1st Sunday after Pentecost

May 31, 2026

Bethany Lutheran Church

Welcome Visitors.

Please sign our visitor book. There activity bags available for small children, located by the entrance of sanctuary.

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

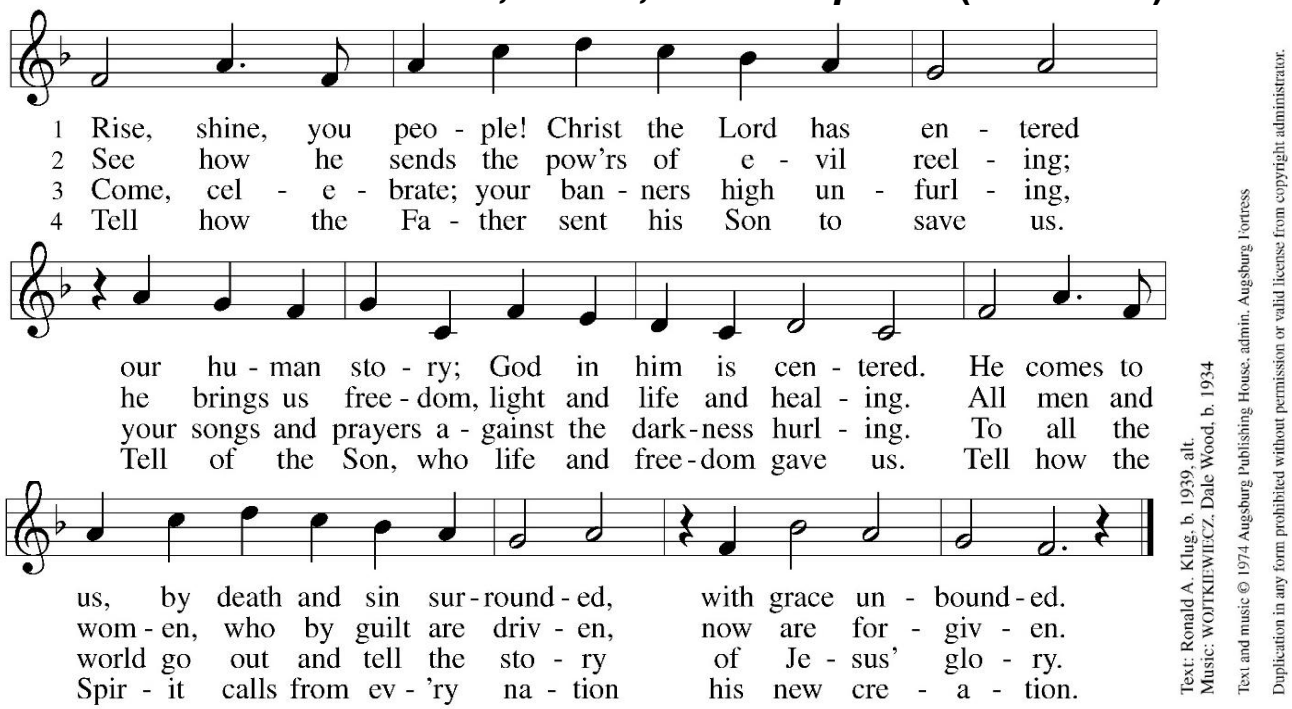
Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

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 SONG *Rise, Shine, You People!* (LBW 393)



Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.
Music: WOJTKIEWICZ, Dale Wood, b. 1934
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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 (ELW P. 184)

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 185)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: **we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

