

Ask the Lord
of the harvest to
send out laborers

MATTHEW 9:38



June 18, 2023
Third Sunday after Pentecost
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES
RINGING OF BELL
WELCOME

The people of God stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Gracious God,

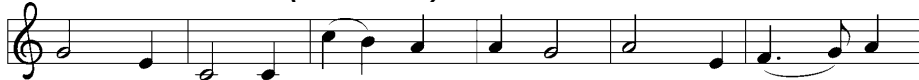
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

HYMN *God Is Here!* (ELW 526)



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



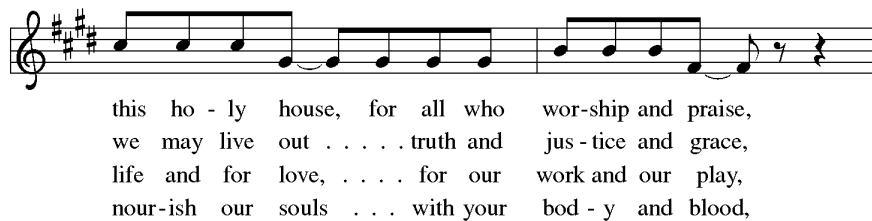
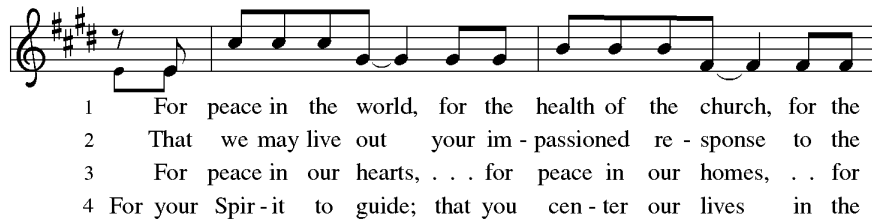
wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

GREETING

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.

KRYIE (ELW p.184)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The people of God are seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Exodus 19:2-8a

At Sinai God assured Israel, "You shall be my treasured possession," and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God's will.

A reading from Exodus.

²[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.³Then Moses went up to God;

the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ^{8a}The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 100

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands!

²Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.

**³Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

⁴Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God's holy name.

**⁵Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-8

We are no longer God's enemies but have peace with God because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ's death.

A reading from Romans.

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The people of God stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* ELW 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 9:35—10:8

The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

^{10:1}Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The people of God are seated.

SERMON

The people of God stand.

HYMN *Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word (ELW 663)*

1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.
2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race
3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;

Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav - en's gifts ex - tend to all.
and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.
strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.
let the gath - 'ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

BLESSING OF MEN AND BOYS

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator of heaven and earth.

We give thanks to you for all the men of faith who have done your will throughout the ages.

We thank you for Abraham the father of Israel, and Moses the deliverer, for Samuel the judge and David the king,

for Isaiah the prophet and John the forerunner, for Peter and John, Paul and Silas, and for Joseph, guardian of our Lord.

God of our ancestors in faith, we ask your blessing upon the faithful men and boys of Bethany Lutheran Church, our brothers and friends, our spouses and sons, and our grandfathers and fathers.

Women and Girls Only: **Bless them and all who put their trust in you. Keep them steadfast in your Word. Look with favor upon their lives in Christ. May they wait upon the Lord and renew their strength, soaring up with wings like eagles, running and not growing weary, walking and not becoming faint. We give you thanks and we ask your blessing through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

APOSTLES' CREED (ELW P.105)

**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 INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Each petition ends with, "Lord, in your mercy." Those worshipping respond with the hymn below "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (ELW 752)



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943
Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema
Text and music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people of God are seated.

OFFERING

We are grateful for your gifts, and they are needed to continue the work of the church. For those worshipping online please visit our website (www.wbbethany.org) and click on the blue "Give Now" button on the home page. Thank you! The people of God stand as the offering is brought forward.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Change My Heart, O God (ELW 801)*



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa
Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 190)

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

The people of God are seated.

