BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4500 East Hampden Avenue | Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113 | www.Bethany-Denver.org | 303.758.2820

Easter 3



8:30am April 14, 2024

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!
- **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.
- 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 <u>always</u> welcome Worship Servants go to www.signupschedule.com/Bethany to sign up!
- 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.
 - \Rightarrow **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.
 - ⇒ **Staffed Nursery:** For directions to our Nursery, staffed by Ms. Michele, a Licensed Elementary Teacher with a specialization in Early Childhood Education, please speak with an usher.
 - \Rightarrow Infant Nursing Nook: There is an infant nursing nook outside the Chapel.

Flowers in front of the pulpit were given by Nick & Lu Wellen in honor of their daughter, Abby's, 3rd birthday.

★ GATHERING ★

Chimes will sound to indicate the beginning of worship

Prelude

Trio Sonata in E Flat Major, BWV 525 III. Allegro J.S. Bach

Welcome

Pastor Gary Sandberg

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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. **Amen.**

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.

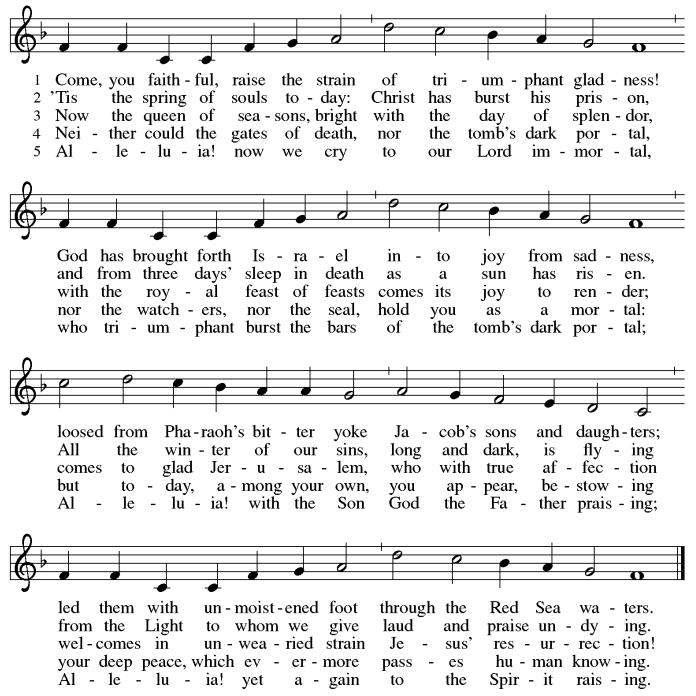
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive 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.

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. **Amen.**

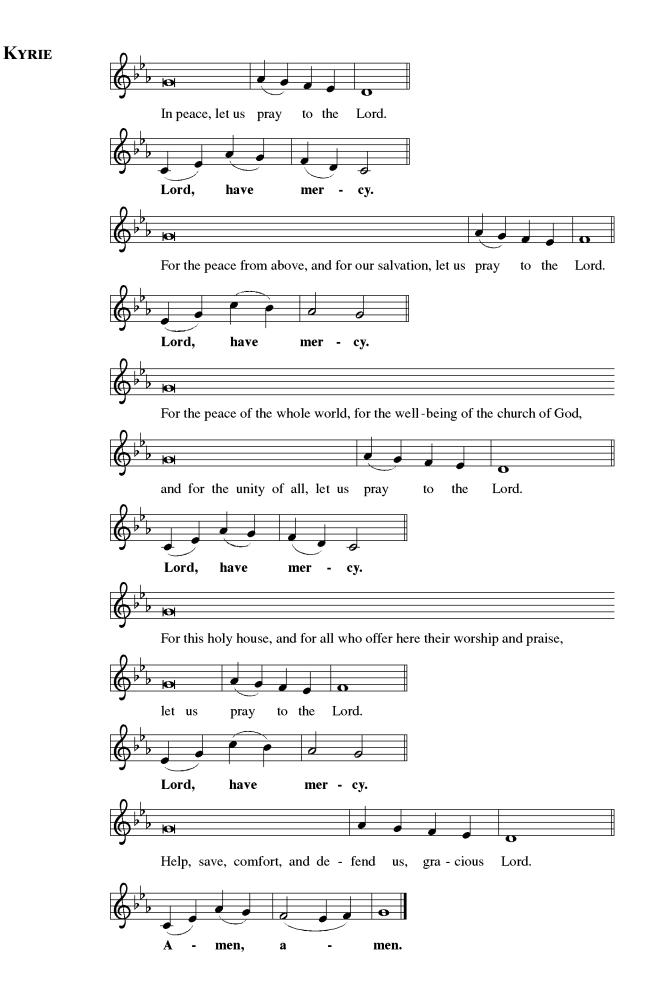
GATHERING HYMN Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain (v. 1-3) You are invited to turn and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.



GREETING

Pastor Nate Preisinger

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.



HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

₩ Word ₩

Lesson

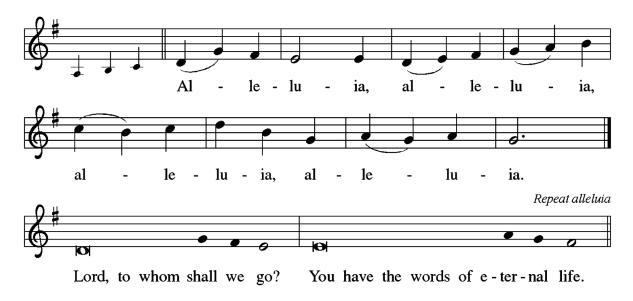
1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Gospel

Luke 24:36b-48

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

³⁶Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.

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

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Sermon

HYMN OF THE DAY

Children of The Heavenly Father

ELW #781



un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth. his the lov - ing pur-pose sole - ly to pre-serve them pure and ho - ly.

NICENE CREED

Deacon Debra Alba

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

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.*

✤ Offering ✤

ABUNDANTLY BETHANY

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

- Welcome new worshippers!
- Bethany Info Sessions: TODAY & 21
- Food Breakdown: TODAY
- Bethany Town Hall: Apr 21

OFFERING

You can give in the following ways; Thank you for your gifts!

- On our website, find the giving button in the header or under the Get Involved tab at Bethany-Denver.org
- Through the Bethany Connect App/Realm
- 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)
- If you attend in-person on Sunday, drop your offering in the silver plate at the doors as you exit

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Like Him We Rise

Tom Trenney

Matthew Eschliman, tenor

He came down that we may have love. He came down that we may rise. "Come unto me," our Savior said. "Ye weary come, I'll give you rest." From stable room and manger bed to paradise forever blessed. Made like him, like him we rise! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies; light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. "Come, all who thirst, be satisfied with water I alone can give." Upon the cross, "I thirst," he cried, conquering death that we might live. "When in the shadow, do not fear. I am your light, your lamp, your sun." The sting of death shall disappear. The fight is fought! The battle won!

✤ Meal ☀

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S 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

Pastor Gary Sandberg

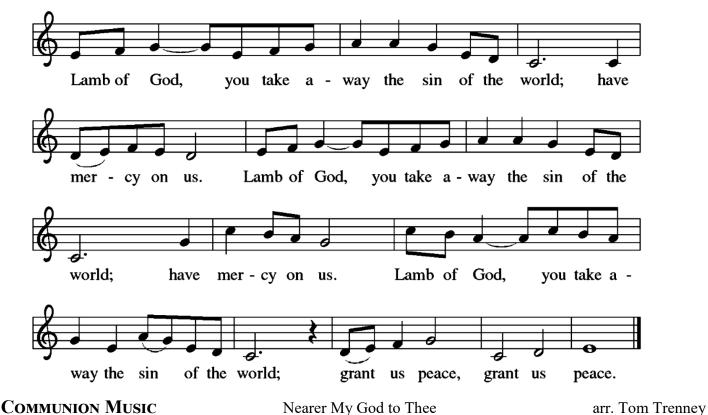
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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.

LAMB OF GOD



Matthew Eschliman, Tenor

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me; Still all my song shall be nearer, my God to thee. Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! Yea, though the vale I tread, thou art with me. When shadows cloud my head, thou anointest me. Thy rod and staff shall be comfort to shepherd me, nearer, my God to thee, nearer to thee. Though waters foam and roar, though mountains quake, thou art my refuge sure, though the earth should shake. Lord, strengthen and shelter me nearer, my God, to thee.

