

# Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran Church

## All Saints Sunday

(ACS) All Creation Sings Setting 12

November 3, 2024

10:00 AM

*\*Please stand as you are willing and able.*

*ELW refers to the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.*

*ACS refers to the hymnal supplement, All Creation Sings.*

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### GATHERING

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

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*The assembly gathers in quiet for prayer and meditation.*

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Arr. Virgil Fox

WELCOME

### \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

#### **BISHOP BARBINS:**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  
✠ one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.  
**Amen.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. We praise you for the Great Lakes, especially Lake Erie, for rivers and streams Rocky and Cuyahoga Rivers. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

For All the Saints

ELW 422

**\*GREETING**

**PASTOR ANGELA:**

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**

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.  
 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

**\*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**

**PASTOR ANGELA:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

Our Common Life

Chris Kiel

*<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. Acts 4:32-33*

Please remember to sign up for a one to one to deepen relationships and get to know one another better. Pick up a name card by the usher's stand and place it in the basket. Then, pick up a card with someone else's name and contact info. Questions and discussion points you may choose to use are also on the contact cards.

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

Rejoice the Lord Is King

Dan Forrest

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## WORD

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

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### FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

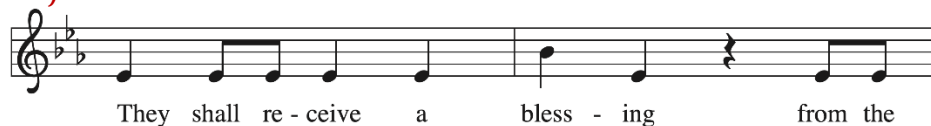
*The reading may be concluded:* Word of God. Word of Life.

*The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

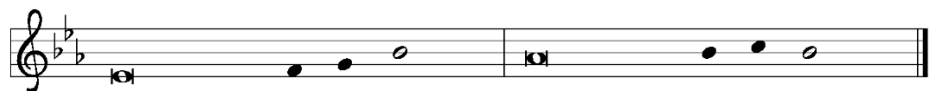
### PSALM

Psalm 24

*Refrain:*



*Tone:*



<sup>1</sup>The earth is the LORD's and all<sup>1</sup> that is in it,  
the world and those who<sup>1</sup> dwell therein.

<sup>2</sup>**For the LORD has founded it up-<sup>1</sup> on the seas  
and established it up-<sup>1</sup> on the rivers. R**

<sup>3</sup>Who may ascend the mountain<sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
and who may stand in God's<sup>1</sup> holy place?

<sup>4</sup>**Those of innocent hands and puri-<sup>1</sup> ty of heart,  
who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by<sup>1</sup> what is false.**

<sup>5</sup>They shall receive blessing | from the LORD  
and righteousness from the God of | their salvation.

<sup>6</sup>**Such is the generation of those who seek | you, O LORD,  
of those who seek your face, O | God of Jacob. R**

<sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- | lasting doors,  
that the King of glory | may come in.

<sup>8</sup>**Who is this | King of glory?**

**The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, might- | y in battle!**

<sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- | lasting doors,  
that the King of glory | may come in.

<sup>10</sup>**Who is this | King of glory?**

**Truly, the LORD of hosts is the | King of glory. R**

## SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-6a

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6a</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

*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.

## **BISHOP BARBINS:**

### \*GOSPEL

John II:32-44

*The gospel is announced*

The holy gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Laura Barbins

Bishop, Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In ACS 950



1 Oh, when the saints go march - ing in, oh, when the  
2 Oh, when the Lord in glo - ry comes, oh, when the  
3 Oh, when the new world is re - vealed, oh, when the  
4 Oh, when they gath - er round the throne, oh, when they  
5 And on that hal - le - lu - jah day, and on that



saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that  
Lord in glo - ry comes, O Lord, I want to be in that  
new world is re - vealed, O Lord, I want to be in that  
gath - er round the throne, O Lord, I want to be in that  
hal - le - lu - jah day, O Lord, I want to be in that



num - ber when the saints go march - ing in.  
num - ber when the Lord in glo - ry comes.  
num - ber when the new world is re - vealed.  
num - ber when they gath - er round the throne.  
num - ber on that hal - le - lu - jah day.

