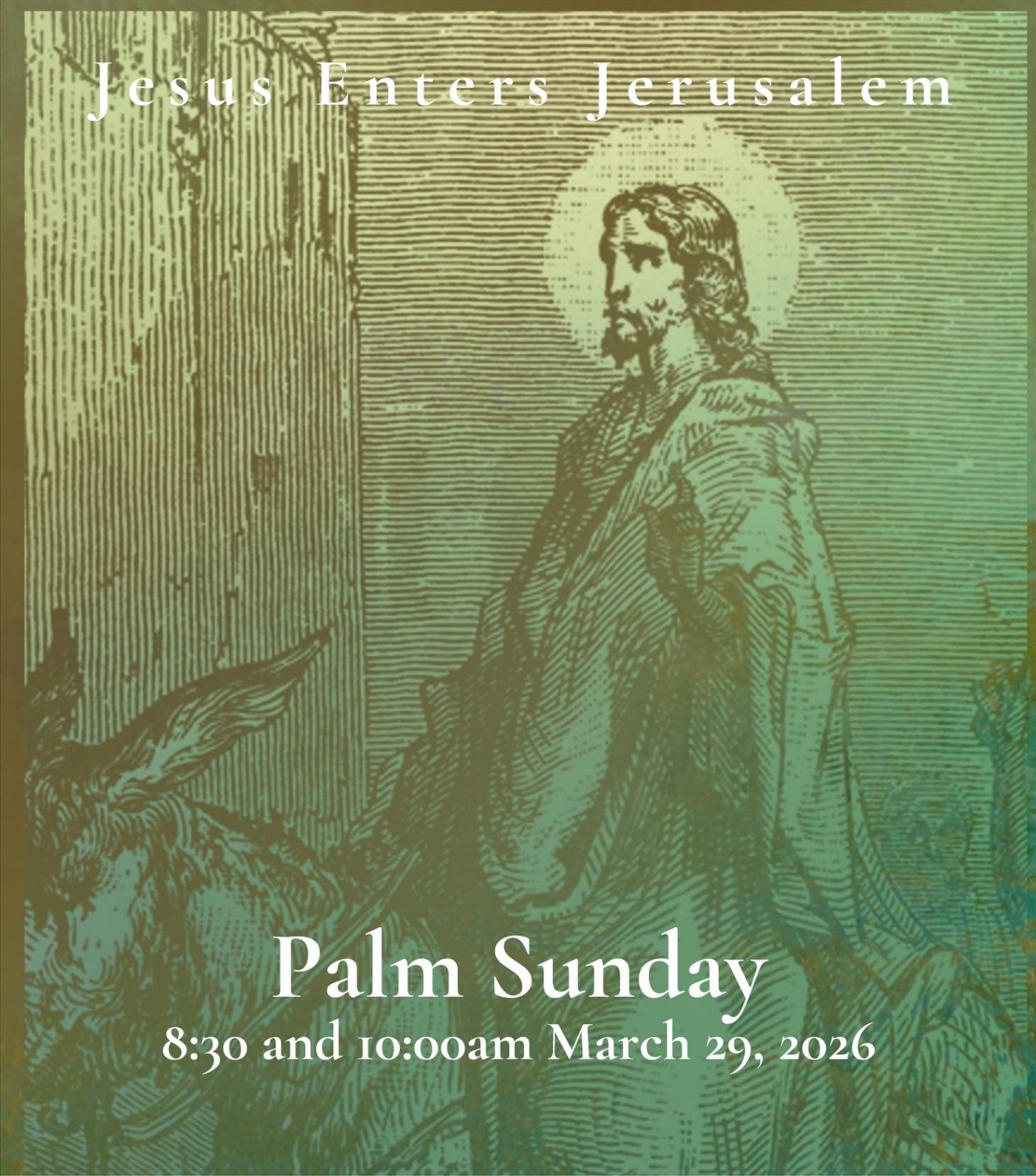


# BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Palm Sunday

8:30 and 10:00am March 29, 2026

Holy Week at Bethany:

