



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 12TH, 2026

8:30 & 10:30 AM

+ indicates to stand in body or spirit;
bold print indicates congregational responses

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE “*Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*” arr. Mark Albrecht

WORDS OF WELCOME

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin
to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

(a brief silence for reflection)

Gracious God, **have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

+ **GATHERING HYMN** “*God of the Fertile Fields*” ACS #1063



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in
serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care
toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

+ APOSTOLIC 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

**Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word.
By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it,
and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

+ FIRST READING *ISAIAH 55:10-13*

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

PSALM *PSALM 65:[1-8] 9-13*

- ¹ You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.
- ² **To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**
- ³ Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.
- ⁴ **Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**
- ⁵ Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.
- ⁶ **You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**
- ⁷ You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
- ⁸ **Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**
- ⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.
- ¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**
- ¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- ¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**
- ¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sing praise to the Lord, all the earth! Al - le - lu - le, Al-le-lu - ia!

Play mu-sic to praise God's name! Al - le - lu - le, Al-le-lu - ia!

+ HOLY GOSPEL *MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23*

The gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹If you have ears, hear!”

...

¹⁸“Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY “Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil” ELW #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING



Guests

Generosity is part of who we are as God’s people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel’s trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated donation. Online giving cards (at the name tag stations), checks, or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.



Members

ANTHEM “*Chanson Sans Paroles, Op. 40, No.2*” Jean Sibelius

+ OFFERTORY

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me._____ Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me._____ Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with
your Spir - it free._____ Cre - ate in me a clean
heart, O God, and re - new a right Spir - it with - in me._____

✦ MEAL ✦

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And with you, too.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Give thanks to the Lord.



+ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

It is truly right and proper at all times and places to give our thanks to you, Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Ever-living God. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever. **Amen.**

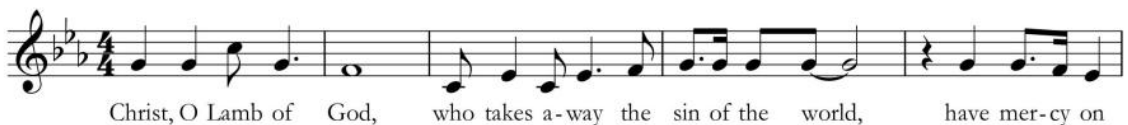
+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

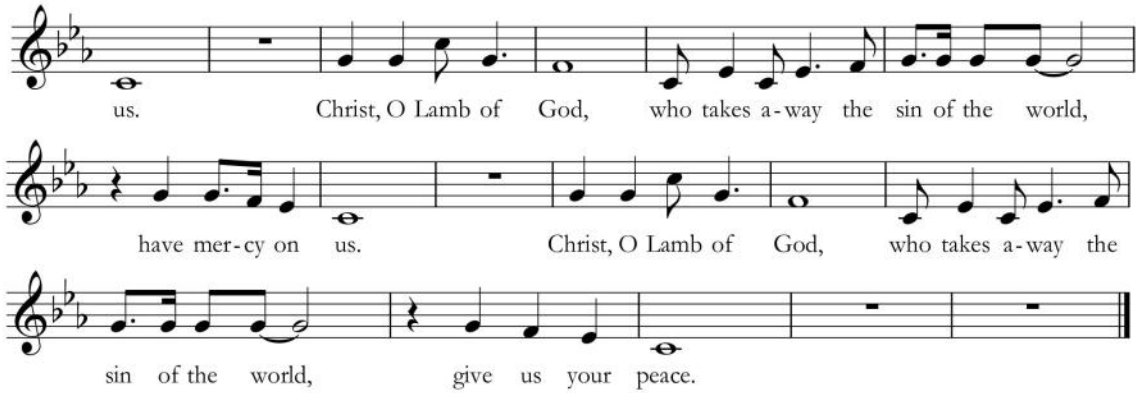
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

+ EL PADRE NUESTRO

**Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre;
venga a nos tu reino;
hágase tu voluntad,
así en la tierra como en el cielo;
el pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy;
y perdónanos nuestras deudas
así como nosotros perdonamos
a nuestros deudores;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentación;
mas líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.**

LAMB OF GOD





us. Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes a-way the sin of the world,
 have mer-cy on us. Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes a-way the
 sin of the world, give us your peace.

HOLY COMMUNION HYMN *“Almighty God, Your Word is Cast”* ELW #516



- 1 Al-might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
- 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
- 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
- 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de-scend and righ-teous fruits a - bound.
 but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
 but let it yield a hun-dred-fold the fruits of peace and joy.
 that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

+ TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

+ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN "Light Dawns in a Weary World" ELW #726



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won-der ech - oes sha - lom.

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE "Gigue in G Major from Sonata No. VI" Thomas Arne

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson
Assisting Minister: (8:30) Eric Lundin (10:30) Marci Groenewold
Ushers: (8:30) Cal Feine, Greg Bussler, Brian Boesche, Kelly Groenewold
(10:30) Nancy Sparby, Michael Sparby
Readers: (8:30) Janice Lehmkuhl (10:30) Paula Mathison
Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Telford Norvold, Maryann Kaul, Carol Cole, Clark Cary,
Kitty Runzheimer
(10:30) Ben Fisher
Altar Care: (set) Carol Lysne (clean) Judy Tonolli (cups) Mary Loven
Keyboards: Megan Engel
A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Broughton, Nathan Hoekstra

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

"God of the Fertile Fields" Text by Georgia Harkness, © 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, by Felice de Gardini

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SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

July 5	in person attendance
8:30	104
10:30	47
Total	151

NEXT SUNDAY...


The text of the day
will be **Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**
with Romans 8:12-25.
Pastor Ben will preach.

THIS WEEK—JULY 13—JULY 18
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

SUNDAY

3:00 pm Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) Fellows Recital

MONDAY

12:00 pm  Bible Study @ the Vault (1520 Clinton Lane)

6:30 pm Rice County ISIAIAH Meeting

TUESDAY

9:00 am  Quilting Group

9:45 am Staff Meeting

10:30 am Bethel ISIAIAH Planning

3:00 pm Lydia Circle Fellowship

5:00 pm Personnel

6:00 pm Christikon Pizza, Photo Sharing & Poster Making Party!

6:30 pm Church Council

WEDNESDAY

2:00 pm Summer Sunshine: Splash Valley Water Park (Apple Valley Aquatic Center)

THURSDAY

9:00 am Men of Bethel

9:30 am FAB (Faith and Books)

10:00 am Parkview Fellowship

11:00 am Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) Closing Worship
featuring Megan Engel, Chuck Gray, and Jill Mahr @ St. Olaf's Boe Memorial Chapel



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