

Pentecost 18, Year B  
September 22, 2024  
Pastor Kim Swenson



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

**GATHERING**

**Worship Volunteers**  
**Assisting Minister: Doug Scholes**  
**Reader: Marilyn Meister**  
**Altar Guild: Peggy Hansen**  
**Communion Assistant: Gayle Peot**  
**Ushers: Carl Andrews & Marsha Scholes**  
**Video Tech: Doug Hanson**

**Tone Chime Choir**

**Welcome**



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

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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.**

*Refrain*



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,  
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,  
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,  
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

*Refrain*



God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.  
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.  
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - 'ry one.  
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt.

Music: ROYAL OAK, English tune, 17th cent., adapt. Martin Shaw, 1875–1958

### Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

### And also with you.

Let us pray, O God, **our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Psalm 1** (read responsively by verse)

<sup>1</sup>Happy are those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread,  
or sit in the seat of scoffers;

**<sup>2</sup>but their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees  
planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.

**<sup>4</sup>The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**<sup>6</sup>for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**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 9:30-37**

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;<sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

### **Sermon**



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;  
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;  
 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.  
 praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.  
 Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,  
 Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;  
 Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.  
 from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
 Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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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.

Loving God, you welcome all at your table of grace. Instill in your church a spirit of humility and curiosity, that we embrace all who seek you. We pray especially for ministries of hospitality and faith formation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you shape the world so there is more than enough for all. Curb our habits of overuse, and guide us toward more sustainable sources of energy, food, and water. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, your peace brings justice and solidarity. Encourage peace among peoples, tribes, and nations; heal divisions in our country and local communities, that together we might cooperate for the good of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Faithful God, you draw near to you all who are in need. Bring healing and wholeness to all who suffer. Transform economic, political, and social systems that oppress vulnerable people, especially systems of structural racism and generational poverty. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Transforming God, you accompany all through changes and transitions. Help us to see where you are calling this community to new ways of living the gospel promise; assure us that even as change brings loss, it also brings hope and life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*For what else do the people of God pray?*

Merciful God, you embrace us on our final pilgrimage from this life. Accompany all who have died, console those who mourn, and at the last, show us the way to eternal life 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.**

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*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*

**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.**



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,  
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.  
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

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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.**

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*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**

*Lord of All Hopefulness*

**Cranberry 765**



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:  
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional  
Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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**Dismissal**

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

## Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 9/17/24     \$ 18,377.56  
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 or October, sign up in the hallway.

**FMSC Basket Raffle:** For the next 2 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 6<sup>th</sup> following the service. You will be Feeding a Starving Child. The value is Priceless!

**Last, Last Sunday Supper:** Is September 29<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>. Bring your furry friend, favorite stuffed animal, plant, or picture of your animal friend for a special blessing. Please bring a lawn chair to sit on. Volunteers are needed to help set-up.

**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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

**NEW Shelter Meal:** Is Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Please see sign-up sheet in the hallway for needed desserts.

**CPR/AED Training at Bethel:** If you would like to be certified on the AED equipment, there will be a training session on October 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:30pm. Cost is \$45/person. If you have already been trained, there will be a renewal

course offered October 17<sup>th</sup> 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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