

Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 10

August 9, 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

PRELUDE Selected Movements from Partita on “St. Anne” Paul Manz
—Theme —Pastoral — Adagio

*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** My Life Flows on in Endless Song ELW 763



- 1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
- 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring - ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

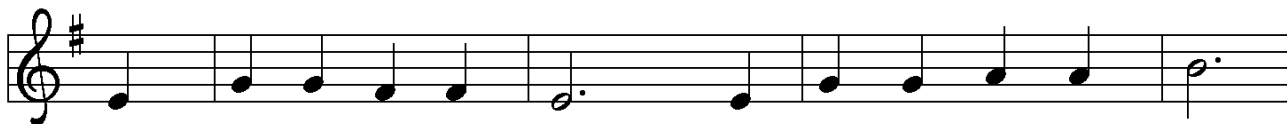


Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

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.

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

CHOIR ANTHEM The Holy Heart Barbour & Skidmore, arr. McDonald

WORD

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

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹ At [Horeb, the mount of God,] [Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹ He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left,

and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

The reading may be concluded:

Word of God, Word of Life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

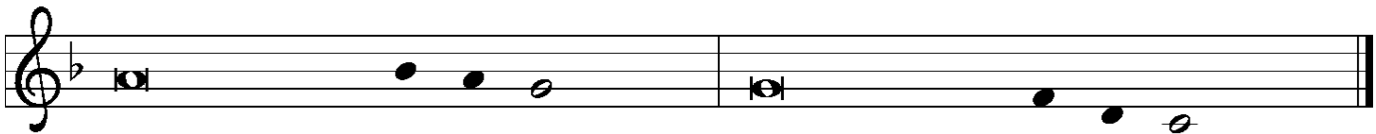
PSALM

Psalm 85:8-13

Psalm Refrain:



Psalm Tone:



⁸ I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.

⁹ Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell | in our land. R

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

¹¹ Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.

¹² The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.

¹³ Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD
and shall prepare for | God a pathway. R

SECOND READING

Romans 10:5-15

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you,

in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that

Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

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:

I wait for¹ you, O LORD;
in your word¹ is my hope.

The assembly repeats the Alleluia.

*GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The gospel concludes: The gospel of the Lord.

The assembly responds: Praise to you, O Christ.

