

Sunday, September 17, 2023
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 16A
Pastor Karin Derenne



“Forgive your
brother or sister
from your heart.”

MATTHEW 18:35, NRSV

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome



- 1 A - wake, O sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con- quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

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Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be God, the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the
ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

Glory to God

p 167-8


Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

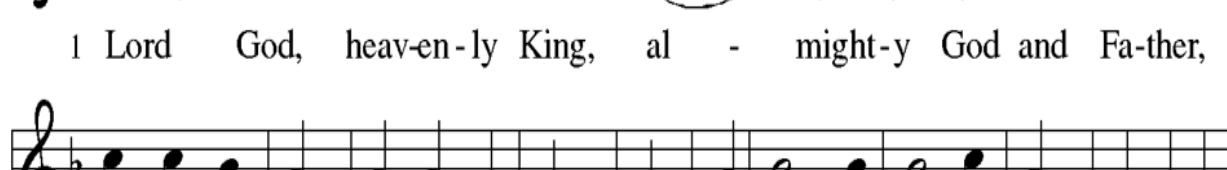


1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther,

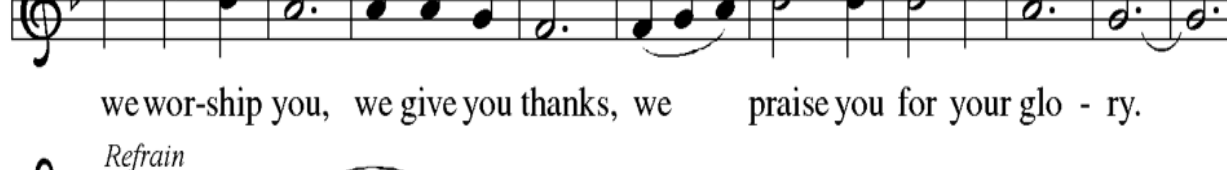


we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the

The Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray, O Lord God, **merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Choir:

10,000 Reasons

WORD

Semicontinuous First Reading: Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the

Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Word of God, Word of Life, **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13

We will read the Psalm responsively by full verse.

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits—**

³who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

Second Reading Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord,

since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, Word of Life, **Thanks be to God.**

Word for All Ages

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

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

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

Sermon



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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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

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

**Left: For the color and forms of your creation and our place within it.
For our daily food, and for those whose work to bring in your bounty.
For those whose harvest is poor.
For the hungry, the war-weary, the desperate.
For those who help bring relief.**

**Right: For new hope and strength in our communities,
For the church in her disagreements and disputes
For those alongside whom we minister.
For all who share the tasks of ministry, and the urgency of mission.**

**Left: For the light and shades of the changing seasons,
for new life and growth out of barrenness and decay;
For those who company we enjoy,
and for those with whom we have less sympathy or mutual regard.**

**Right: For those who are in our care, and for those who care for us.
For our worries and our responsibilities.
For our joys and delights.
For individuals in trouble or pain.**

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

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

MEAL

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray, God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.

**We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.**

**Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them unto God.**

Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give both thanks and praise.**

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.
Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay.
Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:
The earth is full of your beauty.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.
In Christ you bring life from death;
Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.
We praise you for the heart of Jesus,
so filled with your love for this earth.
Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:
The earth is full of your bounty.

On the night before he died he 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.

O God triune, send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.
Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give
us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth.
Empowered by your promises,
we rise from our deaths to praise you again:
The earth is full of your blessing. Amen, and amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Lamb of God

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Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.
 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.
 Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.
 We'll pro - claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

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HERE IS BREAD
 3 3 4 4 3 3 5 and remain

SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

The God of glory,

✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,

and the Spirit who lives in you,

bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
 2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
 3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
 one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
 lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
 by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
 Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
 ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.

Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

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Dismissal

Go from this place to reap the harvest of God's love.
Go from this place with God's beauty, bounty, and blessing.
Go from this place to nourish one another
sowing seeds of justice, peace, and love. **Thanks be to God.**

Please join us for food and fellowship following the service!

Postlude

Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 9/10/23 \$ 24,025.05

Monthly Budget Expenses:..... \$ 21,490.00

YTD Receipts through 8/31/23..... \$ 142,198.00

Yearly Budget..... \$ 257,876.00

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister:	Sandi Tibbetts
Reader:	Peggy Hansen
Altar Guild:	Karen Hervas
Communion Assist:	Sheila Greenwood
Ushers:	Dave Hansen & Michael Zastrow
Video Tech:	Rick Johnson
Fellowship Hour:	Peace & Faith Study Group

The Bethel Weekly

Thank You: Thank you Pastor Karen Derenne for filling in for this service while Pastor Kim is in recovery

Fellowship Hour: Thank you Peace & Faith Study Group for providing the Fellowship hour. Please if you are able to help on a future date, October, November sign up in the hallway.

While Pastor Kim is recovering: If there are any Pastoral Emergencies from September 10th-20th call Pastor Rachel Knoke (920)393-9424.

Be an Angel for Hungry Children : Envelopes numbered from \$1.00 to \$100.00 are available on the Angel Board in the hallway. Money collected will benefit the Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack. A single envelope or any combination of envelopes can be selected. Just place your donation inside the

envelope and place in the offering plate or bring to the church office. Children may want to select an envelope and dip into their piggy bank to care for other children. Thank you for spreading your wings!

The FMSC Mobile Pack: will again be held at Green Bay Community Church from **Monday, October 2nd to Thursday, October 5th**. Online sign-up is available now for packing and assisting with registration, greeting etc. Sign up information is available in the Bethel Herald. If you experience any difficulties signing up for a session, please reach out to Kay Zastrow at 920-660-3936. Please plan to help with one of the packing sessions.

Final Last Sunday Supper: Sunday, September 24th at 5pm at Riverside Pizzeria (2822 Ramada Way). Please let Pastor Kim know if you are able to join.

Veterans Day: We would like to honor the Veterans in our midst. We would like a list of living Veterans within this membership so they can be honored for their service on Sunday, November 12th. Call Bethel Lutheran Church 920-494-3737 and leave the name and branch of service. Example: Donald D. Sigl-Army. Thank you.

Red Cross Blood Drive: Will be November 2. **We need at least 20** people signed up by October in order for the blood drive to be held here. Please sign up in the hallway as soon as you can!

Salvation Senior Army Meal: Monday, September 18, 1:00, sign up in the hallway.

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Eucharist Prayer from Pray, Praise, and Give Thanks by Gail Ramshaw.
