

**Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches
June 22, 2025
Pastor Bethany Walker**



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Pastor Bethany and family In celebration of Pastor Bethany's Ordination Anniversary 6/26

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Shine Jesus Shine WOV 651

Lord, the light of your love is shining. In the midst of the darkness, shining.

Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us, Set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me (refrain)

(refrain)

Shine, Jesus, shine. Fill this land with the Father's glory.

Blaze, Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow. Flood the nations with grace and mercy.

Send forth your word Lord, and let there be light.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness

Ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story

Shine on me, shine on me (refrain)

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

Centering Song [God Is In This Story - Katy Nichole \(Lyrics\)](#)

Welcome the Word

Listen, listen God is calling, through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort and joy (2x)

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:1-19

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who

belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,
Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

I Love to Tell the Story LBW 390

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory,
Of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know it's
true.

It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

(refrain)

I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory and tell the old,
old story, of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, how pleasant to repeat what seems each time
I tell it, more wonderfully sweet! I love to tell the story, for some
have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy
Word. (refrain)

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering
and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I
sing the new, new song, I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved
so long. (refrain)

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Peace

Offering

Offertory Response

Now the feast and celebration. All of creation sings for joy. To the
God of life and love and freedom, praise and glory forevermore.

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God, to
make all things new.

Now the feast and celebration. All of creation sings for joy. To the
God of life and love and freedom, praise and glory forevermore.

Offering Prayer

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

Announcements:

Blessing

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Blessed Assurance WOV 699

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine, Oh what a foretaste of glory
divine.

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

(refrain)

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day
long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day
long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on
my sight; angels descending bring from above, echoes of mercy,
whispers of love.

(refrain)

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior, am happy and
blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his
goodness, lost in his love. (refrain)

Dismissal Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God!**