

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Easter 7



10:00am
May 12, 2024

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BETHANY'S 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.
- ◆ As we gather this morning, we acknowledge the **Cheyenne, Ute, and Očhéthi Šakówinj** (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.
- ◆ **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:** 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.

The flowers in front of the pulpit were given by Matthew and Dean Kersten-Gray in celebration of their 5th anniversary and in honor of their mothers.

+ WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS +

Prelude

How Firm a Foundation

Robert A. Hobby

Welcome to Worship

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Come, let us worship the Lord,
for God has done wondrous things!

Song of Praise

All Are Welcome

ELW 641

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
Refrain
Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
All are wel - come,
all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

God our parent, we thank you for these waters where you make us new,

leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, God of Love, that your Spirit comes to us in the life-filled waters of rebirth

like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls.

Empower your church to be a place where love overcomes all hate.

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

United us in your love and make us one, risen Christ.

Fill our hearts with love for our neighbors.

Forgive us, Renew us, and Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Song

As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Greeting

Vicky Daub

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

Gracious and glorious God,

you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Nora Stone Evans - Born: June 26, 2013

Lily Grace Evans - Born: July 27, 2015

Parents: Pat and Nicole Evans

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 Nora and Lily 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 children among God's faithful people, bring your children 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 Nora's and Lily's new lives in Christ? **R: We do.**

Baptism: Nora Stone/Lily Grace, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer: Sustain Nora/Lily 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: Nora Stone/Lily Grace, 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 siblings in Christ!

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as members of the body of Christ, children of God's kingdom on earth and in heaven.

+ WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD +

Today's Sermon is based on readings from:

Psalm 1

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶**For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

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

John 17:6-19

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

Jesus prayed: ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Sermon Notes

Song of the Day

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

ELW 403



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch - es of the
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the
vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our
prayer, with the pow'r to love and wit - ness, with the



new flame's ea - ger might: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
midst as gift and sign: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
peace be - yond com - pare: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BRIDEGROOM, Peter Cutts, b. 1937

Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company.

Music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

A Statement of Our Faith

Vicky Daub

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 People *(music will play underneath the prayers)*

Gathered into one, by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us lift our hearts in prayer...

...We continue to speak with God about all that is on our hearts...

(A time for silent prayer)

Into your hands O God, we offer these prayers, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

- ◆ Welcome new worshippers!
- ◆ Lutheran Family Services baby baskets drive: TODAY & May 19
- ◆ Bethany Outside Clean Up Day: May 18
- ◆ Scout Sunday & pancake breakfast: May 19
- ◆ Summer worship: Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, 9:00am

+ 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

How Great Is Your Love

Mark Altrogge

Sounds of Praise, dir. Paula Wills

No eye has seen and no ear has heard, and no mind has ever conceived;

The glorious things that You have prepared for everyone who has believed.

You brought us near and You called us Your own, and made us joint heirs with Your Son.

How high and how wide, how deep and how long, how sweet and how strong is Your love;

How lavish Your grace, how faithful Your ways, how great is Your love, O Lord?

Objects of mercy, who should have known wrath, we're filled with unspeakable joy;

Riches of wisdom, unsearchable wealth, and the wonder of knowing Your voice.

You are our treasure and our great reward, our hope and our glorious King.

