

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Molly Wills, Pastor | Jan Smith, Accompanist
23rd Sunday after Pentecost | Sunday, November 16, 2025

WELCOME, WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

If you are new to Bethel, here is some helpful worship information.

*We use the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal) and the supplement All Creation Sings (purple hymnal), which contain liturgy and hymns. Liturgy pages are at the front of each hymnal, with the page numbers at the bottom and in the bulletin as (red ELW p.) or (purple ACS p.) Hymn pages are in the back two-thirds of the hymnal, with the page numbers at the top and in the bulletin as (red hymnal #) or (purple hymnal #). The songs from the Green Book are in the bulletin as (green binder #). **Hearing assistive devices are available; speak to an usher for assistance.***



GATHERING

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

MEDITATION TIME “All Things Bright and Beautiful” and “For the Beauty of the Earth” arr. by N. Raabe, “Saints Bound for Heaven” arr. by L. Larson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG OF PRAISE “We Gather”

WE GATHER

Richard Colligan

$\bullet = 96$

G Em Am7 C D

We gath - er in your name today to hon - or you and call you Lord. We

G Em C D G C

gath - er in your name today to wor - ship you and pray. You are, (you

D G G C D

are) you are our God (you are our God). We are, (we are) we are your

G Em C D G

people (we are your people). You are, (you are) you are our God (you are our

G Am Bm C D G

God). We are, (we are) we are your people (we are your people). Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Faithful God, **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, + in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE “Great and Mighty Is He” (green binder #71)

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 98 (responsive reading)

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

² **O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹ The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now, such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Help Us, O Lord"

Help us, O Lord, to hear your word. Open our hearts to feel your word.

Give us the strength to live your word each day.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19 The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸ And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

⁹ "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. ¹² "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls." The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Mighty to Save" (green binder #120)

APOSTLES' CREED (red ELW p. 105)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

FLUTE DUET (Terri Helland and Emily Koehler) "Near the River" arr. by Anna Laura Page

OFFERING PRAYER

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER (red ELW p. 173)

COMMUNION

SONG DURING COMMUNION "Canticle of the Turning" (red hymnal #723)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION SONG "Blessing"

May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you. May God look upon you with favor and give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace. Amen.

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG "Soon and Very Soon" (green binder #27)

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

POSTLUDE "You Are Holy" setting by Nancy Raabe

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NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: Jer 23:1-6; Ps 46; Col 1:11-20; Lk 23:33-43

BETHEL'S 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.

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING TODAY!

GREETER: Ron Foust & Jameson Heuer

USHER: Nicole Kleve & Bryon Weisenburger

LECTOR: Jill Duncan

COFFEE: Eric Angvall

TREATS: Judy Angvall

ALTAR: Judy Angvall

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Jaxen McBride

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, NOV. 23

GREETER:

USHER: Cathy Houg & Carolyn Barr

LECTOR: David Gohl

COFFEE: WELCA Pie Social

TREATS: WELCA Pie Social

ALTAR: Judy Angvall

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: David Gohl

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Sunday, November 16

- Praise Service: 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday school Christmas program practice (pre-school-6th grade): following worship
- Intergenerational Sunday school: following worship, all ages are welcome!

Wednesday, November 19

- Bible study: 11:30 a.m.
- Quilting: 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Choir practice: 6:30 p.m.
- Book club discussion: 7:30 p.m.

November 20-24: Pastor Molly's vacation

Sunday, November 23, Christ the King (Rev. Margo Martens)

- Worship: 9:00 a.m.
- Pie Social: following worship, hosted by WELCA
- Sunday school Christmas program practice (pre-school-6th grade): following worship

QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS? Contact the church office at 320-395-2125 or bethellutheranlp@gmail.com. If you need emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor Molly Wills at 320-339-8169 or email her at pastor@lpbethel.org.

ADDRESS: 77 Lincoln AVE N, Lester Prairie, MN 55354, (Mailing USPS: PO Box 207)

WEBSITE: www.lpbethel.org | **FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/lpbethel

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Wednesday at noon

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 25th of the month

VANCO GIVING: Scan the QR code or visit www.lpbethel.org

under the "Give" section, or complete an application and submit it to the church office.

