



In gratitude, Bethel Lutheran Church amplifies God's grace, nourishes all creation, reaches out, and builds community.

- We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- Why a Public Church? To impact and enhance the community so that everyone feels a sense of love and belonging.



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

Bethel Lutheran Church - In-person and Online
YouTube: @bethelmpls

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 27, 2026, 10:00AM

We welcome to the Lord's Table all people, without exception, who desire to receive the blessings of Christ's body and blood in this sacramental meal of bread and wine. If you are online, please prepare your own table with bread, wine, and/or a treat for anyone not receiving communion.

Boldface font indicates congregational response.

Worship leaders will indicate when to stand and sit, as you are able.

GATHERING

Gathering Music

"Arioso" by J S Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe that God meets us here. We gather in the name of the Creator, and of the Savior, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Baptized into Christ, **let us confess our sin.** *Silence is kept for reflection.*

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

Merciful God, **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

Opening Hymn ELW 665

"Rise, Shine, You People!"



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

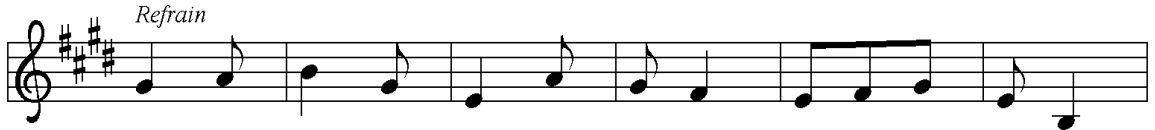
Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934–2003

Text and music © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

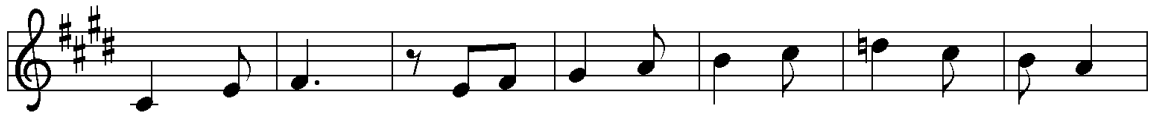
Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. God of love, giver of life, **you know our frailties and failings.**
Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm
us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.

Now the Feast and Celebration ELW 167



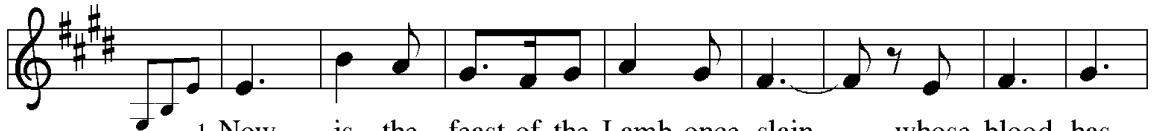
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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WORD

Lesson

Matthew 21:23-27

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. **"By what authority are you doing these things?"** they asked. **"And who gave you this authority?"** Jesus replied, "I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John's baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?" They discussed it among themselves and said, **"If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin'—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet."** So they answered Jesus, **"We don't know."** Then Jesus said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

Word of God. **Word of Life.**

Children's Message, then Sunday School

Children and the young at heart are invited to the front of the sanctuary.

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

Gospel

Matthew 21:28-32

The Gospel continues according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus continued, "What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. The father went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' '**I will not,**' the first son answered, but later changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, '**I will, sir,**' but the other son did not go. Which of the two did what his father wanted?" '**The first,**' they answered. Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe John."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 587

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"



- 1 There's a wide-ness
- 2 There is wel-come
- 3 For the love of
- 4 'Tis not all we



in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



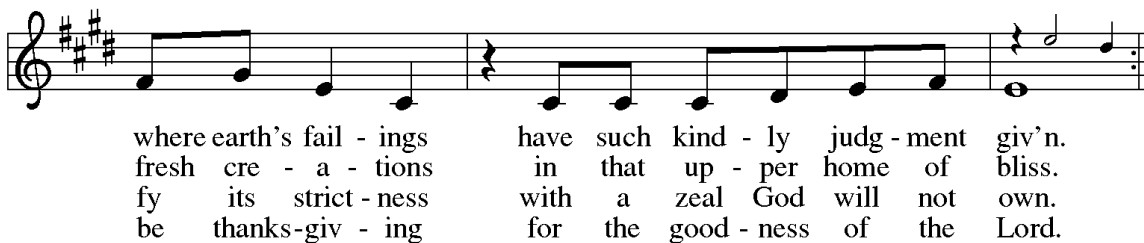
there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der -
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy



lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's sor - rows
in his blood. There is grace e - nough for thou - sands
ful - ly kind. But we make this love too nar - row
through the fall. Make our love, O God, more faith - ful;



are more felt than up in heav'n. There is no place
of new worlds as great as this; there is room for
by false lim - its of our own; and we mag - ni -
let us take you at your word, and our lives will



Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: ST. HELENA, Calvin Hampton, 1938–1984

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Prayer Updates

Prayers of the People

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Each petition ends with a response:

Lord, receive our prayer, **and in your love, answer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Jesus is with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering

For checks and cash offerings, please place them in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. For members, if you are making a cash donation, place it in an envelope with your name on it. For online giving through Square, scan the QR code. To pay with PayPal, please visit our website: Bethel-mpls.org.

