

## 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 29, 2023

Rev. Susan Engholm, Interim Pastor

Reformation Sunday, Setting 8

Jan Smith, Accompanist

### GATHERING

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

Prelude      *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" Arr. by Michael Burkhart*

*"Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" Arr. by Michael Burkhart*

*"Alleluia! Let Praises Ring" Arr. by Wayne Wold*

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      "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" ELW #504

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

**Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and  
peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in  
anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need,  
provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus  
Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever. Amen.**

Choir Anthem "My Song for Life with Jesus Loves Me" by Pepper Choplin

## WORD

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

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 46 (read responsively)

Second Reading Romans 3:19-28 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 John the eighth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading John 8:31-34 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Here I Am, Lord" ELW #574

Affirmation of Baptism (p. 234)

*Olivia Radtke, Ashlyn Rosenau, Bryce Shields, Mallorie Torry*

Prayers of Intercession God of grace, **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

Chime Choir "Amazing Grace" Arr. by Patricia Sanders Cota

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

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 "Rise, Shine, You People!" ELW #665

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

Postlude "A Mighty Fortress" Arr. by Wilbur Held

# WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—October 29, 2023—Reformation Sunday

**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](mailto: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: 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:finsec@lpbethel.org).

## TODAY—Reformation & Confirmation Sunday

- Hearing assist devices are available: Speak to an usher for assistance.
- Confirmation Reception: following worship
- Sunday School: following worship, No confirmation class
- Breakfast with Bethel: 10:30 am @ Longhorn's Burger House
- The Chosen-Season 3: 6:00-7:30 pm, join us in the narthex, refreshments served

## WEDNESDAY

- Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm
- WELCA meeting: 7:30 pm

## SUNDAY—All Saints Sunday (Daylight Savings Time ends)

- Worship: 9:00 am
- Sunday School & Confirmation class: following worship
- Fellowship hour: following worship



**Confirmation Sunday:** Olivia Radtke, Ashlyn Rosenau, Bryce Shields, and Mallorie Torry will affirm the promises of baptism and confess their faith in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit during worship TODAY. You are invited to join them for refreshments following worship.

**Endowment Fund:** Today, in addition to our regular offering, we will take a collection to support the Bethel Endowment fund. Please write checks out to the *Bethel Endowment Fund*. We will accept Endowment Grant application forms through Thursday, November 30. Application forms are on the wall in the narthex. Please place completed applications in the Endowment Committee mailbox.

**Breakfast with Bethel TODAY at 10:30 am:** Breakfast at Longhorn's Restaurant 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.

**Adult Education will begin November 5 during coffee hour.** Join us for a time of education and conversation! We will have education every Sunday except for the last Sunday of the month. Speak to Cathy Houg or Mitch Overbye if you have questions.

**During worship on All Saints Sunday, November 5** we will name in worship both your loved ones who have gone before us and those baptized since All Saints Day, November 1, 2022. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for those names, please note on which list they belong to. During the worship service that day there will be an opportunity to light a candle for any loved one you want to remember.

**Join us for 9:00 am Bible Study beginning Monday, November 6:** Similar to how it was done in the past, we will review the sermon from the day before and look at the Gospel for the coming week. Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Bethel Quilting:** The group meets the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month** in the Fellowship Hall from 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. come and go as you wish. The quilts are for baptized babies, graduates, GLLM Quilt auction, and Don't Cry I'm Here (homeless shelter).

**Save the Date:** The 2024 Bethel Women's Retreat has been scheduled for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 13-15. Can't wait!