



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.

Women of the Bible:
**ELIZABETH
AND ANNA**

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 23, 2026**

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

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 23, 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

"Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now"

by Johann Gottfried Walther

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 524

"What Is This Place"



1 What is this place where we are meet - ing? On - ly a house, the
2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in
3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,
us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders
liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives
sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak
we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.
what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

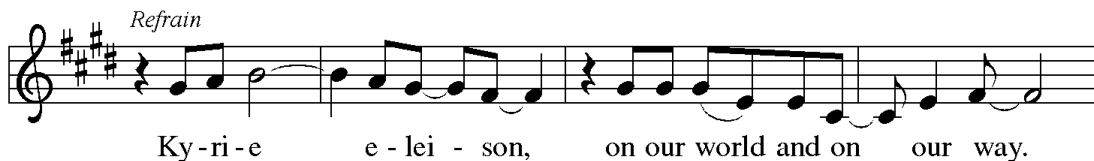
Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

Text © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Divine Mother, **wellspring of all life, we open our hearts to Your presence. You who are as soft as the earth and as ancient as the stars, guide us in Your nurturing embrace. Help us to release our fears and trust in Your tender care. Fill us with Your wisdom, and let Your light radiate through us in all that we do. Amen.**

Kyrie Vs 1, 2





- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

WORD

Lesson

Luke 1:24-25, 39-45, 57-66

After those days Zechariah's wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, **'This is what the Lord has done for me when she looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'** In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah

and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, **'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'**

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy to Elizabeth, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, **'No; he is to be called John.'** They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, **'His name is John.'** And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, **'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.**

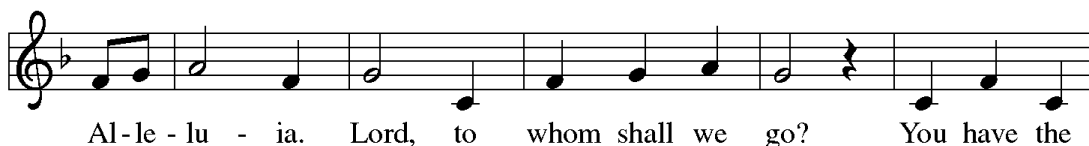
[Pronouns have been changed in this reading to look at God as feminine.]

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

Children's Message

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

Gospel Acclamation





Gospel

Luke 2:36-38

The Gospel continues according to Luke, the second chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

There was also a prophet named Anna. She was the daughter of Penuel from the tribe of Asher. Anna was very old. After getting married, she lived with her husband only seven years. Then she was a widow until she was 84. She never left the temple. She worshiped night and day, praying and going without food. **Anna came up to Jesus' family at that moment. She gave thanks to God. And she spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the time when Jerusalem would be set free.**

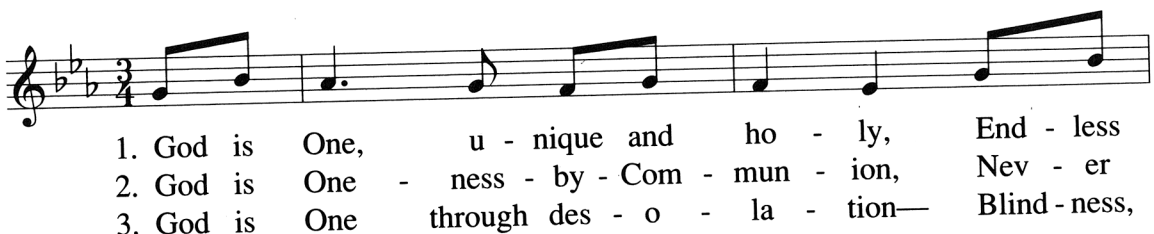
[Pronouns have been changed in this reading to look at God as feminine.]

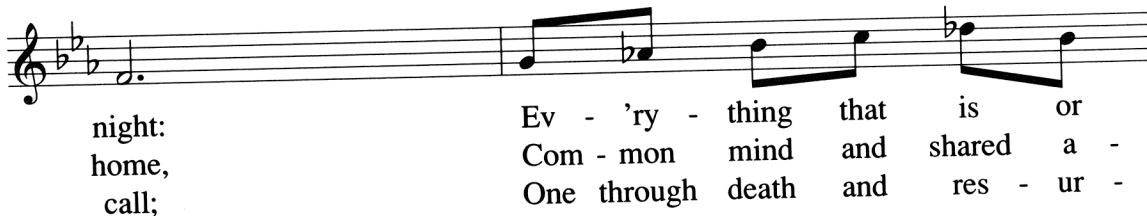
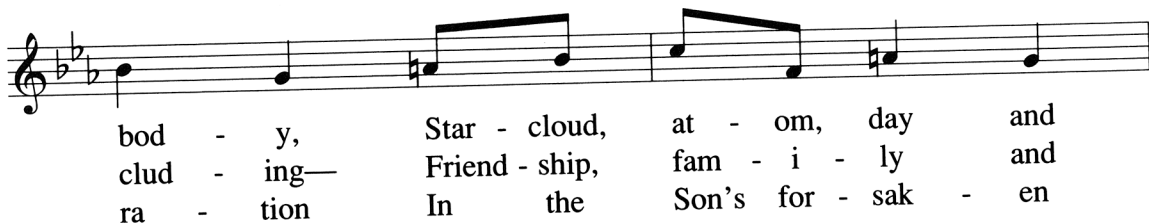
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day 753

