



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thomas

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 12TH, 2026
8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

*+ indicates to stand in body or spirit;
bold print indicates congregational responses*

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE *“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”* arr. James Biery
(8:30) *“Ode to Joy”* Beethoven; arr. Charles Maggs

WORDS OF WELCOME

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

+ THANKSGIVING FOR THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

We bless you, almighty God, for the gift of water—
for the oceans that surround the earth, for the rivers that nurture the land,
for the lakes and rivers that you provide for our community—
we bless you, O God, for the waters of the earth:
We bless you, O God, for the waters of the earth.

We honor you, merciful God, for showering us with water—
for the rain that nourishes the plants and trees, for the floods that restore the fields,
for the dew that freshens dry places—we honor you, O God, for the waters you send:
We honor you, O God, for the waters you send.

We glorify you, gracious God, for the waters of baptism—
for the water of the Jordan that washed our Lord Jesus,
for the waters that baptized the believers on Pentecost,
for the water that illumines us with your Word,
for the water that pours out the gifts of the Spirit,
for the water that bathes the church universal—
the Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostals, Evangelicals, independents—
We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism:

We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism.

We worship you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
almighty, merciful, and gracious.
Well of forgiveness, you revive us,
Cup of cold water, you refresh us,
Pool of rebirth, you renew us.
To you comes the worship of all your people, now and forever:
To you comes the worship of all your people, now and forever.
Amen! **Amen!**

+ **GATHERING HYMN** “*Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*” ELW #364 stanzas 1, 4, & 5

+ **APOSTOLIC 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.**

+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son.
By your Spirit’s breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body
of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

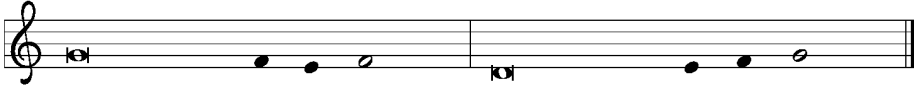
*(10:30) At this time, children age 3 to grade 5 are invited to go to Sunday School.
They will return to the sanctuary before communion.*

✠ WORD ✠

PSALM *Psalms 145:13-21*



Great is the LORD and high - ly to be praised!



¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- | out all ages.

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.

¹⁴**The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.**

¹⁵The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,
and you give them their food | in due season.

¹⁶**You open | wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing. R**

¹⁷You are righteous in | all your ways
and loving in | all your works.

¹⁸**You are near to all who | call upon you,
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.**

¹⁹You fulfill the desire of | those who fear you;
you hear their | cry and save them.

²⁰**You watch over all | those who love you,
but all the wicked you | shall destroy.**

²¹My mouth shall speak the praise | of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forev- | er and ever. R

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

READING JOHN 20:19-31

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

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

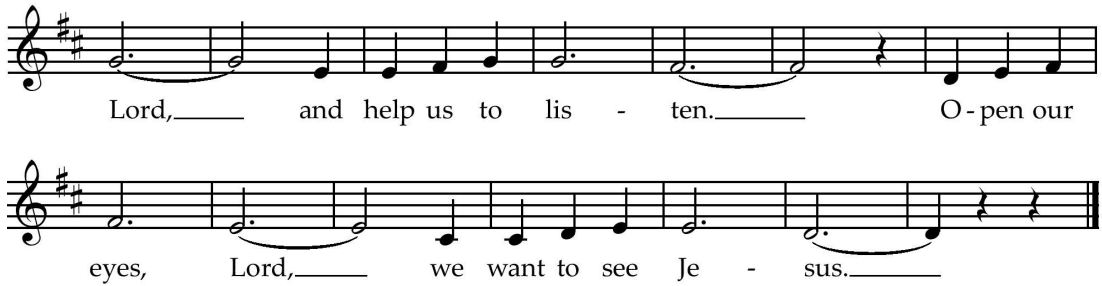
³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

HOMILY

+ **HYMN OF THE DAY** "Open Our Eyes, Lord" TFF #98

O - pen our eyes, Lord; we want to see Je -
sus, to reach out and touch him, and
say that we love him. O - pen our ears,



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING



Guests

Generosity is part of who we are as God’s people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel’s trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated donation. Online giving cards (at the name tag stations), checks, or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.

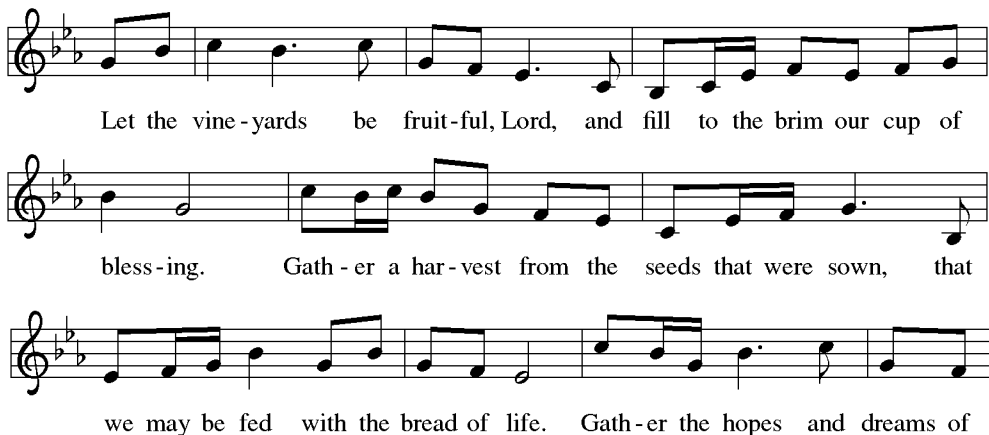


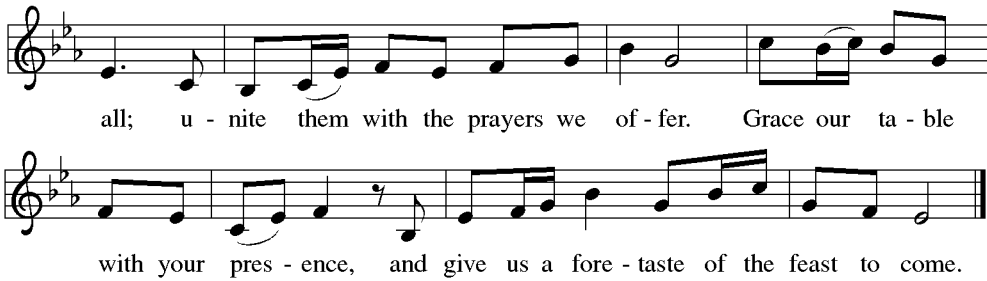
Members

ANTHEM (8:30) *“Go Ye Now in Peace”* Joyce Elaine Eilers

(10:30) *“Thine is the Glory”* arr. Ellen Coman

+ OFFERTORY



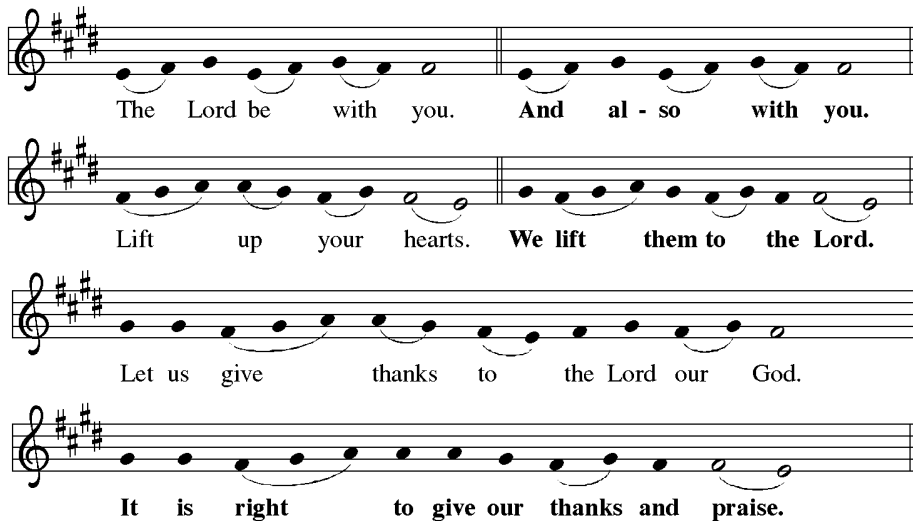


all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

✠ MEAL ✠

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING



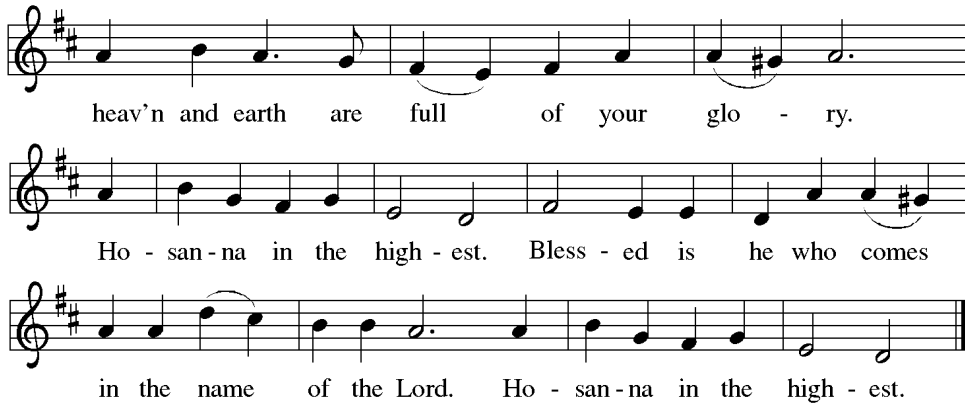
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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, who enthroned forever at your right hand intercedes for us as our great high priest. 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your spirit poured out on all nations.

