



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

AUGUST 30TH, 2026

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE (8:30) *"A Simple Song (from 'Mass')"* Leonard Bernstein
(10:30) *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"* arr. John Helgen

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, 4, & 5

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_
4. Im - ag - ine a world where op - pres - sion will cease,
5. The Spir - it is blow - ing wher - ev - er she will,_



bring - ing your hopes_ and your ques - tions un - told or
just - ice and mer - cy will blos - som in peace and
stir - ring our hearts, heav - en's call to ful - fill. May



may - be you're hold - ing too heav - y a load. O
all of cre - a - tion will join in the feast: be -
we be a bea - con of light on a hill to



come, just as you are.____ to verse 2
lov - ed all, we are.____
shine just where 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 share your provision with neighbors
and all experience your peace. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING *EPHESIANS 2:8-10*

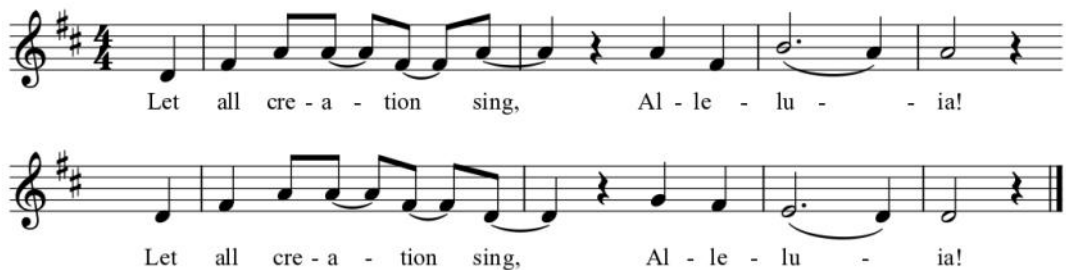
A reading from Ephesians.

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God— ⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

¹⁰ For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

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

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *“Let All Creation Sing”*



HOLY GOSPEL *LUKE 22:24-27*

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

²⁴ A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵ But he said to them, “The kings of the gentiles lord it over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶ But not so with you; rather, the greatest among you must become like the youngest and the leader like one who serves.

²⁷ For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

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

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY “Baptized and Set Free” ELW #453 stanzas 1-3



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
 2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
 3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
 4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.

Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
 Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
 and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
 All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.

Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
 For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed;
 As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
 Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be

to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
 end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
 pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
 one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

BAPTISM OF KINSLEY NIEMANN (see bulletin insert)

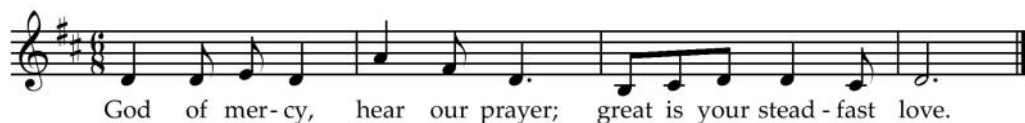
+ HYMN OF CELEBRATION “Child of God”

Child of God, (echo) **Child of God,**
 You are sealed by the Spirit, (echo) **You are sealed by the spirit**
 And marked with the cross of Christ (echo) **and marked with the cross of Christ**
 Forever. (echo) **Forever.** (repeat)

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE “Great is Your Steadfast Love”

A soloist will sing the Refrain once at the beginning of the prayers; all join at the end of each petition:



God of mer - cy, hear our prayer; great is your stead - fast love.

+ 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) *"Wie Melodien Zieht Es Mir, Op. 105, No 1"* Johannes Brahms
(10:30) *"Everything Speaks His Name"* Shawna Belt Edwards

+ 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.**

The 8:30 service continues with the Benediction on page 9

✠ MEAL ✠

———— (10:30 only) ————

+ 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;

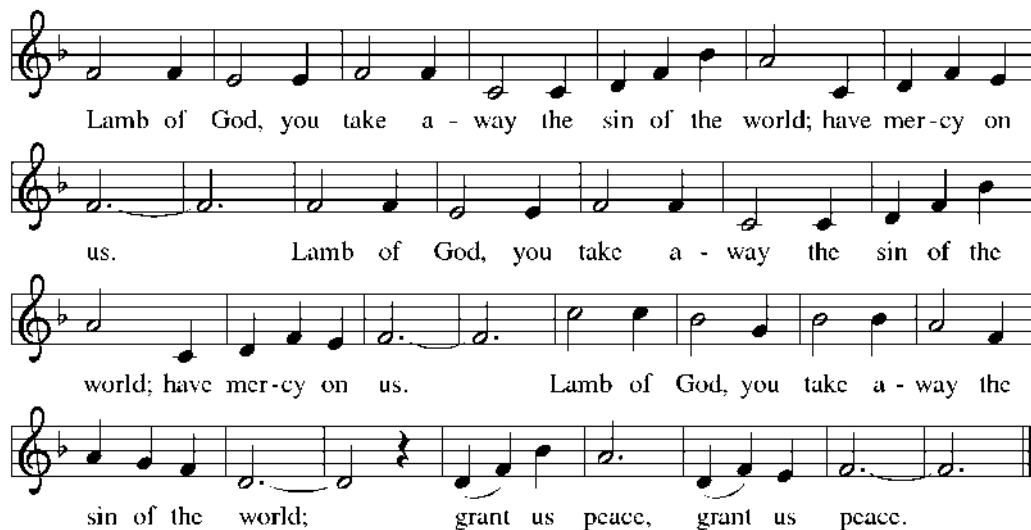
and lead us not in - to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv - er