# Journey with Jesus

## Jesus Enters Jerusalem

**Palm Sunday 3/29**

8:30am and 10am

Festival Worship with  
Palms

## The Crucifixion of Our Lord

**Good Friday 4/3**

12pm Tenebrae Service

7pm Tenebrae Service

Dubios' Seven Last Words

## The Last Supper

**Maundy Thursday 4/2**

7pm Worship Service

First Communion Milestone

## Resurrection of Our Lord

**Easter Saturday 4/4, 5pm**

**Easter Sunday 4/5**

8am, 9:30am, 11am

Festival Worship Service

We invite you to join Bethany's Holy Week worship services as we walk with Jesus through his final days. Each service adds a new part of the story, drawing us deeper into the mercy God gives in Christ. Come and follow the story step by step, so that Easter might meet you not as an idea, but as God's promise for you.

# ✠ Gathering ✠

**PRELUDE**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

David Paxton

**WELCOME**

*Pastor Gary Sandberg*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** (10:00am)

*Deacon Debra Alba*

**PALM SUNDAY GOSPEL**

Matthew 21:1-11

*(The Congregation is invited to speak text in **bold/italics**.)*

<sup>1</sup>When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, <sup>5</sup>"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup>they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

***"Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"***

<sup>10</sup>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying,

***"This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."***

**PALM PROCESSION**

*You are invited to face the cross as it enters.*



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re-deem-er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless-ed One.  
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

**BLESSING OF THE PALMS**

We praise you God for all the individuals who are your hands and feet in the world, But above all else, may our hearts be ever fixed upon the Great Physician, our Lord Jesus Christ, who has promised us wholeness and healing both now and forever. We offer our highest and loudest Hosanna's for Jesus, for he is our Savior, our Healer, our Strength and Guide.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Hosanna in the highest**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Hosanna in the highest**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Hosanna in the highest**

**GREETING**

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

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (10:00am)

Deacon Debra Alba

### ANTHEM

Holy, Holy, Holy (Hosanna) (8:30am)

Peter Scholtes

*Sounds of Praise, dir. Paula Wills*

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.*

*Hosanna, hosanna, in the highest.*

*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt*

Festival Sanctus (10:00am)

John Leavitt

*Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth!*

*Hosanna in excelsis!*

*Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domine Dei.*

*Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua!*

*Holy Lord God Almighty!*

*Hosanna in the highest!*

*Blessed is he comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Heaven and earth are full of thy glory!*

## ✠ Word ✠

### LESSON

Philippians 2:5-11 Laurie Jeddloh, Annell Weissenbuehler

*Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.*

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

**GOSPEL**

Matthew 21:12-17

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

<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "It is written,

'My house shall be called a house of prayer,'  
but you are making it a den of robbers."

<sup>14</sup> The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. <sup>15</sup> But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did and heard the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became angry <sup>16</sup> and said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read,

'Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies  
you have prepared praise for yourself?'"

<sup>17</sup> He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.****SERMON***Pastor Nate Preisinger***HYMN OF THE DAY**

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

ELW #818



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly  
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,  
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,  
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;  
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward  
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith  
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.  
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.  
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,  
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.

Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

## 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

### PEACE

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

*Please share a blessing of peace with others around you.*

# ✠ Offering ✠

## CAMPAIGN MOMENT

All are invited to the All-Congregation Campaign Morning on April 26! That day we will hold one worship service at 9:00am, followed by a celebration at 10:00am that will include special food and drink. To RSVP, please visit the Mission Center, [tinyurl.com/45d7vy8c](http://tinyurl.com/45d7vy8c), or scan this QR code.



## OFFERING

To fill out your digital connection card, go to [www.tinyurl.com/BethanyConnect](http://www.tinyurl.com/BethanyConnect).