Children Return to the Sanctuary

+ THE COMMUNITY MEAL +

Invitation to The Communion Table

Pastor Nate Preisinger

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

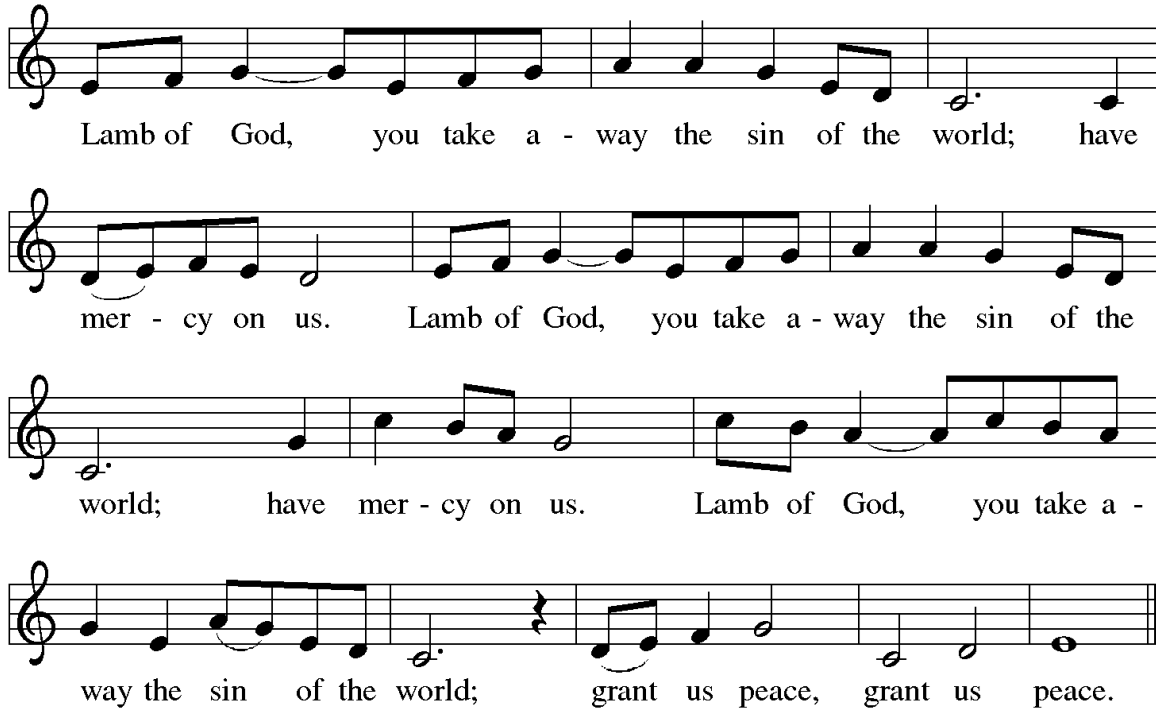
The Lord's Prayer (*Ecumenical translation*)

**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.

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 Distribution

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION
Sounds of Praise, dir. Paula Wills

On Bended Knee

Robert Gay

*On bended knee I come, with a humble heart I come, bowing down before Your holy throne.
Lifting holy hands to You, as I pledge my love anew;
I worship You in spirit, I worship You in truth, make my life a holy praise unto You.
On bended knee we come, with a humble heart we come, bowing down before Your holy throne.
Lifting holy hands to You, as we pledge our love anew;
We worship You in spirit, we worship You in truth, make our lives a holy praise unto You.*

+ GOD SENDS US TO SERVE +

Blessing

Pastor Nate Preisinger

Song of Blessing

Benediction

Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin

Sounds of Praise, dir. Paula Wills

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord smile on you, shine His light upon you.

May the Lord lift you, turn His face toward you, give you His peace, give you His peace.

Blessed we came to this place today, and blessed now, we will go.

In the name of the Father, the Spirit, and the Son.

Song of Sending

Crown Him with Many Crowns

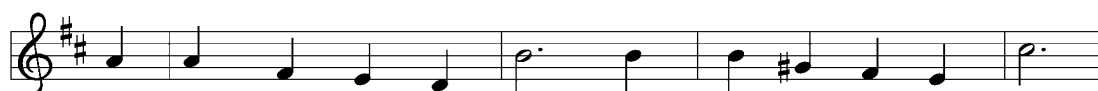
ELW 855



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

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

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Rick Seaton

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT NEWS & EVENTS

- ◆ **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 TODAY or May 19! Sippy Cups, Diapers (bigger sizes), Crib Sheets, Baby Care Kits, Hygiene Items for Baby and Mom. Or use the Give tab on the Bethany website and 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:** 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!
- ◆ **Holy Hammers/Habitat:** Volunteer opportunities: Saturday, May 18 at Mountain View Homes (2101 S Joliet St, Aurora, 80014) 8:50am-4:30pm. Sign up at <http://holyhammers.denver.volunteerhub.com/>.

