

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, Year C
August 27 & 31, 2025



(Wed) Pastor Karen Jewel-vanBuskirk & (Sun) Pastor Jan LaVake

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Charlie Hilla

Reader: Sharon Hilla

Altar Guild: Linda Wery

Communion Assistant: Gayle Peot

Ushers: Dave & Mary Hansen

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,

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Semi-Continuous Reading Jeremiah 2:4-13

⁴Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me
and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves?

⁶They did not say, "Where is the LORD,
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?"

⁷I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.
But when you entered you defiled my land
and made my heritage an abomination.

⁸The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?"
Those who handle the law did not know me;
the rulers transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal
and went after things that do not profit.

⁹Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD,
and I accuse your children's children.

¹⁰Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look;
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.

¹¹Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory

for something that does not profit.

¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this;
be shocked; be utterly desolate, says the LORD,
¹³ for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.

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

Psalm 81:1, 10-16 (read responsively by verse)

¹ Sing aloud to God our strength;
shout for joy to the God of Jacob.
¹⁰ **I am the LORD your God,
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.**
¹¹ “But my people did not listen to my voice;
Israel would not submit to me.
¹² **So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts,
to follow their own counsels.**
¹³ O that my people would listen to me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!
¹⁴ **Then I would quickly subdue their enemies
and turn my hand against their foes.**
¹⁵ Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him,
and their doom would last forever.
¹⁶ **I would feed you with the finest of the wheat,
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”**

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

(Sun) Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place.

¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

As We Gather At Your Table



1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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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

... 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.**

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.

... 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.

... 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

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

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to- geth-er, Je- sus Christ is liv- ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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Blest Be the Tie That Binds



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

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

SENDING

Announcements

Prayer

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

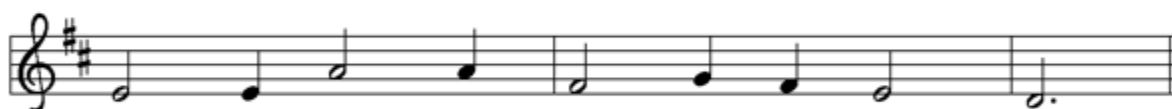
Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace to love all
2 Break down the wall that would di - vide thy chil - dren,
3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred by love - less
4 Give me thy cour - age, Lord, to speak when - ev - er
5 With thine own love may I be filled and by thy



peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; and in each per - son may I
Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bor's good let me pur -
act and thought - less word. Make me to see the wrong I
strong op - press the weak. Should I my - self the vic - tim
Ho - ly Spir - it willed, that all I touch, wher - e'er I



see my kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by thee.
sue; let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
do will cru - ci - fy my Lord a - new.
be, help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring thee.
be, may be di - vine - ly touched by thee.

Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, b. 1916, alt.
Music: BEATUS VIR, *Šamotulský Kancionál*, 1561
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Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Bethel Weekly

Special Congregational Meeting: will be after worship September 14th to vote on the parsonage sewer pipe repairs that are needed.

God's Work Our Hands School Collection ideas are available for you to take today. Items can be brought to church anytime and we will have a special blessing for them Sept 7th. If you'd like to donate funds for the remaining items to be purchased you can give them to Cindy Michalski or the office.

iPads for worship: We have been testing using iPads for the large print bulletin. Each week we make a QR code that anyone can scan to bring up the bulletin. We are also looking to purchase some used iPads if you have extra available, let the office know.

Vacation: Pastor Kim will be on vacation from Aug 27th until Sept 2nd. For pastoral emergencies during that time please contact Pastor Stacy Malzhan (906)202-4415

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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