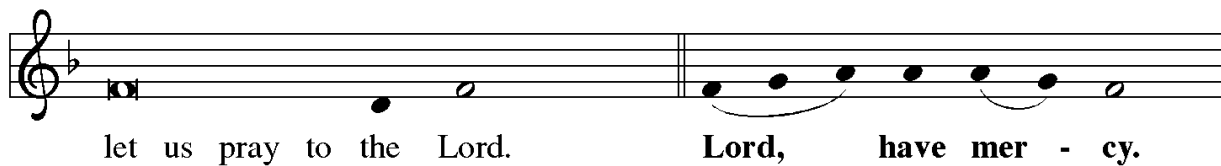
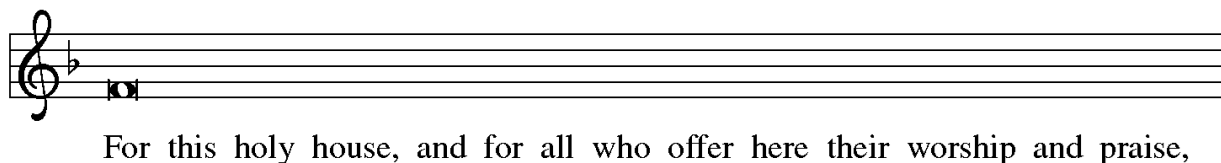
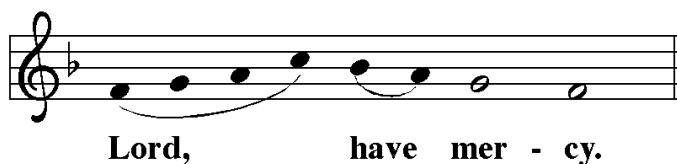
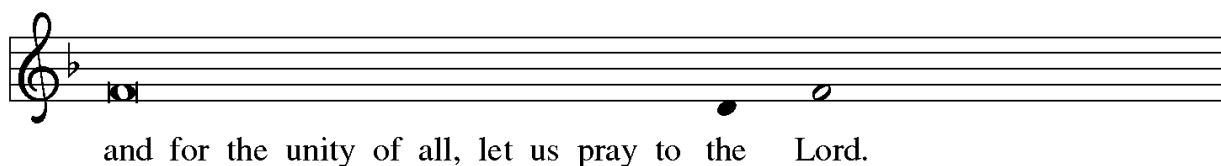
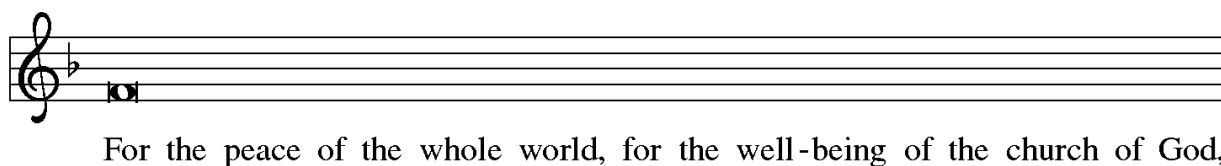
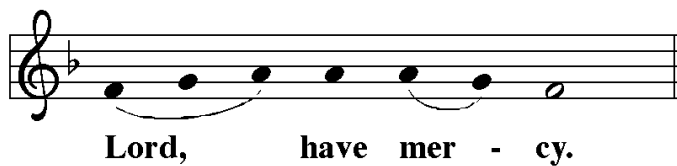
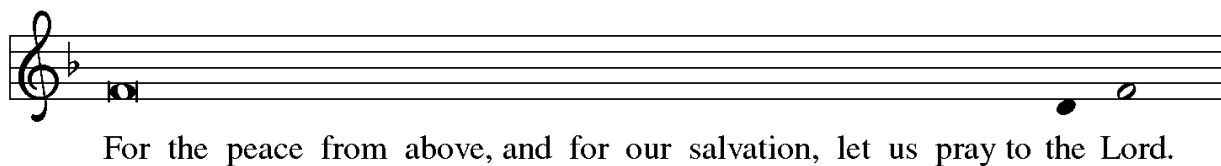
Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

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



HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev - er. A - men.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 2

Sylvia Boedeker

- ¹ Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
² **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against the Lord's anointed?**
³ "Let us break their yoke," they say; "let us cast off their bonds from us."
⁴ **God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the Lord holds them in derision.**
⁵ Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.
⁶ **"As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain."**
⁷ Let me announce the decree of the Lord, who said to me,
"You are my son; this day have I begotten you."
⁸ **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.**
⁹ You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
¹⁰ **And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**
¹¹ Submit to the Lord with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;
¹² **lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.**
Happy are all who take refuge in God!

