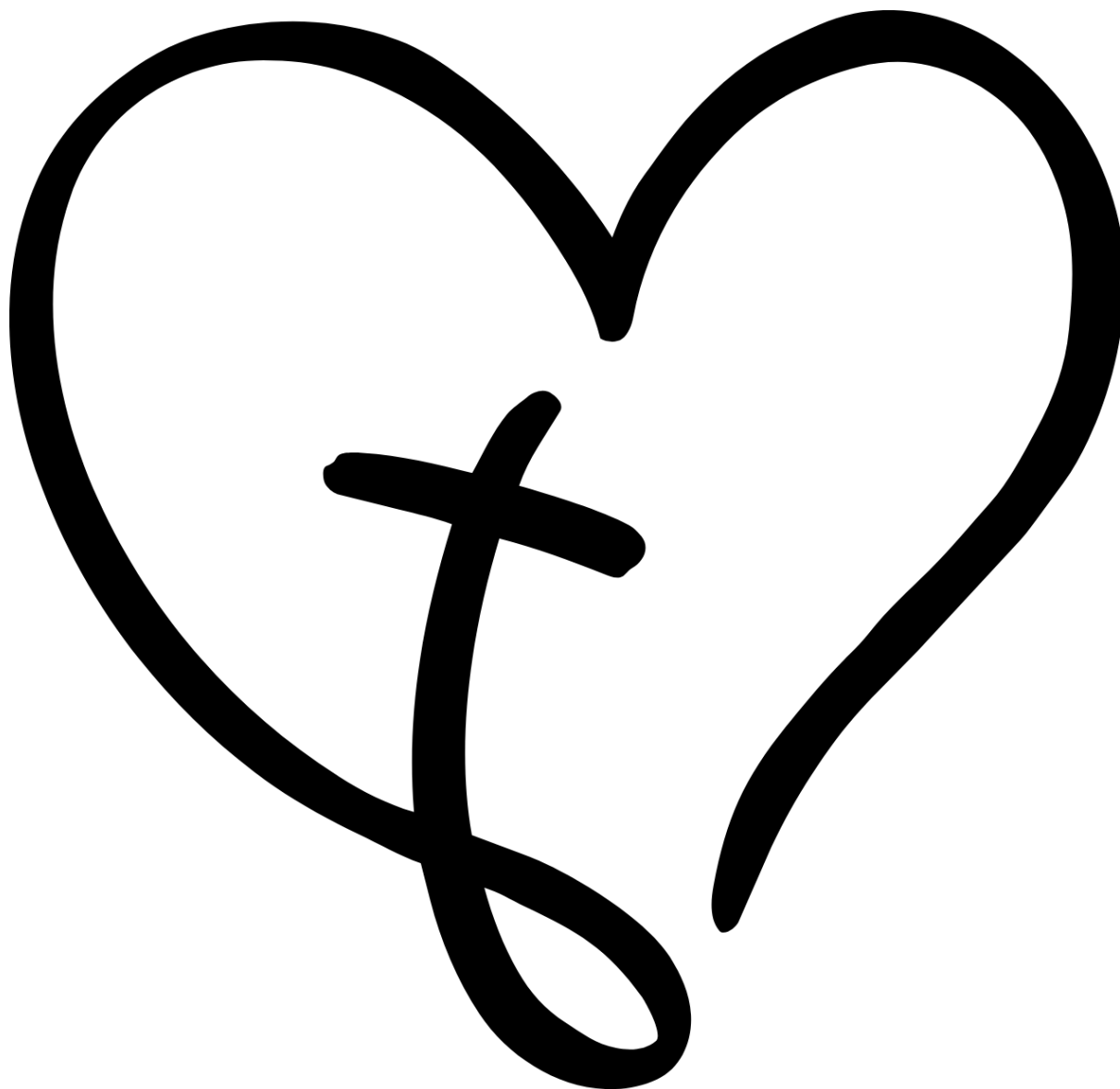


BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Seventh Sunday of Easter

10:00am May 17, 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

Voluntary in E Minor

John Stanley

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

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

ELW 399

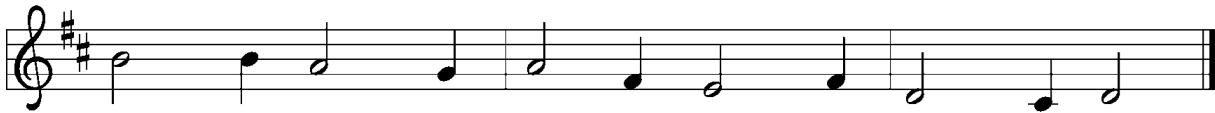
You are invited to face the cross as it enters.



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre -
2 E - ter - nal vig - or, Sav - ing One, you
3 O ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing pow'r, en -



a - tor, cleans - er of all things: a - noint our wounds, a -
free us by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to
com - pass us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -



wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
cir - cling all a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Hildegard of Bingen, 1098–1179
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621
Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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

O God of glory,

your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Anthem

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Joel Raney

Sounds of Praise, dir. Paula Wills; Carillons, dir. Nolan Oltjenbruns

Bless the Lord, O my soul; Let all that is within me bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; And remember God's great mercy.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; Let earth and sky and heaven bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; And sing God's praise forever.

Bless the Lord, whose almighty power renews our strength when hope is gone.

Bless the Lord, whose abounding love can take an empty heart and fill it with a song!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, and sing God's praise forever.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Children's Sermon

Deacon Debra Alba

Children's Worship

Deacon Debra Alba, Kate Souther

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.

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."

+ We Encounter God's Word +

Today's Sermon is based on readings from:

Acts 1:6-14

Michelle Stone Kraus

⁶ When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

John 17:1-11

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

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words to his disciples, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Gary Sandberg

Sermon Notes



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me
 wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all
 o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,



lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
 help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
 with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Prayers of the People

Pastor Nate Preisinger

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 Nate Preisinger

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

- ◆ Project C.U.R.E.
- ◆ Summer Worship Schedule
- ◆ Town Hall & Annual Meeting
- ◆ Day Camp

YTD Financial Update (July – April)

March receipts exceeded budget by \$65k. Our YTD income results reflect a positive variance compared to an anticipated shortfall of \$168k as reflected in the table below.

	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	Variance
Receipts	\$1,787,147	\$1,619,945	\$167,202
Expenses	\$1,778,849	\$1,788,461	(\$9,612)
Income/(Loss)	\$25,174	(\$168,516)	\$193,690

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

Is He Worthy?

Andrew Peterson & Ben Shive

Sounds of Praise, dir. Paula Wills

*Do you feel the world is broken? We do. Do you feel the shadows deepen? We do.
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? We do.*

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? We do.

Is all creation groaning? It is. Is a new creation coming? It is.

Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? It is.

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? It is.

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave, He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.

Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?

Is He worthy of this? He is.

Does the Father truly love us? He does. Does the Spirit move among us? He does.

And does Jesus our Messiah hold forever those He loves? He does.

Does our God intend to dwell again with us? He does.

Children Return to the Sanctuary

+ The Community Meal +

Invitation to the Communion Table

Pastor Gary Sandberg

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

Gratitude

Alex Guebert

Carillons, dir. Nolan Oltjenbruns

Refrain

You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.

Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.

- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

Refrain

so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreuz, 1922–1996
 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Table Blessing

