

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Vibrantly open to the spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, June 18, 2023
3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Stefan Swanson, Interim Vicar
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Gathering Songs Green Binder #58 "Come Just As You Are"
 Green Binder #4 "Praise the Name of Jesus"
 Green Binder #64 "Jesus, Name Above All Names"
 Green Binder # 108 "How Great Is Our God"

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

Entrance Song Green Binder #10 "I Will Sing of the Mercies"

Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading	Exodus 19:2-8a	The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.
Psalms 100	(read responsively)	
Second Reading	Romans 5:1-8	The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.
Children's Sermon		
Gospel Song	Green Binder #98 "Lord, Add Your Blessing to This Word"	
Gospel Reading	Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]	
Sermon		
Song of the Day	Green Binder #91 "Send Us Out"	
Apostles Creed (p. 105)		
Prayers of the People	God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.	
Passing of the Peace	The peace of Christ be with you always.	
	And also with you.	

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering	
Offertory Song	Green Binder #86 "Take My Life, and Let It Be"
Offertory Prayer	

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Communion	
Words of Institution	
Lord's Prayer	
Communion Song	Green Binder #77 "Renew Me"
Prayer after Communion	

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Benediction Song	Green Binder #39 "My Peace"
Blessing	
Sending Song	Green Binder #112 "Shout to the Lord"
Sending Words	Go in peace. Share the harvest.
	Thanks be to God.

Postlude

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—June 18, 2023, 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

OUR MISSION STATEMENT—Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS? Please contact the church office at 320-395-2125 at bethellutheranlp@gmail.com or pastor@lpbethel.org. For emergency pastoral care needs, please call the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Vicar Stefan at 320-434-7113. Bulletin submissions due: Wednesdays at noon.

Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month. **GivePlus Text 866-298-7547**

SIMPLY GIVING offers convenience for you and much needed consistency for Bethel! Try it this summer! If you have questions contact Stacy Meyer, Financial Secretary.

TODAY (Happy Father's Day!)

- Hearing assist devices are available: Speak to an usher for assistance.

MONDAY 6/19 (Juneteenth)

- Coffee hour: 8:30 am-9:30 am

SUNDAY 6/25 (Pentecost 4)

- Worship: 9 am (Noisy offering)

The Community Garden is growing! There is some space for a few more plants. If anyone is interested in adding to the garden or helping with weeding on Wednesday, please contact Emily Koehler or Pete Hallberg.

Fellowship Around the Fire: Wednesday, June 28, beginning at 6:30 pm. Join us around our beautiful fire pit for hot dogs, chips, and beverages. You are welcome to bring a side dish to share and bring your own chairs. Vicar Stefan will provide a brief devotion. Is anyone willing to accompany some singing out of the contemporary song binder with your guitar? If so, contact the office! (Also, plan for July 26 and Aug. 23.)

Per our constitution, C13.05, a CALL COMMITTEE will consist of (8) members: (3) from the council, (3) from the congregation, (1) youth member, (1) WELCA member. Pastor Naomi Mahler, Synod Representative, will help us navigate the calling of a new pastor process. The Congregational Mission Assessment report, presented on May 21, 2023, will be our template. Please prayerfully consider this important function and role of a Call Committee member. Contact Ron Foust, Council President, for questions or interest in serving on the Call Committee.

Registration for the Bethel Women's Retreat is now open! Join the fellowship and fun the weekend of September 8-10 at Green Lake Bible Camp! Information and forms are on a pub table in the narthex. Give your registration form plus the fee to Diane Horsman or mail it to the church office. The registration deadline is September 1. The next WELCA meeting will be Wednesday, August 9 at 6:30 pm.

Prairie Days Burger Stand Volunteers Wanted: Mark your calendars for Prairie Days 2023 on Friday, July 14 & Saturday, July 15. Bethel Lutheran Church has signed up to cover a shift at the Burger Stand from 1:00-3:00 pm on Saturday, July 15. If you are willing and able to volunteer please contact Ron Foust at 612-245-3005.

Lectors are needed for July and August! Please consider signing up [on the bulletin board.] If you need a fill-in for one Sunday, contact Cathy Houg at cathy.houg@gmail.com or 320-282-2152.

Bethel Quilting: The group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month in the Fellowship Hall from 1:00 pm-4:30 pm-come and go as you wish. If you are interested in evening quilting, call Judy or Roxanne. The quilts are for baptized babies, graduates, GLLM Quilt auction, and Don't Cry I'm Here (homeless shelter).

On the fourth Sunday of the month the "Noisy" offering supports camperships for Bethel youth attending Green Lake Bible Camp. On your way out of the sanctuary, drop your loose change into the metal can with a clang! Although paper bills and checks won't have the same noisy effect, they will be accepted and appreciated!