

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, November 5, 2023
All Saints Sunday, Setting 8

Rev. Susan Engholm, Interim Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude *Down by the River* arr. by R. Lowry; *Saints Bound for Heaven* arr. by L. Larson

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Holy One, **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ☩ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn "Making Their Way" ACS #979

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

All Saints Litany

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you. **We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave..., we praise you. **We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and give of life, source of wisdom, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you. **We worship you.**

(As prayers are offered and names read, you are invited forward to light a candle in honor of your saints.)

We Remember Bethel's Departed Saints *(Names of departed are read)*

We Remember Bethel's Newest Saints *(Names of newly baptized are read)*

We Remember All of Bethel's Saints

WORD

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

First Reading Revelation 7:9-17 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
Psalm 34:1-10, 22 (read responsively)
Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3 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 fifth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
Gospel Reading Matthew 5:1-12 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**
Sermon
Hymn of the Day "Death Be Never Last" ACS #1030
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 *Bread of Heaven by Marc Jordan*
Offering Prayer

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 190)

Words of Institution

Hymn "The Lord's Prayer" Green Binder #134

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

Communion Hymn "Jerusalem, My Happy Home" ELW #628

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Blessing

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn "Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In" ACS #950

Dismissal Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Shall We Gather at the River arr. by John Carter*

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—November 5, 2023—All Saints 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. 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/Adult Education: following worship
- The Chosen-Season 3: 6:00-7:30 pm, join us in the narthex, refreshments served

MONDAY

- Bible Study: 9:00 am

WEDNESDAY

- Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

SUNDAY

- Worship: 9:00 am (Pastor Bill Nelsen)
- Sunday School & Adult Education: following worship, No confirmation class
- Fellowship hour: following worship
- The Chosen-Season 3: 6:00-7:30 pm, join us in the narthex, refreshments served

Thanksgiving Worship service: Sunday, November 19, 6:30 pm, Pie Social follows

Advent Worship service: Wednesday, November 29, 6:30 pm. The choir will practice at 5:45 pm during Advent. (Advent services continue on Dec. 6, 13, and 20)

A big Thank You from the Endowment Committee!-Last Sunday, we received an offering of \$1,685.00 for the Endowment Fund—*Fantastic!* Remember, you can give to the Endowment Fund anytime using the yellow envelope on the narthex wall. Please place donation envelopes in the Endowment Committee mailbox.

Endowment Fund grants: 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.

Adult Education will begin TODAY 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.

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!

During the month of November we will collect a cash offering for the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf. Special envelopes will be handed out today. Please put your offering in this envelope and place it in the offering plate any Sunday during November. Thank you for your generosity!

November Book Club: *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah
Discussion date: Wednesday, November 15, 7:30 pm

Join us for a Pie Social served by WELCA following the Thanksgiving worship on Sunday, November 19, at 6:30 pm.

You're invited to the WELCA's upcoming advent project: "A Birthday Party for Jesus"! Bethel will be sponsoring three families through the Lester Prairie School Outreach Program. We will have a Giving Tree in the narthex with various items to purchase for our families by the 19th of November. Go shopping and bring your items back for the "Birthday Party for Jesus" on Sunday, December 17, where we will wrap the gifts, play some games, enjoy treats and make some crafts.

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. The quilts are for baptized babies, graduates, GLLM Quilt auction, and Don't Cry I'm Here (homeless shelter).