

Bethany United Church of Christ

July 5, 2026

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 (from Psalm 145)

Leader: The LORD is gracious and merciful,

Congregation: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

L: The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

C: All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!

L: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

C: and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

L: The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

C: The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.

L: The LORD is near to all who call on him,

C: to all who call on him in truth.

L: The LORD preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

C: My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD.

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn of Praise #458 (SS) "This Is My Father's World"

Call to Confession

Unison Confession of Sin

Gracious God, forgive us for not turning to you as quickly or as often as we should. We follow our own designs, and when things go wrong we wonder why you have done that to us. When things go well, we are only too happy to forget you and take the credit for ourselves. We look at terrible things in the world and wring our hands in despair, believing we can not make a difference. Living like this is sinful, for it neglects your love and grace, and it ignores how attentive you are to us. Forgive us, and fill us with your Holy Spirit. Teach us to come to you in every circumstance and trust that you hear us. We ask this 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

Special Music

Scripture

Old Testament lesson - 2 Chronicles 7:11-22

New Testament lesson – Matthew 11:16-30

Sermon “The Man on His Knees”

*Hymn of Preparation #68 “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

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 #454 (SS) “God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand”

*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 annual Retreat House service is next Sunday, July 12. The regular Sunday church service will be held at the Ursa Retreat House (732 Co Rd 2353 N) at 10 a.m.

SAVE THE DATES:

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.

Resume 9 a.m. Sunday School: Sunday, September 13, 9 a.m.

Men’s Event: Sunday, November 8, 6 p.m.

Women’s Bible Study: Mondays, 9:30 a.m.

Mary Doyle is greeter today, Shirley Roskamp 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

Catharine Lee Eates, 1895 *MATERNA C.M.I.
Samuel A. Ward, 188*



1. O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, For am-ber waves of grain,
2. O beau-ti-ful for pil-grim feet, Whose stern, im-pas-sioned stress
3. O beau-ti-ful for he-ros proved In lib-er-at-ing strife,
4. O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream That sees be-yond the years

For pur-er moun-tain maj-es-ties A-bove the fruit-ed plain!
A thor-ough fare for free-dom beat A-cross the wil-der-ness!
Who more than self their coun-ty loved, And mer-cy more than life!
Thine al-las-s for wit-ies gleam, Un-dimmed by hu-man tears!

A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-ery
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on

And crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea
Con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, Thy lib-er-ty in law.
Till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness, And ev-ery gain di-