

# Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*  
Setting I

May 10, 2026  
10:00 am

*\*Please stand as you are willing and able.*  
*ELW refers to the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.*  
*ACS refers to All Creation Sings.*

---

### GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

---

PRELUDE

Italian Hymn

Setting by Robert Powell

#### \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN**      Come, Thou Almighty King      ELW 408

**\*GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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**

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

# \*THIS IS THE FEAST

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and




blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:




Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*




hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

---

WORD

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

---

FIRST READING

Acts 17:22-31

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup> “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

*The reading may be concluded:* Word of God, Word of Life.

*The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 66:8-20

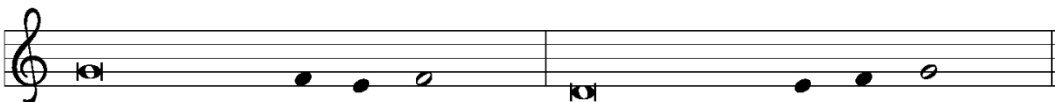
*Worship Assistant*

*Refrain:*



Bless our God, you peo - ples; let the sound of praise be heard.

*Tone:*



<sup>8</sup> Bless our <sup>1</sup> God, you peoples;  
let the sound of <sup>1</sup> praise be heard.

<sup>9</sup> Our God has kept us a- <sup>1</sup> mong the living  
and has not allowed our <sup>1</sup> feet to slip. R

<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have <sup>1</sup> tested us;  
you have tried us just as sil- <sup>1</sup> ver is tried.

- <sup>11</sup> You brought us in- | to the net;  
you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.
- <sup>12</sup> You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.
- <sup>13</sup> I will enter your house | with burnt offerings  
and will pay | you my vows—
- <sup>14</sup> those that I promised | with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.
- <sup>15</sup> I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams;  
I will give you ox- | en and goats. R
- <sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you | who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has | done for me.
- <sup>17</sup> I called out to God | with my mouth,  
and praised the Lord | with my tongue.
- <sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil | in my heart,  
the Lord would | not have heard me;
- <sup>19</sup> but in truth | God has heard me  
and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.
- <sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer,  
nor withheld unfailing | love from me. R

## SECOND READING

I Peter 3:13-22

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, Word of Life.

*The assembly responds:*

Thanks be to God.

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



*The assisting minister sings the gospel verse:*

*Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them,  
and we will come to them and make our home with them.*

*The assembly repeats the Alleluia.*

**\*GOSPEL**

John 14:15-21

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to St. John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**\*REFLECTION**

The Rev. Angela Freeman

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** For All the Faithful Women ELW 419 (st. 1, 2, 9 and last)

**\*NICENE CREED**

p. 104

*Worship Assistant*

## \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

WA: God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

WA: You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

WA: You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

WA: You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill (*especially*). Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

WA: You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

WA: God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

P: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

---

**MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

---

**VOLUNTARY** Good Christian Friend, Rejoice and Sing Kristina Langlois

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

**OFFERING SONG** This Joyful Eastertide ELW 39I st. I

*As the offering is brought forward to the altar, the congregation sings.*

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and

sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has

sprung to life this mor - - row.

*Refrain*

Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our

faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -

ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

### *Worship assistant*

Merciful God,  
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus,  
Amen.

