

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
13th Sunday after Pentecost, Year C



Pastor Kim Swenson

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Cindy Michalski

Reader: Doris Brack

Altar Guild: Sheila Greenwood

Communion Assistant: Karen Hervas

Ushers: Gayle Peot & Dar Schuurmans

Video Tech: Rick Johnson

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

GATHERING

Welcome

Call to Worship

The earth is the Lords, and everything in it;
The world and all who live in it.

Let us rejoice and be glad!

Gathering Hymn *This is My Father's World*



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car - ols raise; the
3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for - get that,



na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev'-ry-where.
Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858–1901

Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930, adapt.

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.**

Hymn of Praise

Canticle of the Sun (Ps 19)

Singing Refrain & VS 1

Refrain



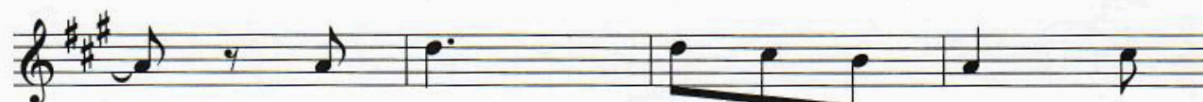
The heav - ens are tell - ing the glo - ry of God,



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



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



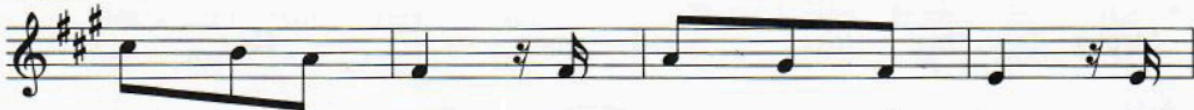
and sing, sing to the glo - ry



Last time to coda ⊕

of the Lord.

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
bles - 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.

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,

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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

WORD

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

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

Psalm: Psalm 1 (read responsively by verse)

¹ Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers,

² **but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴ **The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,

⁶ **for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

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 14:25-33

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

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *God's Work, Our Hands*

ACS 1000



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

... God of life, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

... God of restoration, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

... God of love, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

... God of heaven and earth, **hear us when we call.**

Receive these and all our prayers, gracious God. We pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit. **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

Offertory Song

Cranberry 680



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

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Offering Prayer

Let us pray, **God of the oppressed,**
who mourns with the suffering and
gives strength to the righteous,
we give you thanks for your faithfulness to life and to love.
We long for the day when those who rule unjustly
and hoard what is meant to be shared
are sent away from the seats of power.
Bless these gifts to the flourishing of all your people
and let your justice draw near. 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 (combined vs 1 & 2)

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
Deepes 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!"

The Lord's Prayer

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 Hymns

Will You Come and Follow Me



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt-ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard-ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

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 *Lift High the Cross*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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Dismissal

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.
Thanks be to God.

The Bethel Weekly

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

Fill the Wagon: There is a new shopping list in today's bulletin for September. Last month we collected over 193 pounds of food for the pantry, way to go! The wagon will be back next week, so let's fill it up again.

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.

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.

Handbags for Hope: In conjunction with the Resurrection Food Pantry, we are asking all the ladies to bring in any unwanted purses. Donations are also needed of travel size hygiene items such as toothbrushes, shampoo, lip balm, etc. to fill the purses prior to distribution. Suggestions can be found on the front of the bin in the lounge.

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