The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moons and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

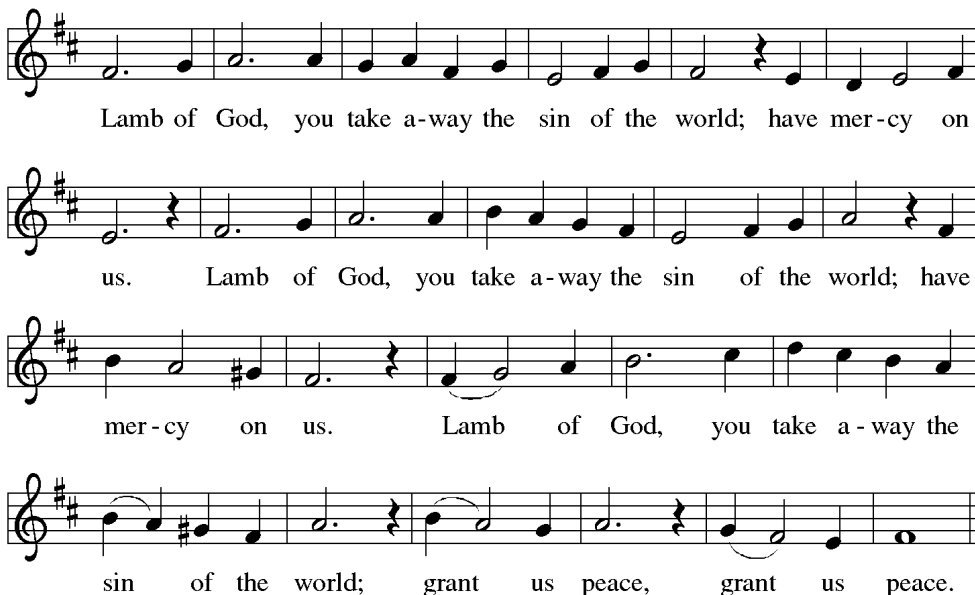
+ EL PADRE NUESTRO

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
 santificado sea tu nombre;
 venga a nos tu reino;
 hágase tu voluntad,
 así en la tierra como en el cielo;
 el pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy;
 y perdónanos nuestras deudas
 así como nosotros perdonamos
 a nuestros deudores;

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.

y no nos dejes caer en la tentación;
mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION HYMN "We Walk by Faith" ELW #635

+ TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

+ BENEDICTION

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.
May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your hearts to love.
May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,
and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you. Amen.

+ **SENDING HYMN** “*Thine is the Glory*” ELW #376

+ **DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE “*Thine the Amen*” arr. Keith Kolander

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori

Acolytes: (8:30) (10:30)

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Eric Lundin (10:30) Marci Groenewold

Ushers: (8:30) Brian Boesche, Craig Grunzke, Cal Feine, Harley Foster

(10:30) Michael Sparby, Nancy Sparby

Readers: (8:30) Wayne Kivell (10:30) Paula Mathison

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Judy Code, Wendell Arneson, Beth Christensen, Telford Norvold,
Phil Ruud

(10:30) Kirsten Scott

Altar Care: (set) Carol Lysne (clean) Margaret Grunzke, Carol Lysne (cups) Gary DeGrote

Director of Grace Notes: Jill Mahr Church Choir Director: Peter Schleif

Keyboards: Megan Engel

A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Broughton, Nathan Hoekstra

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Thanksgiving for the Waters of Baptism is by Gail Ramshaw in *pray, praise, and give thanks: A Collection of Litanies, Laments, and Thanksgivings at Font and Table* © 2017 Augsburg Fortress.

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We are using ELW Setting Four for our liturgy. The Eucharistic Prayer is ELW Form IV.

