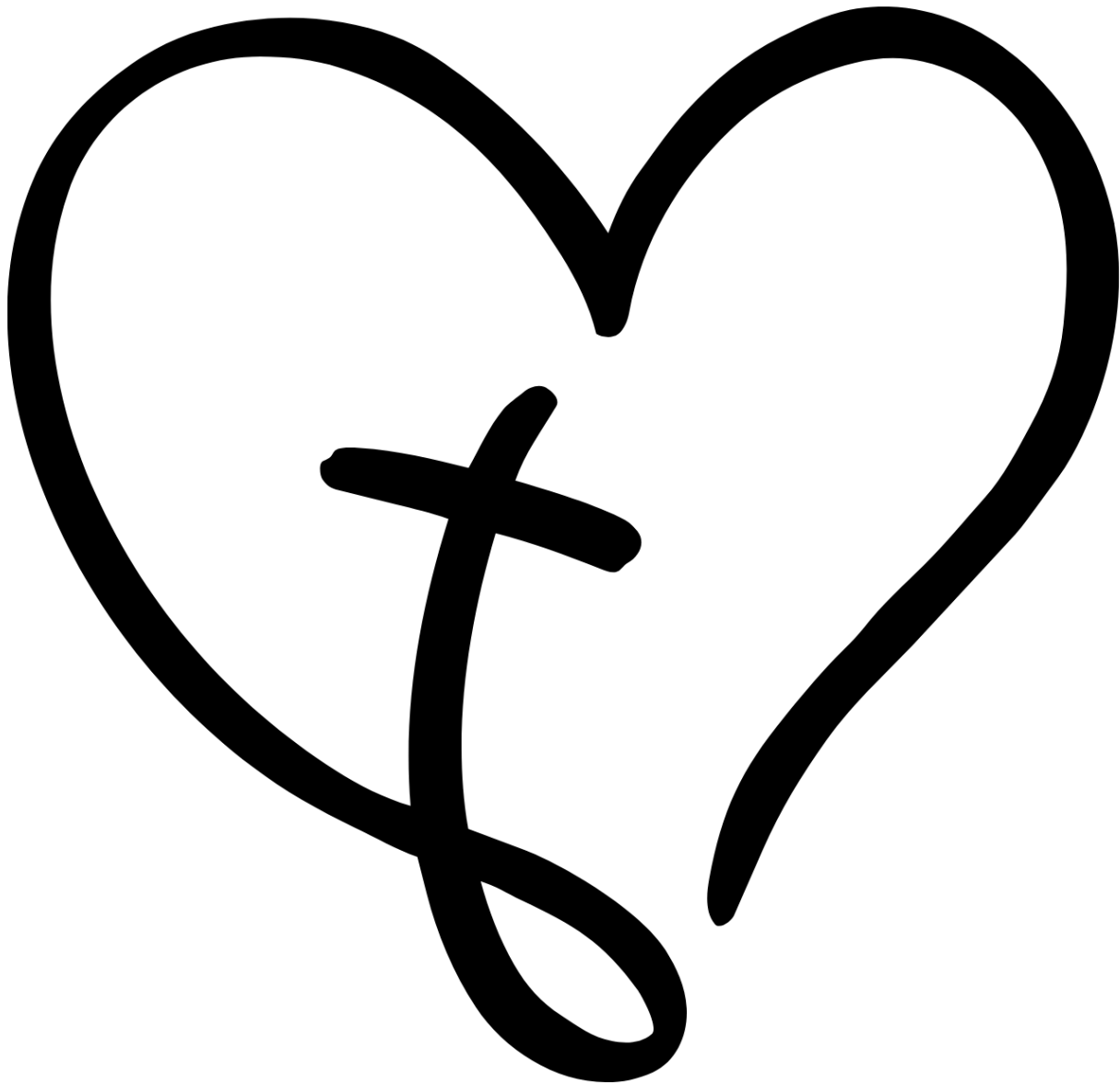


BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00am May 10, 2026

RAINBOW TRAIL LUTHERAN CAMP



Day Camp at Bethany!

