

Bethany United Church of Christ

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

As you prepare your heart for worship it might be helpful to read through the call to worship and the prayer of confession and think about them.

Prelude and Bell Ringing
Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Call to Worship

Leader: In you, O LORD, do we take refuge; let us never be put to shame;

Congregation: in your righteousness deliver us!

L: Incline your ear to us; rescue us speedily!

C: Be a rock of refuge for us, a strong fortress to save us!

L: For you are our rock and our fortress;

C: and for your name's sake you lead us and guide us.

L: We will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love,

C: because you have seen our affliction; you have known the distress of our souls.

L: But we trust in you, O LORD; we say, "You are our God."

C: Make your face shine on your servants; save us in your steadfast love!

L: Blessed be the LORD, for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to us.

C: Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn of Praise #14 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Call to Confession

Unison Confession of Sin

Gracious God, forgive us. We seldom think about your plans for us. We prefer to think about how you might help us with our plans, how you might fit your blessings into the things we want to do or have. So we have it backwards. Living in this way, we sin. Forgive us and fill us with your Holy Spirit. Help us to think about *your* plans for us. Help us always to keep in mind what we should be doing as followers of Jesus every day, even in the midst of living our lives. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*GLORIA PATRI

Invitation to the Children (Jesus Loves the Little Children)

Children's time

Pre-K to Grade 2 children dismiss to church entryway for Sunday School

Scripture

New Testament lesson - Acts 7:54-60

Gospel lesson – John 14:1-14

Sermon “So – What Happens?”

*Hymn of Preparation #214 “For the Bread, Which Thou Hast Broken”

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer

Offering, Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn of Commitment #493 (SS) “Face to Face”

*Charge and Benediction

Amen! We go forth to serve.

*Choral Response: “God Be with You” #177 (SS) (v. 1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY – Rev. Darwin Smith

The Blanket Sunday special offering will be collected next week via the included envelopes.

Women’s Fellowship will meet this Wednesday, May 6, at 1:30 p.m. Marian Bland will present the program. Please bring one photo of your Mom for the program. Audene Schrader is hostess.

The Warsaw Women’s Expo will be Saturday, May 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Warsaw Brewery (900 N 5th). It will feature speakers, vendors, snacks, and giveaways. The registration deadline was yesterday, May 2. More details are available on the “Warsaw Public Events” Facebook page. The organization’s email is WarsawPublicEvents@gmail.com.

May-June Upper Rooms are available in the entryway.

SAVE THE DATES:

May Women’s Fellowship: Wednesday, May 6, 1:30 p.m.

Retreat House Service: Sunday, July 12, 10 a.m.

All-Day Bible School: Monday, July 13
Women's Event: Saturday, August 22, 10 a.m.
Men's Event: Sunday, November 8, 6 p.m.
Women's Bible Study: Mondays, 9:30 a.m.
Confirmation Class & Sunday School: Sundays, 9 a.m.

Teresa Beeler is greeter today, Mary Doyle next week. Thanks to the greeter, Rev. Smith, the musician, AV tech - all who helped with the service.

WELCOME ALL! If you are a visitor, please sign the guest register and come again.

Bethany United Church of Christ

848 E Co Rd 70 Mendon, IL 62351 | bethanyucc-tioga.org