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*



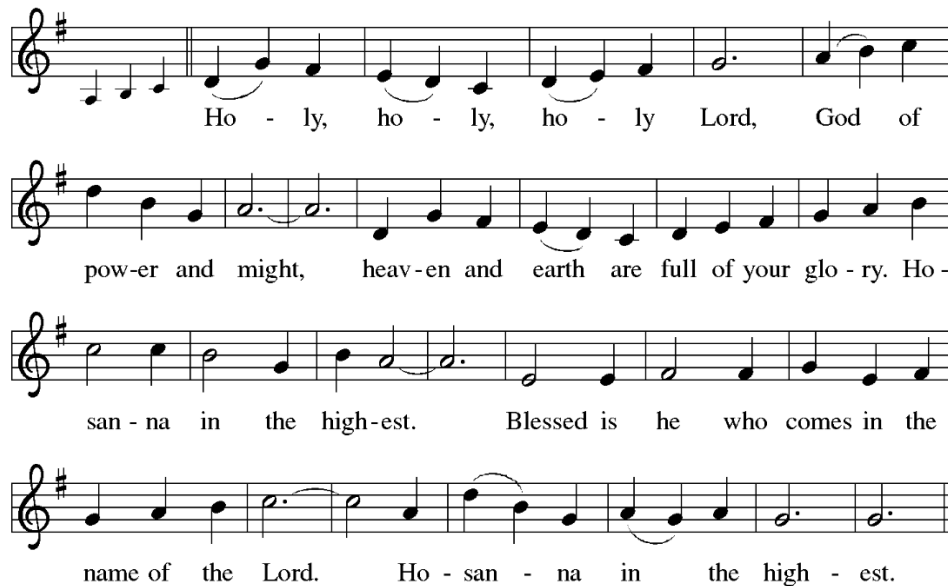
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## \*PREFACE

*The presiding minister continues.*

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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join 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.

## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

*The presider continues with the eucharistic prayer.*

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
You are most holy,  
and great is the majesty of your glory...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

*Holy Communion will be served in a continuous fashion at the altar rail. If you come forward, you are invited to receive bread from the presider in the center aisle. Let Pastor know if you need gluten free bread. The worship assistant will have a tray with small cups of wine. Light colored wine in the center of the trays is nonalcoholic. Place empty cups into the tray with the acolyte before returning to your seat.*

## 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    All Who Hunger Gladly Gather            ELW 461  
                                 Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth            ELW 735  
                                 Children of the Heavenly Father            ELW 781

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

***Worship assistant***

Holy One,  
through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.  
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.  
In the name of Jesus,  
Amen.

---

**SENDING**

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

---

**\*BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
Amen.

**\*SENDING HYMN**            We Know That Christ Is Raised            ELW 449

**\*DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**                            Postlude in G Major Georg Frederic Handel

# Leading Worship Today

The Rev. Angela Freeman  
Eric Richardson  
Deb Zudell-Dickey

Senior Pastor  
Minister of Music  
Organist

Sundays and Seasons (liturgical elements from Augsburg Fortress). From SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Annual License #SB136302.

ONE LICENSE/CCLI. Reprinted/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-735620. WorshipCast License #15966.

“Come, Thou Almighty King.” Public Domain. “Great Is Thy Faithfulness.” c 1923, renewal 1951 and this arr c 2000 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. International Copyright secured. All Rights Reserved. “For All the Faithful Women.” Text © GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Arrangement © Augsburg Fortress. “This Joyful Eastertide.” Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. “All Who Hunger Gladly Gather.” Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth.” Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. “Children of the Heavenly Father.” Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress. “We Know That Christ Is Raised.” Public Domain. ITALIAN HYMN Setting by Robert Powell; copyright © 1995 by GIA Publications, Inc. “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” by Kristina Langlois; copyright © 1996 MorningStar Music Publishers. “For All the Faithful Women”, Arrangement Frederick Frahm; copyright © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. “By All Your Saints”, Arrangement Benjamin M. Culli copyright © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. HOLY MANNA, Arr. Donald Busarow; copyright © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved.

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”, Arrangement: Wolfgang Rubsam; copyright © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. “When In Our Music God is Glorified”, Arrangement: David M. Cherwien; copyright © 1996 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

**Next week’s scripture:** First Reading: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; Gospel: John 17:1-11.



BETHESDA ON THE BAY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & CHILDCARE CENTER

[bethesdaonthebay.org](http://bethesdaonthebay.org)

(440) 871-2276

[info@bethesdaonthebay.org](mailto:info@bethesdaonthebay.org)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED** are dedicated to the glory of God by Carol Rattay in loving memory of Beverly & Meta Olsen and Ann Rattay.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO NEED THEM. SPEAK WITH AN USHER OR PASTOR FOR ASSISTANCE.**

**CONNECT CARD** – There are connect cards in the pew pockets. If you are a guest, have a prayer intention or anything else to share, please fill out a card and drop it in the collection basket. There are also opportunities listed for ways to get involved!