*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, place your offering in the silver plate as they are passed
- Unlock your phone, hold near **NFC card** (on pew back), and wait for the notification to appear



## OFFERING MUSIC

*Sounds of Praise, dir. Paula Wills*

Hosanna (Praise is Rising) (8:30am)

Paul Baloche & Brenton Brown

*Praise is rising, eyes are turning to you. We turn to you.  
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for you. We long for you.*

*Because when we see you, we find strength to face the day.  
In your presence all our fears are washed away.*

*Hosanna! Hosanna! You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises.  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Come have your way among us. We welcome you here, Lord Jesus.*

*Hear the sound of hopeful turning to you. We turn to you.  
In your Kingdom broken lives are made new. You make us new.*

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

*Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark, all the tribes Hosanna cry,  
 O Savior meek, pursue thy road with palms and scattered branches strewed.  
 Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp, ride on to die:  
 O Christ, thy triumphs now begin, o'er captive death and conquered sin.  
 Ride on, ride on in majesty! The angel armies of the skies  
 Look down with sad and wondering eyes, to see the approaching sacrifice.  
 Ride on, ride on in majesty! The last and fiercest strife, is nigh:  
 The Father on his sapphire throne expects is own anointed Son.  
 Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
 Bow thy meek head to mortal pain, then take, O God, thy power and reign.*

**CHILDREN RETURN TO SANCTUARY (10:00am)**

**✠ 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.**

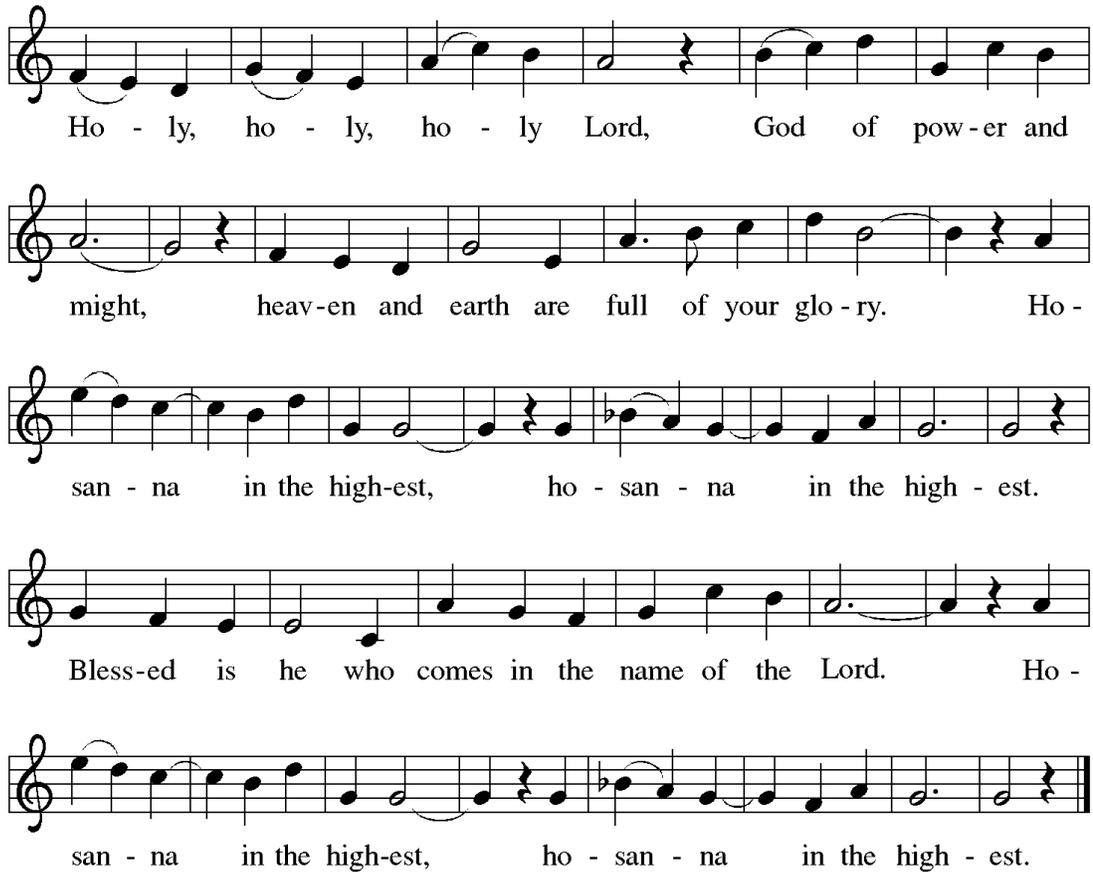
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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 - er and  
might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est, 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, 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, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

