

**Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, Year C
July 30, & August 3, 2025**



Pastor Karen Jewell-vanBuskirk

Pastor Jan La Vake

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Kay Zastrow

Reader: Michael Zastrow

Altar Guild: Marilyn Meister

Communion Assistant: Linda Wery

Ushers: Linda Grunewald & Carole Wehunt

Video Tech: Cindy Michalski

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,

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

(Sun) Duet: Peggy Hansen & Kay Zastrow

Semi-Continuous Reading Hosea 11:1-11

- ¹ When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.
- ² The more I called them,
the more they went from me;
they kept sacrificing to the Baals
and offering incense to idols.
- ³ Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk;
I took them up in my arms,
but they did not know that I healed them.
- ⁴ I led them with cords of human kindness,
with bands of love.
I was to them like those
who lift infants to their cheeks.
I bent down to them and fed them.
- ⁵ They shall return to the land of Egypt,
and Assyria shall be their king,
because they have refused to return to me.
- ⁶ The sword rages in their cities;
it consumes their oracle priests
and devours because of their schemes.
- ⁷ My people are bent on turning away from me.
To the Most High they call,
but he does not raise them up at all.
- ⁸ How can I give you up, Ephraim?
How can I hand you over, O Israel?
How can I make you like Admah?
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
My heart recoils within me;
my compassion grows warm and tender.
- ⁹ I will not execute my fierce anger;
I will not again destroy Ephraim,
for I am God and no mortal,
the Holy One in your midst,
and I will not come in wrath.
- ¹⁰ They shall go after the LORD,
who roars like a lion; when he roars,
his children shall come trembling from the west.
- ¹¹ They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt
and like doves from the land of Assyria,
and I will return them to their homes, says the LORD.

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

Psalms 107:1-9,43 (read responsively by verse)

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

² **Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
those he redeemed from trouble**

³ and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

⁴ **Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to an inhabited town;**

⁵ hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.

⁶ **Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress;**

⁷ he led them by a straight way,
until they reached an inhabited town.

⁸ **Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.**

⁹ For he satisfies the thirsty,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

⁴³ **Let those who are wise pay attention to these things
and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.**

Please rise in body or in spirit.

(Sun) The Word for All Ages, *the children are invited forward.*

(Sun) Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Luke 12:13-21

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

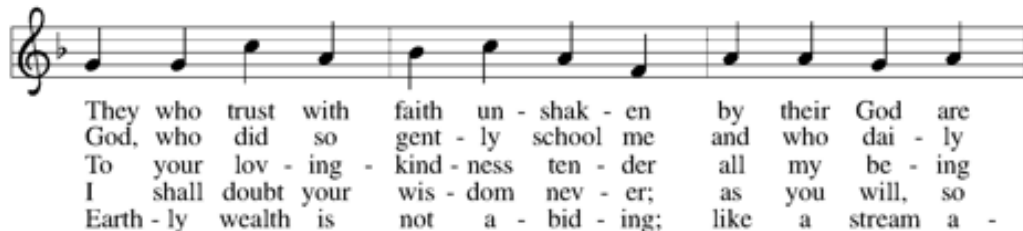
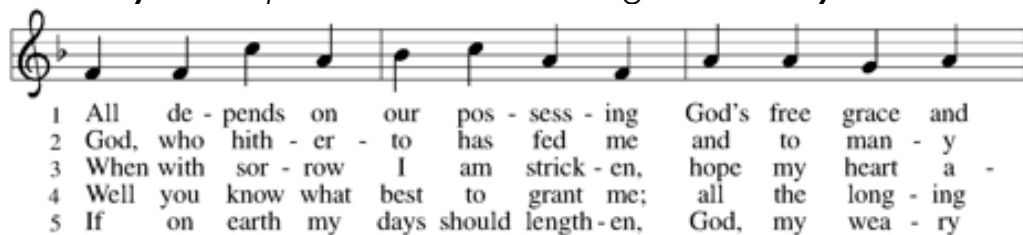
¹³ Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance

of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *All Depends on Our Possessing* **Cranberry 589**



Text: Gesangbuch, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

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.

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an
enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is
revealed to everyone.

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

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the
earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this
planet.

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

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of
divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and
establish equity and peace.

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

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need,
illness and grief, pain and fear. Give strength to those who give care, and equip
them with compassion as they make your love known.

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

Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed.

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

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

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world.

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

(Sun) Offering

(Sun) 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.

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

Break Now the Bread of Life

Cranberry 515



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.

Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

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

SENDING

Announcements

Benediction

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn *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

Musik: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710

Dismissal

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

Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 7/28/25:	\$16,665.50
Monthly Budget Expenses:	\$20,033.00
YTD Receipts through 6/30/25:	\$122,921.00

The Bethel Weekly

People Helping People: we started including an insert in the bulletin 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. These inserts can now be found in the lounge.

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!

Fill the Wagon: we at Bethel want to be more intentional in our giving to the Resurrection Food Pantry starting this month. At the beginning of each month, in the newsletter and bulletin, we will give you a specific list of items needed at the pantry. You are then encouraged to take that with you as you go shopping to provide any/or all of the items that you are able to purchase on the list. The following Sundays, the red wagon will be in the Sanctuary for you to bring your pantry donations. It is our hope each month to fill the wagon. As Jesus said, *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..." (Matthew 25:35). This is our opportunity to help those who are hungry in our community.*

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

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