*Online worshipers, please send checks directly to:
Bethel Lutheran 4120 17th Ave S, Mpls, MN 55407
Thank you for your generosity!*



Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Creator God, **in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and your creation provides us with an abundance of what we need. Let our gifts of all kinds and our labor contribute to the building of a beloved community that welcomes all people, that sees all people, and that works for justice for all people. Amen.**

MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: *All:*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Leader: *All:*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: *All:*
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is
right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the mystery of faith, that **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

Invitation to Communion

Lamb of God

Lamb of God you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us,
break the chains of ha-tred and fear:
are the way of jus-tice and peace:
are the way of mer-cy and love

mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace..

Communion Hymn TFF 123

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

1 Let us break bread to- geth-er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to- geth-er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to- geth-er on our knees;

let us break bread to- geth-er on our knees.
let us drink wine to- geth-er on our knees.
let us praise God to- geth-er on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris- ing



Text: African American spiritual

Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

Communion Hymn ELW 472

"Eat This Bread"

Refrain

"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthens you in faith, holds you in God's grace, forgives your sins, and empowers you to love all others.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. God of all, **you gathered us into one through this holy meal. Grant that we might go out into the world filled with your grace and love so that we might serve others. Please continue to support our homebound members, as well as our communion visitors who share this meal so freely. In your many names we pray. Amen.**

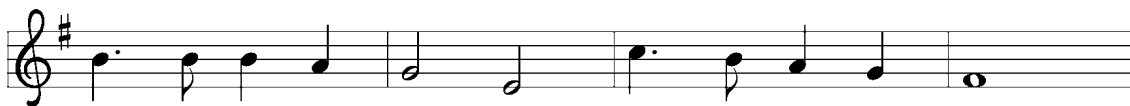
SENDING

Benediction

Friends, know this, you are claimed by God's love, redeemed by Christ's life, and set free to serve in the power of the Holy Spirit. Our worship has ended, our service begins. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ELW 537

"On Our Way Rejoicing"



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear-ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

Dismissal

Go forth with courage, loving God and serving neighbors. **Thanks be to God!**

Sending Music

“March” Anonymous

Ministers:	All Believers	Musicians:	Anne Phillips, Bethel Vocal Choir
Presiding Minister:	Rev. Brenda Froisland	Sacristy:	Marilyn Newborg
Assisting Minister:	Sharon Rodi	Ushers:	Mason and Marshall Cannon
Lector:	Darlene Olson	Live Streaming:	Gene Rodi and Ted Allison
Cantor:	Bernie Asher	Hospitality:	Ann Allison
Music Director:	Bernie Asher	Altar Guild:	Laurie Hauge and Anna Wohnoutka

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balance the budget

BINGO

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, November 19, 2026



JOIN BETHEL'S

Handbell and Vocal Choirs



ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN!

We want you to:

- Sing in the choir
- Play handbells
- Play an instrument during worship

Handbell Rehearsals — Mondays, 7pm starting 8/24

Choir Rehearsals — Wednesdays, 7pm starting 8/26

If you are interested in singing in the choir, playing in the handbell choir, or if you would like to play another instrument during worship, contact Bernie at music2023@bethel-mpls.org

PRAYER

list...

PRAY FOR BETHEL MEMBERS

Candy and Richard Hickenbotham	Laurel Jorgensen
Margot Lair	Gloria Condon
Mason Cannon	Hundt Family
Jan Walker	Puckett Family
Marilyn Newborg	Darrell Dahl
Stella Warwick	Walker Family
Christopher Rodi	Warwick Family
Dave and Libby Krogh	Pikkarainen Family
Larissa Hoover	Gert Carlson
David and Sue	Joyce Hughes
Dorumsgaard Ayers	Leonard Phillips

MORE PEOPLE OF GOD

- People struggling with mental illness and their loved ones
- Victims of natural and human disasters
- People in war-torn places
- Black, Brown, Indigenous, and Asian Lives
- People without homes
- Refugees, Migrants and Asylum Seekers
- People affected by gun violence

MEMBERS, RELATIVES

AND FRIENDS IN THE SERVICE

Katrel Bishop (Pr B's nephew)
Adam Froisland (Pr B's nephew)

PRAY FOR OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Barb Passow (Pr B's friend)
Ivy Potratz (Susan Johnson's stepmom)
Sherri Johnson (friend of Bethel)
Kris Hayes (Ann Allison's sister)
Marvin (Bryan Mann-Entzel's father)
Virginia (Jerry Johnson's mom)
Bill (Barb Wandberg's brother)
Beth (Dan Hauge's sister)
Andrea and Sage (Candy Hickenbotham's family)
Ethylmae Ross (Gloria Condon's aunt)
Ian (Pr B's friend)
Eric (Pr B's and Mary's family friend)
Julian (Jan Walker's friend)
Kristian (Pr B's friend)
Michael (Marilyn Newborg's brother)
Donovan (Angel Cannon's father)
Rita (Sharon Phillips' friend)
Calvin (Angel Cannon's godfather)
Wayne (Karen Warwick's dad)
Trent and Michelle (Norma's family)
Darlene (Jeff Alberts' mom)
Susan (Mike Condon's sister)
John (Kathy Hundt's brother-in-law)

BETHEL'S MISSION PARTNERS

❖ReconcilingWorks ❖Casa de Oracion - Pentecostal
❖Mpls Area Synod ❖Nokomis Healthy Seniors ❖CANMN
❖Iglesia Evangelica Luz Alas Naciones ❖Iglesia Evangelica La Voz de Dios
❖Bancroft Neighborhood Association ❖Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran Church (BOLD)