"God Is One, Unique and Holy"





Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936
Tune: TRINITY, 87 87; Peter Cuts, b. 1937
© 1983, Hope Publishing Co.

An Advent Creed

I believe in God, the One who loves all of creation, beyond our understanding.
I believe in Jesus, God's only child, born on this earth to show us the heart of God.
Jesus, who did what we could not, making us right with our Creator.
Jesus, who showed us that true power looks like loving God and loving neighbor.
Jesus, who commands that we work for hope, peace, love, and joy in our world.
Jesus, who grants us grace we cannot earn and belonging we cannot break.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who lives in, around, and through us every day.
I believe in God's promises of the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and resurrection.
I believe that we are named and claimed, loved and saved children of God.

By Brenda Froisland

Input from Meta C, Michelle L, Agape Dave, Carole U, Laurie H, Eric L, Brian M

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, 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

Communion Hymn ELW 341

"Now Behold the Lamb"



1	Now	be - hold	the Lamb,	the pre - cious Lamb	of God,	who
2	Ho - ly	is	the Lamb,	the pre - cious Lamb	of God.	Why
3	Thank you for	the Lamb,	the pre - cious Lamb	of God.	Be -	



bore all my sin,	that I may live a - gain:	the pre-cious Lamb of God.
you love me so,	Lord, I shall nev - er know;	the pre-cious Lamb of God.
cause of your grace	I can fin - ish the race;	the pre-cious Lamb of God.

Text: Kirk Franklin, b. 1970

Music: NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB, Kirk Franklin

Text and music © 1996 Lilly Mack Music. Used by permission.

Communion Hymn ELW 482

"I Come with Joy"



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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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. In your many names we pray. Amen.

SENDING

Benediction

Our Mother of Compassion nourishes your soul. Feel the deep, unfailing love of Christ, who bears you as a mother bears her child. Go now in the grace and comfort of her spirit's eternal embrace. **Amen.**

(From Julian of Norwich)

Sending Hymn ELW 723

"Canticle of the Turning"



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



Refrain
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
 Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Dismissal

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

Sending Music

“Canticle of the Turning” by Anne Krentz Organ

Ministers:	All Believers	Musicians:	Anne Phillips
Presiding Minister:	Rev. Brenda Froisland	Sacristy:	Marilyn Newborg
Assisting Minister:	Susan Johnson	Ushers:	Norris Lovstuen and Dave Krogh
Lector:	Sharon Rodi	Live Streaming:	Gene Rodi and Ted Allison
Cantor:	Sarah Berke	Hospitality:	Laurie Hauge
Music Director:	Bernie Asher	Altar Guild:	Barb Saunders and Barb Wandberg

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Sunday School

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



All are welcome, without exception!



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH | 4120 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN | bethel-mpls.org

BETHEL'S **FREE** rally sunday SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AT 10AM
OR AFTER AT 11AM FOR:

- **FREE PICNIC**
- **SERVICE PROJECT**
- **AND MORE!**

Help us put together school bags
filled with school supplies for
Lutheran World Relief to distribute.

More details to come!

This event is **FREE** and open to the public.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4120 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN
bethel-mpls.org | 612-724-3693

Bethel is

NOW COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Education is one of the strongest tools a community can use to break the cycle of poverty. Children, especially girls, and some adults benefit from these kits. Currently, 53 backpacks are sewn. More are being made. With stores featuring sales on school supplies, now is a good time to purchase them.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO FILL THE BACKPACKS ARE:

- 70-sheet notebooks of wide-ruled paper
- 30-centimeter ruler
- Pencil sharpener
- Blunt scissors
- Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 2 ½-inch eraser
- Blue or black stick ballpoint pens (no gel ink)



Items with any religious or military symbols, flags, group emblems, or names cannot be accepted.

Contact Sharon Rodi for more information: nord@mninter.net

PRAYER

list...

PRAY FOR BETHEL MEMBERS

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

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)
Martin/Harne family (Pr B's relatives)
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)
Lennon (Cole and Bryan's niece)
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)
Steve (Pr B's brother)
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)