

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Easter 6



8:30am
May 5, 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.
- ◆ **Pastor Gary** is on Sabbatical until July 14. Pray for his and Karen's rest and renewal.
- ◆ 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 always 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.
 - ⇒ **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.
 - ⇒ **Infant Nursing Nook:** There is an infant nursing nook outside the Chapel.

✠ GATHERING ✠

Chimes will sound to indicate the beginning of worship

PRELUDE

Praeambulum in F Major

Heinrich Scheidemann

WELCOME

Deacon Debra Alba

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**Oh, Worship the King**

ELW #842

You are invited to turn and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.

1 Oh, wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
 2 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 3 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,
 5 O mea - sure - less might, in - ef - fa - ble love,



Oh, grate - ful - ly sing God's pow - er and love;
 Al - might - y, your pow'r has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
 while an - gels de - light to hymn you a - bove,



our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,
 the hum - bler cre - a - tion, though fee - ble their lays,



pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our mak - er, de - fend - er, re - deem - er, and friend.
 with true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise.

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.

Music: HANOVER, William Croft, 1678–1727

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.

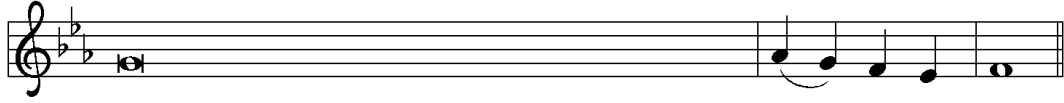
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



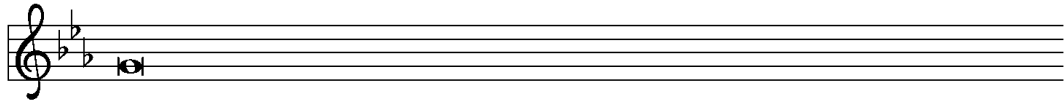
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



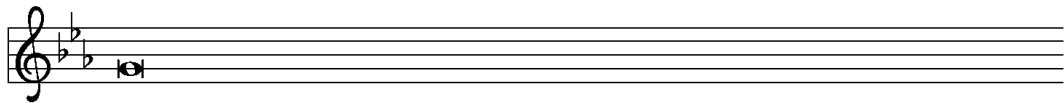
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and
Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo-ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the
Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the
Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the
glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✠ Word ✠

LESSON

1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

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

Jesus said: ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue

ELW #644



1 Al - though I speak with an - gel's tongue, my faith, my
 2 For love is pa - tient, love is kind, and nev - er
 3 For now we peer at dark - ened glass; our vi - sions
 4 The gifts are man - y, the Bod - y one, and in - to



knowl - edge all sur - pass, but have no love, my gifts are
 vain with boast - ing pride; love bears all things, all things en -
 end; our tongues all cease. In part we know, in part now
 one are all bap - tized. Be - lov - ed, share one heart, one



vain as clang - ing gong or blar - ing brass.
 dures. All things must end; love will a - bide.
 see: then we will see love face to face.
 mind, one hope, one faith, one love in Christ.

Text: Andrew Donaldson, b. 1951
 Music: O WALY WALY, English traditional
 Text © 1995 Andrew Donaldson.

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.**

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!
- ◆ Wednesday end of year celebration: May 8
- ◆ Lutheran Family Services baby baskets drive: May 12 & 19
- ◆ Bethany Outside CleanUp Day: May 18

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

Cantate Domino

Giuseppe Pitoni

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

*Cantate Domino canticum novum;
laus ejus in ecclesia sanctorum.
Laetetur Israël in eo qui fecit eum,
et filii Sion exsultent in rege suo.*

*Sing ye to the Lord a new song,
let his praise be in the church of the saints.
Let Israel rejoice in him that made him:
and let the children of Sion be joyful in their king.*

✠ Meal ✠

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Pastor Nate Preisinger

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

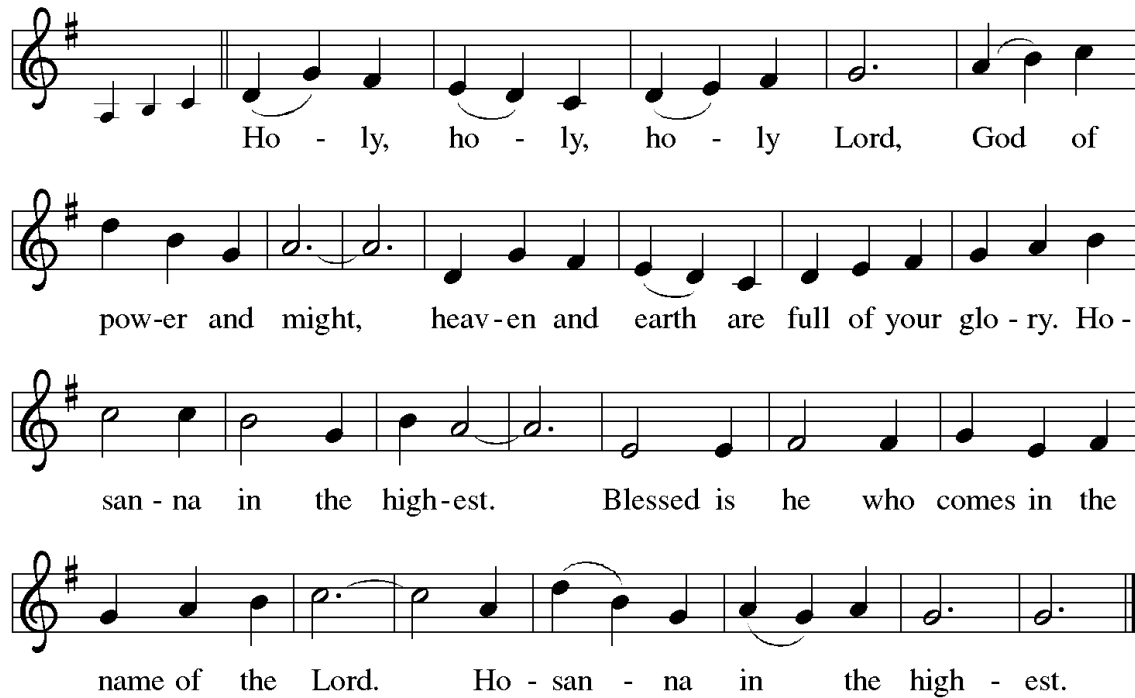


The Lord be with you. **And al- so with you.** Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...
...we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

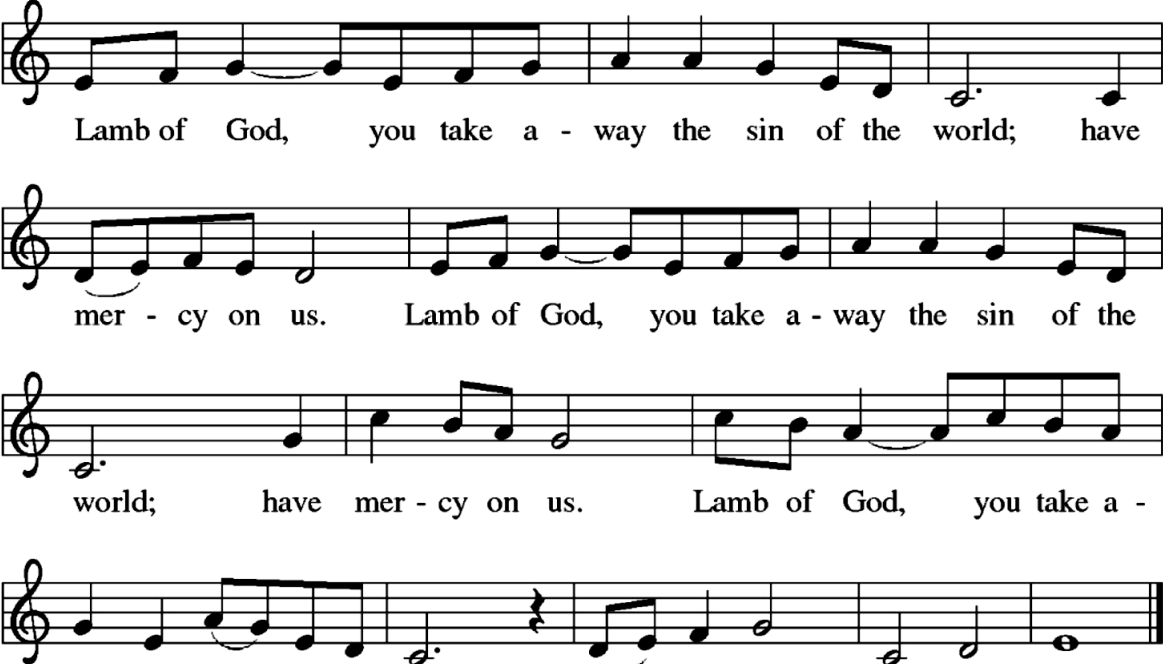
THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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