Exalted/We Will Bless Thee (8:30am)

B. Nicholson & E. Watanabe

*Sounds of Praise, dir. Paula Wills*

*Exalted, you will ever be exalted. You are worthy of honor and praise.  
Adore you, I will ever stand before you, to worship and praise you all my days.  
With our hands lifted up, and our mouths filled with praise,  
With a heart of thanksgiving, we will bless thee, oh Lord.  
We will bless thee, oh Lord, we will bless thee, oh Lord;  
With a heart of thanksgiving, we bless thee, oh Lord.*

Oh for a Closer Walk with God (10:00am)

C. V. Stanford

*Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt*

*Oh, for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame;  
A light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!  
Return, O holy dove, return! Sweet messenger of rest,  
I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.  
So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;  
So purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.*



1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still  
 2 We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;  
 3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath



to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.  
 your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all.  
 we will be true and nev - er— in joy, in grief, in death—



You say to us so lov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! This is my  
 It draws us to your lov - ing heart; it brings to us your  
 de - part from you, for you are still a - mong your peo - ple



bod - y! Take, drink! This is my blood!"  
 bless - ing, which nev - er will de - part.  
 dwell - ing, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite  
 Music: O JESU, ÅN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

# ✠ Sending ✠

INVITATION TO HOLY WEEK

Pastor Nate Preisinger

SENDING HYMN

At the Name of Jesus

Hymn #416

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



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,  
2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,  
3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.  
all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,  
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,  
thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,  
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.  
brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–1877

Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

DISMISSAL

Pastor Nate Preisinger

As we go forth into this Holy Week 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

