

WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 4, 2024 | 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Molly Wills | Jan Smith, Accompanist

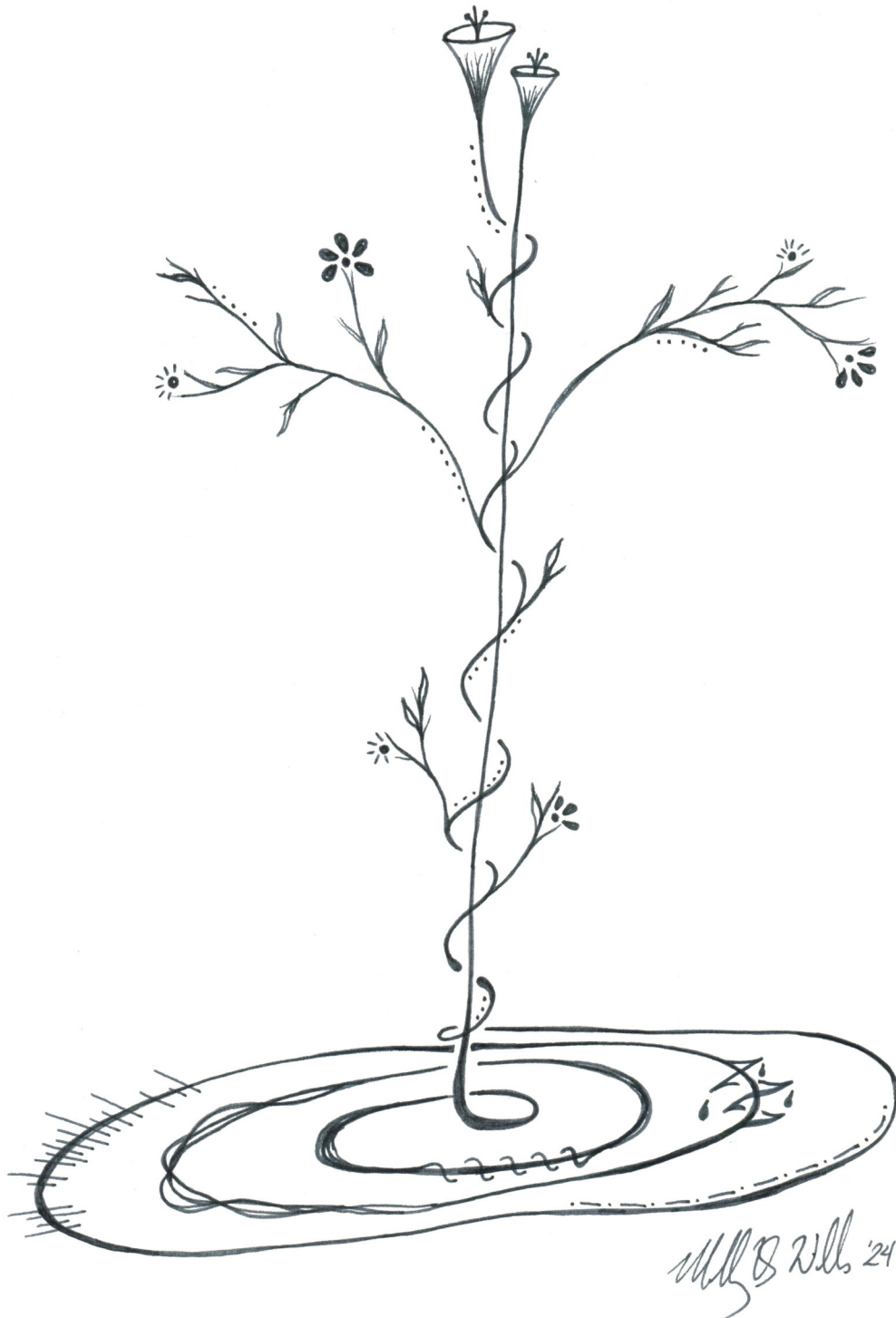
MISSION STATEMENT

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.

SPIRIT ART

A meditative study of scripture through art.

John 6:24-35



GATHERING

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

PRELUDE *Day by Day* arr. by Rachel Trelstad
Bread of Heaven by Marc Jordan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG *Come, Ye Disconsolate (ELW 607)*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

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

(Silence is kept for reflection)

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.

