BETHANY Lutheran Church The Holy Communion

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 7, 2022

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome all God's people to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve.

Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Bethany. If you have questions for the pastor or church office, please call at 630.879.3444 or visit our website at www.bethanybatavia.org. Welcome!

Assistance in Worship

For those who find it difficult to stand or prefer to sit during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated.

Children's Resources

Children's worship bulletins are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Nursery

While not staffed, the nursery is open for parents who may find it helpful. The nursery is located on the sanctuary level, where you will find a changing table, rocking chair and some toys. You can still hear the worship service through a speaker in the room. Ask an usher if you need assistance.

Cell Phones and Pagers

Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

Holy Communion

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All baptized Christians are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to the pastor.

As We Gather:

Do not fear, little flock, for the Son of Man comes like a thief at an unexpected hour; that's today's gospel, boiled down to a single sentence. It's difficult to understand how God's Son breaking into our house unannounced is a cause for fearlessness, but God is nothing if not surprising. The good news is that God insists on giving us the kingdom. To do so, however, God needs to break into our homes, where we live locked behind our fears and our piled-high possessions. This is why the gospel feels like bad news at first; Jesus demands that we let go of all of our non-life-giving stuff. We need to hear this word of law before we can feel the gospel for what it is: unadulterated good news - straight, no chaser. Yeah, we have to let go of everything. But we never needed it anyway! So, little flock, have no fear. Jesus is coming for you, and he's everything you need.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

We stand.

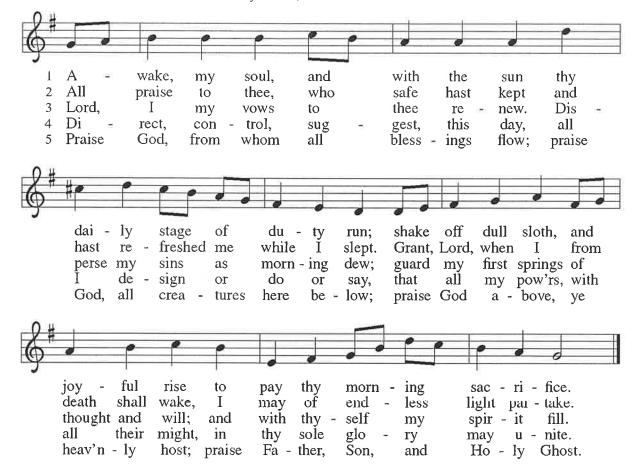
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P 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.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- P Most merciful God,
- We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.

 As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt. Music: MORNING HYMN, François H. Barthélémon, 1741–1808

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE: Salvation Belongs to Our God



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.
 Almighty God,
 you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church.
 Open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
 that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

We sit.

+ Word +

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.



- L Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! Happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- C The Lord looks down from heaven, and beholds all the people in the world.
- L From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze on all who dwell on the earth.
- C He fashions all the hearts of them and understands all their works.
- L There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- C The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; for all its strength it cannot save.
- L Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, on those who wait upon his love,
- C to pluck their lives from death, and to feed them in time of famine.
- L Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.
- C Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, for in his holy name we put our trust.
- L Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us, as we have put our trust in you.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old — and Sarah herself was barren — because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

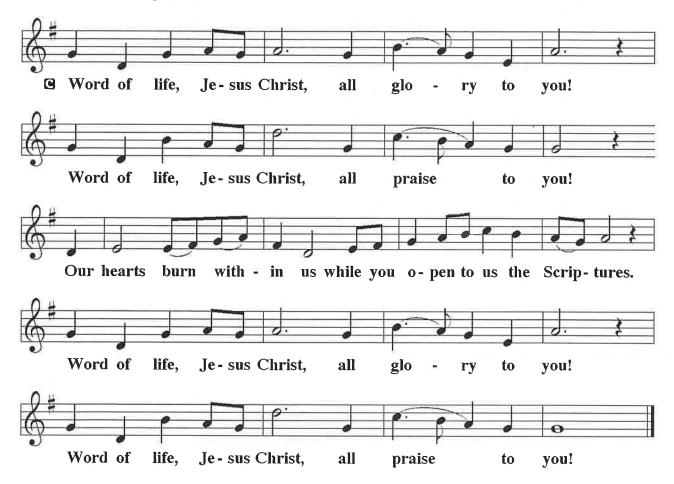
¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance (Continued on the next page)

they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³² 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

P The Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Mikyska Luke 12:32–40

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY: Have No Fear, Little Flock

ELW #764

- Have no fear, little flock; have no fear, little flock, for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom; have no fear, little flock!
- 2 Have good cheer, little flock; have good cheer, little flock, for the Father will keep you in his love forever; have good cheer, little flock!
- Praise the Lord high above; praise the Lord high above, for he stoops down to heal you, uplift and restore you; praise the Lord high above!
- 4 Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful hearts raise to God, for he stays close beside you, in all things works with you; thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4 Text © 1973 Concordia Publishing House

APOSTLES' CREED

- A Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:
- C 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- A Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

 A brief silence.
- A Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence (*especially*). Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your stead-fast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you (especially). Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation (*specific ministries may be named*) and all who care for those in need. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.