June 22-26

Registration is now OPEN!

Pre School: 9am-12pm - \$90

Elementary: 9am-2pm - \$120

Helpers (6th grade - adult) are invited to join in the fun!

Scholarships are available!

Registration fee includes a camp t-shirt.

If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Debra at debra@bethany-denver.org



Reserve your spots now!

+ We Prepare Our Hearts +

Gathering Music
Tim Libby, Trumpet

Festive Music for Trumpet and Organ

Margaret Sandresky

Bethany Youth Choir, dir. Laura Tribby

Look Around!

Helen Kemp

*Look! Look around! Look around at this holy place.
Thank you, God. Thank you, God, for the beauty and the space.
Look at the windows, with colors of rainbows, symbols of promise, assuring God's love.
Look at the table, the cross and the candles. "The light of the world," God's gift from above.
Look at the people singing and praying, receiving forgiveness, beginning anew.
Look at the babies in arms of their parents; their baptism tells them, "God's love lives in you."
So fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers, grandpas and grandmas and all of the others,
Let us sing a song, a hymn of adoration.
Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away,
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!*

Welcome to Worship

Deacon Debra Alba

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



Song of Praise

Touch that Soothes and Heals

ACS 939

1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that
break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the
wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
Refrain
"See my hands and feet," said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the
grave. "Be my hands and feet," said Je - sus, "live as
ones I died to save."

A Time of Confession

Gracious God,

We admit that we have fallen short. In what we have said and done, and in what we have left undone, we have not loved you or our neighbors as we should. We have carried worries, guilt, and burdens that we struggle to release. We confess these to you now, trust in your mercy. Forgive us, God. Lighten our load and guide us into a new way of living. Amen.

God's Gift of Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, hear this good news. God is merciful and full of love. Through Jesus, your sins are forgiven and your burdens are lifted. You are set free to walk in God's grace and to live in the joy of the resurrection. **Amen.**

Opening Song

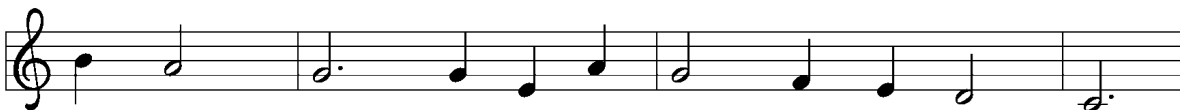
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

ELW 385

You are invited to face the cross as it enters.



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



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

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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Greeting

Deacon Debra Alba

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God,

you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Anthem

Spirit Boundless

arr. Betty Ann Ramseth

Bethany Youth Choir, dir. Laura Tribby

Spirit boundless, all around us, fill, oh fill our world with love.
Holy Spirit, holy flame, come, we ask in Jesus' name.
Let thy light touch everyone, till on earth God's will be done.
Holy Spirit, holy light, teach us love of truth and right.
Daily battles must be won, if on earth God's will be done.
Holy Spirit, lend, we ask, strength for such a mighty task.
That we may work, led by his son, till on earth God's will be done.

Children's Sermon

Deacon Debra Alba

Children's Worship

Deacon Debra Alba

We Prepare to Hear God's Word

Touch that Soothes and Heals

ACS 939



4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



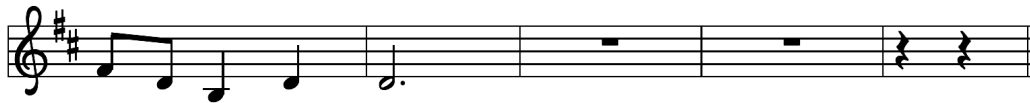
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as



ones I died to save.”

+ We Encounter God's Word +

Today's Sermon is based on readings from:

Acts 17:22-31

Kaia Weinstein

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

John 14:15-21

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

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

Sermon

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Sermon Notes



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958
 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
 Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

A Statement of Our Faith (Apostles' Creed)

Pastor Gary Sandberg

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried: he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

We Share God's Peace

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

Please share a blessing of peace with others around you. After sharing the Peace, please be seated.

