

WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 18, 2024
13th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Susan Engholm, Supply Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE *Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup* arr. Mark Albreacht
Come Let Us Eat arr. Anne Krentz Organ
Bread of Life arr. Marc Jordan

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.**

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.**

GATHERING SONG *As We Gather at Your Table* (ELW 522)

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus...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

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

READINGS AND PSALM

PROVERBS 9:1-6 (back page) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 34:9-14(read responsively)

⁹ O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.

¹⁰ **The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

¹¹ Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

¹² **Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?**

¹³ Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴ **Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.**

EPHESIANS 5:15-20 (back page) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

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

JOHN 6:51-58 (back page) The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *I Am the Bread of Life* (ELW 485)

APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 105)

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 *God Extends an Invitation* (ELW 486, sing 2x)

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)

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 (p. 190)

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

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

COMMUNION SONG *Around You, O Lord Jesus* (ELW 468)

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 *Praise and Thanksgiving* (ELW 689)

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

POSTLUDE *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* arr. Diane Bish

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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.

ONLINE GIVING: scan QR code

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, August 18

- Thank you Pastor Susan for leading us in worship today!
- Celebration Bank: Drop in your coins and tell us what you're celebrating!
- Fellowship hour: join us after worship!

Monday, August 19

- No Bible study
- Council meeting: 6:00 pm
- Pastor Molly will be on vacation August 13-23. For emergency pastoral needs, please call Pastor Susan Engholm at 320-293-1811. Tamie will be out of the office until September 11. Bulletin submissions should be emailed to Pastor Molly at pastor@lpbethel.org.

Wednesday, August 21

- Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
- Fellowship by the Fire: 6:00 pm
- Book club: 7:00 pm

Next Sunday, August 25

- Outdoor Praise Worship: 9:00 am (outside weather permitting)
- Celebration Bank: bring your coins to worship and tell us what you're celebrating! The goal is to purchase items from the GLLM Wish List.
- Fellowship hour: following worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL KITS COLLECTION: WELCA will again have a school supplies collection for LWR to distribute to children worldwide. We anticipate using a Thrivent grant to purchase school bags and supplemental supplies. Bring your supplies to church by September 15. The kits will be assembled after worship on September 22.

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 ½” 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!

“TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE” Crow River Conference Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering will be hosted by Bethel on Saturday, September 28. Registration begins at 8:00 am with brunch at 8:30 am. Registration fee: \$10, payable to the Women of the ELCA. Registration deadline: September 18. Guest Speaker: Tammy Diehn of 2B Continued.