

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 20, 2023
12th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Donna Olsen, Supply Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Gathering Songs Green Binder #8 "My Lord, What a Morning"
 Green Binder #17 "Come Into His Presence"
 Green Binder #129 "I Will Call Upon The Lord"
 Insert "Together In Christ"

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 #6 "Bind Us Together"

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading	Isaiah 56:1, 6-8	The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.
Psalms 67	"Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (Ps 67:3)	
Second Reading	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.
Children's Sermon		
Gospel Song	Green Binder #11 "Thy Word"	
Gospel Reading	Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28	
Sermon		
Song of the Day	Green Binder #81 "Healer of My Heart"	
Apostles Creed		
Prayers of the People	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	
Offertory Song	Green Binder #26 "Give Thanks"
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	GB #69 "Feed My Lambs"
Prayer after Communion	

SENDING

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

Benediction Song	Green Binder #25 "The Lord Bless Thee"
Blessing	
Sending Song	Green Binder #51 "As the Deer"
Sending Words	Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.	

Postlude

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—August 20, 2023, 12th 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 call the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Pr. Jeff Engholm, Trinity Lu Church, Watertown, 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 Donna Olsen for leading us in worship today!

WEDNESDAY 8/23

- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm
- Fellowship Around the Fire: 6:30 pm, Join us one last time this summer, 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.

THURSDAY 8/24

- MEFS Mobile Outreach: 1:30-3:00 pm, Bethel parking lot

SUNDAY 8/27 (Pentecost 13)

- Worship: 9:00 am (Pr. Bill Nelsen) Hey kids! Bring your backpacks for a blessing!
- 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!
- Fellowship Hour: following worship

Today we rejoice as Andrew Edward Fosdick is baptized at 10:00 am. Andrew's parents are Katie and Nick Fosdick. Sponsors are Brian Stockman and Krystal Fair. May God bless Andrew and his family.

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

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.

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.

Family Game Night is on the calendar for Sunday, October 15, from 5-8 pm at church. Please bring a hotdish or salad to share, your own beverage, and your favorite game to play.

Pumpkin Festival is also on the calendar for Sunday, October 15-more information to come!