Elegy

Alexandre Guilmant

## Things To Know About - News & Events

- ◆ **High School Mission Trip Fundraiser: TODAY**, after both worship services in the Fellowship Hall. Come make-your-own breakfast burrito and all proceeds will benefit the summer mission trip to San Diego!
- ◆ **Service of Lament: TODAY**, 11:30am-12:00pm, Chapel. A space has been created to bring our heavy hearts before God. You're invited to a Service of Lament and Prayer for Our Nation and World. This simple, quiet service will offer scripture, silence, and guided prayer as we lift up the pain of the world and the burdens we're carrying personally.
- ◆ **Easter flowers: Deadline is TODAY**. Help decorate the worship spaces for Easter by donating for flowers in honor or in memory of your loved ones. Find envelopes in your pew rack or at the Mission Center desk or go to the giving platforms ([www.Bethany-Denver.org](http://www.Bethany-Denver.org) under Give or via Bethany Connect app). Flowers are \$25. Be sure to let the Office know what you want printed in the Easter bulletins!
- ◆ **All Lent Long - Walk the Labyrinth**: As part of your Lenten Spiritual Practice, you are invited to walk the labyrinth downstairs in the Big Room - 412. Hours are posted at [www.bethany-denver.org/Lent](http://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.
- ◆ **Easter decorating help needed**: If you like to decorate, please sign up to help decorate the Sanctuary for Easter on **Saturday, Apr 4** at 9:30am. Go to the website and click on the "Sign Up Schedule" bubble. Thank you!
- ◆ **Bethany's Annual Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, Apr 4**, 4:00pm, Fellowship Hall. ALL children from birth-5th grade are welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors! Be sure to bring your Easter Basket! Light snacks will be provided. Join in the fun!
- ◆ The church office will be closed on **Monday, Apr 6**.
- ◆ **Bethany's Social Justice Team**: Meets **Sunday, Apr 12**, 11:20am-12:30pm, Room 210. If you have an interest in social justice issues we'd love to have you participate! Suggestions for upcoming events and book studies will be discussed.
- ◆ **Bethany Information Sessions**: These are a great way to get to know Bethany Lutheran Church. They are also designed to share information for those considering formal membership at Bethany. The Spring session dates are: **Apr 12** and **Apr 19** at 11:20am in Room 400 in the downstairs education wing. New Members will be received on **Sunday, May 3** at both worship services and a tour of the Bethany campus will be offered at 11:20am.
- ◆ **Winter Food Bank Collection Drive**: The food item for collection for **now - Apr 12** is 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.
- ◆ **Outreach**: Looking for a service opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus? Bethany will work the Food Bank of the Rockies on **Apr 17**, 8:45am-12:00pm. Contact Maren Diercks at [Marenjdiercks@gmail.com](mailto:Marenjdiercks@gmail.com) or 720-238-2333. Reservations can be made through [Bethany-denver.org](http://Bethany-denver.org) at the ad for this event under News. You will be required to make an account at the Food Bank and will be sent directions.
- ◆ **Women of Bethany (WOB) Fellowship: Saturday, Apr 18**, 10:00am, New York Deli News at 7105 E. Hampden Ave, Denver. Sign up on the Bethany Connect app or Bethany News on the website. All are welcome.
- ◆ **Habitat for Humanity Metro Denver/Holy Hammers Volunteers Needed: Saturday, April 18**, 8:50 am – 4:30 pm, Griffith Station Homes, 8407 W 52nd Ave, Arvada; **Saturday, May 30**, 8:50am–4:30pm, Griffith Station Homes, 8407 W 52nd Ave, Arvada. Register to volunteer at <https://vhub.at/HolyHammers>. Contact Kevin Dempsey for questions at [kmdmpsy@aol.com](mailto:kmdmpsy@aol.com).
- ◆ **Brian Tennien Memorial Rice and Bean Breakdown to Benefit Metro Caring: Sunday, Apr 19** between services and after the 10:00am service. We have 50lb. bags of rice and beans to break down into individual family size portions. If you would like to support Metro Caring financially, please consider donating to the Rice and Bean Breakdown using the Give button on the Bethany website. Thanks for your support!
- ◆ **Synod Assembly help needed**: Bethany is hosting this year's Synod Assembly **Apr 23-25** and we need you! Current slots are for helping with food and helping guide people around our building. See shifts and sign up at the Sign Up Schedule bubble on the website home page.
- ◆ **Outreach**: Save the date! A Volunteer Food Packing Event, with Feed My Starving Children will be held on **Saturday, May 2** at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Golden. Ages 4-100 are welcome to help! A sign-up link will soon be available. Please contact Bethany member, Nick Wellen at [n.wellen@mac.com](mailto:n.wellen@mac.com) or [coloradofeedinggodskids@gmail.com](mailto:coloradofeedinggodskids@gmail.com) for more details.
- ◆ **Day Camp registration: June 22-26**. Children (Pre School through 5th grade) and Helpers (6th grade - adult) are invited to join in the fun! Cost is \$90 for Pre School age children and \$120 for elementary children. Register at the ad for the event on Bethany News on our website.

## 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](http://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 were given by the Deutsch family in memory of Joyce A. Deutsch.**

### **Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp News!**

- ◆ **All-ages Bethany Retreat:** Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp, **May 1–3**. Everyone is invited! Pack your bags for a weekend of faith, fun, and community! We'll explore our faith formation theme of identity, belonging, and purpose through worship, Bible study, large group games, special music, and camp-style activities for every age. It's a chance to experience all the best parts of camp with your Bethany church family. We don't want cost to keep anyone away: if money is tight, simply pay the minimum. If you're able, you're invited to give a little extra. Register on Bethany News on the website.
- ◆ **Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Work Weekend:** Bethany's annual work weekend is **May 29–31**. Spend a beautiful weekend in the mountains preparing the camp for the summer season. This is a great weekend for families since many projects such as landscaping and painting are kid friendly. Lodging and delicious food provided. Bring sleeping gear for cabins and be ready to have lots of fun! Register on the Bethany Connect app or Bethany News on the website. Please contact Susan Pfabe-Wiggans- [susanpw4@gmail.com](mailto:susanpw4@gmail.com) for more information.