TABLE BLESSING

★ Sending **★**

Benediction

Pastor Nate Preisinger

SENDING HYMN

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW #389

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



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

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

Charles Callahan

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THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT NEWS & EVENTS

- Brian Tennien Memorial Rice and Bean Breakdown to Benefit Metro Caring: Today after both the 8:30am and the 10:00am services in Fellowship Hall. Join in!
- Bethany Chancel Choir Guest Night April 17, 2024 7:00-9:00PM: Are you looking to get more involved at church? Do you miss singing in a choir or have interest in making music within a community of faith? You may think the chancel choir looks full, but there's always room for more, and we want you! We know you'll love being involved in this fun, inclusive, and positive environment. No experience necessary just a love of music and a desire to learn. If you plan on joining us on April 17th, you can email Kirk (Director) at Kirk@bethany-denver.org... Or just show up, we'll be ready for you!
- High School After Party: Wednesday 4/17 @ 7:30pm @ Torchy's Tacos (6325 E Hampden Ave). We will meetup to celebrate Wednesdays at Bethany and connect with each other!
- Dining Out for Life to benefit Project Angel Heart: On Apr 18, dine at one of hundreds of participating restaurants for breakfast, lunch, happy hour, dinner, or takeout. 25% of your check will be donated to Project Angel Heart to help provide delicious, medically tailored meals for Coloradans living with severe illnesses, including HIV/AIDS. See participating restaurants at this link: https://www.projectangelheart.org/events/ dining-out-for-life/participating-restaurants/.
- The next Women of Bethany (WOB) Fellowship get together will be lunch on Thursday, April 18 from 11:30am to 1:30pm at The Perfect Landing (located at Centennial Airport at 7625 S Peoria Cir, Englewood, CO 80112) https://theperfectlanding.com/. If you have never dined here you are in for a wonderful experience as right outside the large windows you can watch small airplanes buzz as they take off and land. In the background you have a view of the front range from Pikes Peak to Longs Peak. Hope you will join us! Please RSVP to Lizza Aalto at taalto@aol.com by 4/16/24. Looking forward to seeing many of you!
- Family Promise at Christ the Savior Lutheran Church is looking for a volunteer to be present at that church from 1:00pm 3:00pm on Saturday, April 20. For more information, please call Jean Scott at 303 756-2106.Middle School Shenanigans at Epiphany Lutheran Church Saturday April 20th @ 5:00-8:00pm.
 790 S Corona St, Denver, CO 80209 (close to Washington Park) Great night to bring a friend! Our wonderful youth friends at Epiphany we share our confirmation journey with invite us to a night of SHENANIGANS!
 *Scavenger Hunt @ Wash Park *New Friendships *Big Bible Easterrific Read *Worship & Prayer stations
 *Pizza/drinks/snacks *Nine Square in the air *Giant Jenga *Corn Hole
- Bethany Town Hall: Sunday, Apr 21, 11:20am in the Chapel The Councils of Bethany will lead this meeting to review our financial picture and talk about leadership during Pastor Gary's sabbatical this summer. There will also be updates on the work of our Councils leading up to the Annual Meeting including the election of new Council members in June. There will be time for open conversation. All are invited to attend.
- ELCA Youth Gathering! We celebrated at NoNo's Cafe Sunday April 7 with Beignets for all! Thank you Bethany for continuing to support us through prayer & financial resources as we journey towards New Orleans July 14-21. Our team next meets up Sunday April 21 at 11:15am!
- Bethany Family Event: Please join us for our next Family Event on Sunday, April 21 at Bowlero in Lone Tree at 2:00pm! Sign up at https://tinyurl.com/BowleroEvite.
- **Blood Drive: Vitalant Blood Drive on April 23:** Vitalant will be in the Great Hall on Tuesday, April 23, in the morning for a blood drive. Everyone donating at this drive will be entered for a chance to win one of 83 gift cards worth \$83 each. This is in honor of Mother's day as one in 83 moms needs a blood transfusion after giving birth. Appointments can be made online at www.vitalant.org using the site code 0377 or by calling 303.363.2300.