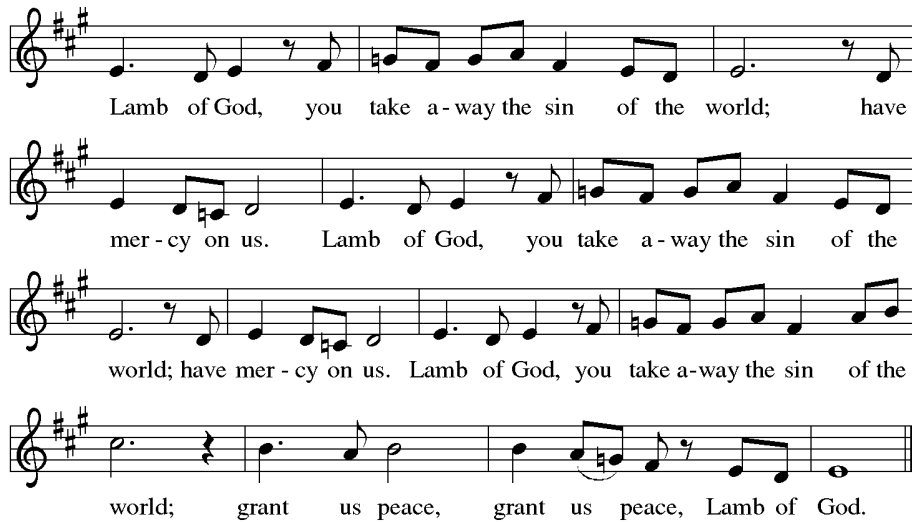
COMMUNION

Communion today will be distributed in a continuous line. The cups in the center of the tray contain white grape juice. All other cups are wine. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

All gathered who believe Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior are invited to come to Holy Communion with repentant hearts believing that Christ forgives our sins and guides our lives. Strengthened, forgiven, and nourished through this meal the Spirit sends us forth in service and to proclaim the good news of Christ's love. Children and adults who do not take communion may come forward for a blessing.

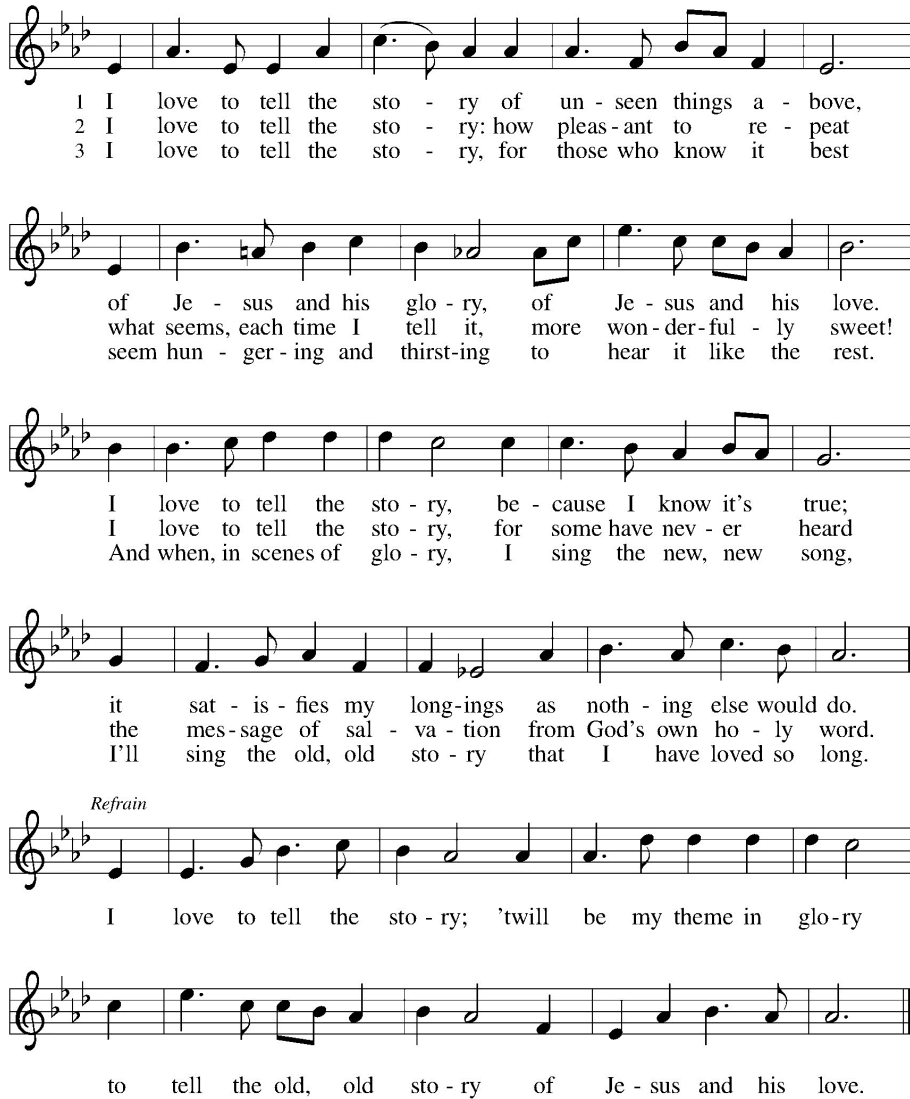
HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God (ELW p.191)



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, Lamb of God.

I Love to Tell the Story (ELW 661)



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain
I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

We Come to the Hungry Feast (479)



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

The people of God stand.

PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN Rise Up, O Saints of God (ELW 669)



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

SENDING

Go in peace! Share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the Great Hall.

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		
Ministers of:	Today	June 25
Music	Jill Barnhart	Jill Barnhart
Proclamation (Lector)	Patsy Ernst	Jill Barnhart
Minister of Technology	Dave Poppen	Cole Crosthwaite/Tate Frantz
Worship (Altar Care)	Marsh Family	Marsh Family

Ministry Opportunities This Week

Wednesday, June 21

7:00 AM — Men's Bible Study with Breakfast

Thursday, June 22

6:00 AM — Women's Bible Study

1:00 PM — Quilting

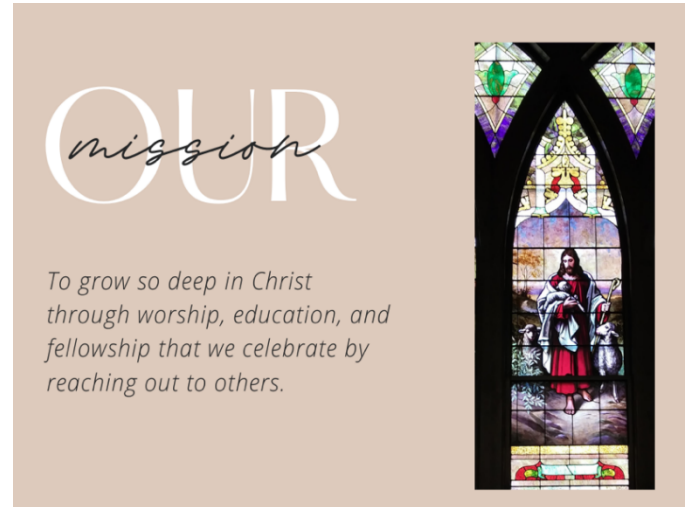
2:00 PM — Crestview worship hosted by Bethany.

Sunday, June 25

9:30 AM — Worship

10:30 AM — Fellowship

5:00 PM — 4th Sunday Community meal



Land Acknowledgement

Bethany Lutheran is located in the original and ancestral homelands of the Iowa, Sauk, Fox, Kickapoo and Oceti Sakowin peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Did you know...

How your weekly offering makes an impact?