***United in Faith: Building Bethany's Future*** is a comprehensive initiative to steward what God has given us into the decades ahead. This campaign synthesizes overdue facility renewal with strategic improvements that will strengthen ministry, welcome new generations, and support deeper engagement.

At its heart, this plan is guided by three commitments. The commitment we will focus on this weekend is **SUPPORTING EVOLVING MINISTRIES.**

Ministry today happens in more ways and in different spaces. This plan supports greater engagement through adaptable learning spaces, improved technology, enhanced security, and environments that serve children, youth, adults, seniors, and community groups daily.

**RENEWING THE SANCTUARY FOR WORSHIP AND GATHERING** **\$600,000-800,000**

The sanctuary is the heart of Bethany's worship life and vital to the greater Denver arts community. After nearly four decades of faithful and heavy use, key elements now require renewal.

Proposed projects include upgrading lighting and sound, flooring refurbishment and new carpet, repairs to chancel furnishings, pews, and stained glass, and improvements to the front of the sanctuary to enhance accessibility and musical presentation.

**ENHANCING CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRIES** **\$100,000-\$200,000**

Bethany is responding to opportunities that enhance ministry and community life, especially those that expand Children's and Youth ministries. Projects that allow for fun in a faith-filled environment encourage young people to create meaningful connections among peers and relationships with caring adults.

Potential projects include developing and upgrading recreational facilities for children and families.

**EXPANDING ENGAGEMENT THROUGH LEARNING AND TECHNOLOGY** **\$200,000**

Ministry today extends beyond traditional classrooms and Sunday mornings. Bethany serves people both on campus and online through worship, education, and community engagement.

This investment includes renovating the library into a smart classroom, upgrading technology systems, and improving digital infrastructure to support hybrid learning, online participation, and secure communication across staff and ministry platforms. These improvements strengthen Bethany's ability to teach, connect, and serve across distance and generations.

**HUNGER OUTREACH** **\$250,000-\$300,000**

Bethany's longstanding commitment to addressing hunger is evident as the dominant area of need supported by our outreach initiatives. This support must be incorporated into our campaign as well. These funds will be contributed to ELCA's World Hunger initiative.

To learn more, scan the QR code or visit  
[www.Bethany-Denver.org/UnitedInFaith](http://www.Bethany-Denver.org/UnitedInFaith)





## THE POWER OF FIRSTFRUITS

For disciples of Jesus, giving is not an afterthought. It is intentional, shaped by prayer, and rooted in a desire to honor God with all we have.

Scripture offers the principle of “firstfruits” giving—a practice of setting aside our gift to God before any other expense. Proverbs 3:9 says, “Honor God with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.” Placing God first in our giving is a tangible way to show trust in God’s care and provision.

When we plan our giving, we practice gratitude and stewardship. We look honestly at our income, make space for generosity, and remember that what we have is entrusted to us for God’s work in the world. This intentionality not only supports our church and community but also deepens our walk with God.

Planning ahead makes generosity a priority instead of a reaction to whatever is left over. Over time, this discipline shapes our lives so that generosity becomes part of who we are, not just what we do.



As you consider your participation in the **United in Faith: Building Bethany’s Future** Campaign and your ongoing support for our ministry, think about how intentional planning can turn giving into a regular, joyful practice of faith.

For more information, visit [www.Bethany-Denver.org/UnitedInFaith](http://www.Bethany-Denver.org/UnitedInFaith)