

Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church

The Holy Trinity

All Creations Sings, Setting 12

May 31, 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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR SECTION LEADERS

PRELUDE

Nicaea

Robert J. Powell

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
 all you who are weary
 and are carrying heavy burdens,
 and I will give you rest."
 In the name of God,
 Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
 your sins are forgiven.
 Rest in God's love.
 Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN** Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! ELW 413

***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.

***GLORY TO GOD**

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Sing Unto the Lord

David York

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

¹When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was

evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷ So God created humans in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. ² On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a} These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

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.



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

The assisting minister sings the gospel verse:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;

God's glory fills the whole earth.

The assembly repeats the Alleluia.

***GOSPEL**

Matthew 28:16-20

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

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** Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

ELW 412

***NICENE CREED**

p. 104

***RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

P: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

WA: Holy God, we are in awe of your creative work. Continue that work in your church, making us a new creation that proclaims your presence and love. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

WA: Creator God, nature reveals your power and glory. Protect water sources, vegetation, and wildlife as reminders of who you are. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

WA: Redeemer God, you call us to pray for those in authority. Guide our leaders to pursue the work of fostering peace and community. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

WA: Sustaining God, you are mindful of your people in every circumstance. Heal those who are sick. Provide for all who hunger. Protect those in harm's way. Comfort any experiencing hardship (*especially*). God of grace,
hear our prayer.

WA: Gracious God, we pray for the children of our church and community. Provide for their needs. Support their caregivers. Nurture their faith. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

WA: Loving God, we give thanks for those who have died and claimed their baptismal promises (*especially*). Strengthen us to live as they did in communion with you. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

P: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our 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

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

OFFERING SONG

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

You Are Holy

ELW 525



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

*OFFERING PRAYER

Worship assistant

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
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.
You reveal your glory
as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:
equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God,
ever to be adored in your eternal glory.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY



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

*LORD'S PRAYER

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

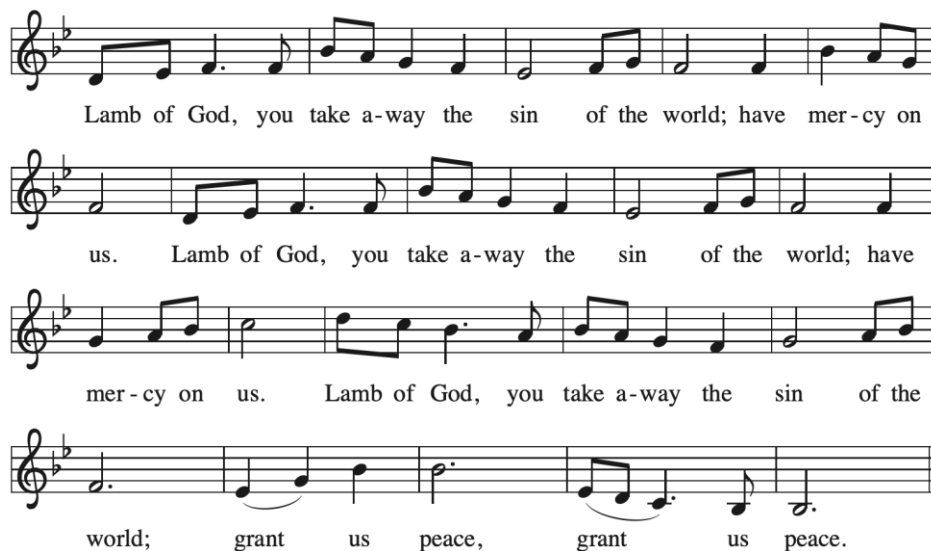
Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

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

Father Most Holy
Here I Am, Lord

ELW 415
ELW 574

Come, Holy Spirit, Descend

ACS 980

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "*Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, de - scend on us, de -". The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "scend on us. We gath - er here in Je - sus'". The third system shows the vocal line and piano accompaniment with fermatas over the final notes. The lyrics are: "name. (hm)".

*Additional verses ad lib:

Come, Breath of heaven, . . .
Come, Word of mercy, . . .
Come, Fire of judgment, . . .
Come, great Creator, . . .
Come to unite us, . . .
Come to disturb us, . . .
Come to inspire us, . . .

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Worship assistant

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

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

*BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

God, the Source of glory,

God, the Word of life,

God, the Spirit of truth

✝ bless you all, now and forever.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

God, Whose Almighty Word

ELW 673

*DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Kingsfold

Aaron David Miller

Leading Worship Today

The Rev. Angela Freeman
Eric Richardson
Deb Zudell-Dickey

Senior Pastor
Minister of Music
Organist

LiveStreaming: By entering Bethesda on the Bay and by your presence here (indoors and outdoors), you consent to be photographed, filmed, livestreamed, and/or recorded. Your entry constitutes your consent to such photography, filming, livestreaming, and/or recording and to any use, in any and all media for Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church. Thank you.

