

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome all God's people to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve.

Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Bethany. If you have questions for the pastor or church office, please call at 630.879.3444 or visit our website at www.bethanybatavia.org. Welcome!

Assistance in Worship

For those who find it difficult to stand or prefer to sit during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated.

Children's Resources

Children's worship bulletins are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Nursery

While not staffed, the nursery is open for parents who may find it helpful. The nursery is located on the sanctuary level, where you will find a changing table, rocking chair and some toys. You can still hear the worship service through a speaker in the room. Ask an usher if you need assistance.

Cell Phones and Pagers

Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

Flowers

Today's Altar Flowers are given by Mike & Carol Thomassen in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

Holy Communion

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to the pastor.

As We Gather:

On the night of his betrayal, Jesus speaks words of comfort and hope to his friends, pointing to his Father's house in which there is room enough for all those claimed by God in Christ. It is tempting to imagine that these words are only about the future, a simplistic claim that there will be somewhere for us to go when we die. While this is perfectly true, it fails to capture the full scope of God's promises. Peter later writes of the Kingdom God is building, a Kingdom that is not a place to which we are going but is rather what God is building in and through us, here and now. We are living stones built upon the strong cornerstone that is Jesus Christ. While we wait for the fullness of the Kingdom, we also rejoice that God is building the Kingdom for us, in us, today. The Church manifests this mission in many ways, including through Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, amongst other agencies. This morning, we are blessed to have representatives from LSSI join us to speak of their work toward God's Kingdom on earth.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE: Sonata da Chiesa – 1st Movement

Carl Smith Oboe – Marsha Schuster

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

GATHERING HYMN: Thine Is the Glory

ELW #376



- Thine is the glo ry, ris en, con-qu'ring Son; end less is the
- 2 Lo, Je sus meets thee, ris en from the tomb! Lov ing ly he
- 3 No more we doubt thee, glo rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! greets thee, scat-ters fear and gloom; out thee; aid us in our strife; An - gels in bright rai - ment let his church with glad - ness make us more than con - qu'rors,



hymns of tri - umph sing, through thy death - less love; kept the fold - ed grave-clothes for the Lord now liv - eth; bring us safe through Jor - dan



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring to thy home a - bove.



THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world,

calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,

making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,

and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit,

and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise

through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

- C Amen.
- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.





PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

Almighty God,

your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.

Give us grace to love one another,

to follow in the way of his commandments,

and to share his risen life with all the world,

for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

We sit.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55–60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶Look, he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

Spoken Responsively

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your lovingkindness save me."

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SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2–10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation — ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,

a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected

has become the very head of the corner,"

8and

"A stone that makes them stumble,

and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.



SEQUENCE HYMN: This Joyful Eastertide



HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:1–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Molly Arnoldt (Lutheran Social Services of Illinois)

SERMON – David Novak (Lutheran Social Services of Illinois)

We stand.



NICENE CREED

- P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:
- C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

- P God of life, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.

- P Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, verdant fields, and arid deserts. Protect the earth's diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, and global warming. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster (*especially*). Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experiencing homelessness, those fleeing war and poverty, and all who question if there is a home in your heart. We pray for all who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us (*especially*). Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, Trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

PEACE OF CHRIST

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

We sit.

OFFERING MUSIC: Allegretto

Petronio Franceschini Oboe – Marsha Schuster

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- P Let us pray.
- C Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- C 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.

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

- P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forevermore.
- C Amen.



- 1 Hal-le lu jah! Je sus lives! He is now the Liv ing One; 2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?
- 3 Je sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e ter nal waits for you;
- 4 Je sus lives! Let all re joice. Praise him, ran somed of the earth.
- 5 Hal-le lu jah! An gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom-v halls of death Christ, the con-quer-or, has gone, Christ who died our here lives our broth-er still broth - er on high, joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too; no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly Praise him in birth. a swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es Let your cho - rus



bright fore - run - ner the skies of his peo - ple, yet to his church be - low. lives for - ev - er be - stow bless-ings on to with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand. king, whose sway sin and death and hell Praise the vic - tor o - bev. a - bove and on earth his peace and love! Glo - ry our God

DISMISSAL

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: Christ the Lord is Risen

arr. Hopson/Alan F. Spear

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

David Novak, Lutheran Social Services of IL Doug Boehm, Presiding Alan Spear, Organist Ann Niedzwiecki, Reader Fred Holch, Todd & Ben Toles, A/V Julie Howard, Altar Guild Michael Goro, Graham Gustafson, Acolytes Jon Habegger, Leonard Wray, Ushers Marsha Schuster, Oboe

STAFF

Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor Mark Waldron, Director of Music Alan Spear, Organist Darlene Hutchens, Church Administrator Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant Emma Hess, Youth Director Ed McQuillan, Financial Secretary

YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Todd Toles, President Alan Spear, Vice President Doug Boehm, Secretary Steve Mickelson, Treasurer Karol Clark Aidan Garrity Brad Hirt Pastor Jeff Mikyska Jackie Page Kathy Richmond Mia Rusev Marsha Schuster

If you have questions or concerns for members of the Church Council you're invited to speak with them personally or via email to council@bethanybatavia.org.

Bethany's Vision: We are a Grace-based, people-powered, refuge for all.

Code of Conduct: At Bethany, we believe everyone should live a faithful life in service with charity, kindness and integrity, and treat others with respect and understanding, act responsibly, and serve as an example of Christian faith in action.

Liturgy Credits

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LET US PRAY...

We pray for all who are hospitalized in our greater community and for those who are serving them.

Please pray for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns:

Mary Bradtmueller, John Bristow, Diane Garland, Debbie Garrison, Deb Hruby, Anna Jackson, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bill Lechnick, Bob Novy, Louise Pruitt, Liesa Ritter, JoAnn Sargent, George & Shirley Striedl, Pat Sullivan

Please pray for those who are homebound and those in a care facility:

Mark Anderson Silverado Memory Care, St Charles

Lois Elfstrom Aurora, IL
Dolores Hoffman Heritage Woods
Bill Keele Heritage Woods
Pam Klingberg Heritage Woods

Wanda Krentz Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad Mildred Miller Reserve of Geneva, Geneva

Rhonda Nelson Batavia, IL

Joan Olson Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad

Pat Quast Asbury Gardens

Jay & Carol Wierz Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad

Please pray for all those serving in the military, especially those who are connected to our congregation.

Please pray for our family and friends:

Christine Smith On the passing of her brother, Friend of Pastor Jeff & Gail Mikyska

Katie Taylor Great Niece of Ken & Judy Henschler Jane Wirth Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler

Michelle Hartzell Friend of Beth Richard

Faith Lutheran Church, Cambridge, MA (fire)

Andrea Hensley Colleague of Emma Hess Christine Dalak Friend of Janice Reynolds

Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry

Rick Gaston Friend of Ann Holch

Bob Gustafson Husband of Cindy Gustafson/Father to Nate Gustafson & Janna

Stahl

Jeff Hall Colleague of Emma Hess Bonnie & Jim Hines Parents of Suzanne Grashorn

Tina Motter Sister of Jackie Page Mary Hughs Sister of Jackie Page Dottie Friend of Paulette Smigo Friend of Ed Schalk Diane Sharp Lizzie Bork Friend of Julie Howard Sister of Karol Clark Nancy Steve Ziemer Friend of Kathy Richmond Jeffrey Campbell Nephew of Nan Phillips Kate and Family Friend of John & Karol Clark Damon Schultz Son-in-Law of Shyla Carbone Sue S. Friend of Bob & Sue Novy

Nicole Friend of Linda Sullivan
Alice Hendrikson Friend of Lynn & Bill Dreymiller
Maureen Scollon Friend of Lois Benson & Dottie White

Pam Paszotta Sister of Tom & Dee Schuman
Senaida Stafford Niece of Tom & Dee Schuman

Emily Chris Sidler Lisa

Lynn Krambeer Stoddard

Heather

Gretchen VanKempema

Loy Williams Ryan Anderson Linda Raish

Vic and Anne Lee Lynne Morrow

Kenzie

Rebecca and family Floyd Anderson Paul Mazen

Bonnie Palshis

Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher & family,

Phil

Kathy Dee's Family Mary Jo Benstein's Family

Susan Sheley Bonnie Carole W. DeAnne & Gary Brad Blue

Diane Ekstam Johnson Tammy English Jerry Martin Teri Prokes Tony Prokes Kelli Robertson Wolfgang Smailus

Ed Stahl

Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman Friend of Luke & Diane Land

Friend of Beth Richard

Cousin of Pastor Jeff & Gail Mikyska Friend of Schuman Family

Daughter of Ann Holch Friend of Ann & Fred Holch Son of Aaron Anderson

Friend of Kathy Richmond & Sandy Conn

Friends of Debbie Garrison

Friend and Colleague of Pastor Jeff & Gail

Friend of Katie Robertson

God-Daughter of Beth Lawniczak

Beth Richard's Father

Sister-in-Law of Doug Boehm Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard

Lynn Dreymiller's brother

Teri Figura Teri Figura

Daughter of Louise Pruitt Friend of Pastor Jeff

Friend of Ann & Fred Holch Niece & Nephew of Shirley Grant

Friend of Lois Benson

Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam Daughter of Shirley Streidl Father of Nicki McVey Sister of Sue & Bob Novy

Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy

Daughter of Diane Schalk

Brother-in-law of Marty Offutt Gruber

Father of Dan Stahl

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Worship - LSSI Temple Talk	Sunday, May 7		
10am		Worship – LSSI Temple Talk	Sanctuary
Monday, May 8			
8:30am. Bethany Walking Group Ministry Center Gym 9am Counters Conference Room 12pm Hope Gircle Lounge/Library 12:30pm Staff Meeting Conference Room 7pm Marketing Team/Zoom Meeting Fellowship Hall/Via Zoom 7pm Marketing Team/Zoom Meeting Fellowship Hall/Via Zoom 7pm Marketing Team/Zoom Meeting Fellowship Hall Fellowship Hall Signam Pellowship Hall Conference Room 9am Quilters Fellowship Hall Conference Room 6:30pm Executive Team Conference Room 6:30pm DV Support Group Youth Room 6:30pm Girls BSA Troop 606 Vlahn Room/Gym 7pm Fox River Radio League Fellowship Hall Wednesday, May 10 8:30am Bethany Walking Group Ministry Center Gym 10am Senior Advocacy Group Fellowship Hall/Library 1pm Organ Rehearsal - Holly Herber Sanctuary 7pm Men's Basketball Ministry Center Gym 7Thursday, May 11 8:30am Bethany Walking Group Ministry Center Gym 6:30pm Bethany Walking Group Ministry Center Gym 6:30pm Bethany Walking Group Ministry Center Gym 9:45am Pood Pantry Serving Batavia Food Pantry 12pm Plain Dirt Gardeners (Set-Up) Ministry Center Gym 4:15pm Swedish Am Children's Choir Choir Room/Library Rehearsal Saturday, May 13 7am Plain Dirt Gardeners (Set-Up) Ministry Center Gym 7:30am Men's Basketball Ministry Center Gym 9:41 Dirt Gardeners (Set-Up) Ministry Center Gym 9:42	10:30am	Sunday School – Last Day	Ministry Čenter
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Sunday, May 14	Sunday, May 14		
9am		Worship	Sanctuary
10am	10am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall