

## BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Vibrantly open to the spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church serves God and its neighbors by joyfully living and sharing the Good News.*

Sunday, August 27, 2017

Aaron Holmgren, Pastor

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost (Setting 8)

Jan Smith, Organist

### GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness (p. 94)

Gathering Hymn "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" ELW # 597

Kyrie and Canticle of Praise (p. 184-186)

Rejoicing in God's grace, we sing our Canticle of Praise. **This is the feast...**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray, **O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundations when our worlds shake with discord and bring us together as the body of Christ, which provides ministry to all who are in need. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### WORD

Scripture Reading Isaiah 51:1-6 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message "Raising Your Hands"

Gospel Acclamation (p. 188) **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?...**

The holy gospel according to Matthew the sixteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 16:13-20 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon "Confessing Church"

Hymn of the Day "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" ELW # 886

Opening of a School Year Litany

Great are the deeds of the Lord!

**They are studied by all who delight in them.**

God's work is full of majesty and splendor,

**And God's righteousness endures forever.**

God makes God's marvelous works to be remembered;

**The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

**Those who act accordingly have a good understanding. God praise endures forever.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing of the Backpacks

Apostles Creed (p. 105)

Prayers of Intercession Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Peace           The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offering

We now enter into a time of offering where we joyously share in God's abundance.

Doxology       "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" ELW # 884

Offertory Prayer

**Merciful, God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## MEAL

We now share in Christ's holy meal of forgiveness, love, and grace.

Table Prayer   **Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Let these gifts to us be blest. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving (p. 190)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you...**

Holy, holy, holy...

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (p. 191)

Invitation to Communion

Distribution Hymns (p. 191) Lamb of God...

"Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup" ELW # 492

## SENDING

Benediction

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" ELW # 669

Dismissal       Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve. **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude