



**BETHEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Joseph in Prison
SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2026
8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE “*Allegro non troppo* from ‘Six Duos for Two Violins, Op. 39’” F. Mazas

WORDS OF WELCOME

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who looks upon us in compassion,
forgives our sin,
and heals our lives. **Amen.**

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

(a brief silence for reflection)

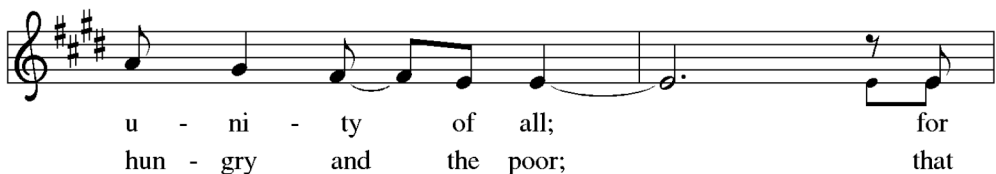
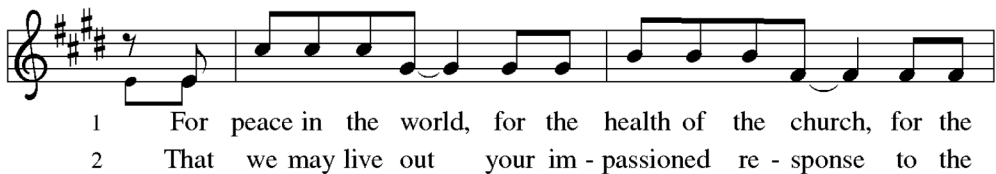
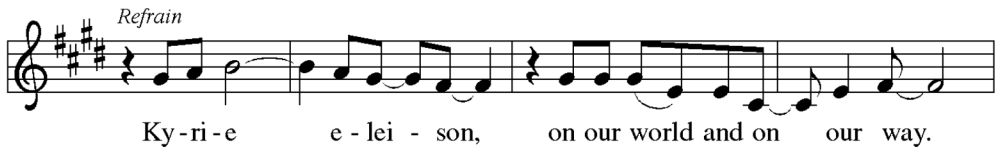
Have mercy, O God,
**against you, you alone,
we have sinned.**

**In your compassion,
cleanse us from our sin
and take away our guilt.**

Create in us a new heart
and give us a steadfast spirit.
Do not cast us away,
but fill us with your Holy Spirit
and restore your joy within us. Amen.

As tender as a parent to child,
so deep is God's compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth,
so vast is God's love for you.
As far as east is from west,
so far God removes your sin from you,
renewing your life through Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us
with mercy and love.
Blessed be God forever.

+ **KYRIE** stanzas 1 & 2





this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

+ 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

Dreammaker, in prison Joseph learned to trust your revelations and from the palace was able to steward times of plenty and times of famine. Remind us of your presence and attune us to your wisdom when we feel confined. And then open doors, so that the gifts you have us are fully utilized, and that we may be a blessing for all, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BIBLE PRESENTATION FOR PRE-Ks

At this time, Pre-Ks come forward to receive their Bibles.

We promise to read these stories with you and wonder alongside you. With God's help, we will make space for your questions, celebrate your discoveries, and walk with you as you grow in faith from Pre-K to SPARK, Confirmation to Youth Group, and beyond.

Megan will lead the children in a prayer - the congregation is invited to join in the motions!

We promise to be your church family—the living community where these Bible stories come to life. We commit to supporting you and your family, surrounding you with love, and space to grow. May the Holy Spirit light your path, fire up your imagination, and remind you always that you belong to God. Amen.

*After the prayer, children age 3 to grade 5 are invited to go to Sunday School.
They will return to the sanctuary before communion.*

✠ WORD ✠

SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION "Blessed Are You" Dakota Road

A soloist sings verses 1 & 2 before the reading of the gospel, with all singing on the Refrain.

Refrain



1. Blessed are you the poor in spirit, lives that have been torn.
Blessed are you the meek and lowly and the ones who mourn. *Refrain*

2. Blessed are you who thirst and hunger for all that is right.

Blessed are you who offer mercy through the darkest night. *Refrain*

3. Blessed are you the pure of heart, you who work for peace.
Blessed are you who suffer hatred; you will be set free. *Refrain*

+ HOLY GOSPEL MATTHEW 5:1-12

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

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

READING *GENESIS 41:1-8, 14-16, 25-30, 33-41*

A reading from Genesis.

¹ After two whole years (of Joseph in Prison), Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile, ² and there came up out of the Nile seven sleek and fat cows, and they grazed in the reed grass. ³ Then seven other cows, ugly and thin, came up out of the Nile after them and stood by the other cows on the bank of the Nile. ⁴ The ugly and thin cows ate up the seven sleek and fat cows. And Pharaoh awoke. ⁵ Then he fell asleep and dreamed a second time; seven ears of grain, plump and good, were growing on one stalk. ⁶ Then seven ears, thin and blighted by the east wind, sprouted after them. ⁷ The thin ears swallowed up the seven plump and full ears. Pharaoh awoke, and it was a dream. ⁸ In the morning his spirit was troubled, so he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them to Pharaoh.

...

¹⁴ Then Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was hurriedly brought out of the dungeon. When he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh.

¹⁵ And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.”

¹⁶ Joseph answered Pharaoh, “It is not I; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.”

...

²⁵ Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, “Pharaoh’s dreams are one and the same; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. ²⁶ The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years; the dreams are one. ²⁷ The seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, as are the seven empty ears blighted by the east wind. They are seven years of famine. ²⁸ It is as I told Pharaoh; God has shown to Pharaoh what he is about to do. ²⁹ There will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt. ³⁰ After them there will arise seven years of famine, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; the famine will consume the land.

...

³³ Now therefore let Pharaoh select a man who is discerning and wise and set him over the land of Egypt. ³⁴ Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land and take one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plenteous years.

³⁵ Let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and lay up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. ³⁶ That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to befall the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine.”

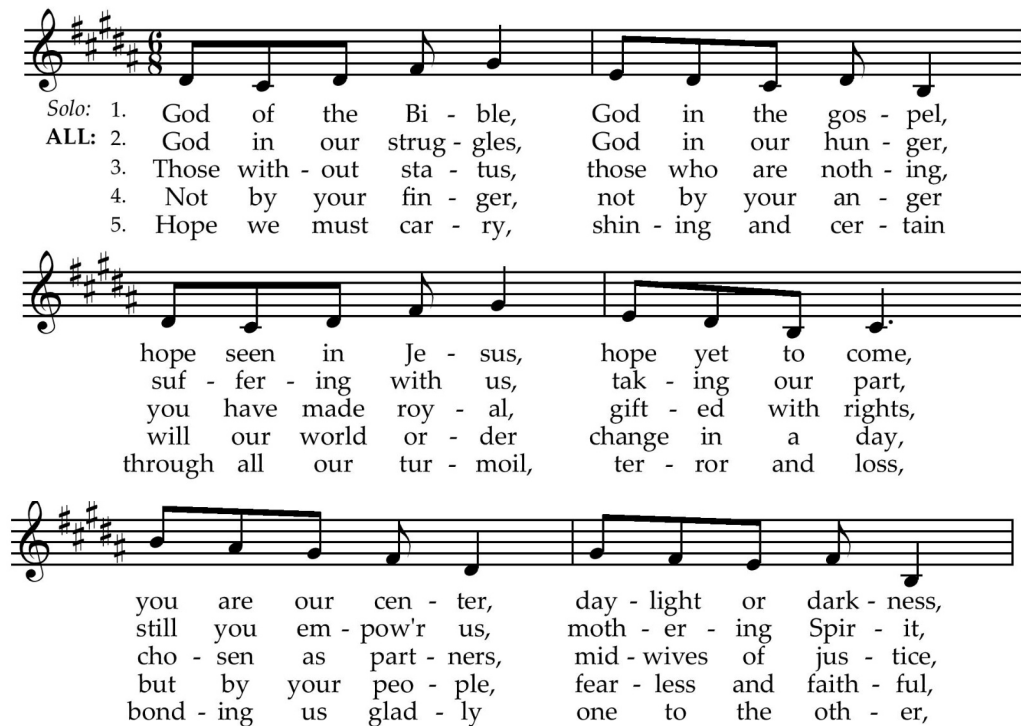
³⁷ The proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his servants. ³⁸ Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find anyone else like this, one in whom is the spirit of God?” ³⁹ So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has shown you all this, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. ⁴⁰ You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command; only with regard to the throne will I be greater than you.”

⁴¹ And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt.”

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

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY “*God of the Bible*” VT #420



Solo: 1. God of the Bi - ble, God in the gos - pel,
ALL: 2. God in our strug - gles, God in our hun - ger,
3. Those with - out sta - tus, those who are noth - ing,
4. Not by your fin - ger, not by your an - ger
5. Hope we must car - ry, shin - ing and cer - tain

hope seen in Je - sus, hope yet to come,
suf - fer - ing with us, tak - ing our part,
you have made roy - al, gift - ed with rights,
will our world or - der change in a day,
through all our tur - moil, ter - ror and loss,

you are our cen - ter, day - light or dark - ness,
still you em - pow'r us, moth - er - ing Spir - it,
cho - sen as part - ners, mid - wives of jus - tice,
but by your peo - ple, fear - less and faith - ful,
bond - ing us glad - ly one to the oth - er,



free - dom or pri - son, you are our home. *to verse 2*
feed - ing, sus - tain - ing, from your own heart. *all other verses*
birth - ing new sys - tems, light - ing new lights. *to REFRAIN*
small pa - per lan - terns, light - ing the way.
till our world chang - es, fac - ing the cross.

Refrain



Fresh as the morn - ing, sure as the sun - rise,



God al - ways faith - ful, you do not change.



Fresh as the morn - ing, sure as the sun - rise,



God al - ways faith - ful, you do not change.

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 (8:30) *"Blessed Are They"* Jean Pasquet

ANTHEM (10:30) *"Adoration"* Felix Borowski

+ OFFERTORY *"With Joy"*

With_ joy, with_ joy, we will
of - fer in thanks-giv-ing all you've giv - en us to give._ With_
joy, with_ joy, we will of - fer in thanks
giv-ing with joy. We will of-fer in thanks-giv-ing with joy.

✠ 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, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: preserving Noah and all the animals on the ark, blessing all the people of the earth through Abraham, giving dreams and interpretations so Joseph could wisely steward through plenty and drought. For the life of this world you made and so love, you offered your only Son, Jesus, through whom you make all things new.

The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución

We pray for the gift of your Spirit within this meal, among your people, and throughout the world, that we know the abundant life of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

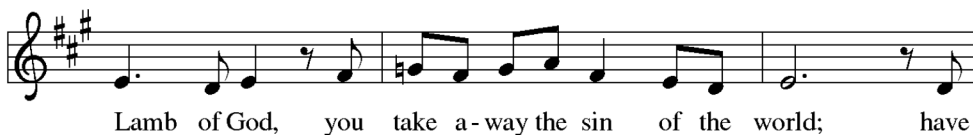
+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

