

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, October 1, 2023
Pentecost 18, Setting 8

Rev. Susan Engholm, Interim Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude *The Beautiful Treasures of Heaven Arr. by Edward Good*
Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus Arr. by Dale Wood

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, +Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit
who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.
Steadfast and faithful God,

You have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's
compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way
for us. In +Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn God is Here! ELW #526

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

**God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace
to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the
way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Choir Anthem "I Sing Because I'm Happy" Arr. by Kenneth Paden

WORD

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

First Reading Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-9 (read responsively)

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-13 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 twenty-first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 21:23-32

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" ELW #772

Apostles' Creed (p. 105)

Prayers of Intercession Merciful God, **receive 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 *Lead Us to Peace by Your Light* by Hans Peterson

Offering Prayer

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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 "In This Feast of Love" ACS #962

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Blessing

The God of glory, +Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" ELW #538

Dismissal Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Holy God We Praise Your Name* Arr. by Diane Bish

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—October 1, 18th 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 Interim Pastor Susan Engholm at 320-293-1811. 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

- Hearing assist devices are available: Speak to an usher for assistance.
- Sunday school & Confirmation class: 10:15 am
- The Chosen-Season 3: 6:00-7:30 pm, narthex

WEDNESDAY

- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

SUNDAY (Pentecost 19)

- Worship: 9:00 am (Pastor Bill Nelsen)
- Fellowship hour: following worship
- Sunday school: 10:15 am
- No Confirmation class today
- The Chosen-Season 3: 6:00-7:30 pm, narthex

Bethel Quilting: The group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month in the Fellowship Hall from 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. come and go as you wish. We quilt for baptized babies, graduates, GLLM Quilt auction, and Don't Cry I'm Here (homeless shelter). **Date change**: The quilters will meet on Thursday, October 12, rather than Wednesday, October 11.

Season 3 of The Chosen: Join us on **Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30 pm.** We'll meet upstairs in the narthex for viewing and discussion. Refreshments will be served.

HELP WANTED: The Cemetery Committee is seeking someone to take over lawn care work for our two cemeteries and the old church site, beginning in the spring of 2024. Must provide your own lawn care equipment. Duties include mowing, trimming, weed-whipping and keeping headstones free of grass clippings. Please reach out to Mary Lou Teubert or Nicole Weisenburger for more details and compensation information. Thanks!

Pumpkin Festival: Sunday, October 15 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Elephant Joe's coffee truck will be here and we'll have activities for kids. We are looking for people to host a kid's activity– such as face painting, games, etc. Contact Emily Koehler if you can help. **Family Game Night: Sunday, October 15, from 5:00 pm-8:00 pm.** Please bring a hotdish or salad to share, your own beverage, and your favorite game to play.

Next Noisy offering Sunday, October 22: This offering, on the **fourth Sunday of the month,** supports Green Lake Bible Camp Youth Camperships: 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!

Next Bethel Breakfast, Sunday, October 29: Longhorn's Restaurant has agreed to open at 10:30 am to serve breakfast to Bethel on **the last Sunday of every month.** If this is something you can fit into your schedule, please plan on joining some of us for a time of fun and fellowship as we enjoy breakfast together. If you have any questions, talk to Cathy Houg or Carolyn Barr.

Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat, Green Lake Bible Camp, Saturday, November 4—Sunday, November 5. This one night retreat will offer you a unique chance to spend time together doing camp activities, while also learning more about your faith together! With intergenerational Bible studies, worship, activities, and more! If you have any questions talk to Judy Angvall, Pete and Jean Hallberg, or Diane Horsman, as they are planning to go with their grandchildren. Their grandchildren are between the ages of 6 and 10. The cost is \$85 for adults and \$35 for each youth. Plan to register soon at GLLM.org!