**NAME TAGS** are available for all worshipers as desired. Thank you for wearing your nametag and helping us build community and fellowship. If you do not see your nametag hanging in the Narthex or you simply need a new one printed, please contact the church office at [info@bethesdaonthebay.org](mailto:info@bethesdaonthebay.org). There are also guest name tags for any guest attending worship.

### **SCRIPTURE BASED COLORING SHEETS**

Coloring sheets, based on the Sunday scripture, are available each week by the usher's stand. You are welcome to pick one up for use during worship or take it home with you for colorful prayer and meditation during the week.

### **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

On Mother's Day, we give thanks for the mothers and those who serve in mothering roles in our lives. We remember those for whom this day is difficult, and we pray that all might experience God's nurturing and unconditional love.

### **WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY**

Gather weekly on Wednesday at 10:00am for Bible study and discussion about the assigned scripture we hear on the approaching Sunday morning. No expertise needed. Share together in open conversation, prayer and fellowship.

### **FUTURE FELLOWSHIP DATES**

We have the 2026 Schedule for Fellowship Hour Sundays, after church here at Bethesda. A host is needed for fellowship after worship on Sunday, May 17. If you are available and interested, please reach out to Laura English or the church office. You can also review the fellowship and coffee making tips, which are in the coffee cart. Thank you for helping support fellowship times!

### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

The next confirmation class is **May 14 from 6pm-8pm** at Bethesda. The topic covered will be "Discipleship, following Jesus." Confirmation students are invited to attend and join friends from First Lutheran, Christ Evangelical Lutheran, Messiah Lutheran and Prince of Peace.

## **FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL**

**October 12-23, 2026**

Spots still available! Registration and final payments are due on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Sign up now to participate in this special experience to explore the ancient Church and follow in St. Paul's footsteps. Register soon to secure your place. Registration forms are available in the narthex, email enews, or by contacting Pastor Angela directly.

## **DISASTER RELIEF TRIPS**

Members of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran and members of Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church will be traveling in partnership to Carter County Tennessee the weeks of July 12, 2026, and September 13, 2026. We will continue to assist with recovery efforts for those who suffered great loss from Hurricane Helene in September 2024. Anyone interested in participating, please contact Bob Maas or Pastor Angela. Registration due by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

For people unable to travel with us, you can provide support by praying for us and the people impacted in Carter County, help with communication with the congregation, help raise funds to provide to the impacted residents and help raise funds to defer the cost of the trip.

## **SUMMER PICK-UP CHOIR**

Everyone is welcome to make a joyful noise and have fun singing together! Summer is a good time to give it a try too! Mark your calendars and come to join the Summer Choir on June 14, July 12, or August 9. Come to the 9:20 a.m. rehearsal on any or all of those dates. No audition. Easy Peazy."

## **PEACEMAKER QUILTERS**

The Peacemakers is an outside group that meets at Bethesda Thursdays at 9:00 am, now through May, 28 2026. They quilt and donate their quilts to charitable groups that need them, with the support of Thrivent Financial. New quilters and sewers are welcome anytime. The sewing technique is straight-seam. They also have projects you can do at home! If you are interested in learning more or joining the group, contact the office or show up on Thursday!

## **CLASS FOR 2-4 YEAR OLDS**

**May 30 – 10am**

Bethesda is excited to announce that we have started a special class for children ages two through four along with their parents. We meet one Saturday a month from 10:00 to 11:00 am. If you are interested in attending these classes, please contact Diana Wolfe or the church office.

## **BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC**

There will be a blood pressure clinic on May 17 after worship in the library. Also, please check out the bulletin board outside Pastor Angela's office for parish nurse updates. Blessings – Debbie Roski, Parish Nurse.