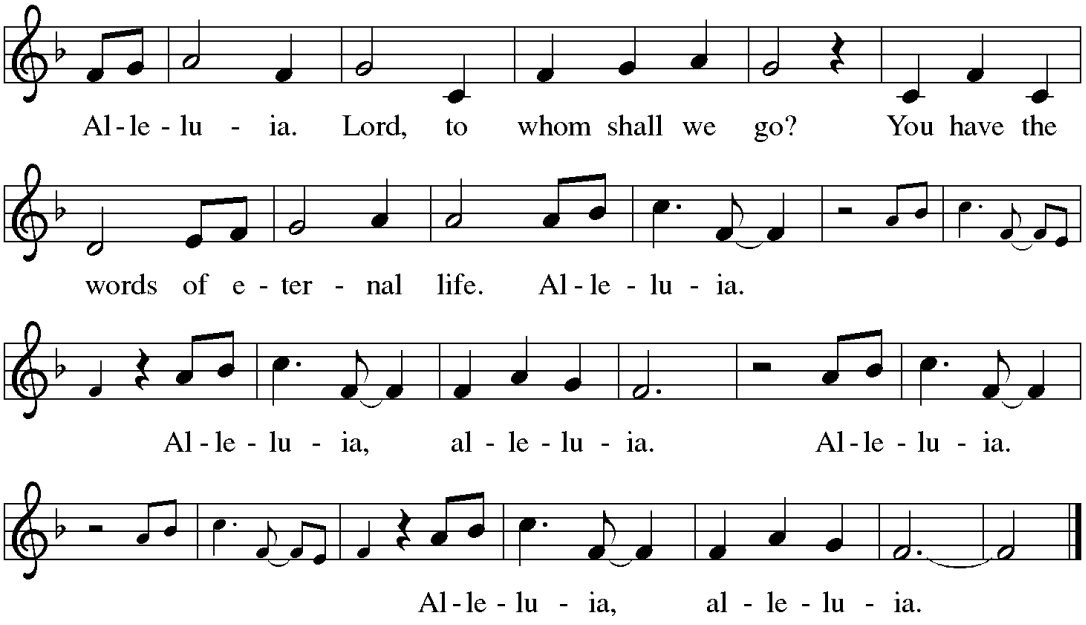
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PSALM: Psalm 23

1 The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.
2 The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.
3 You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.
4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.
5 You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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GOSPEL: Mark 4: 26-32

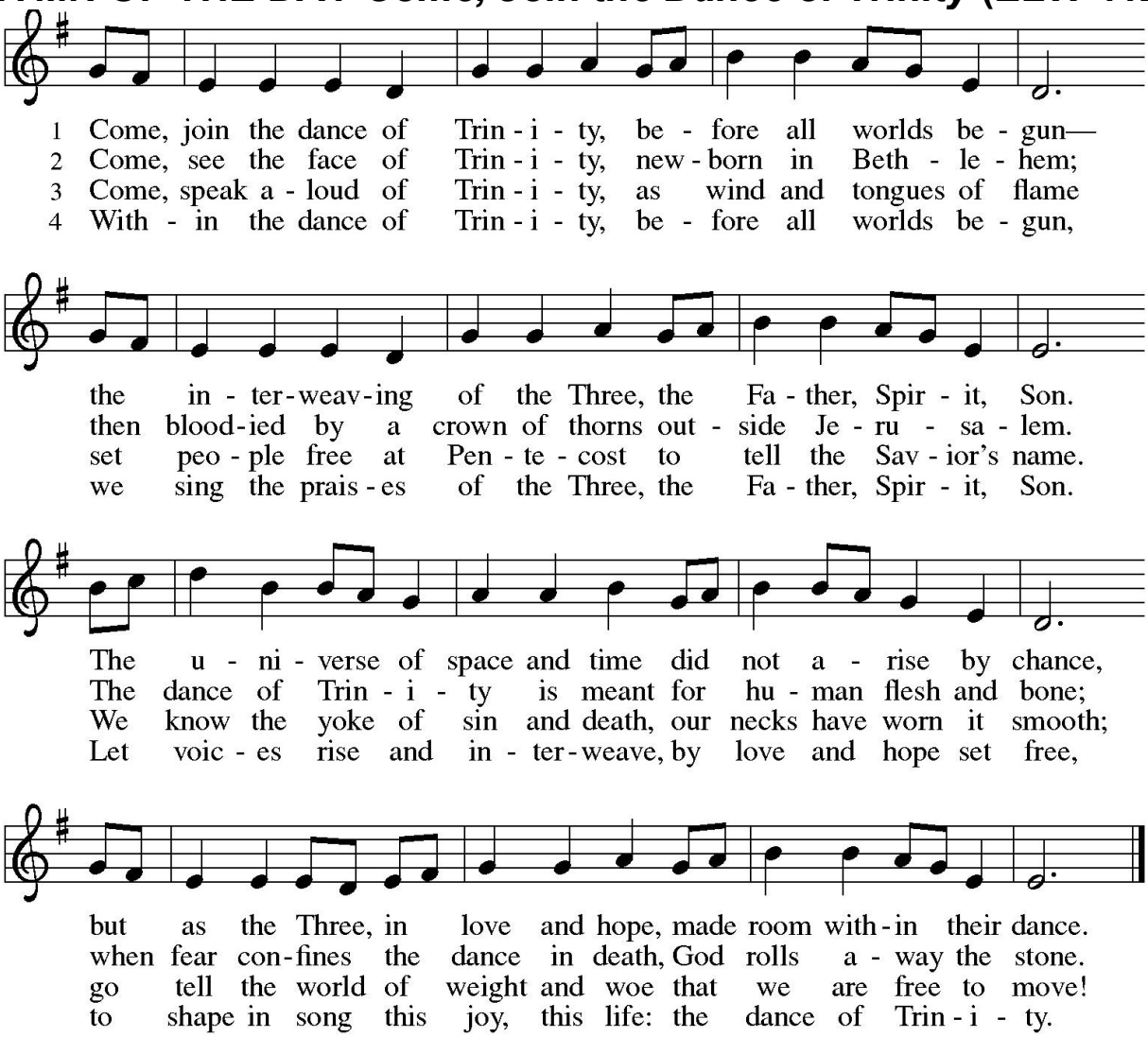
The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[26] He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground [27] and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. [28] The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. [29] But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come." [30] He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? [31] It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, [32] yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Come, Join the Dance of Trinity* (ELW 412)



Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune
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CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition ends: *God of Grace, hear* ***our prayer.***

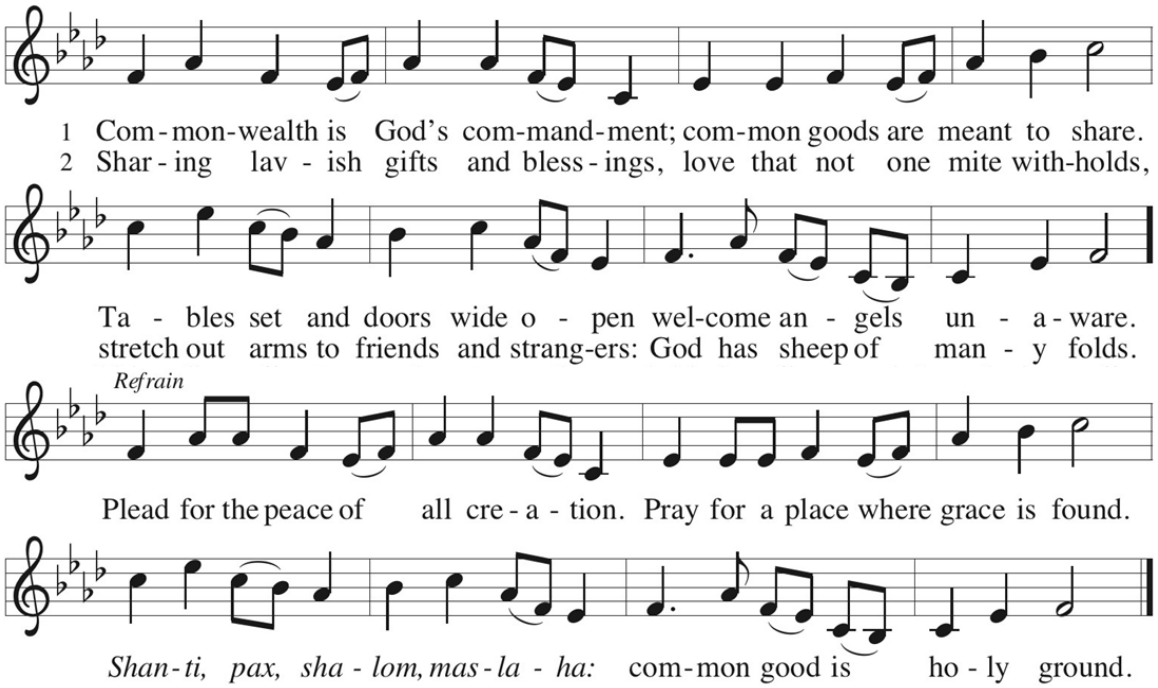
PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING *Commonwealth Is God's Commandment* (ACS 1036)



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835
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OFFERING PRAYER