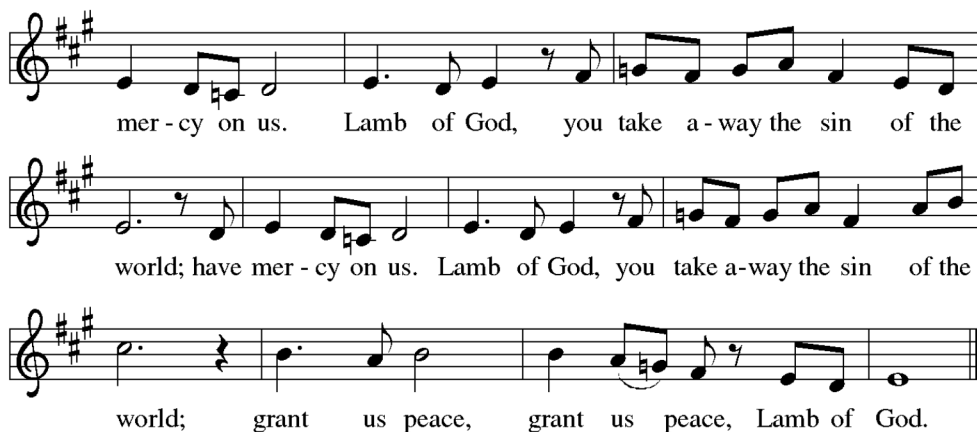
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
are yours,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





HOLY COMMUNION ANTHEM (8:30) *“Adoration”* Felix Borowski

HYMN (10:30) *“In the Singing”* ELW #466

+ TABLE BLESSING

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

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

✠ SENDING ✠

+ BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”* ELW #858

+ DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE “*God is Here*” arr. Benjamin Culli

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori
Assisting Minister: (8:30) Rolf Kragseth (10:30) Becky Nysteen
Violin: Elizabeth McCormick & Charles Gray

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

“*Blessed Are You*” Text (based on Matthew 5:1-12) and tune by Larry Olson, © 2020 Dakota Road Music
“*With Joy*” Text and music by Daniel Kallman. © 2000 Daniel Kallman (BMI). Kallman Creates Publications
“*God of the Bible*” Text: Shirley Erna Murray (Aotearoa New Zealand), © 1996 Hope Publishing Company.
Music: Tony E. Alonse (USA), © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc.

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BETHEL STAFF

Inger Hanson, *Senior Pastor* she/her
Ben Schori, *Associate Pastor* he/him
Phil Ruud, *Visitation Pastor* he/him

Megan (Mee-gan) Engel, *Director of Music & Worship* she/her
Peter Schleif, *Church Choir Director* he/him
Jill Mahr, *Youth Handbell Director* she/her
Cindy Carlson, *Resonance Bell Director* she/her

Megan Shoup, *Director of Children,
Youth, & Family Ministries* she/her
Juley Jenkinson, *Nursery Coordinator* she/her

Kate Dreier, *Office Manager* she/her
Caroline Smith, *Financial Assistant* she/her
Marv Farmer, *Custodian* he/him
Blair Fowler, *Building Manager* he/him
Sam Dwyer, *Audio/ Visual Manager* he/him

Audio/ Visual Technicians
Asher Engle he/him
Nathan Hoekstra he/him
Nathan Broughton he/him

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

September 20	in person attendance
8:30 am	178
10:30 am	81
Total	259

NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day will be **Exodus 14:5-7,
10-14, 21-29** with **Matthew 2:13-15**.
Megan Shoup preaches.

THIS WEEK —SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 3

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

MONDAY

12:00 pm Bible Text Study @ the Vault

6:30 pm Resonance Bell Choir

TUESDAY

9:45 am Bethel Staff

WEDNESDAY

3:30 pm SPARK

4:30 pm Homes for God's Children

5:30 pm Bistro (Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Cesar or Simple Salad. Kid Option: Chicken Strips & Fries)

6:15 pm Ring Forth

7:00 pm 10th Grade Confirmation/Grades 7-8-9 Warm Up/HangTime

7:00 pm Church Choir rehearsal

8:05 pm Brio

THURSDAY

9:00 am FaB (Faith & Books)/MoB (Men of Bethel)

10:15 am OWL's (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

2:00 pm Bethel Monthly Movie: 'Soul on Fire' (2025)

4:30 am Endowment Committee

FRIDAY

9:15 am WoW (Women of the Word) via zoom

SATURDAY

8:30 am Fall Ministry Summit



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

