



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEASON OF CREATION—OCEAN

AUGUST 2ND, 2026

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE (8:30) *“O God, Our Help in Ages Past/Amazing Grace/We Gather Together”* Hymn Medley
(10:30) *“Joy”* Thomas Keesecker

WORDS OF WELCOME

+ INVOCATION

Grace and peace to you from the God of Shalom,
who creates, claims, and calls you for here and now. **Amen.**

+ GATHERING SONG "Here and Now" verses 1, 2 & 4

Verse 1 will be sung as a solo. All are invited to join on the following verses.



1. Per - haps you have come_ down a well trav - eled road_
2. So ma - ny the sto - ries we car - ry and tend,
4. Im - ag - ine a world where op - pres-sion will cease,



bring - ing your hopes_ and your ques - tions un - told or
beau - ty and bro - ken - ness, wait - ing to mend. So
just - ice and mer - cy will blos - som in peace and



may - be you're hold - ing too heav - y a load. O
come to this place_ from what - ev - er has been; re -
all of cre - a - tion will join in the feast: be -



come, just as you are.____ to verse 2
mem - ber whose you are.____ all other verses to Refrain
lov - ed all, we are.____

Refrain



Here we are, on this sac - red ground.____



Heav - en dwells a-mong us here____ and now.

+ GATHERING PRAYER

God of every time and every place,
by your Spirit we have been gathered
from the rhythms and rituals of daily life
to remember who and whose we are.

Guide our attention to the here and now,
so that we perceive the waves of your love
and are restored by your peace. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

READING *JOB 38:1-11; 16*

A reading from Job.

¹ Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

² “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³ Gird up your loins like a man;

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴ “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶ On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone

⁷ when the morning stars sang together

and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

⁸ “Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb,

⁹ when I made the clouds its garment

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰ and prescribed bounds for it,

and set bars and doors,

¹¹ and said, “Thus far shall you come and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stopped?”

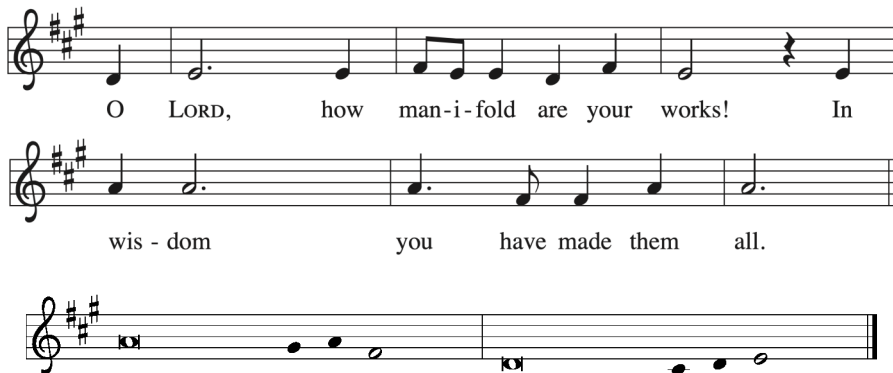
...

¹⁶ “Have you entered into the springs of the sea

or walked in the recesses of the deep?

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

PSALM *PSALM 104:1-9; 24-46*



¹Bless the LORD, O my soul; O LORD my God, you are | very great!

You are clothed with majes- | ty and splendor.

²**You wrap yourself with light as | with a cloak
and stretch out the heavens | like a tent.**

³You lay the beams of your chambers in the wa- | ters above;
you make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings | of the wind.

⁴**You make the | winds your messengers
and flames of | fire your servants. R**

⁵You set the earth upon | its foundations,
so that from now until forever it shall nev- | er be moved.

⁶**You covered it with the deep as | with a garment;
the waters stood a- | bove the mountains.**

⁷At your rebuke the | waters fled,
scattered by your | voice of thunder.

⁸**They went up into the mountains and descended down | to the valleys,
to the place where | you assigned them. R**

⁹You set the limits that they | should not pass;
never shall they return to cover the | earth again.