DIALOGUE

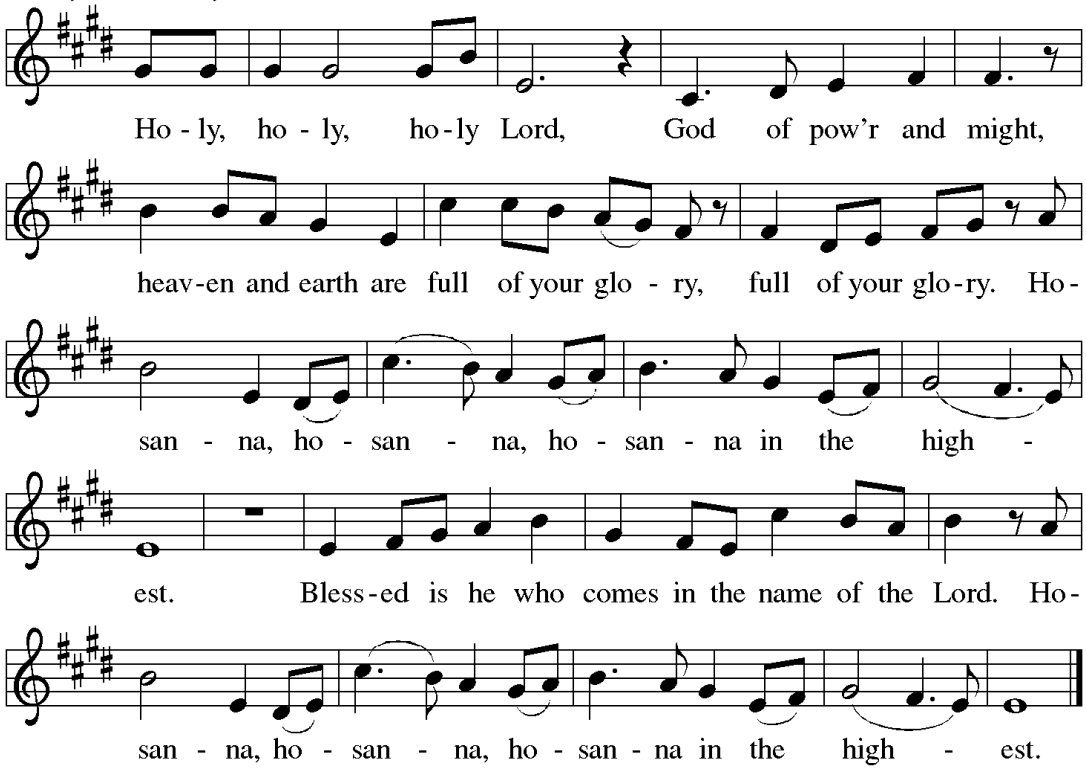
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth…Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer…Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: **The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth…

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead…Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: **The earth is full of your glory. Amen, and Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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;

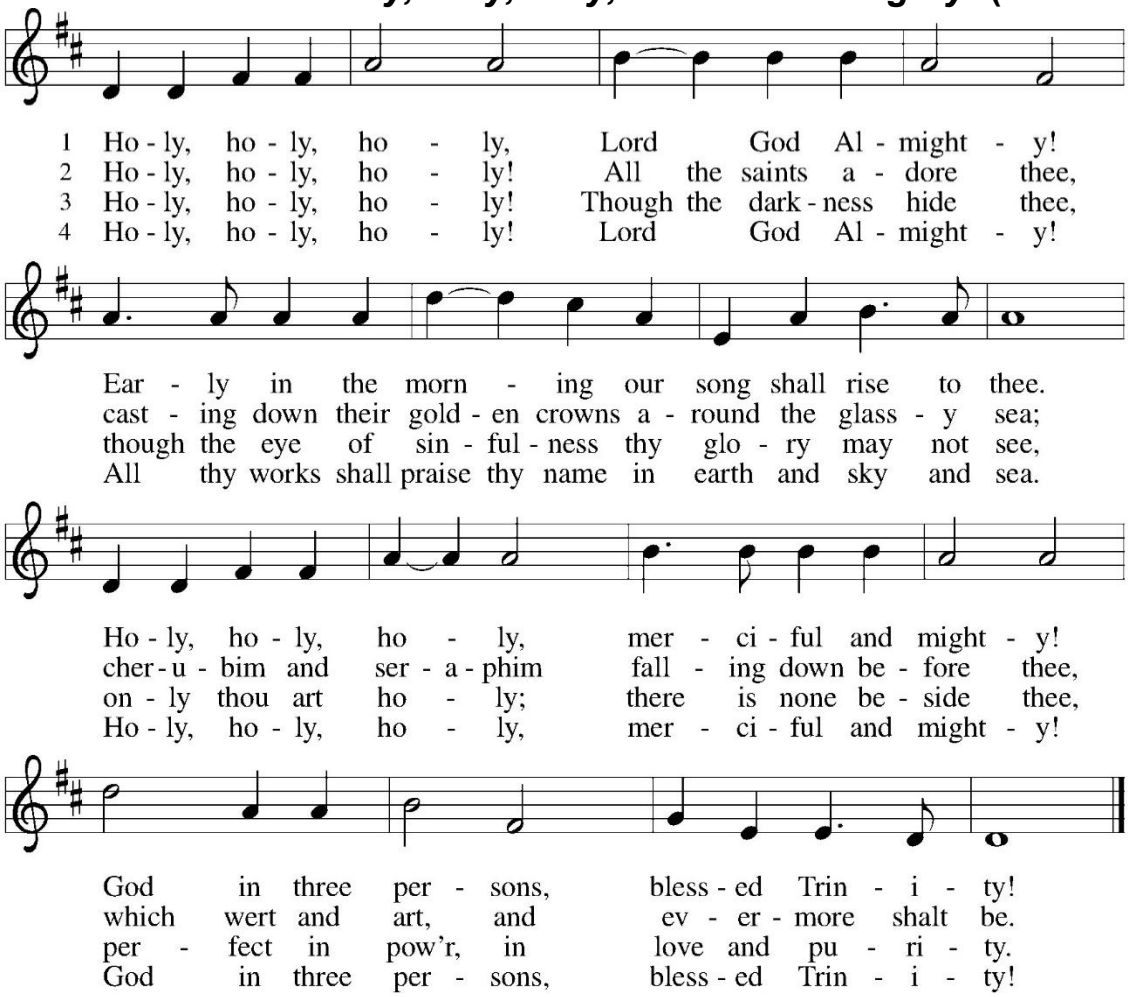
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
COMMUNION
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS
BLESSING
SENDING SONG *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* (ELW 413)