- The Apostles' Creed Milestone Class is scheduled for April 28 at 11:20am for Elementary Schoolers and their families.
- **Godspeed to Pastor Gary and Karen!** Join in for a Sabbatical Send-Off on Sunday, April 28 during community hour at 11:00am. Please bring a dish for a potluck brunch. Share your good wishes with Pastor Gary and Karen and stay for warm fellowship and a delicious meal.
- Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains: Annual Gala (Opening Doors, Imaging Futures) on Friday, May 3. Bethany Lutheran Church is sponsoring a table. The Gala is LFS's major fund-raising event that supports programs that provide open doors and new futures in adoption and foster care, in disaster relief, and for refugees, asylees and seniors. If you'd like to attend and support LFSRM, please email a Bethany Gala Committee member - Marie Friedemann (mfriedem@regis.edu), Julie Friedemann (juliefriedemann@msn.com) or Janet Sparling (jsparling01@hotmail.com). Your support of LFSRM is hugely appreciated. See you at the Gala!
- Lutheran Family Services Silent Auction Gala Committee: This committee would like to add meaningful experiences to the Silent Auction at the Gala. Could you donate theater, symphony, ballet, Avs, Rockies, Bronco tickets to the Silent Auction? Do you a stay at a vacation home or a passion to share with a small group fly fishing, birding, hikes or special dinner that you could donate to the auction? Please contact a Bethany Gala Committee Volunteer Marie Friedemann (mfriedem@regis.edu), Julie Friedemann (juliefriedemann@msn.com) or Janet Sparling (jsparling01@hotmail.com) by April 10.
- Holy Hammers 25th Anniversary Dinner and Celebration: Saturday, May 4, 5:30-9:00pm at Augustana Lutheran Church, to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Holy Hammers and to raise money for our 2024 home sponsorship and construction (on land leased to Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver by Augustana Lutheran). Augustana Lutheran, a Holy Hammers congregation, has leased land to Habitat for Humanity Metro Denver, and Holy Hammers is sponsoring and building 1 of the 8 homes on that land in 2024. Purchase tickets or donate at https://www.ticketsignup.io/TicketEvent/. For more information, contact Kevin Dempsey at kmdmpsy@aol.com or 303-699-1629.
- Retreat-In-A-Box Spring: See Colleen in the Fellowship Hall if you'd like to join in. Devotional box to guide you as you embrace the Easter Season!
- Young Adult Retreat: May 10-12, Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp, \$100. Have you ever wondered what comes next? What you're supposed to be doing? This has always been a common question for young adults. Join in for a meaningful weekend of exploring how our Christian faith might provide us with new tools for this age-old struggle. You're welcomed to join a community of young adults exploring similar thoughts as we collectively discern God's intentions in our lives. Through Bible study, creative worship, art projects, yoga, personality tests, high ropes adventures, and time in God's beautiful creation we will support each other through the questions we all carry. Connect with Colleen at colleen@bethany-denver.org with questions! Scholarships available!
- Holy Hammers/Habitat: Volunteer opportunities: Saturdays, May 11 & 18 at Mountain View Homes (2101 S Joliet St, Aurora, CO, 80014) 8:50am-4:30pm. Sign up at http:// holyhammers.denver.volunteerhub.com/.
- Lutheran Family Services Mother's Day Baby Baskets: Join the Outreach Ministry Team and support refugee mothers and their newborns as you bring any or all of the following to Bethany on Mother's Day May 12 (or May 19)! Sippy Cups, Diapers (bigger sizes), Crib Sheets, Baby Care Kits, Hygiene Items for Baby and Mom. Or use the Bethany drop-down box "Baby Baskets LFS" to make a direct donation.

- **Bethany Name Tags:** Would you like a Bethany Name Tag? Sign up and we will place an order once we hit a critical mass. Order at www.Bethany-Denver.org/Nametags.
- Bethany Information Sessions: Want to learn more about this congregation? These sessions are a great path toward considering membership at Bethany too! TODAY Bethany's structure; how to get involved, April 21 Tour of the Campus. Each one starts at 11:20am in Room 400 (downstairs in the youth wing). Come to all three, or drop in on topics that appeal to you. New Members will be welcomed in worship on Sunday, April 21. Contact Sarah@Bethany-Denver.org to RSVP.

For more information and to see other announcements, please sign up for the weekly email by contacting the office - 303.758.2820, or visit www.Bethany-Denver.org/Bethany-news/

BETHANY CAMPSI

Day Camp VBS June 24-28

Experience camp on-campus at Bethany! Rainbow Trail Lutheran Bible Camp Staff and Bethany Youth help lead Bible studies, songs, arts and crafts, and games for children! Register Here:







Art Camp July 15-18

Children ages 4 and up learn Bible stories and complete craft projects connected to the stories! On-campus at Bethany 9:00am-12:00pm each day. Register here:

Sky Ranch Camp July 28-August 2

Join in for an unforgettable week at our camp immersed in the Roosevelt National Forest! All ages of children and youth register here using our code: 24BLC







Bethany Lutheran Church I 4500 East Hampden Avenue | Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

Wednesdays at Bethany!

Coming up this Wednesday, Apr 17 (All classes are 6:00-7:00pm) Godly Play (Preschool-1st Grade): Paul's Discovery Camp Bethany (2nd–5th Grade): Creation Care 3 Confirmation (6th-8th Grade): Suicide and Hope THE Bethany Bible Study (Adults): Kingdom Cycle