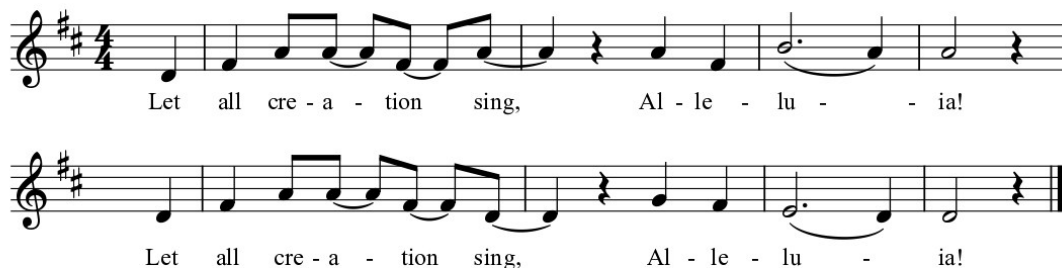
²⁴**How manifold are your | works, O LORD!**

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full | of your creatures.

²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- | y to number,
living things both | small and great.

²⁶**There go the ships | to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you made for the | sport of it. R**

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *"Let All Creation Sing"*



HOLY GOSPEL *MATTHEW 8:23-27*

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

²³ And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. ²⁴ A windstorm suddenly arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves, but he was asleep. ²⁵ And they went and woke him up, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" ²⁶ And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a dead calm. ²⁷ They were amazed, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

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

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY *"Calm to the Waves"* ELW #794

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis - pers, "Peace, be still."

Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still - ness, hear his voice.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics underneath. The first two staves end with a double bar line, and the last two staves continue the melody and lyrics.

+ APOSTLES' CREED

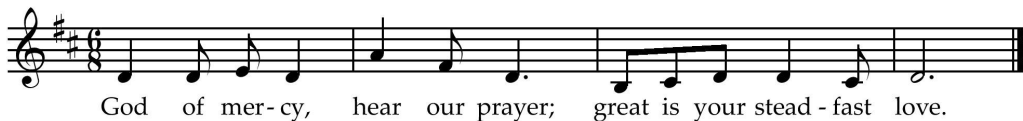
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

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 *"Great is Your Steadfast Love"*

A soloist will sing the Refrain once at the beginning of the prayers; the assembly is invited to join at the end of each petition:



+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING



Guests

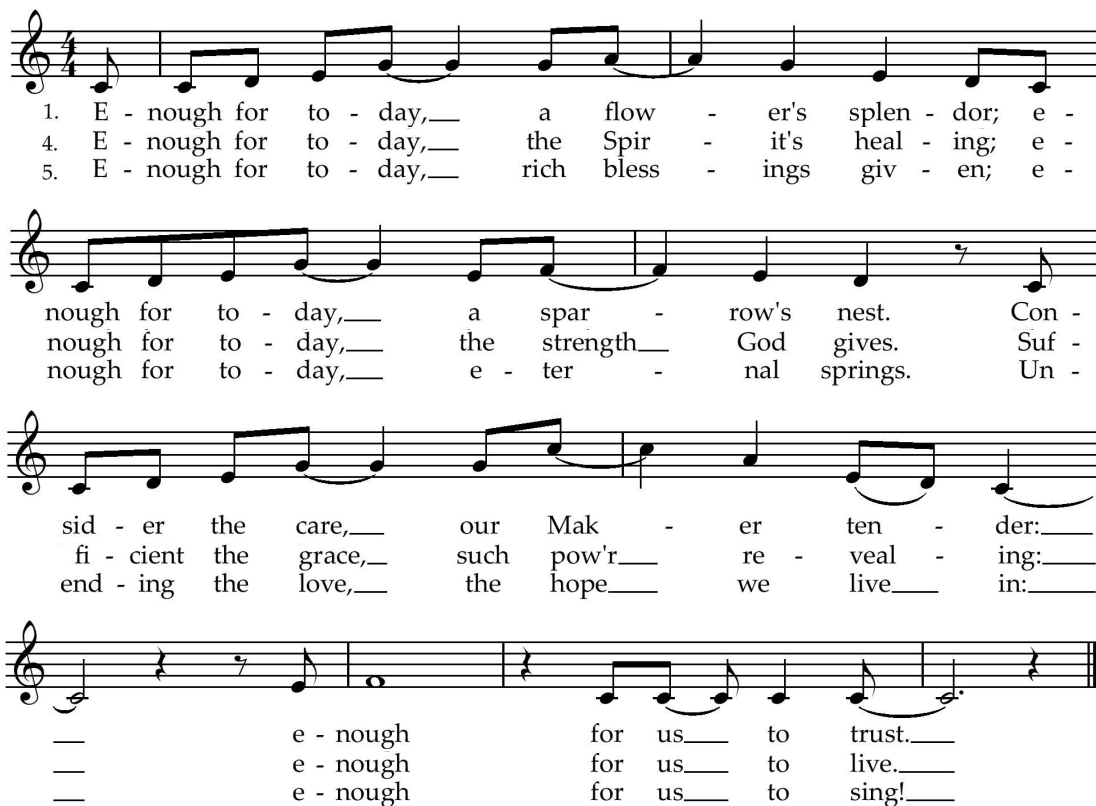
Generosity is part of who we are as God's people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel's trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated 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) *"Beach Spring/For the Beauty of the Earth"* Hymn Medley
(10:30) *"For the Fruit of All Creation"* arr. John Turner