- A With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, Trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

+ MEAL +

We sit.

OFFERING VOLUNTARY

We stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

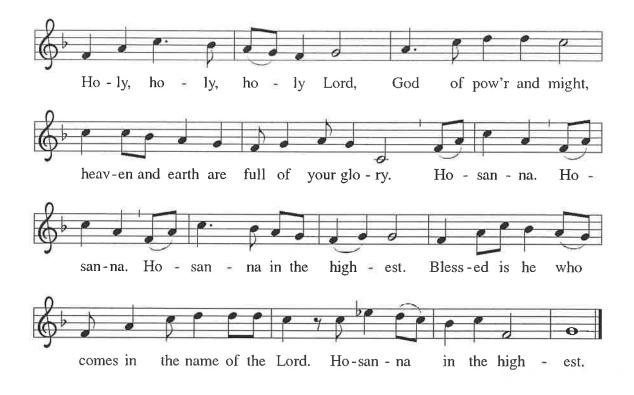
- A Let us pray. God of mercy and grace,
- C the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. 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 Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

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.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,

that we may receive our Lord with a living faith

as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- C 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;

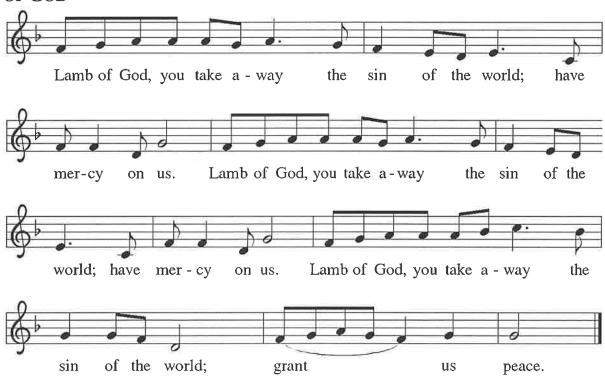
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

- P The gifts of God for the people of God.
- C Thanks be to God.
- P Come, for all is now ready.

We sit.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.

Gluten-FREE rice wafers are available upon request and for those desiring it, non-alcoholic wine cups are in the center of the tray.

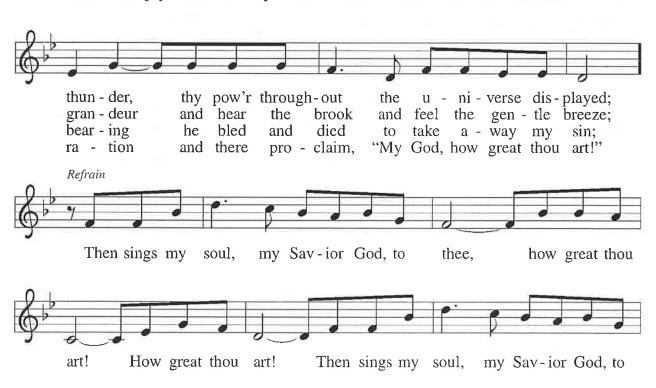
HYMN: How Great Thou Art



- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
- 2 When through the woods and for est glades I wan der, I hear the
- 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac cla ma tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -





Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine Text and music © 1953 S. K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Brooten Road. Pacific City OR 97135 (ASCAP). Renewed 1981. All rights reserved. Refrain:

Lead me, guide me along the way; For if You lead me, I cannot stray; Lord, let me walk each day with Thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

- 1) I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power To help me over my weakest hour;
 Let me through the darkness Thy face to see,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
- 2) Help me tread in the paths of righteousness; Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress. I am putting all my trust in Thee, Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]
- 3) I am lost, if you take your hand from me; I am blind, without Thy Light to see; Lord, just always let me Thy servant be, Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.
- A Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

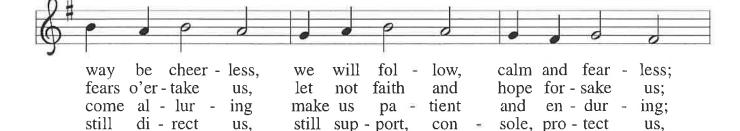
- P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- C Amen.

