# Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year C August 13 & 17, 2025

Holy Baptism of Emersyn Luella



Pastor Kim Swenson

**Worship Assistants** 

**Assisting Minister:** Cindy Michalski

**Reader:** Sandi Tibbetts

**Altar Guild:** Gayle Peot

Communion Assistant: Marilyn Meister

**Ushers:** Doug & Marsha Scholes

Video Tech: Rick Johnson

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

**GATHERING** 

Welcome



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

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## **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.

(Sun) Glory

Amen.



#### Prayer of the Day

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

#### Let us pray,

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## Semi-Continuous Reading Isaiah 5:1-7

- <sup>1</sup>I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.
- <sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.
- <sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.
- <sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?
- <sup>5</sup> And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;

I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

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

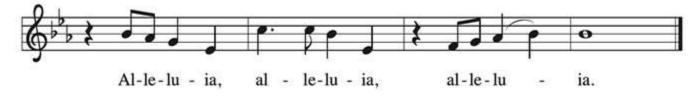
Psalm 80:1-2,8-19 (read responsively by verse)

- <sup>1</sup> Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
- <sup>2</sup> before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!
- <sup>8</sup>You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.
- <sup>9</sup> You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

- <sup>10</sup> The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;
- <sup>11</sup> it sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.
- <sup>12</sup>Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?
- <sup>13</sup> The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.
- <sup>14</sup>Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see; have regard for this vine,
- <sup>15</sup>the stock that your right hand planted.
- <sup>16</sup> It has been burned with fire; it has been cut down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.
- <sup>17</sup> But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.
- <sup>18</sup>Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.
- <sup>19</sup> Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved

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

## (Sun) Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel Luke 12:49-56

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

[Jesus said:]  $^{49}$  "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze!  $^{50}$  I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under

until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. <sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

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

#### Sermon

#### **Hymn of the Day**Christ Is the Life

- Christ is the life of all that is,
  God's pure creative Word,
  whose pow'r beyond and through all space
  the worlds to Being stirred.
  Christ is the life beyond all time,
  creation's birth and breath,
  whose labor brings all things to be
  and brings all things to death.
- 2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck'ning tomb, who welcomes us from well-worn ways to darkness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sinking down

past all desire and fear, whose promise in the gentle dark bids newness to appear.

- 3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, consuming fire, whose flames require our prior self as kindling for the pyre.

  Christ is the death of dusty days of uncreative strife, for out from fire we tread upon the threshold of new life.
- Christ is the life of all that is,

  Beginning and the End;

  creative force, most peaceful death,
  transforming burning brand.

  Christ is the life, in whose wise love
  creation lives and dies
  and thus forevermore shall bless
  the Source, the living Christ.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
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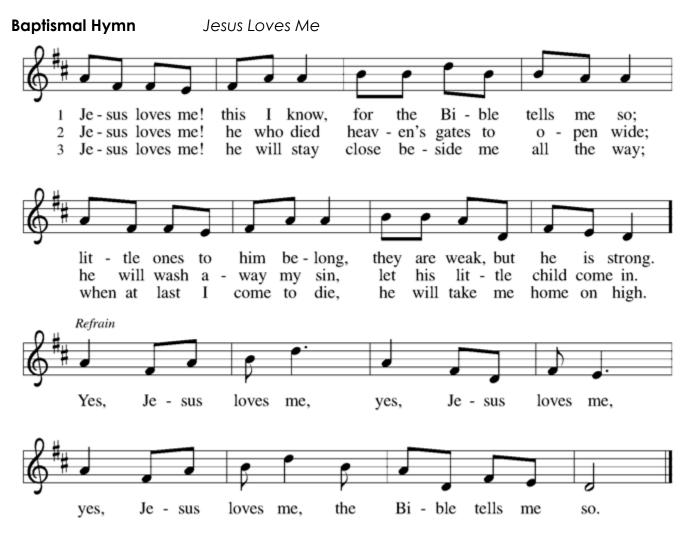
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#### Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Cranberry pp. 227-231

Let us welcome the newly baptized, Emersyn Luella.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.



Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.

Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

### **Prayers of the People**

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound. Reassure them of your care in all times and places.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

For what else do the people of God pray?

Silent and spoken prayers are invited

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen.

#### Peace

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

Please share a sign of the Lord's peace with one another. Please be seated.

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:



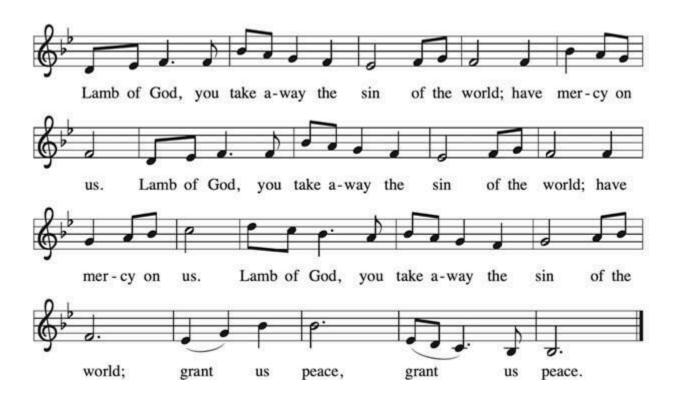
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

### Amen.

### **Lord's Prayer**

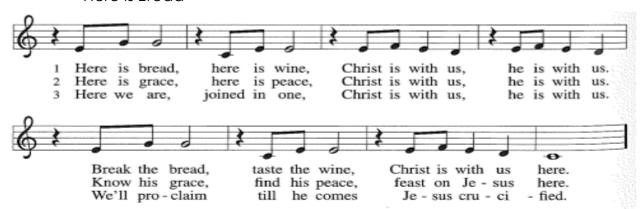
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

## (Sun) Lamb of God



## (Sun) Communion Hymns

Here is Bread



Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950 Music: Graham Kendrick

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HERE IS BREAD 3 3 4 4 3 3 5 and refrain



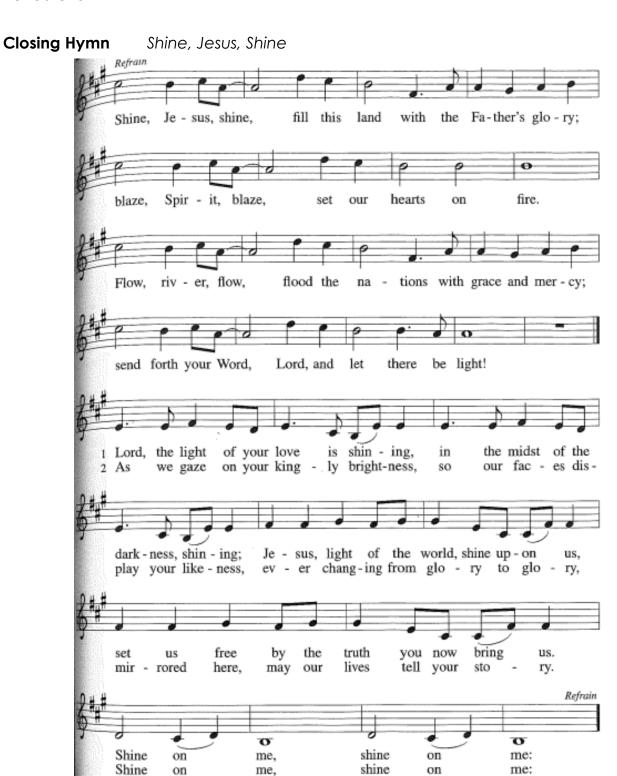


with your pres-ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005 Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882 Text © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

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### **Benediction**



#### Dismissal

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

#### The Bethel Weekly

<u>Fill the Wagon!!:</u> Wow!!!! So many people showed up to fill the wagon for the Resurrection Food Pantry. Thank you to everyone for helping make this happen, especially Sue Keckhaver and Charlie Hilla for organizing it. Keep an eye out for another shopping list next month. Let's fill the wagon again!

FMSC Neil Diamond Tribute Benefit Concert: is Aug 21st starting at 5:00pm. St John Lutheran Church, 2700 Babcock Rd in Ashwaubenon will be serving up burgers, brats and other food items for a free will offering. Then Paul Evansen, (one of our FMSC partner board members, Vegas performer and member of Let Me Be Frank productions for the past 20 years) will be performing the music of Neil Diamond at 6:00 pm. This will be an evening of fun, music and fellowship. Bring chairs or blankets and let's pack the lawn!!

<u>Book club:</u> so that anyone who wants to attend the Tribute Concert is able, we will reschedule our Book Club for **Monday August 25th at 6:30pm** in the lounge.

<u>Summer Midweek Worship:</u> There will continue to be Wednesday evening services through August 27th at 6:30pm in the lounge.

<u>Almost Last Sunday Supper:</u> will be August 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm at Timsan's Japanese Steakhouse. Please let Pastor Kim know if ahead of time you will be attending.

**People Helping People:** It is our 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. There are copies for you in the lounge. Please indicate whether you need help or are wanting to volunteer to help someone.

Mission Room: Don't forget that we collect the following items downstairs in the green room: Old cell phones will be sent to an organization that recycles the phone for use in domestic violence shelters. Christmas Lights will be recycled with the money received being used to offset shipping costs for other recycling. Egg Cartons for Paul's Pantry. Wine corks, The Cork Montados, where cork comes from, is endangered. Eyeglasses are recycled through our local Lions Club organization to help those in need of glasses. Pill bottles are being accepted again for the Veterans.

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