It supports... youth ministries

30 children were able to attend Vacation Bible School
12 Children were given Bibles in the spring + 15 more this fall
Wednesday Faith Formation - Starts September 7
Sunday School resumes - September 11



It supports... small group Bible Studies

Wednesday Mornings - Men's Study Group - 7:00am
Thursday Mornings - Woman's Study Group - 6:00am
Monthly Women's Bible Study - 2nd Wednesday at 9:00am

It supports... community outreach programs

Like the Hope Chest & the Food Pantry
which provide clothing and food to those in need



It supports... meals and fellowship

Free dinner on the 4th Sunday of the month
the annual community tailgate
Angel Meals
annual Spaghetti Dinner

Thank you for your gifts,

which support these and many more
great ministries at Bethany Lutheran Church

Did you know...



How your weekly offering makes an impact?

It helps us invest in technology to
expand our reach beyond the church
doors



Average Online attendance = 112
viewers

Thank you for your gifts,
which support these and many more
great ministries at Bethany Lutheran Church


HOLY HIKING
 SATURDAY, JUNE 24
 8:00 AM
PLEASE RSVP

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR ANOTHER HOLY HIKE IN THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S CREATION. THIS HIKE WILL BE AT THE CORALVILLE DAM RECREATION AREA. WE WILL MEET AT BETHANY AND THEN CARPOOL. PLEASE RSVP TO PASTOR CHAD (PASTOR@WBBETHANY.ORG) OR (515)249-8071. THANK YOU!



SUPPORT THE MANY MINISTRIES BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH



OFFERING PLATE

Money can be placed in offering plate on Sunday morning or mailed to:
Bethany Lutheran Church Box 236, West Branch, IA 52358.



ON-LINE DONATIONS

Scan QR code with your phone or visit our website
<https://wbbethany.org>. Click on the blue "Give Now" button.




AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL

Sign up for the "Simply Giving" program for automatic withdrawals from your account. Contact blcsecretary@lcom.net



MOBILE APP

Download the new Vanco Mobile App from your smartphone app store. Select Bethany Lutheran Church, West Branch, IA and make your donation. 



IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

Tax-free donation directly from an IRA to Bethany Lutheran Church
This is a tax-free way to give your required minimum distributions from your IRA to charity.

VBS 2023 Information

Volunteer Opportunities: We are excited to host VBS this summer. We are in need of many adult volunteers in order to have the program. Our VBS program is from **5:30-8:00 pm each evening: Tuesday through Friday (July 18-21)**. We are asking program volunteers to arrive at 5:15 pm and all activities will be prepared & provided for you. We are serving dinner this year and also seeking kitchen volunteers (to arrive at 4:30 pm). Dinner menus have been created, food/ingredients will be provided, and the prep/cooking is minimal.

After signing up, we will contact you about a background check (it's a simple form) to finalize your volunteer commitment if you have not completed one prior. *Bethany requires all adults to have a background check completed before volunteering with children per our Child Safety Policy and we appreciate your support with this.*

We are using **Sign-Up Genius** for the volunteer sign-up:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CA8AC2EA0FC1-vbsvolunteer>.

Contact the Church's office with any questions and we'll connect you to a VBS coordinator.

Student Registration Bethany Lutheran Church invites all children to join us for Vacation Bible School this summer! This year, our program will be held in the evenings. Our VBS 4-day program is from 5:30-8:00 PM for the days of Tuesday, July 18 through Friday, July 21. Children currently or will be in Preschool- 6th grade are invited!

Please register online at <https://forms.gle/XHYG6DDqy91hg22y7>.

Thank you for your support with VBS at Bethany Lutheran Church!
VBS Coordinators,
Courtney Heid, Kristen Van Scoyoc, Amber Marsh, Kristin McElhinney



The poster features a central illustration of various animals (a bear, a fox, a rabbit, a pig, a cat, a dog, a bird, and a fish) gathered around a small table with a picnic basket. The text is arranged vertically: 'WILD LIFE' in yellow block letters on a blue brushstroke background, 'VBS' in large blue block letters below it, 'at BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH' in orange, 'July 18-21' in large dark blue, '5:30-8 PM' in large dark blue, 'Dinner served @ 5:30 pm' in orange, and 'Preschool- Grade 6' in dark blue. At the bottom left is an orange button with 'MORE INFO' and the URL 'bit.ly/bethanyvbs23'. At the bottom right is a QR code.

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