us from__ e - vil.__ For the

king - dom, the pow - er and the glo - ry are yours

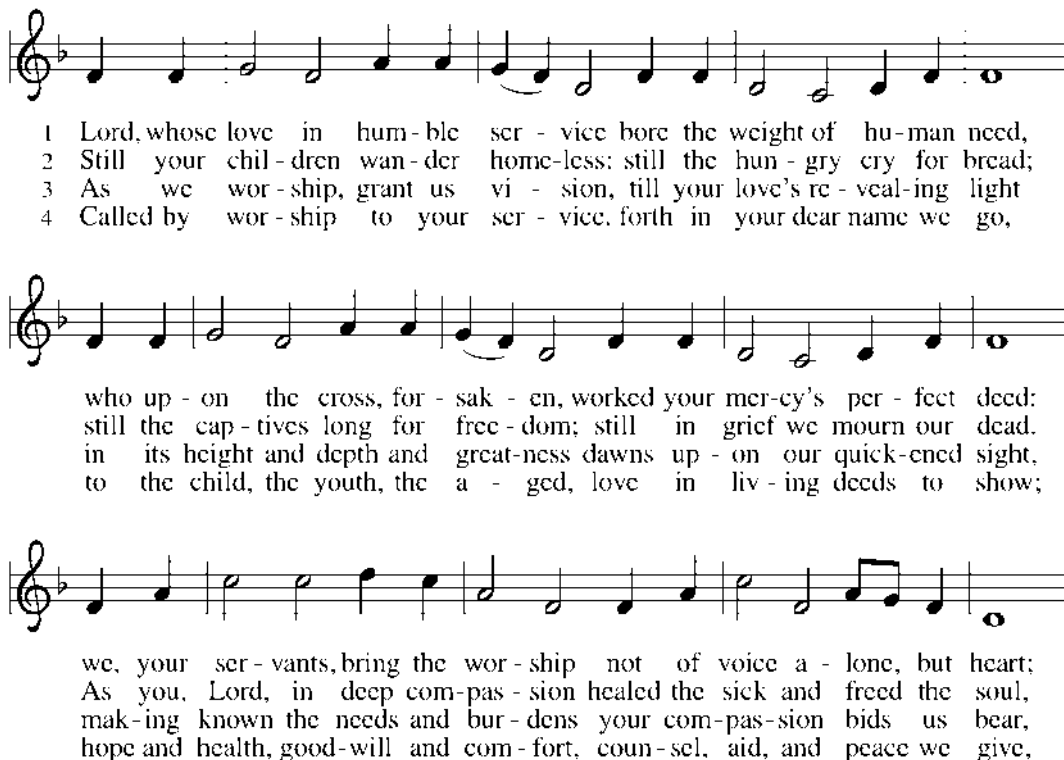
now and for - ev - er. A - men.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION HYMN "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" ELW #712



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,
who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed;
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;
we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

+ 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.**

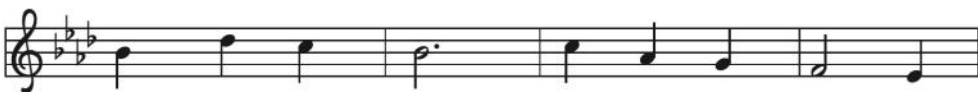
+ SENDING HYMN "God's Work, Our Hands" ACS #1000



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

+ DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE (8:30) *“The Heavens Declare the Glory of God”* Benedetto Marcello
(10:30) *“The Ash Grove”* arr. Don Wyrzten

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Phil Ruud & Pastor Ben Schori
Assisting Minister: (8:30) Ellen Haefner (10:30) Christina Schwietz
Ushers: (8:30) Bruce Dueffert, Harley Foster, Blair Fowler, Kelly Groenewold
(10:30) Michael Sparby, Nancy Sparby
Readers: (8:30) Bob Thacker (10:30) Kaethe Schwehn
Sacramental Ministers: (10:30) Kirsten Scott
Altar Care: (set) and (clean) Lois Cary (cups)
Trumpet: Gerry Hoekstra Vocal Solo: Christina Schwietz Keyboards: Megan Engel
A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Broughton, Nathan Hoekstra

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“Let All Creation Sing” from *Living Voice of Creation*. Hans Peterson & Carol Meier.
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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 God’s Work Our Hands Sunday by Rev. Inger Hanson.
“Here and Now” & *“Enough for Today”* were written and composed by Carol Meier .
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“Child of God” Text and Music by Carol Meier, © 2024 Carol Meier Music.

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 *Bread for the World*, 20th c., USA.

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THIS WEEK

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

MONDAY

12:00 pm  Bible Study @ the Vault

TUESDAY

9:45 am Staff Meeting

6:30 pm ISAIAH Discipleship Training (Classroom 61 A/B)

THURSDAY

9:00 am FAB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)

9:00 am Men of Bethel (Classroom 54)

7:00 pm Bethel Vision Seekers @ Tilion Brewing Co., 432 Mill St W, Cannon Falls

CREATION CARE ACTION NOTE

“God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday is a day of service for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Most ELCA congregations will participate in this churchwide day of service on Sunday September 13.

Here in Northfield, we have the Defeat of Jesse James Days, so we celebrate early!

As we conclude our Season of Creation, Bethel joins with thousands of ELCA members across the country, engaging in service work to make a positive change in our communities and world, building and deepening relationships, and sharing God’s love.

“Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully.” Today, we have two service opportunities: Card Making with Rose Turnaclyff and Clean Up of Bethel’s new Adopt-A-Highway section with Bill Nelson. Both meeting in the CLC between services.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

August 23	in person attendance
8:30 am	139
10:30 am	85
Total	224

NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day will be **John 1:1-5**
with **Genesis 2:4-25 & Psalm 148.**
Pastor Inger preaches.



1321 North Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057
www.bethelnorthfield.org | 507.786.6674

