

**Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
19th Sunday after Pentecost, Year C
October 19, 2025**



"The Persistent Widow" by Ronnie Farmer, Jr.

Pastor Cath Mode
Musician Wayne Wentworth
Worship Assistants
Assisting Minister: Kay Zastrow
Reader: Michael Zastrow
Altar Guild: Karen Hervas
Communion Assistant:
Sheila Greenwood
Ushers: Dave & Mary Hansen
Video Tech: Doug Scholes

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

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome



1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me
 wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di - vine, be-yond all
 o'er the paths I strug-gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav-ior,
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur-ing grace. Sav-ior,
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav-ior,



lead me to the home I trea-sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
 help me bear life's pain and sor-row till in glo - ry I be-hold your face.
 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

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Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Faithful God,

**you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.**

**We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.**

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

**We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.**

**Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life. Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you,
☩ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

Amen.

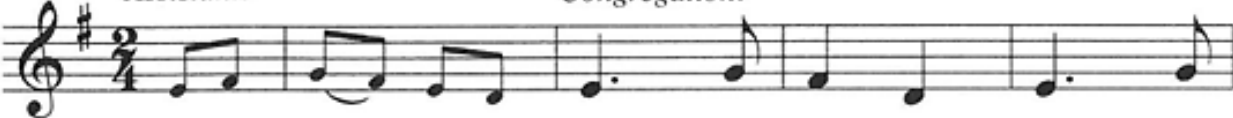
Kyrie

Cranberry 157

In peace, in peace...

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*



Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have



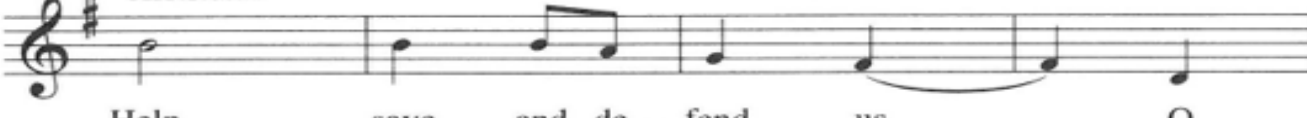
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

to Verses

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (to Refrain)

For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (to Refrain)

Assistant:



Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:



God. A - men.

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion

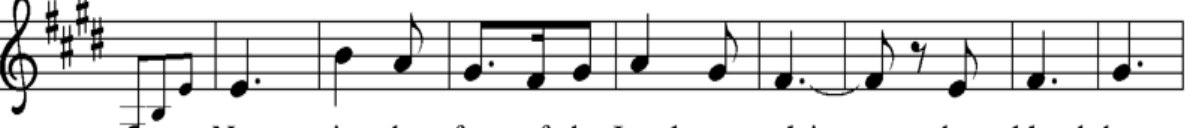


sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Refrain



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



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The Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Let us pray,

Almighty God, **you inspired your servant Luke to reveal in his gospel the love and healing power of your Son. Give your church the same love and power to heal, and to proclaim your salvation among the nations to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our healer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

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

WORD

Lesson: Genesis 32:22-31

²²The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?

² **My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ **He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day
nor the moon by night.**

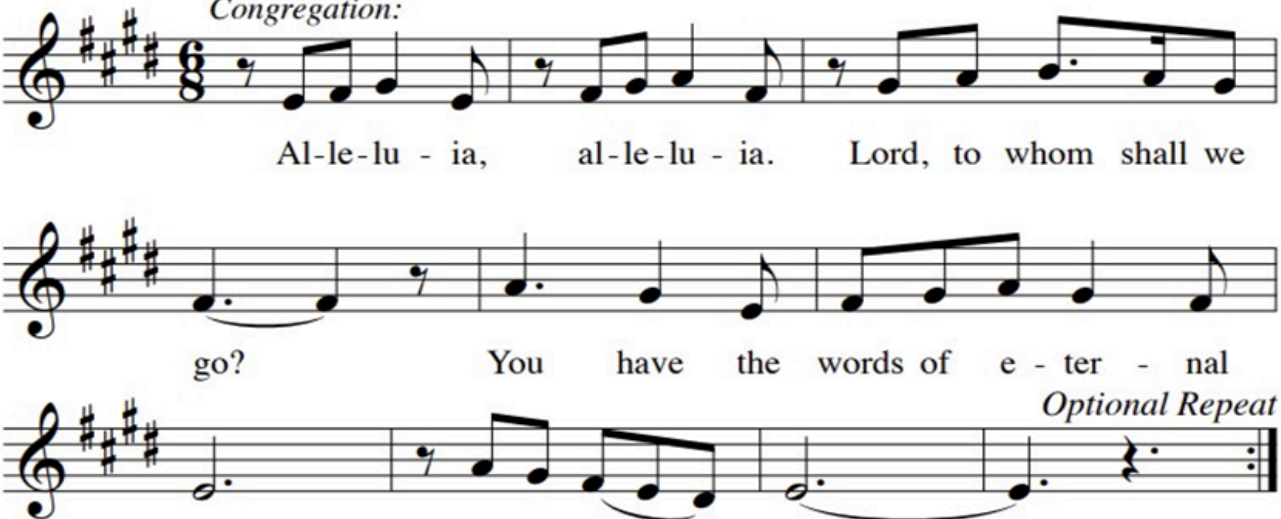
⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore**

The Word for All Ages

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

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

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *If You But Trust in God to Guide You*

Cranberry 769



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite
 Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
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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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church universal. O God, who unites the church across the globe, bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition. Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth, draw us to the beauty of the whole creation. Turn us toward a right relationship with the entire cosmos.

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

We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns. O God, you rule over all the earth. Grant our elected officials humility in their decision-making for the sake of the entire world.

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

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. O God, who heals and strengthens, our help comes from you in times of need. Support, comfort, and heal those who suffer.

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

We pray for Bethel. O God, who guides this congregation, encourage us to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Nurture our relationships with the community, that we serve and advocate for those who come to us in need.

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

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

We offer thanksgiving for the faithful departed. O God, whose promises never end, we thank you for all the saints who have shown us the way of your Son, Jesus Christ.
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Peace

The Peace of Christ is with you always. **And also with you.**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MEAL

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray,
God of healing and hope, **you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The 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 God thanks and praise.

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and cherish.

You give us each other, and offer us happy times and things to celebrate. In these we taste your unfolding intention, a feast for all your children. You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with each other and the angels and to sing your praise:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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... And so with all of your saints, we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and forever. **Amen.**

The 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.**

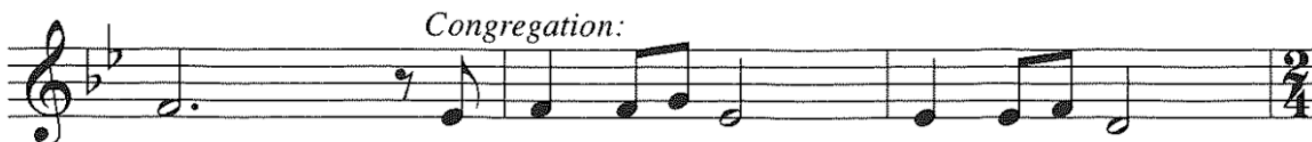
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those**

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.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and



Congregation:
 world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza



Congregation or Assistant:
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



Congregation:
 take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
 bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
 through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
 2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
 3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,

Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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

SENDING

Announcements

Post Communion Canticle

Praise to You, O God of Mercy

Cranberry 208



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

♠ Coda



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

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Blessing

May God bless and keep us.

May God's face shine on us and be gracious.

May God look on us with favor and give us peace.

Amen

Closing Hymn

Jesus, still lead on

Cranberry 624



1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al - though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long - felt grief, when temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

Dismissal

Go in peace.

Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

Bethel Weekly

Vacation: Pastor Kim will be away from October 17th-20th. Pastor Melissa will be available for pastoral emergencies at (920) 684-9024

History Council: will meet October 23rd at 11am. We hope you can help with this new opportunity.

Trunk or Treat: will be October 31st from 4:00-6:00pm. Please sign-up in the hallway if you want to attend. Decorate your vehicle and park it in the parking lot and hand out candy to our neighborhood Trick or Treaters. Don't be nervous if you are not really creative, keep it simple and come join the fun.

All Saints Sunday: is November 2nd. Please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway to add anyone to the Saints to remember.

Poinsettia Order Forms: are now available in the lounge. Please return them as soon as possible. All orders have to be received by November 23rd.

EPH: Ecumenical Partnership for Housing will hold its second annual **Grace & Gratitude Gathering** on Thursday, November 20th 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.

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.

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