**CHRIS KIEL: \*NICENE CREED**

pg. 104

**\*BLESSING OF NEW VESTMENTS AND PARAMENTS**

**PASTOR ANGELA:** Sisters and brothers, today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing as we set apart these newly commissioned vestments and paraments to the glory of God.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe,  
for you have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift;  
you have commanded us to show your splendor to our children;  
and you have invited us to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy.

*Paraments/banner*

Send your blessing on these paraments and banner, which we set apart today;  
may they adorn this house, show us the beauty of holiness,  
and so proclaim the glory of your majesty.

*Vestments*

Send your blessing on these vestments, which we set apart today;  
may those who wear them serve you in humility,  
and may all your people, clothed with Christ in baptism,  
worship you with the saints robed in light around your throne.

To you, O God, be all glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**PR ANGELA:** Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

**CHRIS KIEL:** O God of resurrection, you call us by name and raise us to life. Rouse your church from slumber. Where we have held back in fear or shame, unbind us. Embolden us in our proclamation of your good news, that all may know abundant life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: O God of creation, you have founded your world on rivers and seas. Preserve fresh water sources and the creatures who call them home. Heal places of pollution and nourish places of drought. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: O God of the earth, you reign over all nations and peoples. Inspire us with wisdom and discernment as we elect legislators and leaders. May they govern with justice and uphold the dignity of all people. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: O God of heaven, you make your home among mortals. Come alongside those who weep this day. Befriend all who are lonely, encourage those in despair, and heal any who are suffering. Abide with your faithful ones in love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: O God who serves, you set before us a feast of rich food. Sustain our ministries of fellowship and hospitality. Strengthen the hands and hearts of all who prepare and serve food for our nourishment. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**



**PA & CHRIS:** O God, Alpha and Omega, we give thanks for your faithful ones who are now at peace with you...

Mark Christ

Larry Eaton

Sally English

Jim Kolar

Dorothy Long

Judith Minium

Barbara Munro

Jack W. Munro II

John W. Munro III

Guy & Jean Musser

Rusty Musser

Joon Eung Park

John Snyder

James Tope

Liz Tormey

David Trask

Jeffrey Weaver

Nancy Webner

Elizabeth Willoughby

Karen Zeager

**CHRIS:** With all your saints, we praise you, for you have swallowed up death forever. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

**PR ANGELA:** We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ 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.**

*Greet one another as you are comfortable sharing God's peace.*

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## MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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## OFFERTORY MUSIC

*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.*

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## **CHRIS:** \*OFFERING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup,

**you offered yourself in love for the world,**

**and in this meal you nourish us with your life.**

Fill us with your abundance,

**that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger,**

**trusting in your name. Amen.**

**BISHOP BARBINS: \*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.**

**BISHOP BARBINS: \*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.

By the witness of your saints  
you show us the hope of our calling  
and strengthen us to run the race set before us,  
that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.

And so, with all the saints,  
with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*HOLY HOLY 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.

**BISHOP BARBINS: \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:  
 Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.  
 You have filled all creation with light and life;  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:  
 the promise to Israel,  
 the rescue from Egypt,  
 the gift of the promised land,  
 the words of the prophets;  
 and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,  
 who proclaimed the good news in word and deed  
 and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in Christ's body and blood  
may live to the praise of your glory  
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants  
of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest  
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

**BISHOP BARBINS: \*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.

**BISHOP BARBINS: \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Behold, God is making all things new.

Take your place in the new creation.

