

WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 1, 2024

15th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW, Setting 8

Rev. Molly Wills, Pastor

Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE *Nearer My God to Thee* and *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Lorie Line

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings of war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

O Master, Let Me Walk with You (ELW 818)

Setting 8 begins on page 184 in the front of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) red book

GREETING(ELW p. 184)

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 our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

READINGS AND PSALM

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 (back page) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15 (read responsively) (see insert)

James 1:17-27 (back page)

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

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

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

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (back page)

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* (ELW 512)

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

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 *The Lord's Prayer* (GB # 134)

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

COMMUNION SONG *Change My Heart, O God* (ELW 801, repeat)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful † bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *Take My Life, That I May Be* (ELW 583)

SENDING WORDS Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Revive Us Again* arr. Mary McDonald

PSALM 15 (read responsively)

O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;

who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

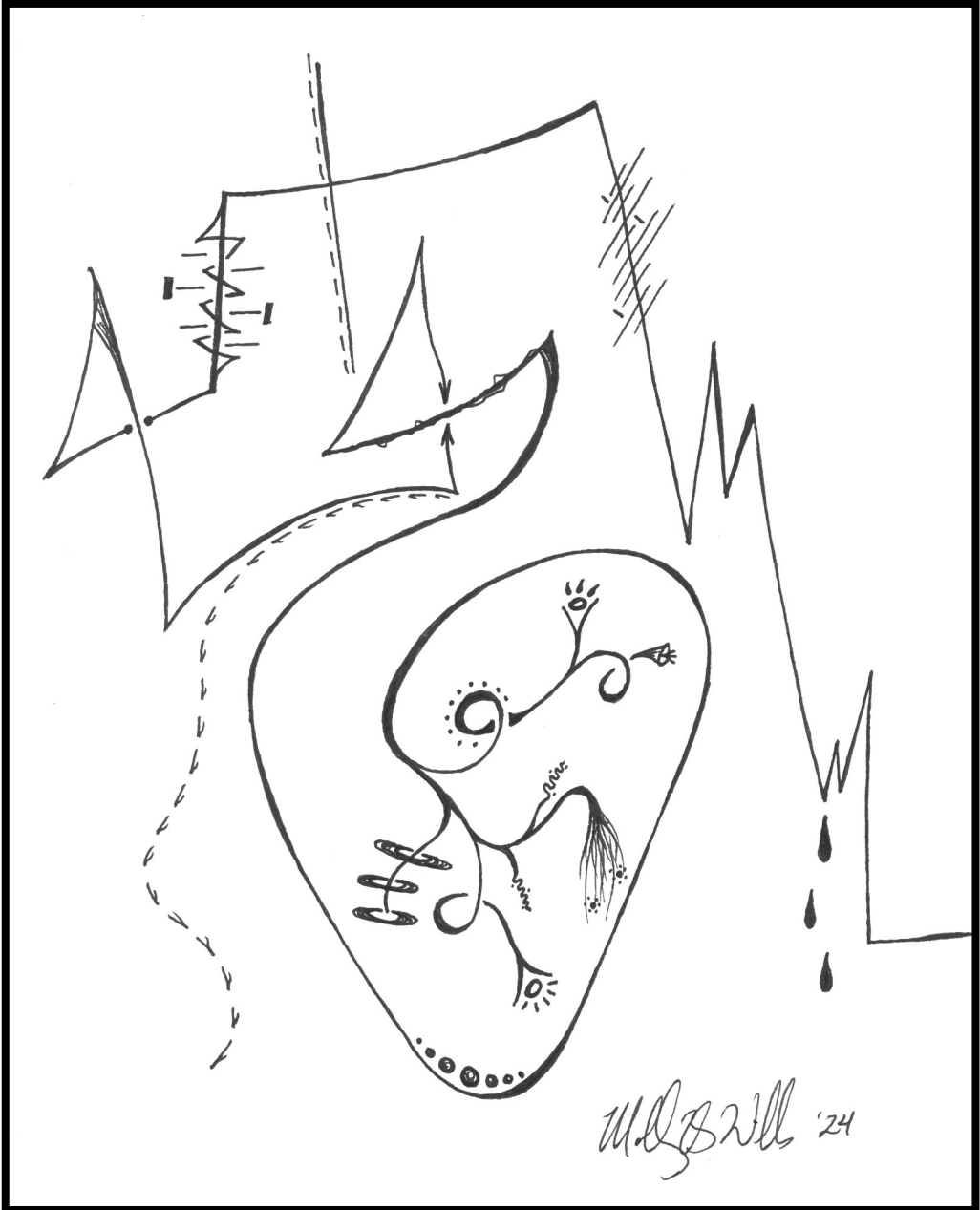
in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

SPIRIT ART

A meditative study of scripture through art.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



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, September 1

- Fellowship hour: join us after worship!
- Come next Sunday, September 8 for Rally Sunday! Kids, teens, & adults this is the start of the year for your church activities!

Monday, September 2 (Labor Day)

- Office open 8:30-11am, 1:30-3:30pm
- Bible study 1:30pm

Wednesday, September 4

- Office closed observing Labor Day
- Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm

Next Sunday, September 8 (Rally Day — God's Work, Our Hands)

- Worship: 9:00 am
- Fellowship hour: following worship
- God's Work, Our Hands: One and all wear yard work clothes & stick around after the service to help with the garden and yard *OR* stay inside and help make cards to send to our prayer list and others!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

NOTE: Tamie will be out of the office until September 11. Please email Pastor Molly your bulletin submissions at pastor@lpbethel.org.

GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS: Wear gardening clothes and join us after the service to help with our garden and yard OR stay inside and help make cards to send to our prayer list and others!

“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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, CONFIRMATION, & BLTs:

Kids kindergarten-6th grade join our Sunday School classes starting Sunday, Sept. 8th after the service (you will help with God’s Work, Our Hands), meeting every Sunday during the school year.

Youth 7th-10th grade (or unconfirmed) join our confirmation classes starting Sunday, Sept. 15th after the service, meeting every other Sunday (check out the calendar online or talk to Pastor Molly for instances when the dates vary).

Youth 6th-12th grade join our Bethel Lutheran Teens (BLTs) group! Meetings start Sept. 8th (helping with God’s Work, Our Hands) and will happen every other Sunday. Come for fun activities that will help our church & wider community and give you a chance to be a part of a faithful group of peers.