

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, July 9, 2023

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Stefan Swanson, Interim Vicar

Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" arr. Dale Wood

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" arr. Dale Wood

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.**

Gathering Hymn "Jesus Shall Reign" ELW #434

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie (ELW p. 184)

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 185) **Glory to God in the highest...**

Prayer of the Day

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading Zechariah 9:9-12 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Psalm 145:8-14 (read responsively)

Second Reading Romans 7:15-25a The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

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

The Gospel according to Matthew the tenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Come to Me, O "Weary Traveler" ACS 1017

Organ Dedication (see insert)

Apostles Creed (p. 105)

Prayers of Intercession 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 "Grant Us Peace" by W.A. Mozart, arr. Dorothy Wells

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.**

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 190)

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (p. 191)

Communion (ELW p. 191) **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world...**

Communion Hymn "Day By Day" ELW #790

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Blessing

The God of peace, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and
show you the path of life this day and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" ELW #697

Dismissal Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Alleluia" by W.A. Mozart, arr. Lani Smith

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—July 9, 2023, 6th 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

- Many thanks to the Organ Committee for their hard work and effort invested in the process of finding, purchasing, and installing the new Allen organ! Committee members: Lloyd, Mary Lou, Mitch, Nancy, Nicole, Jan and friends: Dave, Diane, and Matt!
- Hearing assist devices are available: Speak to an usher for assistance.
- Parents of little ones: You're welcome to use the non-staffed toy room as needed.

MONDAY 7/10

- Coffee hour: 8:30 am-9:30 am
- Council meeting: 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY 7/12

- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm

THURSDAY 7/13

- MEFS Mobile Outreach: 1:30-3:00 pm, Bethel Lutheran Church parking lot
- Bethel works Prairie Days Burger Stand: 1:00-3:00 pm

SUNDAY 7/16 (Pentecost 7)

Worship: 9:00 am

Next Fellowship Around the Fire: Wednesday, July 26 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 Aug. 23.)

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.

Lectors are needed! Please consider signing up to read in August! (sign-up sheet is 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 or another substitute listed on the sheet. Thank you Koehler/Jepsen families for signing up for July (and Carolyn)!

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!

FREE: Two speakers are free for the taking. If you are interested speak to an Organ Committee member.



ORGAN DEDICATION

Dedication Hymn "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" ELW #851

Recognition of Organ Committee

Lloyd, Mary Lou, Mitch, Nancy, Nicole, Jan, and friends, Dave, Diane, and Matt

Psalms 33:1, 3-5

Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous;

it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

Sing to the Lord a new song;

play skillfully, and shout for joy.

For the Word of the Lord is right and true;

the Lord is faithful in all things.

The Lord loves righteousness and justice;

the earth is full of God's unfailing love.

Prayer

Let us pray,

Almighty and everlasting God, you open our mouths to sing salvation's new song. Your Spirit is the breath of such music. We praise you for giving us this organ, which we dedicate to your glory alone. Sanctify the art which awakens its harmonies in leading us to worship you. Be with your servants who will use this beautiful instrument to make music for your people as you prepare us on earth to sing your praises in heaven, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing of the Organ

Almighty God, we your people, joyously gathered in this church, present this organ for your blessing. Grant that its music may lead us to express our prayer and praise in melodies that are pleasing to you. O organ, sacred instrument, you will sing the glory of the angels, you will fill the sanctuary with song, You will evoke the mercy of God, which is everywhere over heaven and earth, you will sing the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, you will console the affliction of the aggrieved, and you will magnify the power, majesty, and glory of the Holy Trinity. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen. Let the sounds of the organ be heard!