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

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

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

SERMON

Pastor Nate Preisinger

HYMN OF THE DAY

Beautiful Savior

ELW #868



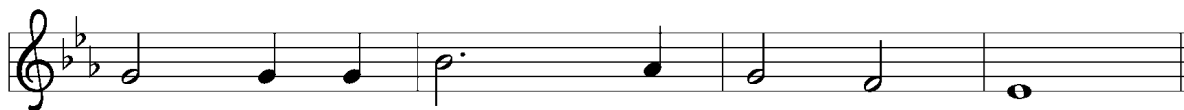
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

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.

- ♦ Souper Bowl of Caring: Update
- ♦ All Things Lent
- ♦ Two Social Justice Committee Events
- ♦ 2026 Intention of Giving (Pledge)

YTD Financial Update (July – January)

Budgeted Income	Budgeted Expenses
\$1,056,795	\$1,257,726
Actual Income	Actual Expenses
\$1,151,289	\$1,271,825

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
- Unlock your phone, hold near NFC card (on pew back), and wait for the notification to appear



OFFERING MUSIC

Brian Stinar, tenor

How Great Thou Art

arr. Dan Forrest

✠ Meal ✠

WELCOME 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'r 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 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 DISTRIBUTION

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.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Brian Stinar, tenor

Lord of the Small

Dan Forrest



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
 3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
 4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,



O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
 thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
 the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
 in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;



we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,



we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
 and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850–1929

TABLE BLESSING

✠ Sending ✠

BENEDICTION

Pastor Nate Preisinger

SENDING HYMN

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW #318

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



- 1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
- 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
- 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
- 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

