



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 19TH, 2026

8:30 & 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE “Morning Has Broken” by Eleanor Farjeon, Cat Stevens

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 *"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"* ELW #693



- 1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
- 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
- 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
- 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

+ 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

**Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness
and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom,
that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING *ROMANS 8:12-25*

A reading from Romans.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

+ 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 13:24-30, 36-43*

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

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

...

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

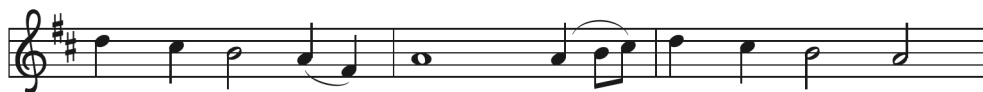
The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY “The Reign of God, Like Farmer’s Field” ACS #952



1 The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
 2 The reign of God is like a pearl on
 3 Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
 4 Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
 5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the



weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
 bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
 yet un - no - ticed, grow; from deep with - in it
 ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
 reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
 pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
 ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
 feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
 kin - dling hearts, the reign of God is here!

+ APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

+ 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 "*Lyric Piece*" by Edvard Grieg

+ 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.



Lift up your hearts.



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

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,
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 "Praise and Thanksgiving" ELW #689



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

+ 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 “For the Fruit of All Creation” ELW #679



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

+ DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE “Come, ye Thankful People, Come” arr. Gail Smith

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Krista Middlebrooks (10:30) Ellen Haefner

Ushers: (8:30) Charlie Dahl, Kevin Fink, Harley Foster, Larry Narhi
(10:30) Rebecca Benedict, Jeff Kreis

Readers: (8:30) Paula Mathison (10:30) Cindy Kreis

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Wendell Arneson, Beth Christiansen, Jeanne Cloud, Marci Groenewold,
Rolf Kragseth

(10:30) Kirsten Scott

Altar Care: (set) and (clear) Linda Zolnosky (clean) Phyllis Larson (cups) Cynthia Carau

Guest Keyboards: Leanne Barck, Guitar: Gary Lewis

A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Broughton, Nathan Hoekstra

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

July 12	in person attendance
8:30	111
10:30	62
Total	173

NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day
will be **Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**
with Romans 8:26-39.
Pastor Ben will preach.

THIS WEEK—JULY 19—JULY 25
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

**High School Service Trip to North Carolina with
Lutheridge Disaster Response**

Please keep our 10th-12th grade youth and chaperones in your prayers this week as they travel to provide disaster relief from Hurricane Helene.

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

9:45 am Staff Meeting

12:00 pm Lydia Circle

THURSDAY

9:00 am FAB (Faith and Books)

9:00 am  Men of Bethel

10:00 am Projects with Purpose



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