REFLECTION

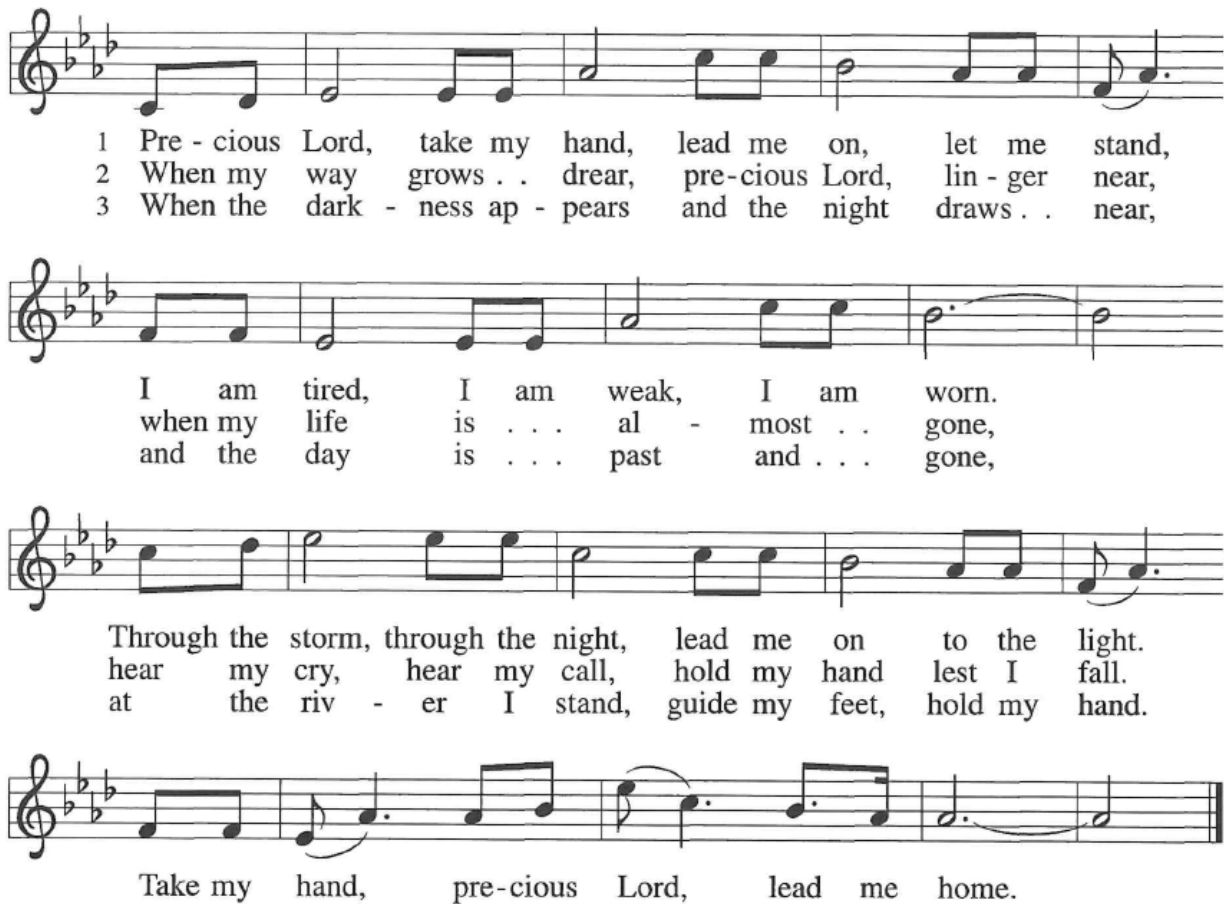
The Rev. Angela Freeman

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW 773



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

*APOSTLE’S CREED

pg. 105

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

WA: We pray for the servants of your gospel in every place, that your word may be heard. Where your voice is scorned and your people persecuted, strengthen the church in its faithful witness. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

WA: For this world you have created, that all life may flourish. Preserve biodiversity in all its variety and help ecosystems to survive the extremes of a changing climate. Move our hearts with compassion to join in this work. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

WA: For leaders of towns, states, nations, and organizations, and all who are in positions of authority, that they lead with justice and integrity. Teach us to respond with Christlike mercy to all who are afraid or in danger. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

WA: For all who struggle amid the storms of life, that they find peace and hope in your loving presence. Comfort any who are lonely and grieving and all who suffer (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

WA: For this congregation and its ministries, that they reflect your love and life amid a turbulent world. Guide council members, elders, and other church leaders with your still, calm voice. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

WA: We give thanks for the faithful who have gone before us. Guide us in our earthly journey, that we may one day join them in your eternal kingdom. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
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 Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me Arr. Stephen P. Folkemer

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.

For the Fruit of All Creation ELW 679 st. 3



3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con-found us,



most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to 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 also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

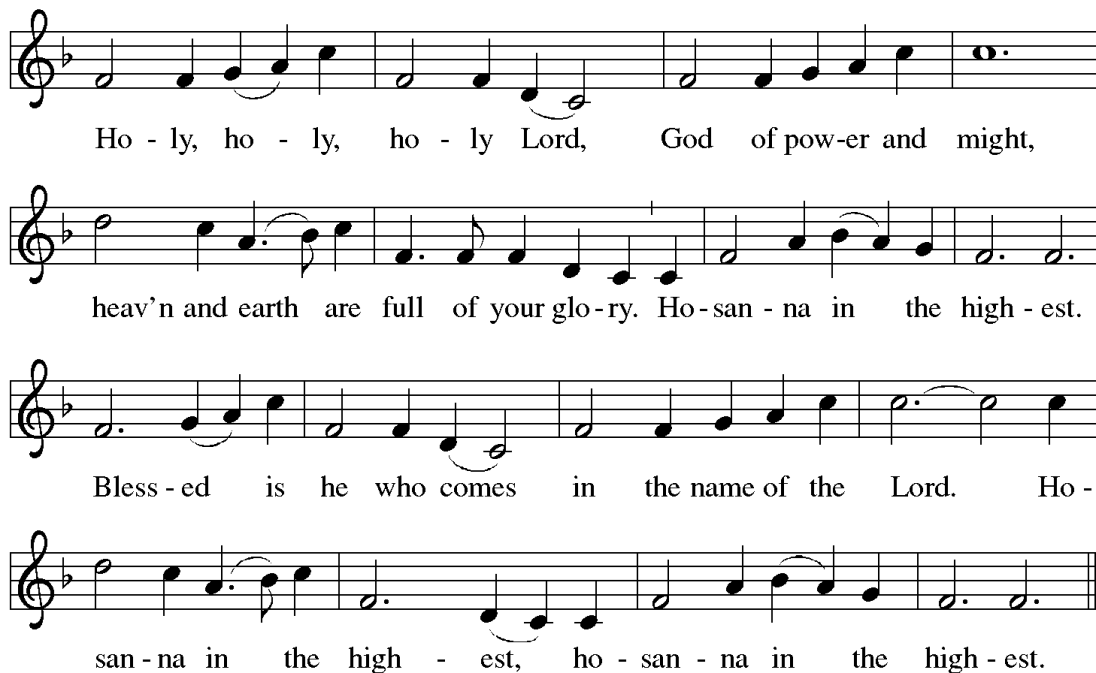
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*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,
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 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-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*LORD'S PRAYER

