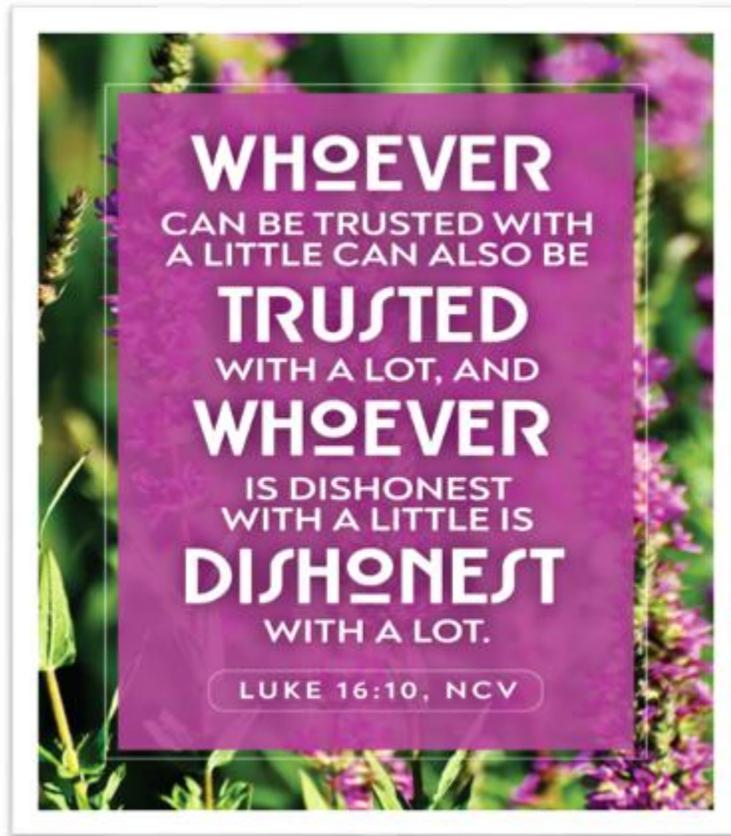


**Sunday, September 18**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 15C**

Pastor Kim Swenson



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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

*The congregation is invited to say the **bold** words.*

## Opening Hymn "Take My Life, That I May Be" Cranberry #685



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.  
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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## Call to Worship

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who is eager to forgive  
and who loves us beyond our days. **Amen.**

We have gathered in this place to worship,  
**Because Jesus invites us to come!**  
We come as we are,  
the young and the old with our faith and our doubts,  
with our successes and our failures,  
**Because Jesus invites us to come!**

**Come Let Us Eat vs 3**

**Cranberry 491**

Leader or All



3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,

All



in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.

Leader or All



In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,

All



in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.

**Prayer of the Day**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God from which nothing can separate us,  
and the life-giving Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray, God among us, **we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

**Scripture Reading: Amos 8:4-7**

<sup>4</sup>Hear this, you that trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
<sup>5</sup>saying, "When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain;  
and the sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?  
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,  
and practice deceit with false balances,  
<sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals,  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.  
Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 113**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;  
praise the name of the LORD.  
<sup>2</sup>**Let the name of the LORD be blessed,  
from this time forth for evermore.**  
<sup>3</sup>From the rising of the sun to its going down  
let the name of the LORD be praised.  
<sup>4</sup>**The LORD is high above all nations;  
God's glory above the heavens.**  
<sup>5</sup>Who is like the LORD our God,  
who sits enthroned on high,  
<sup>6</sup>**but stoops to behold  
the heavens and the earth?**  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust  
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,  
<sup>8</sup>**enthroning them with the rulers,  
with the rulers of the people.**  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD makes the woman of a childless house  
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

## Gospel Acclamation

Leader or All



A - le - lu - ia! Words of stead - fast love.

All



A - le - lu - ia! Words of stead - fast love.

Leader or All



Save us as you pro - mised; we will trust your word,

All



save us as you pro - mised; we will trust your word.

## Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to St Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.'

