

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 21, 2024
9th Sunday after Pentecost
Outdoor Praise Service

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 "Come Lord Jesus" and "I Am Not Alone" arr. Carol Tornquist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG "All Who Are Thirsty" (green binder #103)

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: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE "Shepherd Us" (page 4)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SONG "We Praise You For Your Glory" (green binder #62)

WORD

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

READINGS AND PSALM

JEREMIAH 23:1-6 (back page)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23 (read responsively)

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

EPHESIANS 2:11-22 (back page)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation "Help Us O Lord" (song leaders sing the first time; congregation and song leaders sing the second time)

Help us O Lord to hear your word. Open our hearts to feel your word.

Give us strength to live your word each day.

MARK 6:30-34, 53-56 (back page)

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



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

SONG OF THE DAY "Shout to the Lord" (green binder #112)

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, and the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY "We Give Them to You" (green binder #99)

OFFERTORY 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.

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Communion Song "Renew Me" (green binder #77)

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.

BENEDICTION SONG "Blessing"

May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you. May God look upon you with favor and give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace. Amen.

BLESSING

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

SENDING SONG "My Life Is in You, Lord" (green binder #75)

SENDING WORDS Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Redeemed" arr. Carol Tornquist

SHEPHERD US

(guitar: capo 2)

♩ = 83 E (D) B/D# (A/C#) A/C# (G/B) E/B (D/A) A (G) E (D) A (G) B (A)

Here with you there is no want - ing, ly - ing down in pas - tures green.
 Though we walk in shad - owed val - leys, we will not be held by fear.
 You pre - pare a won - drous ta - ble, fill our cups to ov - er - flow.

E (D) B/D# (A/C#) A/C# (G/B) E/B (D/A) F#m (Em) E/G# (D/F#) A (G) B (A)

Lead - ing us be - side still wat - ers, souls re - stored and free.
 You bring peace and you give com - fort, you are al - ways here. Shep - herd
 With your good - ness and your mer - cy here for - ev - er - more.

A (G) B (A) E (D) A (G) B (A) E (D)

us oh Lord. Keep us safe from harm. Hold us

A (G) B (A) C#m (Bm) A (G) B (A) E (D)

close. Lead us home. Shep - herd us oh Lord.

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** OR
SCAN FOR ONLINE GIVING:



HEARING ASSIST DEVICES AVAILABLE—speak to an usher for assistance.
LARGE PRINT HYMNS AVAILABLE—contact the office if you are interested.

THIS WEEK...

SUNDAY, JULY 21

- 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

MONDAY, JULY 22

- Bible Study: 1:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

- Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
- Fellowship by the Fire: 6:00 pm, WELCA will supply hotdogs and buns, please bring a dish to share, lawn chairs, and games (optional)

THURSDAY, JULY 25

- McLeod Emergency Food Shelf Outreach Bus: 2:30-4:00 pm, Bethel parking lot

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 28

- Worship: 9:00 am
- Celebration Bank: bring your change to worship and tell us what you're celebrating!
- Fellowship Hour: following worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Quilt Review: A group of ladies will attend the Green Lake Ministries Quilt Auction (quilt review) on Friday, July 26. If you are interested please get in touch with Diane Horsman.

For all Ages! Dive into the “River of Life” at our Intergenerational Vacation Bible School, August 5-7, from 5:00-8:00 pm. There will be engaging activities, enriching lessons, and a free meal each night. *Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success! Because this event is intergenerational, you do not need to complete a background check to volunteer. Watch for the sign-up sheets for food donations and volunteering with VBS.* For more details or to sign up to help, contact Emily Koehler or Pete Hallberg. Don't miss out on the fun—see you there!

National Night Out: Bethel will serve ice cream treats on Tuesday, August 6, from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Downtown Square Park on Central AVE.

August Book Club: *An Immense World* by Ed Yong, Discussion date: 8/21, 7:00 pm
This book immerses you in an unimaginable realm, offering a glimpse into the world through the eyes of other creatures.

Upcoming Fellowship by the Fire on Wednesday, 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.

Preparation for the Back-to-School Kits Collection: It's time to start shopping the school supply sales! WELCA will again have a school supplies collection for LWR to distribute to children worldwide soon. We anticipate using a Thrivent grant to purchase school bags and supplemental supplies. School Kit List: four 70-sheet notebooks, wide or college ruled, 8 x 10 1/2" paper (no loose-leaf paper) | one 30 cm ruler (or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other) | one pencil sharpener | one 2 1/2" pink eraser | one blunt point scissors (Fiskars brand) | five ballpoint pens, blue or black ink (no gel ink) | one box of 24 crayons (Crayola brand) | five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers.

Bethel Women's Retreat: Friday-Sunday, September 13-15, 2024, Meydato Lodge at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, MN. The retreat is open to Bethel women of all ages along with their invited friends, relatives, and neighbors. The cost is \$75 for the full weekend and covers lodging, meals, and programming. *New in 2024!* The cost for Saturday only is \$50, this covers two meals and programming. Scholarships (full or partial) are available. The deadline to register is August 25. See the display in the narthex for more details of this exciting weekend!