

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, June 2, 2024
2nd Sunday after Pentecost
Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal (ELW) Setting 8

Rev. Molly Wills, Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist
GivePlus Text 866-298-7547

GATHERING

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

Prelude "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" arr. Jonathan Reuss
"Healer of Our Every Ill" by Marty Haugen

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

God, our provider, **help us,**

It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God...forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

Gathering Song "God Is Here!" ELW #526

Greeting (ELW p. 184) (front of red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie (ELW p. 184) **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way...**

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 187) **This is the feast of vict'ry for our God...**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

Readings and Psalm

Deuteronomy 5:12-15 (back page) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 81:1-10 (read responsively/page 3)

2 Corinthians 4:5-12 (back page) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 188) **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?...**

The Gospel according to John the third chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mark 2:23—3:6 (back page) The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon

Liturgy of Healing

Prayers of Intercession

The Spirit intercedes for us,

with sighs too deep for words to express.

Laying on of Hands

(All those who wish for prayer and to receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God are invited forward. The Hymn of the Day is sung during the Laying on of Hands.)

Hymn of the Day "O Christ the Healer, We Have Come" ELW #610

Peace The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering/Offering Song "Bread of Life" (insert)

Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 190)

Preface for the Day (ELW p. 190) **Holy, holy, holy Lord...**

Hymn "The Lord's Prayer" Green Binder #134

Communion (ELW p. 146) **Lamb of God...**

Communion Hymn "There Is a Balm in Gilead" ELW #614

Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

Blessing

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song "Let Us Enter In" All Creation Sings purple hymnal/ACS #985

Sending Words Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude "There Is a Balm in Gilead" arr. Michael Larkin

Spirit Art
A Meditative Study of Scripture through Art
Mark 2:23—3:6



Psalm 81:1-10

¹Sing aloud to God our strength;
shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

²Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.

³Blow the trumpet at the new moon,
at the full moon, on our festal day.

⁴For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.

⁵He made it a decree in Joseph,
when he went out over the land of Egypt. I hear a voice I had not known:

⁶“I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket.

⁷In distress you called, and I rescued you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder; I tested you at the waters of Meribah. Selah

⁸Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

⁹There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.

¹⁰I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

(Today’s Communion Hymn)

The phrase “balm of Gilead” is a symbol of healing and soothing that comes from the Hebrew Bible, where it is mentioned in Genesis 37:5 and Jeremiah 8:22. The phrase is named after the region of Gilead, where a rare perfume with medicinal properties was produced from a tree or shrub.

The anonymous writers of the African American spiritual, There is a Balm in Gilead, identified with the struggles, oppression, and desperation of the Old Testament forebearers of faith. This hymn was created as a song of hope, healing, and restoration.

Because of Christ, there is healing, hope and comfort for the sick both spiritually and physically. Christ’s sacrifice on the cross gives us new life in Him. By the wounds we have been healed of our sin. (1 Peter 2:24)

This information was obtained from: History of Hymns: “There Is a Balm in Gilead” by C. Michael Hawn-Discipleship Ministries

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/history-of-hymns-there-is-a-balm-in-gilead>

WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION STATEMENT—Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS? Please contact the church office at 320-395-2125 or bethellutheranlp@gmail.com. For emergency pastoral care needs, please call Pastor Molly Wills at 320-339-8169 or email pastor@lpbethel.org. **BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Wednesdays at noon. **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** 25th of the month. **CHURCH ADDRESS:** 77 Lincoln AVE N, PO Box 207, Lester Prairie, MN 55354

SIMPLY GIVING offers convenience for you and much needed consistency for Bethel! If you have any questions, contact Stacy Meyer, Financial Secretary, at finsec@lpbethel.org. **TEXT GIVING:** To give text dollar amount to **866-298-7547**

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES AVAILABLE—speak to an usher for assistance.

LARGE PRINT HYMNS AVAILABLE—contact the office if you are interested.

THIS WEEK..

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

- Celebration Bank-Drop your change in the [piggy] bank and tell us what you're celebrating! The goal is to raise funds to purchase items from the GLLM Wish List.
- Fellowship Hour: following worship

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

- WELCA mtg.: 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

- Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
- Women's Bible Study Begins: meet by the fire pit, at church, from 7:00-8:00 pm. Bring a chair or a blanket. (We will meet inside if the weather is unpleasant.) Feel free to bring a friend!

(June 7-8, Synod Assembly: 2024 representatives, Emily & Jon Koehler & Pr. Molly)

NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 9

- Pop-up Choir practice: 8:15 am
- Worship: 9:00 am (Pastor Susan Engholm)
- Celebration Bank-bring your change to worship and tell us what you're celebrating!
- Fellowship Hour: following worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Have you signed up for a Spring Church Cleaning Job? A cleaning job list is in the narthex. Sign up for one or more jobs to do at your convenience. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated! *MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!*

Communion Assistant: Are you interested in serving as a communion assistant during Sunday morning worship? If so, sign up in the narthex! Also, check out all the other opportunities to serve at Bethel! We appreciate all our volunteers!

Bell Tower Painting Campaign: We are off to a great start with our campaign to raise funds to paint the bell tower. We have already painted the cross, but now the base needs painting. Our goal is to raise \$8,000 and get the job done this summer. Check out the model in the narthex to see the progress! *The Trustees*

Choir Next Sunday! Anyone interested in singing in the choir during the worship service next Sunday, June 9, is invited to meet at church at 8:15 to practice. (You do not need to be a regular choir member to participate in this group.) If you have questions, ask Emily Koehler or Jan Smith.

Bishop Myaka, the Bishop of the Southeastern Diocese of Southern Africa will be preaching at River of Hope in Hutchinson on June 9. Visitors are most welcome! Worship is at 10:30 am followed by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). For anyone interested there will be a 30 minute pick-up choir practice at 9:30 am to lead a couple songs in worship. All singers are welcome.

June Book Club: *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride

A historical fiction about the secrets and struggles of a diverse community in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, in 1972. The title refers to the grocery store where the characters meet and the values that sustain them in dark times.

Book Discussion: Wednesday, June 19 at 6:00 pm

Fellowship by the Fire: June 26, July 24, & August 21. The evening will begin at 6:00 pm outside by the fire pit. WELCA will supply hotdogs and buns. Please bring a dish to share, your lawn chairs and games.

Annual Bergen Church Site Worship service on Sunday, June 30: Join us for our annual worship service in the country where the old church once was at 10:00 am followed by a potluck picnic. Bring lawn chairs or a blanket, lawn games, and a dish to share. This worship service will be the only one on this day and note the time change. See the May newsletter for directions to the Bergen Church site.

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for
hun-gry and the poor; that
friends and fam-i-ly; for
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.