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

COMMUNION MUSIC

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

arr. Matthew J. Armstrong

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!
Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.*

TABLE BLESSING

✠ Sending ✠

BENEDICTION

Deacon Debra Alba

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



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
 Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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

March in D

Franz Schubert

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT NEWS & EVENTS

- ◆ **Wednesdays at Bethany Year End Celebration:** Wednesday May 8, 5:00pm-7:00pm! We celebrate Wednesdays at Bethany together. BBQ and ice cream for all, play on giant inflatable obstacle course and thank all our amazing leaders. Come celebrate!
- ◆ **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, 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.
- ◆ **Global Mission Ministry Team:** What are Lutherans in Estonia praying for? They want to keep rebuilding Christ's church after its near-decimation under Soviet occupation! And they want us to hear how we're helping. You are invited to join Bethany's Global Mission Ministry Team on May 14 at 7:30pm in Room 210 as Matthias Haamer, great-grandson of Pastor Harri Haamer, relates their mission at Tartu Academy of Theology and Home of Hope Bible School in Tartu, Estonia.
- ◆ **Bethany Spring Outdoor Clean Up:** SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, May 18, 9:00am - 12:00pm. We'll be raking, pulling weeds, trimming and cleaning up the outside church grounds. Bring gloves and any gardening tools you'd like to use. There will be coffee and breakfast burritos provided for the crew! Be sure to sign up at signupschedule.com/Bethany so we know how many workers to expect. THANK YOU!
- ◆ **Rejoicing Spirits:** Sunday, May 19 (Pentecost Sunday!), at Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church 21755 E Smoky Hill Rd. Aurora, 80015 from 4:00-6:00pm for dinner and worship! Rejoicing Spirits is 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. RSVP to pastor@lordofthehills.org.
- ◆ **Summer Worship Schedule:** Beginning Sunday, May 26 we go to one worship service, with Children's Church, at 9:00am with Community Time afterwards.
- ◆ **Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp work weekend:** May 31- Jun 2. Work typically includes landscaping, cabin maintenance, and painting. Cabins are available for lodging (bring your own bedding) and meals are included. Beautiful views are guaranteed! Join us for all or part of the weekend. This is a wonderful opportunity for the entire family! Contact Susan Pfabe-Wiggans (susanpw4@gmail.com) for more information.
- ◆ **Souper Bowl of Caring:** Nationwide final results are in! We are so grateful to everyone who participated in this year's Souper Bowl of Caring event! With the enthusiastic participation of 2,233 different groups, an astounding \$4,452,362 was donated to food charities throughout the country. This remarkable achievement demonstrates the power of community and the profound impact of collective action.

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 CAMPS!

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



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bethany

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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