Pray the version of the Lord's Prayer most comfortable to you and in the language of your heart.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.	
Our Father in heaven,	Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name,	hallowed be thy name,
your kingdom come,	thy kingdom come,
your will be done,	thy will be done,
on earth as in heaven.	on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.	Give us this day our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins	and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those	as we forgive those
who sin against us.	who trespass against us;
Save us from the time of trial	and lead us not into temptation,
and deliver us from evil.	but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,	For thine is the kingdom,
and the glory are yours,	and the power, and the glory,
now and forever. Amen.	forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Holy Communion will be served at the altar rail. When you come forward, you are invited to either kneel or stand at the railing. Please indicate to the worship leader 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 on the stand to the side of the aisle before returning to your seat.

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.



1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver
 2 As a moth - er stills her child, thou canst
 3 When at last I near the shore, and the



life's tem - pes - tuous sea; un - known waves be - fore me
 hush the o - cean wild; bois - t'rous waves o - bey thy
 fear - ful break - ers roar twixt me and the peace - ful



roll, hid - ing rock and treach - 'rous shoal; chart and
 will when thou say'st to them: "Be still." Won - drous
 rest, then, while lean - ing on thy breast, may I



com - pass come from thee. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
 sov - 'reign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
 hear thee say to me: "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

When Peace like a River

ELW 785



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

*PASTORAL BLESSING

*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.

The Author of life,
the Word of salvation,
the Breath of new birth,
+ one God, bless you
and equip you for living and serving,
today and every day.

Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW 632



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
- 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
- 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
- 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

*DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"St. Anne"

Healey Willan

Leading Worship Today

The Rev. Angela Freeman
Eric Richardson
Deb Zudell-Dickey

Senior Pastor
Minister of Music
Organist

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Next week's scripture: First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm: Psalm 67; Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Gospel: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28.



bethesdaonthebay.org
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED are dedicated to the glory of God in honor of Ian and Barb Woodburn's 66th Anniversary by their family.

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(s) attending worship.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

TODAY - August 9, after worship

Anyone who has attended, wanted to attend, or would like to attend - male or female - we are meeting today after worship in the lounge. Bethesda has things coming up and events to plan for the fall for our church community. Please come and offer your ideas for future get-togethers and opportunities to be with and enjoy each other.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND PICNIC – SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, August 23

Bethesda is excited for the annual outdoor worship and picnic shared with Good Soil Lutheran in River who will be joining us again this year! Bring a chair if you can, and invite your friends to join us! Sign up to bring a side dish or dessert with you if you can. Some drinks and grilled burgers and dogs will be provided. If you'd like to plan some games or other picnic activities, please let Pr. Angela know. You can sign up on the SignUp Genius to attend, help set up, clean up and to bring a side dish or dessert. If you aren't able to use SignUp Genius, contact the office for assistance.

Bethesda will have a photographer here on August 23 during worship and the picnic to take some candid photos to use on social media and our website!

YOUTH GATHERING MEETING

August 24, 7:00pm – Lounge

All kids going into 8th grade – 12th grade this year are invited to participate in the up-coming ELCA National Youth Gathering next summer, July 2027! Theme for this Gathering will be Imagine More! Come to the meeting with adults/parents on Monday, August 24th to learn more and to begin to plan together for this amazing faith growth experience with youth and adults from around the Nation!

