

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 <u>www.bethanybatavia.org</u>. 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.

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:

We may be tempted to scurry away from Matthew's continued revelation of God's judgment in a vain effort to save ourselves from impending doom. But all too often we confuse judgement with punishment. They are quite different. Jesus reveals that the God for whom we long in the midst of the world's – and our – sin and brokenness is a faithful God, a loving God, and a powerful God who holds true to the divine promise. The God of judgement is the very same God of grace. And in spite of all our fears and sins, this God loves us. This God saves from punishment.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE: O Holy Spirit, Enter In

David Cherwien

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit...
- C Amen.
- P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
 We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
 by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
 We have not loved you with our whole heart;
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
 For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
 Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.
 As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: O Holy Spirit, Enter In



APOSTOLIC GREETING

- 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: Salvation Belongs to Our God



■ Sal- va- tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for- ev- er and ev - er.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

We sit.

+ Word +

FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.
7Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be.
8Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — ¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint *(Reading continues on the next page.)*

heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now;²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

We stand.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'''

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

We sit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reilly Garrity

SERMON

Emma Hess/High School Youth

We stand. **HYMN OF THE DAY**: Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be. but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more. Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

APOSTLES' CREED

- P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:
- C 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 CHURCH

L Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

- L O God, you call your church to announce the gospel of reconciliation and truth both near and far. Guide your church as it seeks your wisdom and shares it, trusting your Spirit bearing witness among us. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- L You brought forth all creation and called it good. Direct policymakers to protect lands and seas. Bring rain to sun-parched fields and protect areas impacted by natural disasters. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- L You desire peace among nations and peoples. Guard our neighborhoods from hatred, watch over police officers and firefighters, and teach us to advocate for those who live in fear. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- L You are gracious and merciful, comforting those who suffer any affliction. Sustain your people living with HIV/AIDS, provide shelter for all who are unhoused, and release any who are unjustly imprisoned. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- L You name each of us as your children. Guide our hospitality ministry to welcome all, our education ministry to equip us for faithful living, and our social ministry to enact the gospel in our community. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.

- L You send faithful people to proclaim freedom from bondage and to renew your church. Encourage us by the witness of the faithful departed, so that we live into that same hope. 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.

+ Meal +

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 VOLUNTARY:** Come, You Thankful People, Come

Don Hustad

We stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- L Let us pray. God of mercy and grace,
- C the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord, Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P Creating God and Loving Lord,

The heavens and the earth reflect your majesty.

The dawning of each new day brings with it the promise of new life.

Every sunrise carries the hope of grace.

Every summer rain calls forth new growth.

Every sunset beckons peace into our world.

Every night the stars and celestial bodies show off the brilliance of your artistic creativity.

And every time we gather for this meal, the human family is brought together across all times and places.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,

he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,

that we may receive our Lord with a living faith

as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Р 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.

- These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Р
- C Thanks be to God.
- All are welcome at the Lord's table. Come, for all is now ready. Р

We sit. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have of the on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin mer-cy world; have mer - cy Lamb of God, you take a - way on us. the sin of the world; grant us peace.

LAMB OF GOD

COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to his banquet meal.. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink. Gluten-FREE rice wafers are available upon request and for those desiring it, non-alcoholic wine cups are in the center of the tray.

MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION

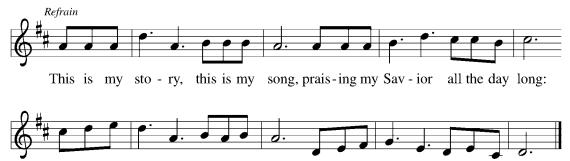


1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine! 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;

3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va - tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood. an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech - oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. watch-ing and wait-ing, look - ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.



We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C Amen.

- L Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

+ SENDING +

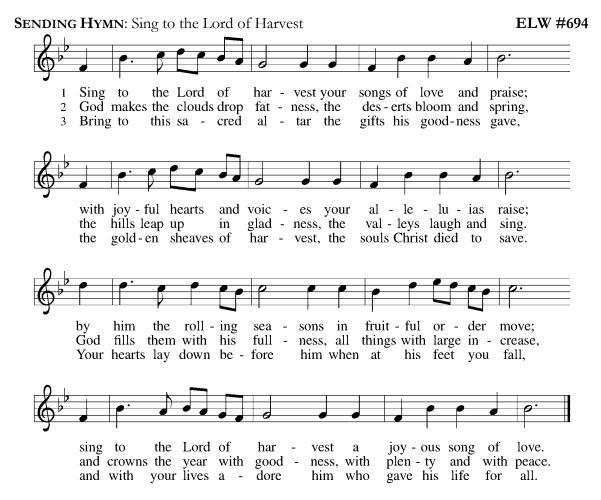
BENEDICTION

P The eternal Creator calls us. The risen Savior sends us.