*You are invited to either come forward down the center isle or remain in your seats today to receive communion. You can decide your own comfort level. Pre-filled elements are available at the usher stand where you came in.*

*If you come forward, you are invited to receive bread from the pastor in the central isle. The assisting ministers will be on either side with wine in small cups. You may place your empty cup with the acolyte before returning to your seat. Nonalcoholic wine is light colored. If you need gluten free bread, indicate to the pastor.*

*If a blessing is preferred, please indicate that to the pastor by crossing your arms over your chest.*

\*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 HYMNS Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart ELW 800  
 I Am the Bread of Life ELW 485

Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table ACS 977

1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries  
 2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -  
 3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand  
 4 Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to  
 that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;  
 ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled  
 dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:  
 be sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed,  
 some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -  
 with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -  
 they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -  
 who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and  
 vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they  
 ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his  
 vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -  
 breaks it— truth and man - na from a - bove!— and then pass - es  
 all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.  
 fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.  
 round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.  
 wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

**CHRIS: \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Faithful God,  
you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink  
in the body and blood of your Son.  
Now send us out to labor with you,  
in service to the world you have made,  
and among the people you have made your home,  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

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**SENDING**

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

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**BISHOP BARBINS: \*BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.  
Amen.

**\*SENDING HYMN**

For All Your Saints, O Lord

ELW 427

**CHRIS: \*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.  
Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

Carillon de Westminster

Louis Vierne



## Leading Worship Today

The Rev. Angela Freeman	Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Laura Barbins	Bishop of Northeast Ohio Synod
Eric Richardson	Minister of Music
Dr. Matt Chiu	Organist
Chris Kiel	Assisting Minister
Liza Heinig	Lector
Lucy Heinig	Acolyte(s)
Randy Risch, Bob Emmerich, Jim Rohn	Ushers
Rachel Musser	Altar Guild
Eric & Teresa Peace	Tech Team

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**Next week’s readings:** First Reading: **1 Kings 17:8-16**; Psalm: **Psalm 146**; Second Reading: **Hebrews 9:24-28**; Gospel: **Mark 12:38-44.**



BETHESDA ON THE BAY LUTHERAN  
— CHURCH & CHILDCARE CENTER —

bethesdaonthebay.org  
(440) 871-2276  
info@bethesdaonthebay.org



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Purpose Statement**

Bethesda on the Bay is:

Growing in community to share the love of Christ.

### **Guiding Principles**

In our community, we...

1. welcome all,
2. serve our neighbors,
3. love one another,
4. witness to the gospel of Jesus, and
5. spread the light of Christ in the world.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God by Dave & Andria Lembke in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary on October 25.

**WELCOME TO BISHOP LAURA BARBINS!** Rev. Dr. Laura Barbins serves as Bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, the denomination to which Bethesda belongs. Bethesda is grateful Bishop Barbins took time to be with us today and is leading us in worship! Please hold Bishop Barbins and the whole of the Synod staff in your prayers.

### **FELLOWSHIP HOUR TODAY**

You are invited to stay after worship today for a time of fellowship and conversation. Gather in the fellowship hall for coffee and other goodies! Thank you to our fellowship hosts, Sandy and Don Sittler.

**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. There are also guest name tags for any guest attending worship.

### **NEW PARAMENTS AND VESTMENTS**

Today during worship, Bethesda will be consecrating a new set of Festival gold and white paraments and vestments. These newly commissioned, designed and hand-crafted gifts were given to the glory of God by members of the congregation in partnership with Jeff Wunrow

Designs. Thanks be to God for these new gifts and for the blessing of the arts that draws us deeper into reverence and worship.

### **OUR COMMON LIFE TOGETHER**

2025 Stewardship focus will be reflecting on our Common Life Together. God has called us together in this time and place to be church together. You are invited to sign up for a one-on-one conversation with another member of the congregation, as a way of deepening our relationships and ties to one another. Baskets by the Ushers station are available for you to fill out your name and contact information and place in the second basket to be picked up by another willing participant. Once you've placed a name in the basket, pick up someone else's so you can reach out and make a plan to meet.

### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday school for children meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month at 9:00am. **Sunday school will NOT meet December 1 on the Holiday weekend.** This year's curriculum is from Illustrated Ministry, called Mini Revolutions. Older children are invited to also come and if they'd prefer to be helpers, that is welcome too! Please reach out to Pastor Angela if you have any questions on how to register your child.

### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

All children are invited to participate in the Christmas Pageant. The Pageant will be during worship on December 15. Rehearsals will take place after worship on November 10, 17, 24, and December 8. Run through on December 15 at 9am. Anyone who would like to participate can speak with Alison Gregory or come to a rehearsal!