GREETING (ELW p. 184, front pages of the red 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....*

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 187) *This is the feast...*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." ⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

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

PSALM: Psalm 78:23-29

²³So God commanded the clouds above and opened the doors of heaven,

²⁴**raining down manna upon them to eat and giving them grain from heaven.**

²⁵So mortals ate the bread of angels; God provided for them food enough.

²⁶**The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens and powerfully led out the south wind,**

²⁷raining down flesh upon them like dust and flying birds like the sand | of the seas,

²⁸**letting them fall in the midst of the camp and round about the dwellings.**

²⁹So the people ate and were well filled, for God gave them | what they craved.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:1-16

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. ⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." ⁹(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188) Alleluia, Lord...

GOSPEL: John 6:24-35

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. ²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that

which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”³⁴They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly (ELW 461)*

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 INTERCESSION

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 *Shepherd Us (see back page)*

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 190)

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.**

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 190)

LORD’S PRAYER *The Lord’s Prayer (GB p. 134)*

COMMUNION (ELW p. 191) *Lamb of God...*

COMMUNION SONG *We Come Now to Your Table (ACS 970)*

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

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak (ELW 676)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Voluntary in A Minor by David Lasky

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Based on Psalm 23

(guitar: capo 2)

SHEPHERD US

Larry Olson

$\text{♩} = 83$ 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 - oved val - leys, we will not be held by fear.
You pre - pare a won - drous ta - ble, fill our cups to ov - er - flow.

The first system of musical notation for 'SHEPHERD US' is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 83. It features a treble and bass staff in the key of A minor (three sharps). The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff.

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.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It includes the same chord symbols as the first system. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the treble staff.

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

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

The third system of musical notation continues the piece. It includes the same chord symbols as the first system. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the treble staff.

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

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

The fourth and final system of musical notation concludes the piece. It includes the same chord symbols as the first system. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the treble staff.



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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www.lpbethel.org | www.facebook.com/lpbethel

QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS?

Please reach out to 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 SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE: Wednesdays at noon

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 25th of the month

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES AVAILABLE: speak to an usher for assistance

SIMPLY GIVING offers convenience for you and much-needed consistency for Bethel! If you are interested in signing up or finding out more, contact Stacy Meyer, Financial Secretary, at finsec@lpbethel.org.

TEXT GIVING: text the dollar amount to 866-298-7547 | **ONLINE GIVING:** Scan here



THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Sunday, August 4

- Celebration Bank: Drop your coins in the bank and tell us what you're celebrating!
- Let us know what you think-fill out our Bulletin survey today after worship!
- Fellowship Hour: Join us after worship!

Monday, August 5

- Pastor Molly will be out of the office
- No Bible study
- River of Life Intergenerational Vacation Bible School: 5:00 pm-8:00 pm

Tuesday, August 6

- Bible study: 1:30 pm
- River of Life Intergenerational Vacation Bible School: 5:00 pm-8:00 pm
- National Night Out: 5:00-7:00 pm, Bethel will be serving treats at Downtown Square Park

Wednesday, August 7

- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm
- Worship & Music Committee meeting: 12:30 pm
- River of Life Intergenerational Vacation Bible School: 5:00 pm-8:00 pm

Sunday, August 11

- Pop-up choir practice: 8:15 in the sanctuary
- Worship: 9:00 am
- Celebration Bank: Bring your coins to worship, drop them in the bank, and tell us what you're celebrating! The goal is to raise funds to purchase items from the GLLM Wish List.
- Fellowship Hour: Join us after worship!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR ALL AGES! Dive into the “River of Life” 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. Scan the posted flyer or go to <http://tinyurl.com/VBS2024BethelLP> to register. 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 Downtown Square Park on Central Avenue.

POP-UP CHOIR: Sunday, August 11, meet in the sanctuary at 8:15 am to practice.

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

THE LAST FELLOWSHIP BY THE FIRE will be on Wednesday, August 21 beginning at 6:00 pm, around the fire pit. WELCA will supply hotdogs and buns. Please bring a dish to share, your lawn chairs or blanket, and lawn games (optional).

OUTDOOR WORSHIP: Weather permitting, we will worship outside on Sunday, August 25, bring lawn chairs!

PREPARATION FOR 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, Medayto Lodge at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, MN. The retreat is for Bethel women of all ages, with their invited friends, relatives, and neighbors. The cost is \$75 for the full weekend, which covers lodging, meals, and programming. *New for 2024- Saturday only for \$50, which 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!