



Sunday, Sept. 20, 2020 . . . 9:30am

Welcome

A special welcome to those new to worshipping with us—we're glad the spirit has called you here! **Bethesda Lutheran Church is live streaming church services on Facebook during this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic.** If you don't already have a church home and would like to join ours, please call the office at 515-232-6256 and we'll connect you to one of the Pastors, and make it easy.

OUR MISSION IN SUCH A TIME AS THIS

GATHER in due time
GROW in the meantime
GO with God ALL the time

GROW IN GOD'S WORD

September 27 . . . Matthew 21:28-32

LIVESTREAMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our Facebook page will host the Livestreams—<https://www.facebook.com/BethesdaAmes/>—and they will remain as videos for later viewing. Our Sunday videos will also be posted as Sermons on our website: <https://bethesdaames.org/sermons/>. Just “Like” our Facebook page and you will receive notification that the stream is starting.



We're still in touch. Call our church office with any needs, prayer requests, or to talk to a familiar voice. We're still sending out our Friday *Living Current* email blast; let us know if you'd like to be added to the list! You can keep up with us on our website and Facebook page too.

Finally, and most importantly, for today and all days, God is still with us. Do not be frightened. Or dismayed. Be strong. Be courageous. For the Lord your God is with you, wherever you go.

GATHERING

PRELUDE: “Come, Now Is the Time to Worship” (J. Carter)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

In response to love beyond all reason;

We have come to worship God, our creator.

In response to love that would go to a cross and die for us;

We have come to worship Jesus, our Savior.

In response to love that fills us and gives us power for today and every day;

We have come to worship the Holy Spirit, the life-giving presence of God inside of us.

MORNING PRAYER

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

CHILDRENS' MESSAGE

WORD

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10-4:11

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SONG: *Your Grace is Enough*

PRAYERS**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.

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.

4 **PEACE & OFFERING:** *Text three of your friends or family!*

Please visit <https://tinyurl.com//t4x6vz6>
or scan the QR code at right, with your smart phone or other device,
to go directly to Bethesda's secure giving page.



OFFERTORY: "Simple Gifts" (J. Carter)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "10,000 Reasons" (L. Larson)



Friday, **October 2**, 5-6pm
<https://tinyurl.com/y2mfjqmu>
Register your dog here, just \$5!

Pick-up/drop-off before Wed. service

Noon-1
5-6pm

Mon. Sept. 28
12-1 & 5-6 pm
Pickup SpiritWear
order forms
& Devotionals
Drop off CROP
Walk donations

Drive-In

WORSHIP
@BETHESDA

Wed. September 30
6:30 pm
including special
Stewardship
message
& treats

Bethesda Opportunities



September 26
9 am...Family Walk
9:30...5K

Join us for our First Annual
5K and Family Walk
@ Ada Hayden Park

Arrive 15 minutes early for shirt!
\$10 registration includes:
walk/ race, T-shirt,
post-race recovery treat

Sign-up at
<https://tinyurl.com/y575uwyy>

Prizes all around!
Snacks & water available

Participants in Tie Dye Science Fair can bring their shirt for FREE registration—or get additional shirt for only \$5.

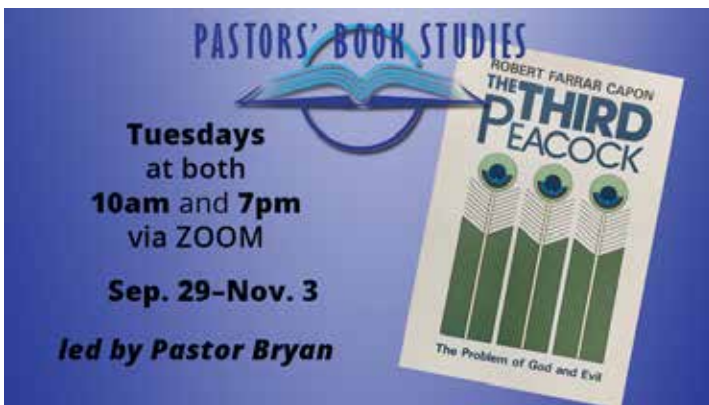
Sign up TODAY at
<https://tinyurl.com/y575uwyy>

SPLASH Sunday School is in Session



TODAY, Sunday, September 20, following the livestream worship service at 10:30 we meet again via Zoom for Splash Sunday School! We are using the EMOTIONS curriculum, and today's subject is FEAR. Miriam Chadima, Youth Engagement Specialist, leads the virtual classes, and does a related

Children's Message skit during the service. The Zoom link is in the Sept. 18 (online) edition of the *Living Current*.



PASTORS' BOOK STUDIES

Tuesdays
at both
10am and 7pm
via ZOOM

Sep. 29-Nov. 3
led by Pastor Bryan

ROBERT FARRAR CAPON
THE THIRD PEACOCK
The Problem of God and Evil

Sign up TODAY at
bethesdaames.org/upcoming-events

Please Send Us Your Testimonial Videos!

As we gear up for our annual Stewardship drive, we'd like to hear from you. In a short—20 seconds to 2 minutes—video (taken on your smart device: phone, laptop, tablet) tell us “WHAT BETHESDA MEANS TO YOU.” Visit <https://bethesdaames.org/your-testimonial-videos> for a link to upload your video to Bethesda, and for instructions (both Apple and PC). We can't wait to see you—and hear your message!



A Days for Girls Socially-Distanced Sewing Night!

Monday, September 21 at 6:30pm—for those who are comfortable—please join us at Jeanne Stewart's farm (She-Shed)! where we can spread out and use her tables. This is a mask-up event. The evening will also give us an opportunity to organize sewing projects for women to work on at home, if they wanted. RSVP to jwstewart1@gmail.com and she will reply with directions to the farm.



2020 CROP Walk is Virtual

YOU pick the time & place to walk! And, we'll make it easy for you to donate at www.crophungerwalk.org/amesia. Or to donate by check/cash, Rod Fischer will be at the Drive-In service on Sept. 30! Or please email him at videoguy@iastate.edu to make arrangements for pickup. Ames CROP Committee members will also be at Brookside Park on Sunday, October 11 between 1 & 3pm to drop off a donation in person!

SCAM Alert! If you receive an email from either Pastor asking for gift cards or otherwise sounding strange—please know that it is a **scam**. Outside scammers are mimicking our names hoping to prey on the trust built between you and us. Do not respond to them.

PRAYER AT BETHESDA

HEALING: Bob Ahlstrom; Marianne Berhow (rehab @ MGMC); Helen Casey (mother of Sharon Anderson); Gloria Egertson; Gloria Herrold; Bill Marion; Jerry Mortensen; Dean Newlon
SERVING OUR NATION: Colonel Mark Kappelman, (D.C.), son of Glenn & Mary Kappelman
Kristin Murray, Diplomat (US Embassy, Rabat, Morocco), daughter of Russ & Jan Melby

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Ministers Pastor Bryan Simmons, Pastor Ryan Arnold
 Announcements / Childrens' Message Miriam Chadima
 Lector Don Borcharding
 Musicians Mark Kretsinger-Harries, Mary Nelson
 Sound Tech Randy Slocum
 Video Techs Rod Fischer, Allan Schmidt

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Bethesda Lutheran Church

GATHER...GROW...GO

Office PHONE Hours
 Monday–Thursday
 9:00 am–4:00 pm

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 Ames, IA 50010
 515-232-6256

www.bethesdaames.org

**Livestream
 Worship Schedule**
 Sunday . . . 9:30 am