### **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.

### **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sundays Nov 3, 17, and Dec. 1 at 9:00am

Meet in the lounge for conversation and learning about Jonah and the Whale from the perspective of the oratorio written by Dominick Argento. The music brings the story to life in a way that broadens our imagination about God and God's people and encourages our creativity about what God is speaking to us today!

### **PRESCHOOL READING FUN – please sign up!**

You are invited to read to Bethesda's preschool and PreK children! You will be bringing some joy and certainly will receive lots of joy and smiles from our children! Help support our teachers and learn more about our school programming too! Sign up by calling the church office or on the sign-up genius in the e-news! Need help finding a book to share? Contact Pastor Angela and you can borrow one from her library!

## **NEW MEMBERS**

### **NEXT Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> *after worship***

Have you been around Bethesda for a while and are curious about diving in a little more? Perhaps you've had some questions about the church and wondered who to ask? Come and share in a casual conversation with Pastor Angela and some members of the leadership team. This is a chance to meet others and an opportunity to learn more about the ministry here. Refreshments will be offered in the fellowship hall.

## **BONHOEFFER: PASTOR. SPY. ASSASSIN.**

**Saturday, November 23 at 6:20pm.**

### **Regal Cinema, Crocker Park**

Join Pastor Angela in attending the newly released movie about German pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Please RSVP to Pastor Angela by Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Adults \$15.00, Seniors, \$13.00. The movie is rated PG 13 for mature audiences and is not necessarily younger child appropriate. Parents, please use your discretion.

## **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.

## **BLESSING BAGS**

One of the projects for God's Work Our Hands was "Blessing Bags." What are blessing bags? They are Ziploc bags containing self-care items that can be kept in one's vehicle to be given to individuals in need who are soliciting donations at intersections. The blessing bags also include information about community resources and a message of hope.

If you have given your bag away, please stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex and pick up another!

We have put together 50 blessing bags as a result of your donations and a \$250 grant from Thrivent. If you happen to be a member of Thrivent, remember the \$250 grants that they are willing to distribute for church projects.

## **PRAYER ON ELECTION DAY**

**November 5, 2024**

**9:00 am – 11:00 pm & 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

It is good to take time to pray and be quiet with God especially in times of transition and uncertainty. On Election Day, November 5<sup>th</sup>, you are invited to stop by the church and spend time in prayer in the sanctuary. Resources will be available if you'd like some suggested prayers and guides, otherwise, you are invited to come and sit in the stillness and quiet with God.

## **2025 FINANCIAL PLAN**

Committee chairpeople, team leaders, and staff are reminded to be working on their financial needs and plan for 2025 process. If you need information and help with the process, please reach out to Chrissy in the church office or Bill Zeidler, Bethesda's treasurer.

## **COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP**

Sunday, November 24, 6:30 worship

*Pie Fellowship afterwards!*

Share in a time of thanksgiving and praise to God with siblings in faith from local congregations hosted here at Bethesda on the Bay! Congregations that have committed to participating are Bay United Methodist, St. Barnabas Episcopal, and Good Soil Lutheran in Rocky River. For those joyful singers among us, a joint choir anthem will be rehearsed at 5:45pm before worship. If you're willing to bake a pie to share or help with the fellowship time afterwards, please connect with Chris Webner or Pastor Angela

## **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Middle school age students are all invited to participate in Confirmation class. Bethesda is partnering with local congregations Good Soil, Christ Lutheran Avon Lake, and Trinity Vermillion to host class here for all the students. Next Confirmation class is Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Keep them in your prayers as they grow in their faith and as people in the weeks ahead. For more information, contact Pastor Angela.

## **ADVENT TEA, Saturday, December 7 at 2:00pm.**

Save the date for a lovely afternoon during the first week of Advent, an event for all ages and genders! Come together for prayer, song, and tea! A special program with the "O Antiphons" of prayers and hymns will be offered in the sanctuary, followed by tea and cookies in the fellowship hall. Join us as we prepare for the birth of Christ!