+ OFFERTORY *"Enough for Today"* verses 1, 4, & 5



1. E - nough for to - day,___ a flow - er's splen - dor; e -
 4. E - nough for to - day,___ the Spir - it's heal - ing; e -
 5. E - nough for to - day,___ rich bless - ings giv - en; e -

nough for to - day,___ a spar - row's nest. Con -
 nough for to - day,___ the strength___ God gives. Suf -
 nough for to - day,___ e - ter - nal springs. Un -

sid - er the care,___ our Mak - er ten - der:___
 fi - cient the grace,___ such pow'r___ re - veal - ing:___
 end - ing the love,___ the hope___ we live___ in:___

— e - nough for us___ to trust.___
 — e - nough for us___ to live.___
 — e - nough for us___ to sing!___

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of the winged ones and the wildflowers,
 by your living word you call us valuable
 and promise what we need to live abundantly.

Renewed by your presence and provision,
 we offer our whole selves to this time and place,
 trusting it is enough because you say it is so. Amen.

✠ MEAL ✠

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

+ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore. You laid the foundations of the earth; you encircled the globe with air; you prescribed bounds for the waters; you made every creature. You molded us in your image, and with mercy taller than the trees of the forests, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own. That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución

With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. Send your Spirit on us and on this meal, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world, and praising and glorifying you through your Son Jesus Christ, through whom all glory and honor are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther, who art in heav - en, hal-low-ed be thy

name; thy king - dom come, thy will be done on

earth as it is in heav - en. Give us this day our

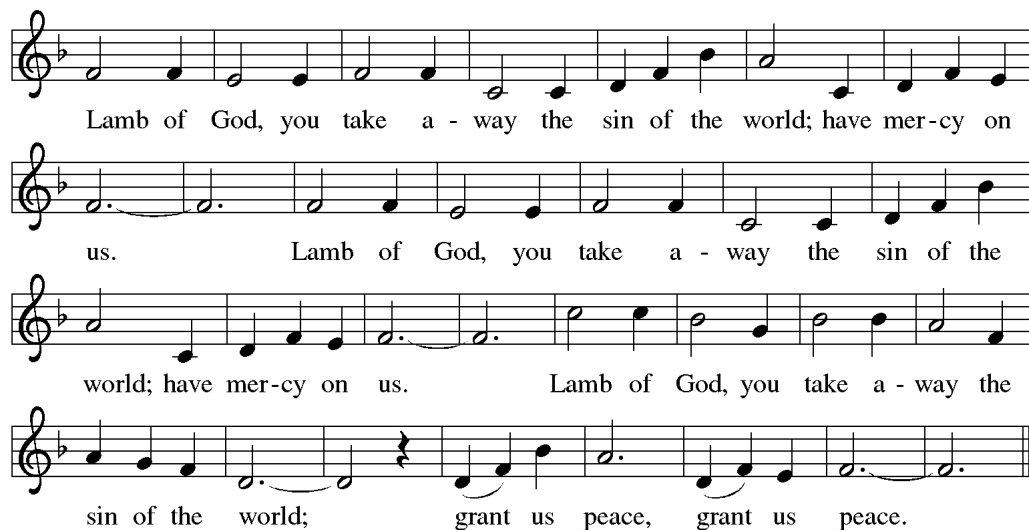
dai - ly bread, and for - give us our tres - pass - es,

as we for - give those who tres-pass a - gainst us;

and lead us not in - to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv - er



