We are called to act with JUSTICE

9:00AM JULY 9, 2023
**THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BETHANY’S WORSHIP**

- 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! It’s Pride month! To learn about personal pronouns go to www.pronouns.org to see how they’re to be used.

- 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), and Director of Pastoral Care Janet Mortinsen (she/her), is available to speak with you.

- 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.

- As we gather this morning, we acknowledge the Cheyenne, Ute, and Očhéthi Šakówiŋ (oh-chey-tee shah-koh-ween) tribes on whose lands we live and learn. We give gratitude to the indigenous peoples who nourished these lands, and who remain among us even today in the midst of the broken agreements that are mourned.

- Staffed Nursery: We love having children in worship! However, for directions to our nursery, please speak with an usher. NOTE: The Nursery will not be staffed during the summer but you are welcome to use it with your child.

- 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 need Worship Servants - go to www.signupschedule.com/Bethany to sign up!

- Today’s flowers are given by Linda Adams & Greg Bloodworth in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary on 7/11 and by Pastor Gary’s parents and all his family in honor of his 35th anniversary of ordination on 7/10.
+ WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS +

Prelude
Sonata in A Major, K. 208
Domenico Scarlatti
Berceuse Russe
Marcel Tournier

Welcome to Worship
Gathered as Christ’s Church,
we will make our sacrifice of praise.

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Song of Praise

A Time of Confession

God of creation,
You made us in your image, and then set us free. In that freedom we too
often make choices that take us away from you. We are sorry for those
times when we bring hurt upon our neighbors. We are sorry for when we
ignore your best intentions for our lives. We ask for your forgiveness, and
that your Spirit would continue to guide us into our future.
God’s Gift of Forgiveness
God proclaims this Good News to us - God is merciful and slow to anger, abounding in mercy and everlasting love. Your sins are forgiven, so that you may face your future showing love as God loves you. Amen.

Gathering Song

Canticle of the Turning

Hymn 723

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
All rights reserved. Used by permission.
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.

Prayer of the Day

You are great, O God,
and greatly to be praised. Guide us into acts of justice. Give us eyes to see those who suffer oppression as you call us to serve you by serving them, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Statement of Our Faith (Apostles’ Creed)

Pastor Nate Preisinger

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.

Children’s Church
Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Leala Marie Riedel
Parents: Skyler and Emily Riedel
Born: August 13, 2022

We gather at these living waters. Throughout history, God’s saving action toward God’s people has taken place through water. Let us pray:

Most Holy God, you created the seas, rivers, and lakes; you saved Noah and his family from the floods; you led the Israelites through the Red Sea and quenched their thirst with water flowing from a rock. Through the waters of the Jordan River, you proclaimed Jesus your own beloved son and so through these waters of baptism, you proclaim that we, too, are your own beloved children, now and forever. Amen.

Parents, do you wish Leala to be baptized into the promises of God?  R: I do.

We make promises and assume responsibilities at baptism. God promises us unconditional love and life forever, and we know that our journey of faith encompasses certain promises so that our lives reflect this love.

Parents, do you promise to: Live with your child among God’s faithful people, bring your child to the Lord’s table, teach them the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place the holy scriptures in their hands to nurture their faith and prayer life, so that they will know and trust God?  R: I do.

Parents, sponsors, people of God, do you promise to support and pray for Leala’s new life in Christ?  R: We do.


Prayer: Sustain Leala with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Blessing: Leala Marie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven. Let us welcome our new sibling in Christ!

We welcome you into the Lord’s family. We receive you as a member of the body of Christ, child of God’s kingdom on earth and in heaven.
We Prepare to Hear God’s Word

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.

We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Text: David Haas, b. 1957
Music: David Haas
Text and music © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

+ WE ENCOUNTER GOD’S WORD +

Sermon

Pastor Nate Preisinger
Today's Sermon is based on readings from:

Psalm 82

1 God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:
2 “How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked?
3 Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.
4 Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”
5 They have neither knowledge nor understanding; they walk around in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
6 I say, “You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you;
7 nevertheless, you shall die like mortals and fall like any prince.”
8 Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations belong to you!