<sup>3</sup>Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'<sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup>He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'<sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'<sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in

dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup>“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

Hymn of the Day "Son of God, Eternal Savior" Cranberry #655



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

**Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

God our Savior, you keep your church in faith and truth. Accompany those preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Enlighten preachers, teachers, seminarians, and all those who share your good news with the world. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Ruler of the nations, you direct those in authority. Give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders and safeguard the dignity of each person. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Breathe justice into economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Sustainer and giver of life, you bless this congregation with abundance. Instruct us in the proper and faithful use of wealth and resources, that we share generously. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

For what else do the people of God pray?  
*Silent and spoken prayers are invited*

God of glory, you gather your saints around your throne. Keep us thankful for the witness of those who have gone before us, and bring us with them to the heavenly feast that has no end. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen**

## **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please share a sign of the Lord's peace with those around you.*

---

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**MEAL**

## **Offering Prayer**

Before us is a world in great need, waiting in hope.

We are a people holding treasure meant to be given away:  
the good news of Christ; resources of time, talents, and money.

All we have is a gift from God;

therefore, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Let us pray, Gracious God,

**in your great love you richly provide for our needs.**

**Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,**

**and make us ready to share with all in need;**

**through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**



You have been faithful to your covenant  
and rescued us from the hands of our enemies.  
You have revealed your saving purpose to all,  
a light to the nations for the glory of your people.

We give you thanks, Lord God,  
for the coming of Jesus Christ  
and the proclamation of his kingdom.

Jesus was anointed to bring good news to people who are poor,  
proclaim release to people who are captive,  
restore the sight of those who are blind,  
grant freedom to those who are oppressed,  
and announce the year of your favor.  
Let these words be fulfilled today.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

We give you thanks, Lord God,  
For the gift of the Holy Spirit  
And the calling of the church.

Pour out your Spirit upon all flesh.  
Keep us ever faithful, devoting ourselves  
to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
the breaking of bread and prayers,  
until Christ returns in glory to reign. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

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*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**SENDING**

**Announcements**

**Celebration of Sue**

**Bethel Choir**      "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

**Come Let Us Eat vs 4**

**Cranberry 491**

Leader or All



4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

**Benediction**

God, who gives life to all things  
and frees us from despair,  
bless you with truth and peace.  
And may the holy Trinity, † one God,  
guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **Amen.**

Hymn

“Rise Up, O Saints of God”

Cranberry #669



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulfs earth's frame;  
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;  
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;  
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936  
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893  
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Dismissal

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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Eucharist Prayer edited from *Connections: Worship Companion Year C, Volume 2*.

**Bethel Weekly**

**Salvation Army Senior Meal** will be prepared on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Many items are needed for this meal. If you are able to provide any of these items,

please sign up on the sheet posted in the hallway.

**Just Mercy** Sign up is in the hallway for the showings of the movie “*Just Mercy*” on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. We will have a discussion about the movie and book after worship on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**The Feed My Starving Children 5k Run/Walk** is back this year. The event will be held on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at Green Bay Community Church. Registration is now open on-line at **GBCC FMSC 5K RUN/WALK**. Fee, which includes a t-shirt: Adult \$30, Youth \$20, Children 5 & Under \$0 with no shirt.

**Feed My Starving Children** MobilePack registration is now open. Registration is on-line by going to FMSC.org, “click” on Volunteer and 2210-060SC Green Bay Community MobilePack should come up. Follow the registration prompts from there.

The Green Bay MobilePack will be held Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> through Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Registration is open at this time for all partner churches and community members. Spaces will fill fast, so if you are interested, please sign up early!

**American Red Cross** will be having a blood drive at Bethel on Mon, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11am-4pm. Sign up to donate at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). Walk-ins will not be turned away.

**Worship Change Wed, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** Due to the Packer Game being broadcast Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> in the morning from London and with Pastor Kim gone for the weekend, we are changing service from Sunday to Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. The service will be recorded and uploaded for people to watch at a later day and time.

### **Worship Assistants**

Assisting Minister:	Sandi Tibbetts
Altar Guild:	Pat Petzel
Ushers:	Carl Andrews & Kay Zastrow
Video Tech:	Rick Johnson