LAMB OF GOD



HOLY COMMUNION ANTHEM (8:30) *"Hymns of Bliss"* Medley of Hymns by Philip Paul Bliss
(10:30) *"Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me"* arr. Christine Sullivan

+ TABLE BLESSING

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

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Once again, O God, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, and thirst for your way of peace, that we may live more fully in you; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

+ BENEDICTION

The holy Three, the holy One
 increase your hope,
 strengthen your faith,
 deepen your love,
 and ✠ grant you peace. **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" ELW #756



1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood up - on the cha - os
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, all trav - 'lers guard in



rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and
 dark and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
 dan - ger's hour from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -



own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: oh, hear us when we
 calm a - mid the storm didst sleep: oh, hear us when we
 give, for wild con - fu - sion, peace: oh, hear us when we
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall



cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 rise to thee glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

+ DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE (8:30) *“On Our Way Rejoicing”*

(10:30) *“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”* arr. Bradley Sowash

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Janice Lehmkuhl (10:30) Marci Groenewold

Ushers: (8:30) Greg Bussler, Craig Grunzke, Harley Foster, Larry Narhi

(10:30) Kelly Groenewold, Peder Jothen

Readers: (8:30) Maryann Kaul (10:30) Kaethe Schwehn

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Wendell Arneson, Beth Christensen, Carol Cole, Connie DeGrote,

Catherine Engle, Phil Ruud

(10:30) Rebecca Benedict

Altar Care: (set) and (clean) Rosann Brawley, Rachel Coltvet (cups) Jan Stahly

1st Brigade Band: John Condon, Bandmaster

Keyboards: Megan Engel

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“Let All Creation Sing” Hans Peterson & Carol Meier. C 2026 Dakota Road Music & Carol Meier Music

Text and Music: Phil Campbell-Enns, © 2005 Phil Campbell-Enns.

We are using *Peace of the Prairie: A Liturgy for Here and Now*.

The Invocation, Gathering Prayer, and Offertory Prayer were written by Rev. Meta Herrick Carlson.

The second half of the Gathering Prayer was modified for Desert Sunday by Rev. Inger Hanson.

“Here and Now” & *“Enough for Today”* were written and composed by Carol Meier.

“The Earth with Heaven’s Music Rings” Music: KINGSFOLD, English Folk tune. Lyrics by Carol Meier.

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Pastor Inger modified the Eucharistic Prayer from ELW Form VII and XI for the Season of Creation 2026.

“The Lord’s Prayer” Music: *Mass from Age to Age*, Chris de Silva, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Benediction is from *All Creation Sings* Setting 12..

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THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

MONDAY

12:00 pm  Bible Study @ the Vault
4:45 pm CYF Board (Fireside Room)
6:30 pm Kitchen Committee (CLC)

VBS MONDAY-THURSDAY

8:45 am—3 pm School-aged kids at Bethel
9:00 am—11 am Preschool-aged kids
at St. John's

TUESDAY

9:45 am Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY

12:15 pm Noontime Organ Recital featuring Megan Engel

THURSDAY

9:00 am FAB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)
9:00 am  Men of Bethel (Classroom 54)
11:30 am VBS Day Camp Closing Worship

CREATION CARE ACTION NOTE

Oceans are vitally important to our existence. They control planet Earth's temperatures and provide oxygen. Oceans offer us recreation, livelihoods, transportation, and an important food source. What are we doing to care for our oceans? Talk with a Creation Care team member for ideas!

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

July 26	in person attendance
8:30 am	155
10:30 am	70
Total	225

NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day will be **Matthew 14:22-33**
with **Job 37:5-13** and **Psalms 104:10-24**.
Pastor Ben preaches.



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