## **LORAIN COOPERATIVE MINISTRY NAMES NEW COORDINATOR**

Lorain Cooperative Ministry has announced a new Coordinator, Sarah Whitman. Learn more about Sarah in the enews or LCM's fall newsletter. Bethesda gives thanks for the faithful work of Michelle Gilium who served in this role for many years!

## **LORAIN COOPERATIVE MINISTRY CHILI DINNER**

Come support the work of the Lorain Cooperative Ministry by attending the annual Chili Dinner on November 9th from 5:00-7:00. Dine in and carry out are available and tickets are \$12.00. Tickets can be purchased in the church office and are available online. Please note: There is NO pickup available at Bethesda this year. Would you like to help? We are in need of the following:

\* 36 cupcakes (store bought or homemade)

\* 36 cornbread muffins (mix provided, just need someone to bake them)

Let Chris Webner know if you can help 440-537-8322 or [dcwebner@oh.rr.com](mailto:dcwebner@oh.rr.com).

## **PEACEMAKERS QUILTERS**

The Peacemakers is an outside group that meets at Bethesda Thursdays at 9:00 am, now through May 2025. They quilt and donate their quilts to charitable groups that need them, with the support of Thrivent Financial. New quilters and sewers are welcome anytime. The sewing technique is straight-seam. They also have projects you can do at home! If you are interested in learning more or joining the group, contact the office or show up on Thursday!

## **BLESSING OF THE QUILTS**

On Sunday, November 17, we will be celebrating the Blessing of the Quilts at our worship service. Many beautifully handmade quilts will be displayed on the communion rails, ready to be blessed before they are sent out to make a difference in our community. They will be delivered to FrontLine Services, providing warmth and comfort to families and individuals experiencing crisis. The quilts are lovingly crafted here at Bethesda by the Peacemakers Quilters. The group invites anyone interested to join them on Thursday mornings at 9am; (sewing skills are not required!), or by giving monetary donations for the cost of supplies.

## **OCTOBER 2024 COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY**

- The insurance claim for tornado storm damage has been filed.
- Deacon Marla Wood Kay completed her interim ministry work with Bethesda Oct 13, 2024.
- Karen Spencer, Bethesda member, will help with Sunday school ministry by coordinate our Church education program for children and young people.
- Bethesda exec council team will be meeting with the exec council team and pastor of Good Soil Lutheran in Rocky River. They will continue to explore future partnership in ministry and work toward sharing a called staff person to care for Christian Formation ministries.
- Bethesda will confirm two young members on Reformation Sunday.
- Fundraising campaign of \$25K has concluded. Council gives thanks for the success of that campaign and for the generosity of the congregation.
- Financial expenses were up in September, mostly due to storm damage and repairs. The good news is that regular offerings are higher than expected.
- Signage project has been completed! Council decided to move forward with an updated proposal for the final landscaping project to complete the work. That work should be done this fall yet.



“I have not stopped giving thanks for you,  
remembering you in my prayers.”  
Ephesians 1:16

Thank you for your generosity toward our  
Fundraising Campaign, “Ministry for the  
Future.”

**The Campaign has concluded with a  
Grand Total of \$25,205 received toward the  
\$25,000 goal!  
Thanks be to God!!**

This campaign was initiated to raise money to offset the cost of the new outdoor signage and to prepare for some important updates to the buildings outdated accessibility and hospitality needs. Thank you for helping us maintain a healthy ministry and prepare for the future.

Landscape work has been initiated with Groundworks Landscaping to complete some planned for landscaping around the bell tower and new electronic sign area. Important plantings and flower bed work will be completed now this fall.

Looking to the future, updates are already being considered for facility accessibility updates with priorities on the bathrooms and entrances to the building. To continue to support this work, contributions are always welcome directly to the Bethesda Capital Improvement Fund. An easy way to contribute to the ministry is by using the safe and online platform, [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly). As plans are forming for these future projects, your church leadership will work to keep you informed and updated.

Thank you again for your faithful sharing and your generosity!

In gratitude,  
Pastor Angela