+ We Worship God with Our Offerings +

Abundantly Bethany

Pastor Gary Sandberg

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

- ◆ Diaper Drive: TODAY
- ◆ Bethany Summer Day Camp Helpers: TODAY, 11:20am
- ◆ Jewelry Cleaning: TODAY
- ◆ Summer Worship Schedule
- ◆

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

Blessed Be the God and Father

Hank Beebe

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope

Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

And into an inheritance that is imperishable, that is undefiled, and unfading,

Kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God

Through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Although you have not seen him, you love him,

Even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,

For you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Children Return to the Sanctuary

+ The Community Meal +

Invitation to the Communion Table

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Celebration of Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessing of the Bread and Wine

The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical translation)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Communion Instruction

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

Communion Music

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

*If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father,
And he shall give you another comforter, that he may bide with you forever.
Even the spirit of truth.*

Communion Song

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Table Blessing

+ God Sends Us To Serve +

Benediction

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Song of Sending

We Know that Christ Is Raised

ELW 449

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



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924
Text © John B. Geyer.

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

Suite Liturgique
IV. Sortie

Denis Bédard

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Things to Know about - News & Events

- ◆ **Diaper Drive:** Bethany is hosting a diaper drive to support Inner City Health and Metro Caring. Please bring your diapers to the Sanctuary **TODAY**.
- ◆ **Bethany Summer Day Camp Helpers:** There are MANY opportunities to serve! There will be a gathering on **TODAY** at 11:20am in the Fellowship Hall to learn about all the ways you can help with Day Camp this summer! Our theme will be "Hands Wide Open" and we'll need both adults and youth (ages 6th grade and up) to help with Activities, Snacks, Crafts, Bible Story, Registration and Pre School. Reach out to Deacon Debra at debra@bethany-denver.org with any questions. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/DayCamp26>
- ◆ **Jewelry Cleaning:** Bethany member Kyra Morgan from Williams Jewelers will be doing jewelry clean and checks on Mother's Day, **TODAY**. Bring your jewelry and any questions!
- ◆ **Women of Bethany (WOB) Fellowship:** Potluck Spring luncheon, **Thursday, May 14**, 11:00am-1:30pm, hosted by Susan Sharkey at the Silver Mesa Clubhouse in Highlands Ranch. Sign-up for this event by May 7 at the event on Bethany News. Wear your favorite May Day or Derby hat or fascinator and your prettiest spring outfit. Please bring a dish by last name: A-K vegetable, fruit salad or appetizer, L-P protein dish or appetizer, Q-Z dessert or bread. This gathering is open to ALL women of Bethany. If you have never joined us, please check us out.
- ◆ **Rejoicing Spirits:** Dinner and worship, **Sunday, May 17**, Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church, 21755 E Smoky Hill Rd. Aurora, 4:00pm-6:00pm. This 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.
- ◆ **Outreach Event:** Volunteers are needed to sort medical supplies at Project CURE on **Wednesday, May 20**, 9:00am-12:00pm at 10377 E. Geddes Ave, Centennial, 80112. Help send hope and health worldwide. Sign up at the event on Bethany News. Contact alyoungdahl@msn.com.
- ◆ **Summer Sunday Worship:** Beginning Memorial Day weekend, **May 24**, we will again have just one worship service on Sundays at 9:00am. This will go through Labor Day weekend, **Sep 6**. Enjoy worshipping with friends from the "other" service!
- ◆ **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 at susanpw4@gmail.com for more information.
- ◆ **Habitat for Humanity Metro Denver/Holy Hammers Volunteers Needed: Saturday, May 30**, 8:50am-4:30pm, Griffith Station Homes, 8407 W 52nd Ave, Arvada, **Saturday, Jun 20**, 7:50 am – 3:30 pm | Griffith Station Homes, New Construction Site | 8407 W 52nd Ave, Arvada. Register to volunteer at <https://vhub.at/HolyHammers>. Contact Kevin Dempsey for questions at kmdmpsy@aol.com.
- ◆ **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 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 provided by Dennis and Jan Graham in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary on May 15.