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

DISMISSAL

We go, renewed and fed to create life-giving relationships **through worship, outreach and service. Thanks be to God.**

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Worship on Sunday morning is recorded on Facebook from the 9AM service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Today – Please stay and join us at our Potluck Recognition Banquet.
- Please let Pastor or Betty know, if someone should be added or removed from our prayer list.
- We have Kwik Trip Scrip cards for sale. Choose between Gas or Food cards.
- Bethany - If anyone is interested in being on a "History Team" for Bethany to help
- organize and display historical items, pictures, et c. from our church, please see Debby Hansen.
- June 6th – Synod Assembly and June 7th – Synod Assembly Worship.
- Pastor is on vacation June 8th – June 15th.
- Friday, June 12th – Salad Luncheon & Silent Purse Auction. Please check out the info & sign-up sheet in the narthex. If you choose a monetary contribution, please give to Judy Zobal.
- June 14th BINGO after worship.
- June 28th Council meeting.
- June Food Pantry items – “Breakfast of Champions”, cereal, oatmeal, granola, pancake/waffle mix, syrup, juice.
- Items for our Baby Care Kits can be placed in the clear tote in the coat room. Please note the posted changes that Lutheran World Relief has requested. Thanks.
- Quilters could use full or queen flat sheets. Thank you.
- A Lions Glass box is in the Bethany Narthex for disposal of old eyeglasses.
- Wednesday 9 am - Quilting
- Thursday – 9 am Bible Study
- Tuesday AA meetings 6:30 pm @ East Lemonweir/ Thursday 6:30 pm @ Bethany

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Prayers of Concern:

Prayers for those who cannot worship with us today.

Prayers for those who have loss family and friends.

Prayers for those who serve to protect others.

Prayers for Lynn Benson, Dave Connors, Shawna (Tim Parker’s Sister), Aly (Deanna Smith’s Neice), Betty Johnson, Sandy Hempel, Jamie Flannery, Gwen Tushaus, Amy Andres Peterson (daughter of Tom & Roxanne Andres), Holly Berry, Irv Wehman (Bridgette’s Father), Dean Allard, Kalie Geitner (Galen & Janenne Lingl), Katie & Doug Johnson, Becky Bailey, Fred Wehman, Steve Werth, Ken Adams, Jordan Wehman, Tommy Paulson (Vanessa Lucas’s Brother), John Preston, Wyatt, Garry Olson, Yvonne Olson, Jacob Sorenson, Mickie (Ron & Patti Thompson), Fran Benson, Landon LaBerge, Marilyn Wetley, and others we silently name.

Electronic giving is available via Vanco, using this QR Code: