

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church  
16th Sunday after Pentecost, Year C  
September 28, 2025



"The Rich Man and Lazarus" - James Janknegt

Pastor Kim Swenson

**Worship Assistants**

**Assisting Minister:** Charlie Hilla

**Reader:** Peggy Hansen

**Altar Guild:** Gayle Peot

**Communion Assistant:** Peggy Hansen

**Ushers:** Sharon Hilla & Marilyn Meister

**Video Tech:** Cindy Michalski

---

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

**GATHERING**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it;

The world and all who live in it.

**Let us rejoice and be glad!**

**Gathering Hymn**

*Gather Us In*

**Cranberry 532**



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the  
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com), 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
who pours love into our hearts  
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,  
let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,  
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness  
in the world and in our own hearts.**  
**Creation groans from overuse.**  
**Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.**  
**Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.**  
**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.**  
**Turn our hearts back to you.**  
**Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.**  
**Renew us to live as your holy people,**  
**following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news:  
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,  
in whom there is no condemnation,  
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.  
Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

## Refrain



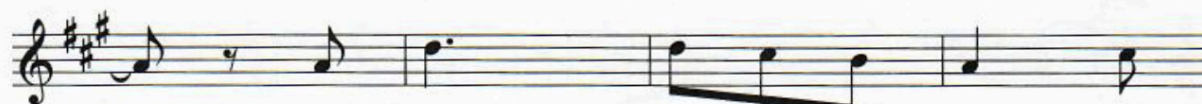
The heav - ens are tell - ing the glo - ry of God,



and all cre - a - tion is shout - ing for joy.



Come, dance in the for - est, come, play in the field,



and sing, sing to the glo - ry




*Last time to coda* ⊕


of the Lord.

## Vs 4

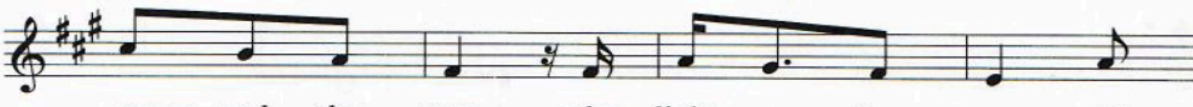
Verses




1. Sing to the sun, the bring - er of day, He  
 2. Praise to the wind that blows through the trees, The  
 3. Praise to the rain that wa - ters our fields, And  
 4. Praise to the fire who gives us his light, The  
 5. Sing to the earth who makes life to grow, The  
 6. Praise to our death that makes our life real, The



car - ries the light of the Lord in his rays; The  
 seas might - y storms, the gen - tl - est breeze; They  
bless - es our crops so all the earth yields; From  
 warmth of the sun to bright - en our night; He  
 crea - tures you made to let your life show; The  
 knowl - edge of loss that helps us to feel; The



moon and the stars who light up the way Un -  
 blow where they will, they blow where they please To  
death un - to life her mys - t'ry re - vealed Springs  
 danc - es with joy, his spir - it so bright, He  
 flow - ers and trees that help us to know The  
 gift of your - self, your pres - ence re - vealed To



to your throne.  
 please the Lord.  
forth in joy.  
 sings of you.  
 heart of love.  
 lead us home.

D.C.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1980, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Prayer of the Day

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
 the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds,  
 and the joy of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray,

**O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

---

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

**WORD**

**First Lesson Amos 6:1a, 4-7**

<sup>1a</sup> Woe to those who are at ease in Zion  
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.  
<sup>4</sup> Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory  
and lounge on their couches  
and eat lambs from the flock  
and calves from the stall,  
<sup>5</sup> who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp  
and like David improvise on instruments of music,  
<sup>6</sup> who drink wine from bowls  
and anoint themselves with the finest oils  
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!  
<sup>7</sup> Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,  
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

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

**Psalm 146** (read responsively by verse)

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD, O my soul!  
<sup>2</sup> **I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**  
<sup>3</sup> Do not put your trust in princes,  
in mortals, in whom there is no help.  
<sup>4</sup> **When their breath departs, they return to the earth;  
on that very day their plans perish.**

<sup>5</sup>Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God,

<sup>6</sup>**who made heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them;**

**who keeps faith forever;**

<sup>7</sup>who executes justice for the oppressed;  
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

<sup>8</sup>**the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**

**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;**

**the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the strangers;  
he upholds the orphan and the widow,  
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD will reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, for all generations.**

**Praise the LORD!**

## Word for All Ages

## Gospel Acclamation

Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our  
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your  
prais-es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness. *End*

## **Gospel: Luke 16:19-31**

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

Jesus said: <sup>19</sup> “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup> And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup> who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup> The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ <sup>25</sup> But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ <sup>27</sup> He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ <sup>29</sup> Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ <sup>30</sup> He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ <sup>31</sup> He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

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

## **Sermon**



# Hymn of the Day

## Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., [giamusic.com](http://giamusic.com). All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

## **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**

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

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

## **Peace**

Peace with yourself.

Peace with Creation.

Peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MEAL

## Offering

### Offering Hymn

*We Plow the Fields and Scatter*



A - ra - mos nues-tros cam-pos, y lue - goel sem - bra - dor  
1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,  
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.  
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



en e - llos la si - mien - te es - par - ce con a - mor.  
but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,  
You paint the way-side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.  
the seed-time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



Mas es de Dios la ma - no que laha - ce ger - mi - nar,  
who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;  
No gifts have we to of - fer for what your love im - parts



ca - lor y llu - via dan - do a to - dos por i - gual.  
the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.  
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.  
but what you most would trea - sure— our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740-1815; English tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817-1878, alt.;

Spanish tr. Ernesto Baricio, 1866-1948

Music: Luis Olivieri, b. 1937

Music © 1989 Abingdon Press, admin. The Copyright Company

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

## **Offering Prayer**

Let us pray,

**Lord of the harvest,**

**we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.**

**Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,**

**but on you, who richly provides for us.**

**Multiply what we have gathered**

**to bless all who are suffering and in need,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 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 a song of thanksgiving to**

**God the creator triumphantly raise,**

**The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the**

**Deep of the ocean proclaim God divine.**

**We too should be voicing our love and re-**

**Rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise**

**Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving: "To**

**God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"**

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.**

## Communion Hymn

## We Come to the Hungry Feast



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

---

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

**SENDING**

## Announcements

## Benediction

... God all mighty,

God most merciful

✠ bless you, keep you

And give you peace. **Amen.**

# Sending Hymn

## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat  
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional  
Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## Dismissal

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

**Thanks be to God.**

---

### Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 9/23/25	\$11,603.40
Monthly Budget Expenses:	\$20,033.00
YTD Receipts through 8/31/25:	\$159,380.00



## **The Bethel Weekly**

**Money Counter Needed:** for Team A that meets Sept & Oct and Mar & Apr. If you have any questions contact Dawn Schroeder.

**Outdoor Worship & Pet Blessing:** There are still many signs available to take home, if you can, please put one in your yard. Bring your pet, your favorite stuffed animals, your plant, and/or a picture of your animal friend and join us for a special Blessing for St Francis. Please bring a lawn chair to sit on (we will also have folding chairs available at church.) Or if you prefer, run home and bring your pet after worship. Dog treats will be provided. **We need volunteers to help with set up and take down, please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway.**

**Culver's Share Night:** is October 7th at the Suamico location (11820 Velp Ave). From 5:00pm-8:00pm bring friends and neighbors for dinner and stock up on gift cards. Remember 15% of all sales, including gift cards, comes back to Bethel.

**EPH:** Ecumenical Partnership for Housing will hold its second annual **Grace & Gratitude Gathering** on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm-8:00pm at Stadium View Traditions Event Hall. This event is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community and enjoy a casual evening out while making a difference for families facing homelessness in Brown County. There is more information on the bulletin board in the Hallway.

**Fellowship Hour:** Please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway if you'd like to host a fellowship hour in October.

**iPads/Tablets 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.

---

### **Copyright and Streaming Licenses**

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #22041

Several parts of liturgy edited from <https://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation/>