## GRADUATES

It's that time of year when there are graduates to celebrate! We will post our graduates in the showcase in June. If there is a high school or college graduate this year in your family, please email the following info to the church office by **May 17** (info@bethesdaonthebay.org):

- Name, Where graduating from, Degree, if applicable, Future plans, Any special honors they would like highlighted
- A current photo (5x7 is preferred but we will use whatever is provided. The photo does not have to be a professional photo and can be mailed, dropped at church, or emailed. Please note emailed photos will be printed from church copy machine so will not be photo grade.)

## COMMUNITY CUPBOARD AT ST. BARNABAS

**Next Collection: May 17**

Last month we collected 50 items, including lots of cereals and oatmeal, that were donated to the Community Cupboard. Thank you to all those who contributed. Higher costs for fuel and other essential household items have made the Community Cupboard and other food pantries more essential than ever.

This month, in light of the Mother's Day holiday, we will be collecting toiletries and women's hygiene products (shampoo, lotion, deodorant, tampons, pads, etc.) on the 3rd Sunday of the month, May 17th. So, please put these items on your shopping list, pick up a few items while you are out and about, and bring them to church next week on Sunday, May 17th. As always, donations of any non-perishable food, hygiene products, or pet food are welcome, as are monetary donations. Please place your items in the bin located in the Narthex.

## ST. BARNABAS MONTHLY EVENT

**Tuesday, May 12, 12:00pm - 2:00pm**

Soup and salad luncheon at noon, followed by a performance by a renowned violinist, Mary Beth Ions. Whether on stage at Severance Hall with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra or in the orchestra pit for Playhouse Square, Mary Beth brings passion for music. In her one-woman concert, she strolls as she plays and brings music in an up close and personal way. Reservations required for lunch. Please contact: Marjie Koons 517-321-6585/[care@stbarnabasbv.org](mailto:care@stbarnabasbv.org).

## LIBRARY RENOVATION

As Bethesda continues to refresh and update our facilities, the next project will be to renovate the current library space. The library has not been very well utilized over the last many years and could be more functional as meeting space. The goal is to not only modernize with fresh paint and flooring, but to make the space more user friendly, less cluttered, and more practical for education ministry and meeting space. Over the next couple of Sundays, May 10 and 17<sup>th</sup>, you are invited to take home any of the books on the shelves that could be meaningful for you. Some of the helpful reference books will be kept in the library for use by the education ministry. Those are marked.

## **LIVESTREAM UPDATE**

Work has begun on the updating of the livestreaming system here at Bethesda. The goal is to not have any interruption in the Sunday Broadcasting. Training on the new system will be available soon! Stay tuned for that announcement and thank you for considering helping by being trained! Additionally, while updating the livestream system and cameras, the project includes some minor, but very helpful updates to our sound system, including adding one more mic for the future use of an additional staff member during Sunday morning leadership.

## **CALL PROCESS UPDATE**

Bethesda and Good Soil in Rocky River are partnering together to offer a call for a new Rostered Minister, either a deacon or pastor for the role of Christian Formation. The Executive Council committees from Good Soil and Bethesda on the Bay met together with the joint Call Committee on 3/29 to review the Ministry Site Profile drafts, approve the position description, and discuss the shared breakdown of the projected expenses/compensation.

The next step in the process is for both church councils to review these documents and approve them at the April council meetings. From there, these documents will be published in the ELCA's call database for available candidates to review. Interested candidates will contact the Northeastern Ohio Synod Staff to share their candidate profiles with the Call Committee. Interviews with the Call Committee will then take place in the coming months.

Please hold our Call Committee, council leaders, and this call process in your prayers as we discern who God is calling to serve as our shared Minister for Christian Formation.

What's Christian Formation? Sunday School, Confirmation, Bible Studies, Small Group ministry, Service and Learning opportunities, Acolyte and Communion Instruction Classes, and Worship, are all examples of how we are "formed" in the Christian faith and life.