Liturgical Text and Music: From Sundays and Seasons.com © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006681, One License #A-705765 and CCLI #1825408

- ◆ **Scout Sunday pancake breakfast:** Sunday, May 19, 9:15am - 11:30am. Everyone is invited! Have breakfast and help Bethany's Boy Scout Troop 712 raise funds for Troop activities including Winter Camping, Rock Climbing, Rafting, Mountain Biking, Backpacking, Summer Camp and High Adventure trips. Freewill offering.
- ◆ **Women of Bethany (WOB) Fellowship:** Dinner on Sunday, May 19, 5:30pm - 7:30pm at Sazón Modern Mexican and Latin Restaurant (9447 Park Meadows Drive, Lone Tree, 80124) sazonexperience.com. At Sazón they are seating us in their private dining room which seats up to 40. They will also do individual checks too! We hope some of you who have not yet been able to join us during week day brunches and lunches will be able to join since this time we are getting together on a Sunday. RSVP to Lizza Aalto at taalto@aol.com by May 17. Questions? Call Lizza (303)514-0668 or Marilyn Narveson (303)358-0305.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **Senior Ministries:** We're wrapping up Spring programming on May 21. We'll continue meeting through the summer focusing on board games and puzzles as community builders 9:30am-1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Chapel will be held once a month, time & dates TBD. Summer dates: 6/4, 6/18, 7/2, 7/16, 8/6, 8/20. Bring a brown bag lunch this summer or organize a smorgasbord to bring & share with friends.
- ◆ **Summer Worship Schedule:** Beginning Sunday, May 26 we go to one worship service, with Children's Church, at 9:00am with Community Time afterwards.
- ◆ **High School Graduation Milestone:** Sunday, May 26, 10:00am. In worship graduates will receive a grad blanket from Bethany to wrap yourself in and remind you of God's love and call and Families will have a special time of blessing. After worship, congregation will celebrate graduates with cake in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by May 19 to kevin@bethany-denver.org.
- ◆ **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. Join in 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. Sign up at signupschedule.com/Bethany.
- ◆ **Annual Meeting:** The meeting of Bethany Lutheran Church & the Bethany Foundation is scheduled for 10:00am on Sunday, Jun 9 in the Sanctuary. The items for voting will include the adopting of a budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the election of new Council members, Foundation members, and other elected positions. Members of the Council are holding a **Town Hall** meeting on Sunday, Jun 2 at 10:00am in the Chapel so that more extensive conversation can be held around these issues before the meeting.

- ◆ **Rainbow Trail Day Camp/Vacation Bible School:** A fun-filled week of Bible Study, Arts & Crafts, Recreation, Music and lots & lots of FUN! Ages: Preschool – 5th grade. Meets Monday – Thursday, Jun 24 - 28, 9:00am – 2:30pm and Friday 9:00 am - 11:30am with closing program at 11:30am. Preschool is 9:00am – 11:30am daily. Be sure to register as soon as possible so you don't miss out. <https://tinyurl.com/blcdaycamp>. Deadline is Jun 16. Questions? Contact Gayle Newell at 303-758-2820 or Gayle@Bethany-Denver.org.
- ◆ **New Beginnings Prison Ministry:** New Beginnings is an ELCA Rocky Mountain supported ministry that meets inside Denver Women's Correctional Facility. New Beginnings affords an all-inclusive love of Christ. Everyone is welcome no matter who they choose to be. They are requesting help to purchase Bibles, communion kits, devotionals, and more. Please faithfully consider donating to this ministry by using the drop-down menu "New Beginnings Prison Ministry" in the Realm app.

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!

<p>Day Camp VBS June 24-28</p> <p>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:</p>   	<p>Art Camp July 15-18</p> <p>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:</p>  	<p>Sky Ranch Camp July 28-August 2</p> <p>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</p>   
--	---	--

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