

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, Year C
July 27, 2025



Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Charlie Hilla

Reader: Doris Brack

Altar Guild: Karen Hervas

Communion Assistant: Sheila Greenwood

Ushers: Sharon Hilla & Kathy Long

Video Tech: Doug Hanson

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

GATHERING

Welcome

Hymn Sing

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.
 In the cross of † Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
 your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

(Sun) Glory

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

The grace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us pray,

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

WORD

Semi-Continuous Reading Hosea 1:2-10

²When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of prostitution and have children of prostitution, for the land commits great prostitution by forsaking the LORD." ³So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. ⁴And the LORD said to him, "Name him Jezreel, for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. ⁵On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel." ⁶She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. ⁷But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen."

⁸When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. ⁹Then the LORD said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people, and I am not your God." ¹⁰Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered, and in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

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

Psalm 85 (read responsively by verse)

¹ LORD, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**² You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin.**

³ You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.

**4 Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us.**

⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

**6 Will you not revive us again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?**

⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.

**8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.**

⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

**10 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

**12 The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.**

¹³ Righteousness will go before him
and will make a path for his steps.

The Word for All Ages

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Luke 11:1-13

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

¹ Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. ⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

All Creation Sings #1005 Ask the Complicated Question



1 Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques - tions.
2 Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers,
3 Knock on doors of new i - de - as,
4 For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er



Do not fear to be found out; for our God makes
fol - low where the Spir - it blows; test com - pet - ing
test as - sump - tions long grown stale, for Christ calls from
truth both sim - ple and pro - found; in the knock - ing,



strong our weak - ness, forg - ing faith in fires of doubt.
truths for wis - dom, for in ten - sion new life grows.
shores of won - der, dar - ing us to try and fail.
ask - ing, seek - ing, we are o - pened, an - swered, found.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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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

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Loving God, create in your church a desire for union with you in prayer. Raise up leaders to teach Christ's devotion to prayer and model Christ's way of prayer, until all people experience prayerful intimacy with you.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Reveal to humanity the sacredness of all creation. With the breath of your Spirit, realign the balances of nature. Grant persistence in prayer and action for the sake of the earth, our common home.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Teach rulers of the earth to sing of your ways, caring for the lowly and having no preference for the powerful. Direct the heart of every person to seek your will on earth as in heaven.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

To all whose prayers are cries for help, give your good gifts, and satisfy their deepest needs. Gather them to your constant, loving presence, that they may rest in the confidence of life with you.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Center the ministries of this assembly on prayer and service. Guide our relationships in the wider community, being ready to assist those who seek help. Strengthen feeding, clothing, and housing ministries and community partnerships.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Accompany all who will gather at the ELCA churchwide assembly especially Pastor Kim in the coming days. Guide their journeys with safety and prepare their hearts and minds for discernment and fellowship. Stir up your Spirit and grant peace as they work to call our next presiding bishop and secretary. Inspire them

in their ministry of gathering for the whole church, that we might all be strengthened and renewed to share your good news in love and service with the world.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For what else do the people of God Pray?

Silent and spoken prayers are invited

We give thanks for all who have gone before us. May we trust your steadfast love and continue in hope until we are united with all your saints.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your loving kindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Meal

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray, Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Guide us all through the promise of Jesus, your light, who teaches 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.**

(Sun) Lamb of God



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.

(Sun) Communion Hymns

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Cranberry 742



- 1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886

Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

Our Father, God in Heaven Above

Cranberry 746



1 Our Fa - ther, God in heav'n a - bove, we pray, u - nit - ed
2 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread; let ev - 'ry - one be
3 In time of tri - al, res - cue us. Let your word give suc -
4 A - men. Yes, yes, it shall be so! Build up our faith and



in your love: Your name be hal - lowed. Help us, Lord,
clothed and fed. For - give our sins, as we for - give
cess to us when, on our left and on our right,
make it grow; be - set by doubt, help us be - lieve



in faith - ful - ness to keep your word. Your king - dom come; your
when oth - ers hurt us as we live. Help us to dwell in
temp - ta - tions chal - lenge us to fight. De - liv - er us from
what here we ask we shall re - ceive. So, by your prom - ise,



will be done on earth as there be - fore your throne.
har - mo - ny and serve each oth - er will - ing - ly.
e - vil's pow'r and com - fort us in life's last hour.
in your name, with loud A - men your Yes we claim!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abridged; tr. hymnal version
Music: VATER UNSER, V. Schumann, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1539
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God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING

Announcements

Benediction

Closing Hymn *Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God* **Blue 783**

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -

D F#m G D G

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
 3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - le -

D Em A7 D F#m

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
 you shall find; knock and the door shall be
 ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

G D G D Em A D

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 mouth . . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: st. 1, Matt. 6:33, adapt. Karen Lafferty, b. 1948; st. 2, Matt. 7:7; st. 3, Matt. 4:4
 Music: Karen Lafferty, b. 1948
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LAFFERTY
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Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

The Bethel Weekly

ELCA Churchwide Assembly: Pastor Kim will be one of the many representing our synod at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly July 26th - August 2nd in Phoenix, AZ. Please keep Pastor Kim and the entire assembly in your prayers as we elect a new Presiding Bishop and attend to the work of the church. Pastor Rachel will be available for any pastoral emergencies: 920-393-9424

Last Sunday Supper: will be July today at Captain Jack's at Louie's Lagoon at 5pm. Bullets & Booze Band will be playing. Let Pastor Kim know if you will be able to join.

People Helping People: Last week we started including an insert in the bulletin. It is with the intention to bring people together from the congregation to help each other with the gifts in which they are blessed. Please let us know if there is something you need help with or if you would like to volunteer to help others with your talents.

EPH Rockers Game: will be Aug 5th with the game starting at 6:35pm. There is more information and how to order tickets on the bulletin board in the hallway. \$10 from each ticket goes to EPH!

NEW Shelter Meal: will be Aug 10th, please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway to bring a sweet treat for the meal.

Synod Golf Tournament: Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at Glacier Wood Golf Club in Iola for the East Central Synod Golf Outing. The 18-hole team scramble starts at 8:30 a.m. (check-in at 8:00 a.m.). Cost is \$70, including golf, cart, lunch, and prizes—register by August 4th (payable to Sue Schultz). All proceeds support U.S. disaster relief through Lutheran World Relief; donations welcome. For more information see the bulletin board in the hallway