PAPER GOODS DONATIONS FOR KNICKERBOCKER SENIOR APARTMENTS

The Knickerbocker Senior Apartments requested help from the four Bay Village congregations that support it to collect donations of paper goods to support their programming for residents. Each Sunday during the month of August, we will be accepting donations of the following items for the Knickerbocker:

- Paper plates (dessert and dinner size)
- Paper bowls
- Dinner napkins
- Paper towels
- Clorox wipes
- Paper coffee cups (10 or 12 oz)
- Compostable, dinner-sized take-out containers

The donated items will be used for birthday celebrations, coffee hours, and community lunch and dinner events, gatherings that mean a great deal to the residents. By donating these essential supplies, we will be helping the Knickerbocker to stretch its program dollars further, allowing them to invest more deeply in engaging entertainment, educational opportunities, and meaningful social experiences for the residents. Thank you for your support of this initiative, which is sponsored by the Mission & Ministry Team of Church Council.

DISASTER RELIEF WORK

“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are the household of faith.” Galatians 6:10

Members from both St. Matthew’s in Medina and Bethesda on the Bay will travel September 13, 2026 to Carter County Tennessee to provide disaster recovery assistance. Please pray for the travel, the work, and the relationships built between participants and the homeowners. You can offer food donations for the trip or support with a monetary gift. Also, if applicable, please consider designating a Thrivent Grant for this ministry. Reach out to Pastor Angela if you would like more info or to help.

BACKPACK BLESSING

August 30

School may have already started for most, but we want to send our children to school with God's love and blessings! Children of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks to worship on Sunday, August 30 for a special Backpack Blessing. During the service, we will pray for God's protection, wisdom, courage, and joy as our students begin a new school year. Whether it's preschool, kindergarten, or another exciting year of learning, we hope every child will join us for this special tradition. Bring your backpack, invite a friend, and let us celebrate the beginning of a wonderful school year together as a church family!

BETHESDA TO WORSHIP AT GOOD SOIL

Sunday, September 27th at 9:30 am

Bethesda will travel to Rocky River to worship with Good Soil. Mark your calendars and plan on journeying down the road to continue the relationship building and shared worship! It is a blessing to be the One Body of Christ! **Carpooling and shared rides are encouraged due to space constraints at Good Soil. Meet at Bethesda at 9:00 am if you would like to carpool. Please note that service begins at 9:30 and that there will NOT be service at Bethesda that morning. Good Soil is located at 20300 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River.**

CHANCEL CHOIR

Bethesda's choir will kick off rehearsals on September 10th at 7:00 PM. Rehearsals continue on Thursdays at 7:00pm. A shorter rehearsal and warm-up before worship meets on Sundays around 9:30am. Everyone is welcome! Speak with Eric Richardson with questions.

GODSPELL – THEATER AGAPE – August 14-16

Theatre Agapé is an inclusive, purpose-driven community of theatre artists that partners with other non-profit organizations to raise awareness and funds for their charitable endeavors while also encouraging them to join in our artistic efforts. Theatre Agapé is presenting Godspell August 14-16 in the Peace Pavillion at Prince of Peace (28455 Center Ridge, Westlake). For more information visit www.theateragape.org/events.

VELOSANO BIKE TO CURE

For the ninth consecutive year, Gary Weiland is leading a VeloSano Bike to Cure team to support cancer research. Team Discovery currently has 93 riders with a goal of 110 riders and \$130,000, which will fully fund one cancer research pilot. This year, Team Discovery will surpass Gary's ultimate goal of raising \$1/2 million for cancer research since 2018. New riders are welcome. Bike to Cure is Sept. 18 and 19. Contact Gary at weilang@ccf.org for more information and free registration. Information to support Gary's ride can be found in the enews, or contact the office.

FAMILY DAY

August 16, 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Everyone is invited to Good Soil family day at Lakewood Park!

All families, with children any age, are welcome to join in the fun on family day (and extended family/friends as well). Please bring your own lunch to the park, Good Soil will provide a cooler of sodas, sparkling water, and other drinks. Set up in or around the big pavilion by the playground area. Pastor Marissa's cell is 813-494-6507 if you have trouble finding us.

