

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, July 23, 2017

Aaron Holmgren, Pastor

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (Setting 8)

Jan Smith, Organist

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness (p. 94)

Gathering Hymn "Praise and Thanksgiving" ELW # 689

Kyrie and Cantic of Praise (p. 184-187)

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

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray, **Faithful God, most gracious gardener, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. May your Spirit share the gift of forgiveness and patience with us as we share our lives together in your fields, and grant that we may be rooted in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

Scripture Reading Romans 8:12-25

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message "Gardening"

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

The holy gospel according to Matthew the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

Sermon "Those People"

Hymn of the Day "We Plow the Fields and Scatter" ELW # 681

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.

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...

“As the Grains of Wheat” ELW # 465

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 “On What Has Now Been Sown” ELW # 550

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

Postlude