

# WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 15, 2024

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Contemporary Service

Rev. Molly Wills, Pastor

Jan Smith, Accompanist

## GATHERING

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

PRELUDE *Blessed Be Your Name and How Great Thou Art* arr. by Carol Tornquist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONGS *This is the Day* (Green Binder #3)

*Father, I Adore You* (Green Binder #1)

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE *The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing* (ELW #531 or insert)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SONG *Rock of My Salvation* (Green Binder #38)

## WORD

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

READINGS AND PSALM

ISAIAH 50:4-9a (back page) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 116:1-9 (read responsively)

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

**Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

**Then I called on the name of the LORD: 'O LORD, I pray, save my life!'**

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

**The LORD protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

**For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.**

I walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

JAMES 3:1-12 (back page) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Help Us O Lord, 2x* (Dakota Road Music)

(Song leaders sing 1<sup>st</sup> time, All sing 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.**

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

MARK 8:27-38 (back page) The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

SONG OF THE DAY *Come, Now Is the Time to Worship* (Green Binder #105)

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 Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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)

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is 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      *God Extends an Invitation* (repeat) (ELW #486 or insert)

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.

BENEDICTION SONG      *Blessing* (Dakota Road Music)

**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

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

SENDING SONG      *To God be the Glory* (Green Binder #37)

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

POSTLUDE      *Sing to the King* arr. by Carol Tornquist

SPIRIT ART  
A meditative study of scripture through art.  
Mark 8: 27-38



# 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](mailto:bethellutheranlp@gmail.com). For emergency pastoral care needs, please call Pastor Molly Wills at 320-339-8169 or email [pastor@lpbethel.org](mailto:pastor@lpbethel.org).

**BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Wednesdays at noon.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**CHURCH ADDRESS:** 77 Lincoln AVE N, **PO Box 207, Lester Prairie, MN**

**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](mailto: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 AT BETHEL...**

### Sunday, September 15

- Confirmation class: following worship in Pastor Molly's office
- Sunday school: 10:00 am
- Fellowship hour: join us after worship

### Monday, September 16

- Bible study: 1:30 pm

### Wednesday, September 18

- Worship & Music Committee meeting: 12:30 pm
- Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

### Next Sunday, September 22

- Worship: 9:00 am
- Bethel Community Garden Fall Festival: 10:00 am-2:00 pm
- Fellowship hour & assembly of school kits: following worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**“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. Questions? Contact Diane H.

**SERVERS FOR WELCA FALL GATHERING:** We're looking for several men to help serve the meal and clean up afterward on September 28, 7:45 am-11:00 am. See Jan Smith today if you are willing to help. Thank you!

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL, CONFIRMATION, & BLTs:**

Kids kindergarten-6th grade join our Sunday School classes after the service! Classes will meet every Sunday during the school year. (3 & 4 yr. old kids are welcome to join and should have an adult accompany them.)

Youth 7th-10th grade (or unconfirmed) confirmation class will meet 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 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.

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COMMUNITY GARDEN FESTIVAL:** Join us TODAY from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. We'll have pumpkin painting, Elephant Joe's Coffee, and family activities!

**THIRD GRADERS & BIBLES:** Bibles will be presented to 3rd graders with a blessing on Sunday, Sept. 29th.

**CHOIR PRACTICE @ 6:30PM WEDNESDAYS.** Join us at any time! All are welcome! Please contact Emily Koehler with any questions (cell #605.661.5717 or email: [emily.e.koehler@gmail.com](mailto:emily.e.koehler@gmail.com))