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Matthew 13:31-35

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

31 Jesus put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; 32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”
33 He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”
34 Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. 35 This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: “I will open my mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden since the foundation.”

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

Song of the Day

O God of Mercy, God of Light                           Hymn 714

1 O God of mercy, God of light, in love and
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
3 Teach us the lesson Jesus taught: to feel for
4 For all are kindred, far and wide, since Jesus

mercy infinite, teach us, as ever
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
those his blood has bought, that ev’ry deed and
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and

in your sight, to live our lives in you.
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
word and thought may work a work for you.
grace provide, to love them all in you.

Prayers of the People

Pastor Gary Sandberg

We Share God’s Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always!
And also with you.
(Please share a sign of peace with those around you.)
Abundantly Bethany

Pastor Nate Preisinger

- Summer Pop Up - Tool Belt Club & Landscaping: Saturday, Jul 15 at 9:30am
- Adult Faith Formation: Next Sunday, Jul 16 at 10:20am in Room 210
- August is Favorite Hymns Month!

+ WE WORSHIP GOD WITH OUR OFFERINGS +

The Offering

All the ways you can give are appearing now on the Illustrator. Please take a moment to offer a gift now to Bethany or to another God pleasing ministry. As you take this time to worship God through our offerings, we enjoy the gift of music. Paper offerings can be left in the silver trays by the doors as you exit the worship space.

Musical Offering

"Meditation" from Thaïs
Jules Massenet
Lily Primus, Harp; Paul Primus, Violin

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
Bethany welcomes all to receive the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion. An usher will direct you forward where you can receive communion via intinction, or pick up a pre-packaged communion set or a gluten-free communion set from the tray in front of your seating area. Groups are welcome to visit a communion station together. Those who are not receiving communion are invited to cross their arms across their chests to receive a blessing.

Communion Distribution

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away my sin, have mercy, mercy on me. Lamb of God, you take away my sin, have mercy, mercy on me.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace, Grant us your peace.
Musical Offering During Communion
Lily Primus, Harp; Paul Primus, Violin "Largo" from Xerxes G.F. Handel

+ GOD SENDS US TO SERVE +

Benediction Pastor Nate Preisinger

Song of Sending Rise Up, O Saints of God! Hymn 669
You are invited to face the cross as it recesses to the center.

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am-bi-tions turn;
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De-spair en-gulfs earth’s frame;
3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king-dom’s task em-brace;
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre-a-tion cries in pain;
5 Com-mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;

Christ rose tri-umphant that your hearts with no-bler zeal might burn,
as heirs of God’s bap-tis-mal grace, the word of hope pro-claim.
re-dress sin’s cru-el con-se-quence; give jus-tice larg-er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal-ing now, with love the weak sus-tain.
and, quick-ened by the Spir-it’s pow’r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Fonnes, b. 1936
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893
Text © Norman O. Fonnes, admin. Augsburg Fortress
Dismissal

