



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.



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20, 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

"A Joyful Procession" by Anna Laura Page
With the Handbell Choir

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.**

Opening Hymn ELW 575

"In Christ Called to Baptize"



1	In	Christ	called	to	bap - tize,	we	wit - ness	to	grace
2	In	Christ	called	to	ban - quet,	one	ta - ble	we	share,
3	In	Christ	called	to	wit - ness,	by	grace	we	will
4	U -	nite	us,	a -	noint	us,	O	Spir - it	of

love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



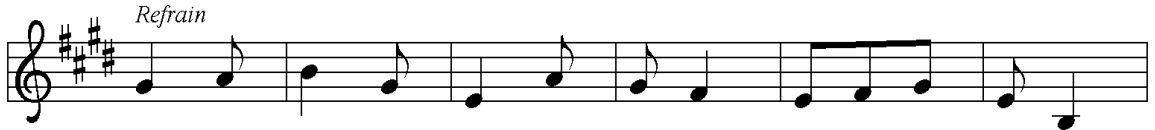
then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: St. DENIO, Welsh traditional
Text © 1995 Pilgrim Press

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, **you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Now the Feast and Celebration ELW 167



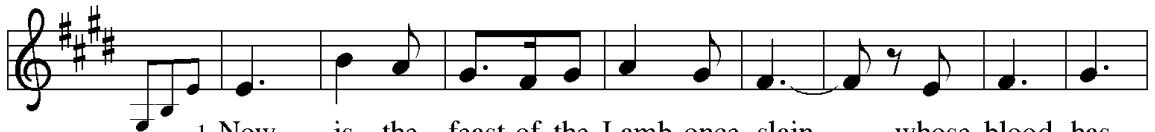
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



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 20:1-8

Jesus said, "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. The landowner agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, '**You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.**' So they went. The landowner went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, '**Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?**'

'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. He said to them, '**You also go and work in my vineyard.**' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to the foreman, '**Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.**'"

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*

Lesson

Matthew 20:9-16

The Gospel continues according to Matthew, the twentieth chapter. **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

“The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those who were hired first came, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’ But he answered one of them, **‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius?’** Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. **Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’** So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 532

"Gather Us In"



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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The 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 power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**Who suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

**On the third day Christ rose again,
ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God.**

Christ will come again 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.**

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:*

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

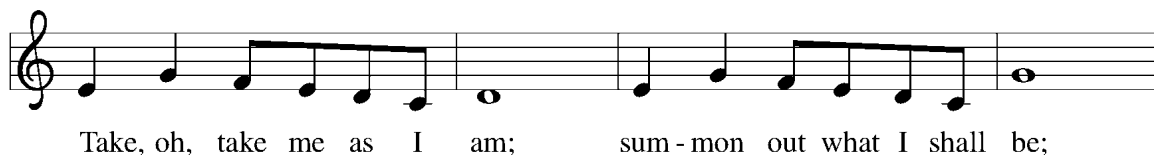
Lamb of God



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 ELW 814

"Take, Oh Take Me As I Am"



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell
 Text and music © 1995 Iona Community, admin, GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
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Communion Hymn ELW 629

"Abide with Me"



1 A - bid with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid.
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bid with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bid with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bid with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bid with me!
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bid with me.

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 765

"Lord of All Hopefulness"

With the Handbell Choir



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
Music: ANS, 1951; slightly modified
Text © Oxford University Press 1991.

Dismissal

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

Ministers:	All Believers	Musicians:	Anne Phillips, Bethel Handbell Choir
Presiding Minister:	Rev. Brenda Froisland	Sacristy:	Marilyn Newborg
Assisting Minister:	Sharon Rodi	Ushers:	Susan and Jerry Johnson
Lector:	Stephanie Johnson	Live Streaming:	Gene Rodi and Ted Allison
Cantor:	Kristin Cleary	Hospitality:	Romell White
Music Director:	Bernie Asher	Altar Guild:	Laurie Hauge and Anna Wohnoutka

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Sunday School

**AT BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAYS AT 10:15AM — STARTING SEPTEMBER 20, 2026**



Bethel's Sunday School will be held during worship — kids will leave worship at 10:15am.

Our Faith Trek Sunday School program is open to everyone. You do not need to be a member and you do not need to attend worship to participate in Sunday School.

**REGISTER
HERE:**



Registration is preferred, but not required. By registering, we will be able to communicate with you in the event of any changes to the schedule.



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH | 4120 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN | 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)