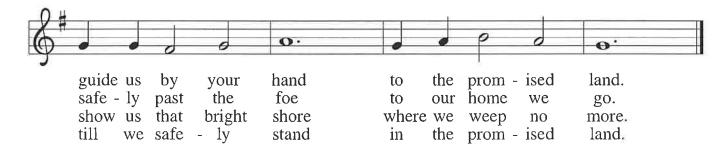
SENDING HYMN: Jesus, Still Lead On

ELW #624



- al-though the Je sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, If the way be drear, if the foe be let no faith - less near,
- 3 When we seek re lief from a long felt grief, when temp ta tions
- 4 Je sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n ly lead er,





Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt. Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620-1701

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister Mal Seagren, Assisting Minister Donald Mead, Organist Kris Kaar, Reader Ted Richoz, Dale Howard, A/V Nancy Freedlund, Norma Pieratt, Altar Guild Lane Stahl, Wyatt Stahl, Acolytes Jon Habegger, Virden VonQualen, Ushers Mal Seagren, Marty Offutt-Gruber, Ruth Beck, Comm. Ass't

STAFF
Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor
Mark Waldron, Director of Music
Alan Spear, Organist
Steven Ritter, Visitation Pastor
Darlene Hutchens, Church Administrator
Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant
Mark Kohlmeier, Financial Secretary

YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Todd Toles, President Alan Spear, Vice President Doug Boehm, Secretary Ed McQuillan, Treasurer Karol Clark Aidan Garrity Brad Hirt Pastor Jeff Mikyska Jackie Page Kathy Richmond Mia Rusev Ed Schalk Marsha Schuster

If you have questions or concerns for members of the Church Council you're invited to speak with them personally or via email to <u>council@bethanybatavia.org</u>.

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LET US PRAY...

We pray for all who are hospitalized in our greater community and for those who are serving them.

Please pray for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns:

Mary Bradtmueller, Gregg Buchner, Rich Franzen, Robert Granquist, Ellen Grashorn, Deb Hruby, Anna Jackson, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bill Lechnick, Bob Novy, Louise Pruitt, Val Schalk, Maureen Scollon, Judi Spear, George & Shirley Striedl, Pat Sullivan, Pastor Jerry Wagenknecht

Please pray for those who are homebound and those in a care facility:

Helen Anderson Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad Mark Anderson Silverado Memory Care, St Charles Dorothy Carlson Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad

Lois Elfstrom Aurora, IL Pam Klingberg Heritage Woods

Wanda Krentz Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad Mildred Miller Reserve of Geneva, Geneva

Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad Joan Olson

Pat Quast Asbury Gardens

Judi Spear Arden Courts of Geneva, Geneva Joyce Stran GreenFields of Geneva, Geneva

Please pray for all those serving in the military, especially those who are connected to our congregation

Please pray for our family and friends:

Paul Mazen

Gretchen VanKempema Daughter of Ann Holch Friend of Ann & Fred Holch Loy Williams

Ryan Anderson Son of Aaron Anderson

Linda Raish Friend of Kathy Richmond & Sandy Conn

Vic and Anne Lee Friends of Debbie Garrison

Lynne Morrow Friend and Colleague of Pastor Jeff & Gail

Friend of Katie Robertson Kenzie

Rebecca and family God-Daughter of Beth Lawniczak Josh Braun Nephew of Pastor Jeff & Gail

Landri Pazzotta Great Niece of Tom & Dee Schuman

Bill Norman Cousin of Judy Henschler Kate Friend of Karol Clark Steve Novy Cousin of Bob Novy Floyd Anderson Beth Richard's Father

Barbara Garrison Bill Garrison's mother

Ed Bonnes Cousin of John & Karol Clark Sister-in-Law of Doug Boehm Bonnie Palshis

Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher and family, Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard

Phil

Lynn Dreymiller's brother

Teri Figura Kathy Dee's Family Mary Jo Benstein's Family Teri Figura

Daughter of Louise Pruitt Susan Sheley

Bonnie Carole W.

DeAnne & Gary

Rabbi Margaret Frisch Klein

Brad Blue

Megan Campbell Diane Ekstam Johnson

Tammy English
Jerry Martin
Teri Prokes
Tony Prokes
Kelli Robertson

Wolfgang Smailus

Ed Stahl

Friend of Pastor Jeff

Friend of Ann & Fred Holch Niece & Nephew of Shirley Grant

Friend of Pastor Jeff Friend of Lois Benson

Granddaughter of Scotty & Maureen Scollon

Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam Daughter of Shirley Streidl Father of Nicki McVey Sister of Sue & Bob Novy

Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy

Daughter of Diane Schalk

Brother-in-law of Marty Offutt Gruber

Father of Dan Stahl

Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:

Helen R. Anderson Carlene Altman

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

	Worship	,
10:15am	Little Library Dedication	Lincoln St. Entrance
9am 12pm	Bethany Walking Group Counters Hope Circle Marketing Team - Zoom	Conference Room Adult Lounge/Library
9am	Bethany Walking Group Quilters Fox River Radio League	Fellowship Hall
	Bethany Walking Group Senior Advocacy Group	
10am	Bethany Walking Group Visitation/Memorial Loane Tharrington Boy Scout Troop 6	
	Bethany Walking Group Food Pantry Serving	
10:30am 10:30am	Men's Basketball Al-Anon Al-Ateen AA	Library Lower Level
	Worship Coffee Hour Troop 6 – Eagle Ceremony	