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

Postlude on “Festal Song”
Rick Seaton

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**SUMMER AT BETHANY!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Audience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>7:00PM</td>
<td>Movie Watch Party Pop-Up: Watch a movie beforehand, or gather early to watch it with others. Join in for snacks &amp; conversation.</td>
<td>Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>Pastor Gary's Tool Belt &amp; Gardening Club: Help with small repair projects around campus! Bring some tools but even if you don't have tools join in!</td>
<td>Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>10:20AM</td>
<td>My Faith, My Life Adult Education: Why is Community important for my faith life?</td>
<td>Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>6:30PM</td>
<td>Holden Evening Prayer Worship: Afterward join Colleen at Cuba Cuba Glendale for a homily talkback.</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>Ice Dye Pop-Up: Join Colleen in this exciting craft! We will use ice to dye shirts, totes, or tea towels.</td>
<td>Age 10+ w/ a caring adult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>Olde Fashion Church Picnic in the Courtyard</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 6</td>
<td>10:20AM</td>
<td>My Faith, My Life Adult Education: Why is Service important for my faith life?</td>
<td>Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 10</td>
<td>6:30PM</td>
<td>Trivia &amp; Snacks Pop-Up: Join the Trivia Master, Pastor Nate, for a fun thematic night of Trivia. A completely worthless prize will be awarded to the winning team.</td>
<td>Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 12</td>
<td>9:30AM</td>
<td>Pastor Gary's Tool Belt &amp; Gardening Club: Help with small repair projects around campus! Bring some tools but even if you don't have tools join in!</td>
<td>Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 16</td>
<td>6:30PM</td>
<td>Holden Evening Prayer Worship: Afterward join Nate at a Torchy's for a homily talkback</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 20</td>
<td>10:20AM</td>
<td>My Faith, My Life Adult Education: How can Education increase my faith?</td>
<td>Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 21</td>
<td>6:00PM</td>
<td>Create Your Own Devotional Deck Pop-Up: Join Colleen in an exciting and useful craft! Supplies will be provided to decorate and create a devotional deck to guide you in your daily walk of faith.</td>
<td>Ages 10+ w/ a caring adult</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full summer schedule is available at the Mission Center and at [www.bethany-denver.org/summer23](http://www.bethany-denver.org/summer23)
THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT NEWS & EVENTS

♦ **Senior Ministries:** Next Summer meeting, Tuesday, Jul 11. Gather starting at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall for cards & games, fellowship, worship & lunch.

♦ **Summer Pop Up - Movie Watch Party:** NOTE new date! Thursday, Jul 13 at 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall. Watch a movie beforehand, or gather early to watch it with others. Join in for snacks & conversation. Sign up at www.signupschedule.com/Bethany.

♦ **Pastor Gary’s Tool Belt Club:** Join in on Saturday, Jul 15 at 9:30-11:15am to do some light work around the building and grounds. Check this week’s email blast for a list of tasks.

♦ **Adult Education - My Faith/My Life:** Sunday, Jul 16, join Pastor Nate at 10:20am in Room 210 as we explore why community is important for my faith life. Just show up or join on Zoom at Meeting ID: 831 0952 5027, Passcode: 264392.

♦ **Kid’s Art Camp:** Jul 17-20 - Learn Bible stories and complete craft projects connected to the story! Register with this QR code →

♦ **Holden Evening Prayer Worship:** Wednesday, Jul 19 at 6:30pm in the Chapel. Join in Holden Evening Prayer with a homily. Afterward, join Colleen, Bethany’s Coordinator of Media, at the Cuba Cuba in Glendale for a homily talkback.

♦ **Summer Pop Up - Ice Dye:** Saturday, Jul 22 at 10:00am. Join Colleen in this exciting craft! We will use ice to dye shirts, totes, or tea towels. Sign up at www.signupschedule.com/Bethany.

♦ **Story Time:** Bring your child to Bethany Story Time! On Wednesday Jul 26, from 10:00am-11:00am in the Great Hall. Gayle will lead a Bible Story Time complete with crafts and activities for young people ages 0-5 years. Special coffee drinks will be provided for the caring adults!

♦ **Olde Fashioned Church Picnic:** Sunday, Jul 30 in the Courtyard after worship. It’ll be an olde fashioned potluck - you’re invited to bring something to share, if you are able. If you can help setup & cleanup that day, please sign up at www.signupschedule.com/Bethany.

♦ **Nametags:** If you don’t have your permanent Bethany Name Tags yet, go to Bethany-Denver.org/nametags for answers to all your questions and the order form. Submit by Sunday, Jul 30 for the next order.

For more information and to see other announcements, please sign up for the email blasts by contacting the office - 303.758.2820, or visit www.Bethany-Denver.org/Bethany-news/
**August is Favorite Hymn Month!**

We will sing hymns at each service that were selected by you!

Fill out the form below and be sure to place your bulletin in the baskets at the exit doors.

Or use this QR code on your phone’s camera →

Name: _____________________________________________

(We need this to get in touch with you!)

Choose your favorite hymn from the ELW (red worship book). If you don’t know the hymn number, check the index of First Lines and Titles of Hymns beginning on page 1205.

I would like to sing:

Hymn # ________
Title ___________________________________________________________________

This a favorite hymn of mine because...