



Bethel Lutheran Church

To Live & Share the Love of Christ

Pastor Melissa Pagel

Sunday, August 9th 2026

Lectionary 19 (Pentecost 11)

*Congregational responses are printed in **Bold Type**.*

OUR VISION : Growing In Faith Together,

boldly inviting others to share in God's love.

Welcome to this service of worship in Jesus' name!

We are especially glad to welcome our guests and visitors!

We hope that you will hear a word of hope during our worship together that will convey the fullness of God's love for you in the living of your life.

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INTRODUCTION

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God’s presence to others.

Surely God’s salvation is at hand.

Draw near to God and God will draw near to you.

Come, let us hear what God will speak,

for God will speak peace to God’s people, to those who turn to God in their hearts.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

O weary souls with seedling faith, we have been invited to rest and to trust.

Will you, like Jesus, find space in your life to pray before the storm comes?

Will you, like the disciples, learn to trust the one who draws near to you,

or, like Elijah, to entrust your ministry to others?

GATHERING HYMN

Shout to the Lord

Cranberry 821

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

While we were sinners, you sent Christ to die for us that we might be justified by grace through faith and have peace with you. Yet, we continue to live in sin. We know what is good and right, but we do what is hateful and evil. We live according to the flesh and resist the work of the Spirit. We reject and deny your calling to the other children of Abraham. We fail to love our neighbors and thereby fail to fulfill your law. We do not contribute to those in need or extend hospitality to strangers. We ignore the groaning of creation and forget the hope of the gospel. Forgive us, loving God. Pour out your Spirit into our hearts, that we may learn to live as those who are dead to sin and alive in you; Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God with us,

Your word is near on our lips and in our hearts.

In this moment, you come to us not as fire, storm or quaking ground, but as the intimacy of our very breath, the sound of sheer silence.

Be present in our places of fear, speak stillness to our trembling hearts, minister to us with bread and water and rest.

Then send us from that rest to be present with all who long for the beautiful promise of your good news and the serenity of your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹ At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰ He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹ He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴ He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint

Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM: Psalm 85:8-13

⁸ I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The LORD will indeed grant prosperity and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ **Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the

same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

My Soul Does Magnify the Lord

Cranberry 882, Vs 1

**1 My soul does magnify the Lord;
my spirit sings of God, my Savior,
for he has looked with love and favor
on his lowly servant.**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th Chapter. **Glory to you O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

SERMON

Pastor Melissa Pagel

HYMN OF THE DAY *My Life Flows on in Endless Song* **Cranberry 763**

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

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need and all of God's creation.

We pray for the servants of your gospel in every place, that your word may be heard. Where your voice is scorned and your people persecuted, strengthen the church in its faithful witness. Merciful God,

Response: Hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.
It is indeed, our right, our duty, and our joy...and join their unending hymn:

C Em⁷/B Am⁷ C/G FM⁷ F⁶ G⁷ Dm Dm⁷

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
 2 Gracious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther, we're so blest to be your
 3 Pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus, we're so glad that you've re -
 4 Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it, come and fill our hearts a -
 5 Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, . . .

G⁷ C C⁷ F F/E Dm⁷ B⁷/D[♯]

Lord God Al - might - y; and we lift our hearts be - fore you as a
 chil - dren, gra - cious Fa - ther; and we lift our heads be - fore you as a
 deemed us, pre - cious Je - sus; and we lift our hands be - fore you as a
 new, . . . Ho - ly Spir - it; and we lift our voice be - fore you as a
 hal - le - lu - jah; and we lift our hearts be - fore you as a

Em Em⁷ Am Dm G⁷ F/C C

to - ken of our love, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.
 to - ken of our love, gra - cious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther.
 to - ken of our love, pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus.
 to - ken of our love, Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it.
 to - ken of our love, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text and music: Jimmy Owens

Text and music © 1972 Ted John Sings, Inc., admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

On the night...let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The world is indeed near us on our lips and in our hearts.

As we partake together of this bread and cup, as they pass through our lips, may our hearts be changed.

All are welcome, for God is generous to those who call on the name of the Lord. Come, taste and see that God is good.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God,

through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

When Peace, like a River

Cranberry 785

THE BLESSING

Go in peace, to live and share the love of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Office Hours: Mon 1:30-3:30 Tue-Thur 9:00 am-3:30 pm

Sunday- 8:30 Worship	Wednesday- 10:00 Mission Sewing
Monday- 5:30 Council	Thursday- 9:30 Library
Tuesday – Vote	Sunday- 8:30 Worship
5:30 Breaking Bread & Theology	11:00 Pie Social

Resurrection & Bethel Pie Social, Sunday, August 16th

Please join us for a pie social at Resurrection following the service at 11:00 AM.
The sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex.

Meal Prep Workshops at Resurrection

Are you looking for healthy, tasty meals? There will be a series of workshops held in the church kitchen. This workshop has you walking away with three different dinners, each giving you 4-6 servings, along with a dozen delicious muffins or some sort of dessert.

All the planning and grocery shopping are done for you! You'll go home with one meal ready to eat and two prepped for whenever you need them.

If the meal isn't to your liking, give it as a gift!

All meat is sourced from local farmers and ranchers

Come prep three amazing meals with a fun group!

Upcoming Menus:

- **Monday, August 17th:**
Great Northern Enchiladas with Cilantro Lime Corn
Baked Ziti, Cilantro Lime Chicken, Fresh Berry Dessert Salad
- Time is 6-8 PM
- **Saturday, September 5th:**
Stuffed Bell Peppers, Beef & Broccoli Teriyaki (Local Beef)
Quinoa Pizza Bites, Lazy Day Oatmeal Cake
- Time is 1-3 PM

More information is in the hallway and the cost is \$60. You can call, email or text Emily Cowles to register: Please sign up by the Wednesday prior to the workshop.

- 605-515-3910 or RDEmily@emskitchentable.com

Or Purchase Online: <https://emskitchentable.com/productdetails/product/mealprep>

The Chosen Bible Study at Resurrection

Please bring your own lunch and join us for episodes of *The Chosen* followed by a discussion in the Gathering Room at church on the following Wednesdays from 11:30-1:00 pm.

- August 12
- August 26

Beer & Theology (changing to Breaking Bread & Theology)

Join us the second Tuesday of each month for Beer and Theology at Cheesecake Heaven at 5:30 pm. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

Used Sheets and Blankets Needed (Resurrection)

Have you cleaned out your linen closet lately? If so and you have sheets and blankets you no longer need or use, please bring them to the church so the quilters may recycle them into their beautiful quilts!

Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 8/3/26	\$ 2,974.00
Monthly Budget Expenses:	\$18,843.00
YTD Receipts through 7/31/26:	\$124,080.00

Worship Assistants

Sunday, August 9th

Reader & Distribution:	Peggy Hansen
Altar Guild:	Karen Hervas
Communion Assist:	Cindy Michalski
Ushers:	Doug Scholes & Carl Andrews
Video Tech:	Yvonne Pamperin
Fellowship Hour:	

Sunday, August 16

Reader & Distribution:	Doug Scholes
Altar Guild:	Debbie Kasulke
Communion Assist:	Carol Wehunt
Ushers:	Marsha Scholes & Cindy Michalski
Video Tech:	Lucas Dean

Fellowship Hour:

Sunday, August 23rd

Reader & Distribution: Dawn Schroeder
Altar Guild: Dawn Schroeder
Communion Assist: Cindy Michalski
Ushers: Carol Wehunt & Kay Smith
Video Tech: Lucas Dean
Fellowship Hour:

Keep in Prayer:

Alli	Ron Kasulke	Lorenzo & Family in Columbia
Caryl Peters	Ron Niemuth	The Family Sharon Bryfczynski
Christina Petzel	Gloria Treptow	The Family of Connie Ashley
Deb McAllister	Sally Caylor	The Family of Elizabeth Hagen
Elaine Barber	Sandy Elbe	The Family of
Eric Pedersen	Sheila O'Connor	Willow VanVonderen
Karen Koblenz	Paislee Porod	Doug Hanson
Kathy Forrest	Dick Schoen	Elizabeth K.
Kelly Schmidt	Luke Wubben	
Lou Warner	Nadine Knoll	
Mel Chaltry	Brenda Fruechette	
Stacy	Scott	
Jackie	Adam	

Prayer Request

Please remember _____ in prayer. Briefly describe the need or joy for which prayers are requested:

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please place this form in the Offering Plate or in the church office.

Your request will be shared with members of Bethel's Prayer Chain