TEXT GIVING: To give, text dollar amount to **866-298-7547**



OCTOBER 2025

\$ Contributions:	7,359.00
\$ To Meet Budget:	10,262.01
\$ Difference:	-2,903.01
Weekly Average Attendance:	56

FOR THE YEAR 2025

YTD \$ Contributions:	88,555.19
YTD \$ To Meet Budget:	102,620.10
YTD \$ Difference:	-14,064.91

CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: (2 yr. term) David Gohl
952-358-0201; david.g.m.gohl@gmail.com
Vice-President: (1 yr. term) Peggy Wick
612-499-0186; sully72828@gmail.com
Council Secretary: (2 yr. term) Julie Hanson
320-485-7870 or 612-396-8038; j3hanson@tds.net
Treasurer: (1 yr. term) Jill Duncan
320-420-6284; treasurer@lpbethel.org
Financial Secretary: (2 yr. term) Stacy Meyer
320-620-1040; finsec@lpbethel.org

CHURCH COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Board: (1 yr. term) Jeff Hanson
320-485-7870 or 612-396-8374; j3hanson@tds.net
Trustee Board: (2 yr. term) Bryon Weisenburger
320-282-4747; bryonw@usa.com
Finance Board: (1 yr. term) Mitch Overbye
952-237-3320; moverbye8@yahoo.com
Finance Board: (2 yr. term) Sara Jepsen
605-760-0685; candsjepsen@gmail.com
Education Board: (1 yr. term) Pete Hallberg
507-430-8609; phallberg58@icloud.com
Education Board: (2 yr. term) Katie Radtke
952-215-6878; gemini.radtke@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- **COMING TOGETHER IN SONG**: Join us for a special community concert on Sunday, November 16, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Christ the King Lutheran Church, located at 1040 S Grade RD SW, Hutchinson, MN 55350. This concert will celebrate and support the work of the Common Cup Ministries in McLeod County! This is a free-will event.
- **FOOD BAG ITEM COLLECTION**: We are collecting **granola bars and protein bars** to donate to Common Cup Ministry's Weekend Food Program for school children in need. Donations may be left in the Common Cup Corner in the narthex.
- **SUMMER PROGRAM LAUNCH DAY**: You are invited to **Water's Edge Ministries** Summer Program Launch Day on Tuesday, November 18, at 10:00 a.m. in The Village of Shores of St. Andrew. Join us for a morning of connection, inspiration, and ministry updates as we look ahead to another incredible summer! Go to gllm.org to RSVP for the event.
- **BETHEL BOOK CLUB**: December: *Prodigal Summer* by B. Kingsolver. Discussion date: Wednesday, December 17, at 7:30 p.m.
- **ADVENT BEGINS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30**: Join us for mid-week Advent worship services on Wednesdays, December 3, 10, and 17 at 6:00 p.m. (Way of the Manger/Light of the World)
- **JOIN THE HOLIDAY SECRET PAL FUN!** Bethel's Women of the ELCA invites **all women in our congregation** to participate in the Holiday Secret Pal Experience! It's a **simple and inexpensive** way to build community by remembering your assigned Secret Pal with **cards, notes, and small gifts** during Advent. You'll reveal **your identity by giving them a small gift** at Christmas or by the end of the year. ***We hope to get everyone matched up by November 30th, so please sign up as soon as possible.***
- **BETHEL BREAKFAST**: Join us at Longhorn's at 10:20 a.m. on Sunday, November 30, for fellowship and breakfast with other Bethel members.
- **ENDOWMENT GRANTS**: Endowment grant requests are due by November 30. The yellow Endowment Grant applications are available in the narthex, to the right of the church mailboxes. Please place the completed forms in the Endowment church mailbox.
- **MEFS MOBILE OUTREACH WINTER SCHEDULE**: Orders must be placed in advance by completing a form and submitting it before the monthly deadline. You can fill out the order form online at www.mcleodemergencyfoodshelf.org or pick one up from the church office. See the bus schedule on the bulletin board or the front door for order deadlines and Bethel's distribution dates. You may still visit the food shelf in Glencoe or Hutchinson once a week.
- **ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE DECEMBER 10**. Financial reports are due January 10, 2026. Email your report as a Word document to Tamie at bethellutheranlp@gmail.com.

