



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 26TH, 2026

8:30 & 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE “*Gather Us In*” arr. Jeanne Cotter

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 “*Gather Us In*” ELW #532 stanzas 1, 2, & 4



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

+ 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

**Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son
you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit,
give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING *ROMANS 8:26-39*

A reading from Romans.

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.

³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

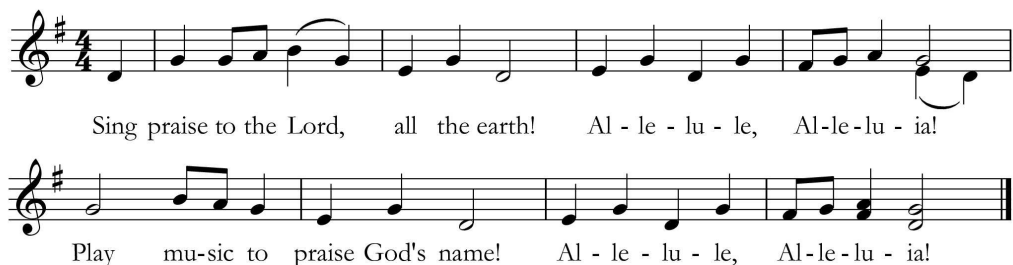
³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?
³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
 we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



+ HOLY GOSPEL *MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52*

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

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

...

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and

separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY “*What is the World Like*” ACS #1047 stanzas 1, 3, & 5

1 What is the world like when God's will is
 3 What is the world like when God's will is
 5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im -

done? Mus - tard seeds grow more than
 done? No more is neigh - bor just
 parts, filled with the Spir - it who

we can con - ceive: roots thread the
 al - ly or friend; peace thrives in
 joins us as one. Born through our

soil; branch - es reach for the sun.
 plac - es where once there was none.
 voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,

This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.
 This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.
 this is a new world where God's will is done.

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 (8:30) *"Wareham from Three Preludes on English Hymn-Tunes"* arr. Graham Farrell

(10:30) *"Loreta and Desiree's Bouquet—Part I"* George Winston

+ 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.

+ 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;

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.

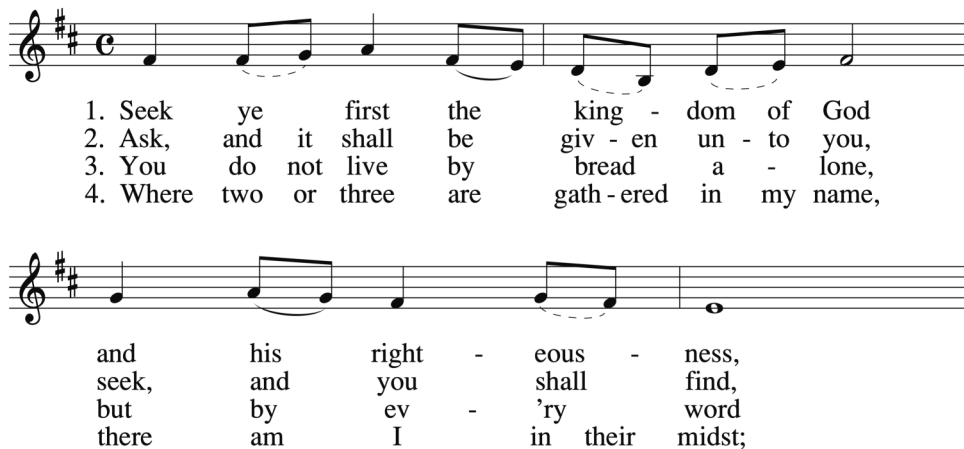
y no nos dejes caer en la tentación;
mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

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 "Seek Ye First" Gather #715



1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,
3. You do not live by bread a - lone,
4. Where two or three are gath - ered in my name,
and seek, his right - eous - ness,
but you shall find,
there am I ev - 'ry word
in their midst;



and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you;
knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you;
that comes forth from the mouth of God;
and what - so - ev - er you ask I will do;



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

+ 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 *"Bring Forth the Kingdom"*

Verses



1. You are salt for the earth, O peo- ple:— Salt for the King-dom of God!
2. You are a light on the hill, O peo- ple:— Light for the Cit - y of God!
3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo- ple:— Bring forth the King-dom of God!
4. We are a blest and a pil - grim peo- ple:— Bound for the King-dom of God!



Share the fla - vor of life, O peo - ple: Life in the King-dom of God!
Shine so ho - ly and bright, O peo - ple: Shine for the King-dom of God!
Seeds of mer - cy and seeds of jus - tice, Grow in the King-dom of God!
Love our jour - ney and love our home - land: Love is the King-dom of God!

Refrain



Bring forth the King-dom of mer - cy, Bring forth the King-dom of peace; Bring forth the



King-dom of jus - tice, Bring forth the Ci - ty of God!_____

+ DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE (8:30) *"Trumpet Tune"* Jacques Aubert; arr. S. Drummond Wolff
(10:30) *"Bring Forth the Kingdom"* arr. Carol Wahl

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Christina Schwietz (10:30) Rolf Kragseth

Ushers: (8:30) Bruce Dueffert, Charlie Dahl, Harley Foster, Kelly Groenewold
(10:30) Scott Broughton, Peder Jothan

Readers: (8:30) Bob Thacker (10:30) Darlene Broughton

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Dottie Hammer, Rosemarie Lewis, Norvold Telford, Rose Turnacliff,
Phil Ruud

(10:30) Darlene Broughton

Altar Care: (set) (clean) and (clear) Phyllis Larson (cups) Connie DeGrote

Trumpet: Gerry Hoekstra Keyboards: Megan Engel

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“What is the World Like” Text: Adam M. L. Tice.

Music: NEW WORLD, Sally Ann Morris. Text & music © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.

“Seek Ye First”, Text: Matthew 6:33, 7:7, adapt. B Karen Lafferty., Tune: Seek Ye First, Karen Lafferty,
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“Bring Forth the Kingdom”, text and music by Marty Haugen, © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Benediction is modified from the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, Ne Zealand and Polynesia,
A New Zealand Prayer Book, 1988.

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SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

July 19	in person attendance
8:30	137
10:30	65
Total	202

NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day will be **Matthew 8:23-27**
with Job 38:1-11, 16 and Psalm 104:1-9, 24-26.

Pastor Inger will preach.

THIS WEEK—JULY 26—AUGUST 1
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

THIS EVENING

5:30—9:00 pm Young Adult Gathering—Relax, Refresh & Refuel at Bethel

MONDAY

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

7:00 pm Creation Care Team (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY

9:00 am  Quilting Group

9:45 am Staff Meeting

THURSDAY

9:00 am Men of Bethel

9:00 am FAB (Faith and Books)



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