

Pentecost 17, Year B
September 15, 2024
Pastor Kim Swenson



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

GATHERING

Worship Volunteers
Assisting Minister: Sandi Tibbetts
Reader: Doris Brack
Altar Guild: Karen Hervas
Communion Assistant: Sheila Greenwood
Ushers: Dave & Mary Hansen
Video Tech: Yvonne Pamperin

Welcome



1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
 3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
 cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
 world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919

Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673

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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.**

Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

Holy and merciful God,

**we confess that we have failed to honor you
 by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.**

**We have walked heavily on your earth,
 overused and wasted its resources,
 taken for granted its beauty and abundance,
 and treated its inhabitants unjustly,
 holding future generations hostage to our greed.**

Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.

**Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and
 intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts,
 through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
And to empower our lives in the world.
Our sins are forgiven,
✠ God's love is unconditional,
and we are raised up as God's people
who will always be made new,
in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Cranberry 836



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray, O God, **through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Psalm 19 (read responsively by verse)

¹The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**²Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.**

³There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;

**⁴yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.**

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

**⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.**

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;

the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;

**⁸the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;**

**the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**

⁹the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;

the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.

**¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;**

**sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²But who can detect their errors?

Clear me from hidden faults.

¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.

**¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,**

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Gospel Acclamation

ACS Setting 1088

Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah,
hal - le-lu-jah. Hal - le-lu - jah, hal - le-lu - jah, hal - le-lu-jah!

Text: Traditional

Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

Sermon

Refrain: Choir and Congregation



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Stanzas



Choir 1. Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod, the
 Choir 2. Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears
 Choir 3. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, your
 Choir and Cong. 4. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: Praise

To Refrain



Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
 death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
 to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

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Apostle's 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

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing insecurity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve. Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For what else do the people of God pray?

We remember our beloved dead, who with the great cloud of witnesses bear witness to your saving grace. Accompany us in our pilgrimage of faith, that we too place our hope and trust in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Peace

Peace with yourself.

Peace with Creation.

Peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MEAL

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray, Blessed are you, O God,

Source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives,

Help us to serve one another and all in need,

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption. Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life.

Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people.

And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:

Let All Things Now Living (combined vss 1 & 2 881)

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to
God the creator triumphantly raise,
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the
Deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and re-
joicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise
Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving: "To
God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"**

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."

Merciful God, fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

We will say the Lord's prayer as a call and response.

Our Father in heaven

You are also at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans

Hallowed be your name

By the care we take of your Creation

Your kingdom come

All that you see is good

Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven

Your will to till and care

Give us this day our daily bread

That all may have enough to live life in fullness

Forgive us our sins

Our greed, our exploitation, our lack of concern
for other species and for future generations

As we forgive those who sin against us

By reconciliation with justice and peace.

Save us from the time of trial

The temptation to equate dominion with exploitation

And deliver us from evil

The evil of destroying your gift of creation

For yours is the kingdom

Yours, Lord, not ours

The power and the glory

In the cross and resurrection

Forever and ever

You are the beginning and you are the end. **Amen.**

Communion Hymn

Around You, O Lord Jesus

Cranberry 468



1 A - round you, O Lord Je - sus, your own you gath - er still
2 We hear your in - vi - ta - tion, and heed, O Lord, your call;
3 We are your own for - ev - er; un - til our fi - nal breath



to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill.
your word of con - so - la - tion is spo - ken here to all.
we will be true and nev - er— in joy, in grief, in death—



You say to us so lov - ing - ly, "Take, eat! This is my
It draws us to your lov - ing heart; it brings to us your
de - part from you, for you are still a - mong your peo - ple



bod - y! Take, drink! This is my blood!"
bless - ing, which nev - er will de - part.
dwell - ing, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. composite

Music: O JESU, ÄN DE DINA, H. Thomissön, *Den danske Psalmebog*, 1569

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Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray, Loving God,

we give you thanks

for restoring us in your image

and nourishing us with spiritual food

in the sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

Now send us forth

a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;

that we may proclaim your love to the world

and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

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

SENDING

Announcements

Benediction

May God who established the dance of creation,

Who marveled at the lilies of the field,

Who transforms chaos to order,

Lead us to transform our lives and the Church

To listen to the voice of all creatures

That reflect God's glory in creation.

God all mighty,

God most merciful

✠ bless you, keep you

And give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *Will You Come and Follow Me*

Cranberry 798



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



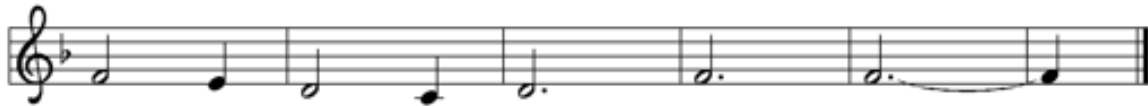
know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
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Dismissal

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

Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 9/10/24 \$ 13,443.20
 Monthly Budget Expenses:..... \$18,743.00
 YTD Receipts through 8/31/24..... \$ 158,547.00
 Yearly Budget..... \$ 224,917.00

The Bethel Weekly

Fellowship Hour: Please, if you are able to help on a future date in September, sign up in the hallway.

FMSC Basket Raffle: For the next 3 Sundays we will be selling tickets for the FMSC Raffle Baskets. Tickets can be purchased in the lounge after service: tickets are 1 for \$2 or 3 for \$5. The drawing will be October 6th following the service. You will be Feeding a Starving Child. The value is Priceless!

Last, Last Sunday Supper: Is September 29th at Rustique Pizzeria located at 13201 Velp Ave. in Suamico. We will be meeting at 5:00pm.

St. Francis Pet Blessing and Outdoor Service: Will be Sunday, October 6th. Bring your furry friends favorite stuffed animal, plant, or picture of your animal friend for a special blessing. Please bring a lawn chair to sit on.

Invite Someone To Church: It was awe inspiring having double our normal attendance for Donna Hansen's funeral. Wouldn't it be wonderful if every Sunday had that many voices raised in praise? Let's all invite someone to join us on October 6th for our outdoor service and pet blessing. Invite a friend, co-worker, neighbor or family member. Remember to have them bring a chair and their pet!

FMSC Opportunities: The mobile pack is coming up October 7-10. Greeters and Rovers are still needed. In addition, the Angel Board is ready if you want to become an "Angel" for Feed My Starving Children. Take an envelope/s with the denomination of your choice and place in the offering plate.

CPR/AED Training at Bethel: If you would like to be certified on the AED equipment, there will be a training session on October 16th from 6:00-8:30pm. Cost is \$45/person. If you have already been trained, there will be a renewal course offered October 17th from 6:00-7:30pm. Cost is \$40/person. A minimum of 3 people per class need to be signed up in order for each class to be held. Please see sign-up sheet in the hallway.

Handbags for Hope: In conjunction with the Resurrection Food Pantry, we are asking all the ladies to bring in any unwanted purses. Donations are also needed of travel size hygiene items such as toothbrushes, shampoo, lip balm, etc. to fill the purses prior to distribution. Suggestions can be found on the front of the bin in the lounge.

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