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

Marche de Fête

Henri Büsser

Things To Know About - News & Events

- ♦ **Rejoicing Spirits:** Palentine's Day, a global holiday celebrating friendships and every other form of platonic love. **TODAY, 4:00-6:00pm** at Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church 21755 E Smoky Hill Rd for dinner and worship! 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. Please RSVP to pastor@lordofthehills.org.
- ♦ **Lent:** Begins Ash Wednesday, **Feb 18**. 7:30am Brief order of Confession and Ashes in the Chapel; 12:00pm and 7:00pm Communion worship with Imposition of Ashes in the Sanctuary (7:00pm will be livestreamed). There will also be a Soup Supper available from 6:00pm-7:00pm. If you cannot make services in person and would like ashes you can pick up a packet with ashes in the church office during regular office hours.
- ♦ **All Lent Long - Walk the Labyrinth:** As part of your Lenten Spiritual Practice, you are invited to walk the labyrinth downstairs in in the Big Room - 412. Hours are posted at www.bethany-denver.org/Lent. Note that the start time is when the doors will be opened and the end time is when the doors will be locked. Please check in and out at the log at the top of the steps. If the SE doors are locked, enter the building through the office door. Call the office (303-758-2820) with any questions.
- ♦ **Mentoring for Lent!** This year we have 39 middle schoolers who are looking for a caring adult to get to know as mentors on Wednesday nights during Lent – **Feb 25 thru Mar 29**. If you feel called, please email Pastor Nate **by Feb 18** and he will equip you with details and will connect you with a young person and family. Thanks!
- ♦ **Bethany Outdoor Adventures:** Hike was postponed to Feb 21, Mount Falcon Park, a 25 minute drive west of Bethany on US Hwy 285. There 4 options for different levels of hikes or playing in the snow, followed by hot cocoa and cookies at a final meeting point. If you haven't already, register at the ad on Bethany News. If you are not able to participate on the new date, please contact Lizza Aalto so we do not wait for you. taalto@aol.com
- ♦ **Integrated Family Community Services Nibbles & Sips Gala: Saturday, Feb 21, 5:00-8:30pm**, at the Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center, 7800 E Tufts Ave, Denver. A fundraising event to support of IFCS' One Can Feed Hunger Alleviation Campaign. <https://bolder.bid/app/public/bidapp/ifcs> Your participation in the auction and your donations at this event will directly support the IFCS mission.
- ♦ **Bethany's Social Justice Ministry:** You are invited to participate in a Book Study Sunday, **Feb 22, 11:20am - 12:30pm** in Room 210. The book is, "The God who Sees – Immigrants, the Bible and the Journey to Belong" by immigration advocate, Karen Gonzalez. In the book Karen recounts her family's migration from Guatemala to the US. Along her journey she encounters Jesus and begins to follow him. The book will be at the Mission Center for a suggested donation of \$15. For more information please contact Deacon Debra at Debra@Bethany-Denver.org.
- ♦ **Cocina Libre International Meal: Sunday, Mar 8, 11:30am-1:00pm**, Fellowship Hall. This meal is prepared by local, immigrant chefs. The Cocina Libre team, lead by DU Associate Professor of Psychology, Dr. Julia Roncoroni will lead us in viewing a documentary highlighting a few of their stories and participating in guided discussions as we share our stories of Identity, Purpose, and Belonging. The cost of the meal is \$25 and childcare will be available in the Nursery. Not recommended for children under the age of 12. Sign up with this QR code or at the event ad on Bethany News **by Feb 26** to secure your seat!
- ♦ **Winter Food Bank Collection Drive:** The food item for collection through February will be boxes of cereal but Sunday, **Mar 1-Apr 12** it will change to canned tuna or chicken. Please place your items in the crates on the table in the Fellowship Hall. If you'd prefer to make a cash donation, these can be made by using the GIVE button on Bethany's website and choosing Integrated Family Community Services in the drop down menu.
- ♦ **Middle School event - Sunday Night Live: Mar 1, 5:00-7:00pm** at Bethany. Special guest - Addison Andrix! 6th-8th graders are invited. There will be pizza, snacks, bounce houses, pickleball, Video Games and more! Come for a great evening of fun and fellowship and the chance to meet Addison, our new Youth Director! Cost: \$5
- ♦ **Family Promise volunteers needed: Week of Mar 1** at Christ the Savior Lutheran Church in Aurora. The purpose of Family Promise is to hold families together in times of need. A group from Bethany will be preparing dinner the night of Mar 3. Volunteers are also needed for driving the van to transport, serving as overnight hosts, and moving beds at the end of the stay. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, call Jean Scott at 303 519-7061.
- ♦ **Senior Ministries** What are you doing on Tuesday mornings? Are you looking for something new to do and/or the opportunity to meet new people? XYZ ministries meets every Tuesday morning in the Fellowship Hall. The group starts to gather around 10:00am for games, puzzles and conversation followed by a chapel service at 11:30am. A chef prepared lunch is ready at 12:00pm. At least once per month, there is a special program. Contact Janet Mortinsen if you would like to be on the email list or if you have questions.





Cocina Libre

Let's travel on a culinary journey together!



You are invited to enjoy an international meal, prepared by local, immigrant chefs on **Sunday, March 8th from 11:30am-1:00pm** in Bethany's Fellowship Hall.

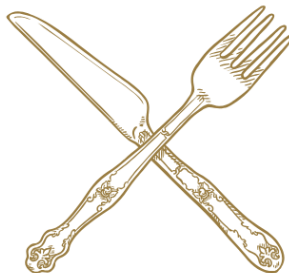
Join Bethany Lutheran Church and the Cocina Libre team, led by DU Associate Professor of Psychology, Dr. Julia Roncoroni.

View a documentary highlighting a few of their stories.

Together we will...



Sign up here by February 26th!



Participate in guided discussions as we share stories of Identity, Belonging, and Purpose.

The cost of the meal is \$25 and childcare will be available.

We hope you'll join in this nourishing experience for your body, mind and spirit!
For more information please contact Deacon Debra at debra@bethany-denver.org

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 staffed Nursery, please speak with an usher.