+ God Sends Us To Serve +

Wednesday Night Appreciation

Deacon Debra Alba

Blessing & Installation of Addison Andrix

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Benediction

Pastor Gary Sandberg

Song of Sending

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ELW 834

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



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

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

Grand Processional

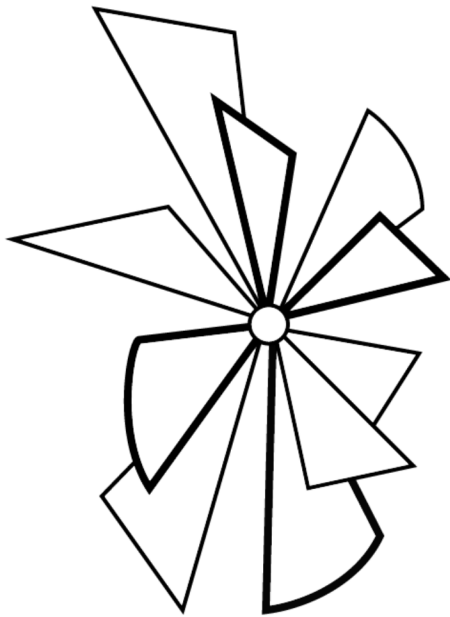
Dale Wood

Things to Know about - News & Events

- ◆ **Rejoicing Spirits:** Dinner and worship, **TODAY**, 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.
- ◆ **Youth!:** Middle schoolers, high schoolers, and families, our new Faith Formation Coordinator, Addison, wants to get to know you! Come **Wednesday, May 20** to a "Get to Know Addison" night in the church's west parking lot from 6:00pm-7:15pm. There'll be hot dogs, chips, and soda, along with games and time to connect. Schedule: 6:00- 6:30pm - Food and getting to know Addison; 6:30-7:15pm - Games, including basketball, four square, nine square in the air, and pickleball. If you have any questions, please email Addison at Addison@Bethany-Denver.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 with any questions.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **Town Hall & Annual Meeting:** The meeting of Bethany Lutheran Church & the Bethany Foundation is scheduled for 10:00am on **Sunday, Jun 7** in the Sanctuary. The items for voting will include the adopting of a budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 and the election of new Council members, Foundation members, and other elected positions. Members of the Council are holding a Town Hall meeting on **Sunday, May 31** at 10:20am in Room 312 so that more extensive conversation can be held around these issues before the meeting.
- ◆ **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:** Our Nursery will not be staffed today but you are welcome to use it with your child.



bethany

LUTHERAN CHURCH

bethany-denver.org

facebook.com/BethanyLutheranChurch

instagram.com/Bethany_Denver

tiktok.com/@bethanydenver



We Need You!

We are excited to announce that to date, we have received over 180 campaign commitment cards towards our goal of 400. Each family unit's commitment is important and we are counting on every member's participation! Please place your commitment in the offering plate, turn in at the mission center, or mail to the church office by May 31st. Thank you!



Feel free to use this as your commitment card if you need one. Please turn in your commitment by May 31st.

The following is helpful in calculating weekly or monthly giving to the **United in Faith** Campaign.

Value of Gifts Over Time

Amount Per Week	Amount Per Month	Amount Per Year	3 Year Amount
\$3,205.13	\$13,888.89	\$166,666.67	\$500,000.00
\$1,923.08	\$8,333.33	\$100,000.00	\$300,000.00
\$961.54	\$4,166.67	\$50,000.00	\$150,000.00
\$641.03	\$2,777.78	\$33,333.33	\$100,000.00
\$480.77	\$2,083.33	\$25,000.00	\$75,000.00
\$320.51	\$1,388.89	\$16,666.67	\$50,000.00
\$224.36	\$972.22	\$11,666.67	\$35,000.00
\$160.26	\$694.44	\$8,333.33	\$25,000.00
\$96.15	\$416.67	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00
\$57.69	\$250.00	\$3,000.00	\$9,000.00
\$38.46	\$166.67	\$2,000.00	\$6,000.00
\$23.08	\$100.00	\$1,200.00	\$3,600.00
\$11.54	\$50.00	\$600.00	\$1,800.00
\$7.02	\$30.42	\$365.00	\$1,095.00
\$3.85	\$16.67	\$200.00	\$600.00

Gifts Needed

Number of Gifts	Value of Gift	Section Total	Running Total
1	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
1	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$1,750,000
1	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$2,250,000
2	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$2,850,000
2	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$3,150,000
4	\$100,000	\$400,000	\$3,550,000
6	\$75,000	\$450,000	\$4,000,000
14	\$50,000	\$700,000	\$4,700,000
22	\$25,000	\$550,000	\$5,250,000
32	\$15,000	\$480,000	\$5,730,000
52	\$9,000	\$468,000	\$6,198,000
56	\$6,000	\$336,000	\$6,534,000
74	\$3,600	\$266,400	\$6,800,400
85	\$1,800	\$153,000	\$6,953,400
35	\$1,095	\$38,325	\$6,991,725
14	\$600	\$8,400	\$7,000,125

A total three-year gift (June, 2026 – May, 2029) of \$ _____

to support the goals of the **United in Faith** Campaign, will be given in the following increments:

\$ _____ weekly monthly annually other schedule: _____

I/we understand this amount may be changed if necessary by notifying the church office.

This gift is in addition to my current giving to Bethany.

I/We would like to be contacted about setting up auto giving for payment of this gift.

I/We would like more information on how to include Bethany Lutheran Church in my/our estate.

Scan QR Code to give online.



Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____