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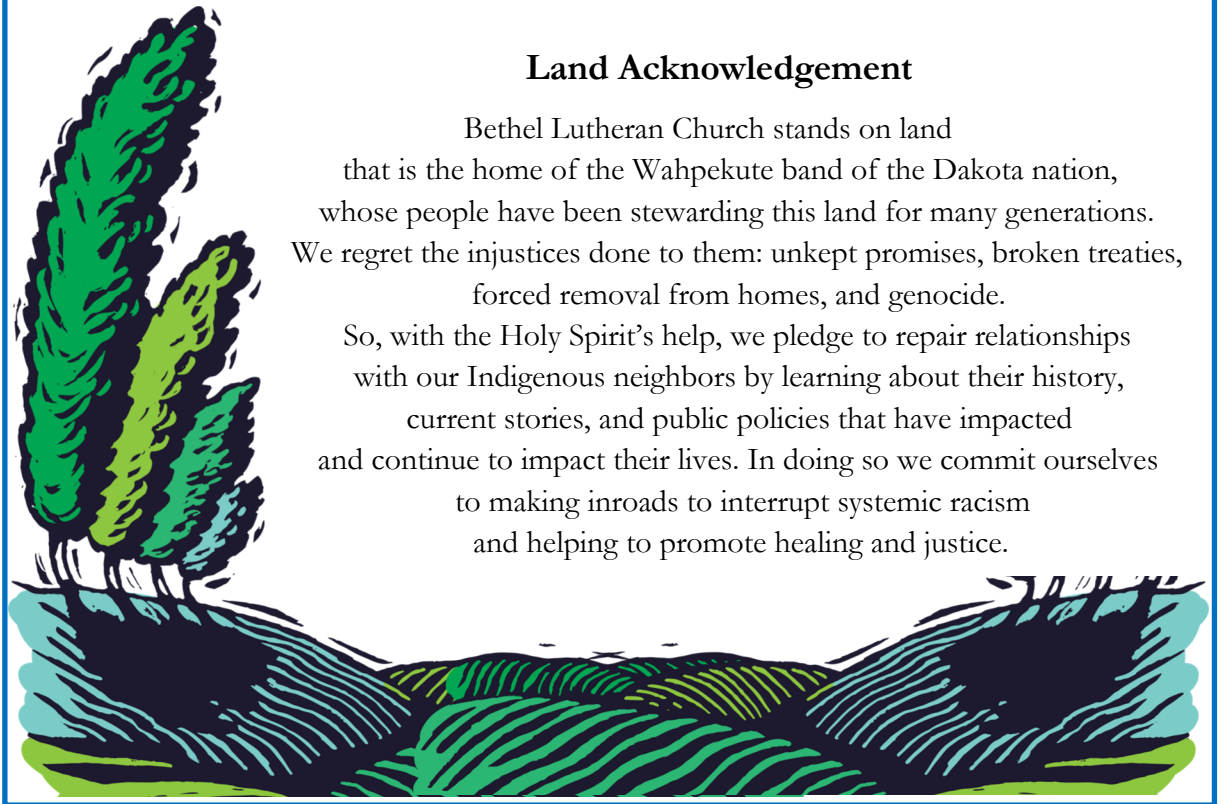
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Land Acknowledgement

Bethel Lutheran Church stands on land that is the home of the Wahpekute band of the Dakota nation, whose people have been stewarding this land for many generations. We regret the injustices done to them: unkept promises, broken treaties, forced removal from homes, and genocide.

So, with the Holy Spirit's help, we pledge to repair relationships with our Indigenous neighbors by learning about their history, current stories, and public policies that have impacted and continue to impact their lives. In doing so we commit ourselves to making inroads to interrupt systemic racism and helping to promote healing and justice.



NEXT SUNDAY!

“Spring Into Action” Blood Drive

Call Memorial Blood Centers at 888-448-3253 to schedule a donation!

At the **8:30 service**, we will have a **special thanksgiving for our volunteers and quilt blessing**.

Between services, we'll hold a short **Congregational Meeting** to update the constitution. Bethel staff will also host a special **Volunteer Appreciation Fellowship**.


At 1 pm, Bethel hosts our monthly worship service at the Benedictine Chapel.

THIS WEEK—APRIL 12—18

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

MONDAY

12:00 pm  Bible Study @ the Vault (1520 Clinton Lane)

6:30 pm  Resonance Bell Choir (Adults)

TUESDAY

9:00 am  Quilting Group

9:45 am Staff Meeting

3:00 pm Lydia Circle Fellowship

WEDNESDAY

Endowment Grant Applications DUE

3:30 pm Limitless

4:30 pm Homes for God's Children

5:45 pm  Bistro (Menu: Sloppy Joes, Sweet Potato Puffs & Salad Bar)

6:15 pm Ring Forth Youth Bell Choir

7:00 pm Hang Time

Church Choir Rehearsal

8:05 pm  Brio Youth Bell Choir

THURSDAY

8:30 am MoB (Men of Bethel) (Room 54)

9:30 am FaB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)

10:00 am Parkview Fellowship

FRIDAY

9:15 am  WoW (Women of the Word) via zoom

11:00 am Kurt Lehmkuhl Funeral Service (10:00 am visitation)



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