The dynamic Spirit empowers us.

Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

C Amen.



DISMISSAL

- L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: O Holy Spirit, Enter In

John Ferguson



LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister Aidan Garrity, Worship Leader Mark Waldron, Organist Morgan Hutchens, Reader Fred Holch, George Hutchens, A/V Becky Klitzkie, Jackie Page, Altar Guild Graham Gustafson, Acolyte Ralph Beck, Jon Habegger, Parker Klitzkie, Ushers Aidan Garrity, Marissa Hunt, Nate Hunt, Comm. Asst's Emma Hess, Piano

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 Marsha Schuster, Secretary Steve Mickelson, Treasurer Doug Boehm Karol Clark Brad Hirt Dale Howard Billy Hutchens Rich Kreis Pastor Jeff Mikyska Kathy Richmond Mia Rusev Lane Stahl

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

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

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #31460. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. All music not covered by the above license is reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-704645. All rights reserved.



Scan this QR code for online giving

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:

Marie Holtz, Mary Bradtmueller, Diane Garland, Debbie Garrison, Shirley Grant, Deb Hruby, Anna Jackson, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bill Lechnick, Bob Novy, Louise Pruitt, JoAnn Sargent, George & Shirley Striedl, Pat Sullivan, Brigitte Winkler

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	
Jay & Carol Wierz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad	

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

Please pray for our family and friends:		
Marilyn	Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman	
Maggie Prokes	Friend of Bob & Sue Novy	
Tracy Clark	Sister of Tara Shannon	
Joe V.	Neighbor of Bob & Kathi Gorlewski	
Sarah McCarthy	Friend of Jan Bristow & Kathy Richmond	
Mary Lawrence	Sister-in-Law of Carole Benson	
Steven & Janice Brown & Grace	Friends of Tom & Dee Schuman	
Lee Peterson	Friend of Dottie White	
Loda George Ricker	Friend of Fred & Ann Holch	
Calvin, Diane & Family	Friends of Kathy Richmond	
Vicki Johnson	Sister-in-Law of Val Schalk	
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)		
Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry		
Rick Gaston	Friend of Ann Holch	
Bob Gustafson	Husband of Cindy Gustafson/Father to Nate Gustafson & Janna Stahl	
Bonnie & Jim Hines	Parents of Suzanne Grashorn	
Tina Motter	Sister of Jackie Page	
Mary Hughs	Sister of Jackie Page	
Dottie	Friend of Paulette Smigo	
Diane Sharp	Friend of Ed Schalk	
Lizzie Bork	Friend of Julie Howard	
Nancy	Sister of Karol Clark	
Jeffrey Campbell	Nephew of Nan Phillips	
Kate and Family	Friend of John & Karol Clark	
19		

Damon Schultz Sue S. Nicole Alice Hendrikson Maureen Scollon Pam Paszotta Chris Sidler Lisa Lynn Krambeer Stoddard Heather Gretchen VanKempema Ryan Anderson Linda Raish Vic and Anne Lee Lynne Morrow Kenzie 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. Brad Blue Diane Ekstam Johnson Tammy English Jerry Martin Teri Prokes Tony Prokes Kelli Robertson Wolfgang Smailus Ed Stahl

Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:

Pat Quast Janis Graffagna Linda Thorson Son-in-Law of Shyla Carbone Friend of Bob & Sue Novy Friend of Linda Sullivan Friend of Lynn & Bill Dreymiller Friend of Lois Benson & Dottie White Sister 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 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 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 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

Sister of Gerry Hodge, Gregg Hodge & Sandra Wagner Friend of Bob & Sue Novy

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Sunday, July 23		
9am	Worship – Youth Sunday	Sanctuary
	Coffee Hour	
3:30pm	Bethany – Softball League Game	Peck Farm Field #3
Monday, July 24		
8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
	Counters.	
12:30pm	Staff Meeting	Conference Room
Tuesday, July 25		
	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
9am	Quilters/Prayer Shawl Ministry	Fellowship Hall
	DV Support Group	
6:30pm	Girls BSA Troop 606	Vlahn Room/Gym
Wednesday, July 26	-	
	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
	Senior Advocacy Group	5
1pm	Organ Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Thursday, July 27		·
	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
	Boy Scout Troop 6	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Friday, July 28	2 1	. ,
	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
	Fox Valley Court Watch	5
	Community Supper	
Saturday, July 29	7 11	1 ,
	Al-Anon	Library
	Al-Ateen	
	AA	
Sunday, July 30		
5.0 5	Worship	Sanctuary
	Coffee Hour	
	Bethany – Softball League Game	
2.15pm	Demany - Sondan League Game	\dots cen i ann i ieu πJ