

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, August 13, 2023
Pentecost 11, Setting 8

Rev. Dr. William Nelsen, Supply Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (Arr. by Diane Bish)
 "Shout to the Lord" (by Darlene Zscherch, Arr. by Peggy Bettcher)

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 "Together In Christ" (insert)

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, our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be
afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from
fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

WORD

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

First Reading 1 Kings 19:9-18 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms Psalm 85:8-13 "I will listen to what the LORD God is saying."

Second Reading Romans 10:5-15

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 fourteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 14:22-33

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

Sermon "Faith Is Not Putting God to the Test"

Hymn of the Day "Praise, Praise! You Are My Rock" ELW #862

Apostles Creed (p. 105)

Prayers of Intercession Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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 "Make Me An Instrument" (by Larry Olson and Karol Baer)

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 "Come, Let Us Eat" ELW #491

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 "Shout to the Lord" ELW #821

Dismissal Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude "Postludium" (by Gordon Young)

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—August 13, 11th 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. For emergency pastoral care needs, please contact the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Pastor Jeff Engholm at 320-212-0976. 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, at finsec@lpbethel.org.

TODAY (Welcome and thank you Pastor Bill Nelsen for leading us in worship today!)

- Hearing assist devices are available: Speak to an usher for assistance.
- Fellowship Hour: following worship

MONDAY

- "Blossoming in Faith" ALL AGES Vacation Bible School: 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

TUESDAY

- "Blossoming in Faith" ALL AGES Vacation Bible School: 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

- Worship & Music Committee meeting: 4:00 pm
- "Blossoming in Faith" ALL AGES Vacation Bible School: 5:30 pm-8:00 pm
- Book club discussion: 7:30 pm

THURSDAY

- "Blossoming in Faith" ALL AGES Vacation Bible School: 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

SATURDAY

- Ordination of Stefan Swanson: 2:00 pm, stay afterward for punch & treats!

SUNDAY 8/13 (Pentecost 12)

- Outdoor Worship (weather permitting): 9:00 am (Supply Pastor Donna Olsen)
- Fellowship Hour: following worship

You are Invited to the Ordination of Stefan Swanson to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA, Saturday, August 19, 2023, 2:00 pm Worship Service, Bethel Lutheran Church, punch and treats to follow. Service will livestream at: <https://www.facebook.com/lpbethel>. Stefan has been called by the SW MN Synod to serve as a Hospice Chaplain with the CentraCare Health Care System.

Last Fellowship Around the Fire: Wednesday, August 23, 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 lawn chairs.

The deadline for Bethel Women's Retreat is fast approaching! Let us know if you have questions! Get your registration form and payment to Diane Horsman ASAP or by Friday, September 1 at the latest.

Deadline for donating school supplies for LWR school kits: Sunday, September 10. Kits will be assembled later in September and brought to the Crow River Conference Fall Gathering on Saturday, September 30, and will continue on their way to the LWR warehouse in St. Paul. Monetary donations will purchase additional supplies to complete the school kits. Earmark your monetary donation "school kits" for the weekly offering plate.

School Kit List:

Four 70-sheet notebooks, wide or college ruled, 8 X 10 1/2" (no loose-leaf paper)
One 30 cm ruler (or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other)
One pencil sharpener
One 2 1/2" pink eraser
One blunt point scissors (Fiskars brand)
Five ballpoint pens, blue or black ink (no gel ink)
One box of 24 crayons (Crayola brand)
Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers

The Chosen Season 3: We will meet weekly again on Sundays at 6:00 pm later in September. If you haven't yet viewed Seasons 1 and 2, you can do so online, or you are welcome to borrow Bethel's DVDs. Contact Jill Duncan with questions.

Crow River Conference WELCA Fall Gathering: Saturday, September 30, First Lutheran Church, Litchfield. Sign up by Sunday, September 17 if you would like to attend. Reservation fee: \$10 payable to Diane Horsman.

Family Game Night is on the calendar for Sunday, October 15.