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Next week's scripture: First Reading: **Hosea 5:15—6:6**; Psalm: **Psalm 50:7-15** Second Reading: **Romans 4:13-25**; Gospel: **Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**.



bethesdaonthebay.org
(440) 871-2276
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED are dedicated to the glory of God by Krystina Schmidt.

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. 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.

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.

WELCOME TO THE NEW MEMEBERS

Bethesda welcomes its newest members today, Tom Mravetz and Kaye Skye! It is always a gift to expand the communion of saints in this corner of the kingdom. Thank you for being among the congregation and for bringing your spiritual gifts and your faithfulness.

CHOIR SCHOLARS

Thank you to this year's Choral Scholars: Seniors, Grace Lowmiller & Clementine Diamond-Ortiz, both graduating from Lakewood High School; and Will McLoney & Charlie Felker, both Juniors at Westlake High School, who will continue on at Bethesda next year!

GRADUATES

Congratulations to all the 2026 Graduates! May God go with you into the new stages of your life's journey! We give thanks to God for all your hard work and accomplishments!

LIVE STREAM TRAINING

Saturday, June 13, 1:00pm

Live Streaming has become an important part of the congregation's outreach ministry. We give God thanks for the recent upgrades! We need helpers to bring worship outside the walls of the church. Anyone is invited to come and learn how to run the new live-stream system – teens and young adults welcome too! Speak with Pastor Angela if you are interested but not available on June 13th for the next training.

GLENVIEW CONSTRUCTION

Construction will begin at Glenview School across the street from Bethesda on June 6 and will last for 24 months. Church leadership has been assured by the Bay Village Board of Education that Bethesda can continue to use their parking lot on Sundays throughout construction. Please be aware that there will be changes to the parking lot during this time and be cautious of any potential construction-related hazards.

NEOS SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Northeastern Ohio Synod, the branch of the ELCA that Bethesda belongs to, meets for its annual meeting, Synod Assembly in Akron on June 5 and 6th. Vital business is discussed and decided upon for the life of the collective work of the Church at this meeting. This year also includes the election of a Bishop for the synod. The current Bishop, The Rev. Laura Barbins has made herself open for re-election. See more information about the election and other business on the synod website, www.neos-elca.org. Thank you to the voting members representing Bethesda this year, Pastor Angela, Lisa Hanson, and John Koenig. Thank you also to Bob Emmerich who will be at assembly as he serves the wider synod as the Treasurer.

FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL

October 12-23, 2026

Spots are still available! Registration and final payments are due on June 1st. 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.

SHARE YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS FOR SUMMER SERVICES

If you have a favorite hymn that you would like us to sing during a summer service, we invite you to send your suggestions to our Minister of Music, Eric Richardson, at ersings1@yahoo.com. Please submit the following: Hymn Title, its' ELW # (if applicable), also let us know if you would like to be included as the nominator. For example: ELW 759 – “My Faith Looks Up To Thee.” (Donald Smith).

SUMMER 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.

CLASS FOR 2-4 YEAR OLDS

On break until the fall

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.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday, June 7 – after worship

You are invited to share in conversation and dreaming about and helping to plan future fellowship and community events such as fellowship hours, summer picnic, etc. We will continue with that discussion after church on June 7. If you were at the meeting on May 3, please come again. If you weren't able to make it last time, *please* come on June 7. We need your thoughts and ideas!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Snowball Mountain Challenge

June 15-19, 9:00am – noon

Prince of Peace Lutheran, Westlake

Children ages 4 through rising 5th graders are invited to participate in the VBS programming through Prince of Peace (PoP) Lutheran in Westlake. PoP is partnering with 5 other mainline Christian churches in Westlake for the second year to offer VBS for the community. PoP is located at 28455 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake. Cost is \$20/child, max of \$50/family

To register visit: <https://stladislas.org/event-details/?id=6383>

WIFI & DIGITAL BULLETIN

Bethesda's Guest Wi-Fi password: BethesdaBay

You can help save a few trees! Worshipers are invited to access Bethesda's worship bulletin and announcements using their smart devices. Do not forget you can also "check in" on your various social media accounts and help tell the story of our shared ministry! Invitations for your friends to share in worship and other activities are always welcome as well!

CHURCH OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Main Office and Chrissy: info@bethesdaonthebay.org

Pastor Angela: pastor.angela@bethesdaonthebay.org

Phone: (440) 871-2276. Option 1 for Pastor Angela, Option 4 for the office. We are always happy to hear from you!

Church Office hours Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm

