



North Bethesda United Methodist Church

July 5, 2026

PRIDE Week 5 - Embodiment

Prelude

Lukas Chandler

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Natalie McManus

God is calling us
Out of the places we hide
Out of insecurity
Out of shame
Out from under that which silences love and justice.

Come out, people of God!

Though we may be afraid
Though we will be at risk
Though the cross stands as a threat

God calls us to courage!

Our God is a god of resurrection. Of new life after devastation. Of hope in the grip of evil.
And so we dare to proclaim, with pride and faith, our truths:

We believe in the power of love.

We believe in solidarity with the suffering.

We believe we are each valuable.

We believe that our togetherness is transformative.

The world is longing for Holy truths that reveal, voices that speak real words of hope.

Come out, people of God!

*Opening Hymn

"For the Beauty of the Earth" v.1-4

UMH 92

Word for All Ages

Tsitsi Sithole

Hymn

"Christ Beside Me"

TFWS 2166

Prayers of the People

Lighting the Candle of Peace, Hope, and Justice

Natalie McManus

One: ... The light shines in the darkness.

All: We stand in this light, unshaken, trusting that love will always outlast evil.

One: Let us recommit ourselves to walking in Jesus' ways of justice.

All: Empower us, Jesus, to boldly use the freedom and power given to us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

Hymn

"In This Time of Great Reflection" (Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)

See Insert

Holy Communion

Prayer After Communion

Generous God, we give you thanks that in this moment, being fully ourselves at your table, we have glimpsed the fullness of your reign where everyone can be who they are at your Great Banquet. Equip and empower us to work alongside you until your vision is accomplished. Amen.



QR Code
for Online
Giving

*Closing Hymn

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

TFWS 2238

*Blessing

Rev. Kara

May the blessing of God, the Holy Parent,

make us love ourselves, so we may love others fully.

May the blessing of God, the Holy Christ,

make us celebrate our gifts, so we can use them to serve others.

May the blessing of God, the Holy Spirit,

make us whole, so we may be a blessing to the world. Amen.

Postlude

Lukas Chandler

*Indicates rising in body and/or spirit.

For this Pride worship series, we are intentionally selecting liturgy written by people who self-identify as LGBTQ+. The Call to Worship is by M Jade Kaiser, and the Prayer after Communion and Blessing are by Gary Hopkins. The music is reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-742910 All rights reserved.

Take Note!

- Our Church Board invites everyone to a **Town Hall** meeting after worship next Sunday, July 12th. Join us in the Fellowship Hall to hear updates and share ideas and perspectives about the stewardship of our building and grounds. All are warmly welcome!
- We are partnering with **Project Transformation** as they offer a summer reading camp to children in the Brightwood community of DC. If you would like to join us by volunteering to read one-on-one with children on a Monday or Tuesday this summer, or to cook dinner and eat with the college-aged interns one night this summer, we'd love to have you! Email Rev. Kara (kara@northbethesdaumc.org) for more details. We are also hoping to put together a Family Feud team for the PTDC Fundraiser on Thursday, July 30th. You can donate toward our team's fundraiser using the Offering QR code, and you are also welcome to compete as part of our team--just email the church office!
- Updates from the **Adult Discipleship & Education Ministry**: Coming in September - The return of a dynamic small group and Bible study series, Disciple!; and also our film discussion series (formerly "F4"), but now on a new day! Interested in attending either? Please RSVP to Scott Roby this summer at scottroby1125@gmail.com.

Staff Contacts

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NBUMC Weekly Podcast



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