



Bethel Lutheran Church

Pastors: Jonathan Dahl
Kathy Hartley
Bob Dahl
Deacon: Beverly Baseman

Today at Bethel:
Preacher: Pastor Bob Dahl
Worship Leader: Pastor Jonathan Dahl
Lector: Bruce Jaeger
Musician: Jane Kochis

September 22, 2019

9:15 a.m.

Welcome to Bethel! We are glad you are here!

PRELUDE *Come, Now is the Time to Worship* Jane Kochis

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN *Kyrie Eleison (God, Have Mercy)*
(refrain) **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison ev'ry day.**

**For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain)**

**That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain)**

**For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain)**

**For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the word.
That you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain twice)**

GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Every week, as we worship together, we have the opportunity to admit to ourselves, to each other, and to God that we do not always live as we are called. In this time of confession, this time of opening our hearts, let us remember that God is merciful and just, eager to offer grace and love. Let us pray, first in silence.

SILENT PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, source of all life, Lord of mercy and grace, hear our prayer.
We come before you in need of healing:
The healing of our bodies and souls,
The healing of our relationships,
The healing of our pride and fear and apathy.
We know that with you, nothing is impossible, not even our healing,
Not even the restoration of the whole world.
We pray that you will heal us, that you will heal our world,
So that we will be freed to serve and love and dream and be,
As Christ calls us. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God made known in Jesus is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve.
Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Journey of Praise

We are all on a jour - ney from the cra - dle to the grave. We are
We can feel suf - fer - ing there is some - one near in need. We are
giv - en life through the price our Sav - ior had to pay. Oh let our
giv - en choice heart, hands, voice They are with - in our reach.
hearts praise the Lord! Oh let our hands praise the Lord! Oh let our
voices praise the Lord! Oh let our lives praise the Lord!

Repeat refrain final time

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Together we pray: **God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

TIME FOR YOUTH

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

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

READING

Amos 8:4-7

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

SERMON

Pastor Bob Dahl

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be

#583

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, the source of all life, wholeness, and love. We believe that God is revealed in Jesus Christ. We believe that in his life, Jesus reveals God in grace, mercy, forgiveness, and justice, and that in his death, Jesus reveals God's determined presence in the world even in the face of hatred, violence, and pain. We believe that in his resurrection, Jesus reveals God calling us to abundant life both now and forever; life beyond our fearful and fragile imaginations. We believe that God lives among us, within us, and through us by the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe that God moves us to be together in communities of faith, hope, and love. We believe these things not out of certainty but out of faith; as one who trusts in the reality of God revealed in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(After each petition of prayer, we respond):

The Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words to express oh...

OFFERINGS ARE RECEIVED

(In gratitude for what God has given us, we offer something of our lives to God and as part of our joyous service to the world.)

NOISY COIN OFFERING

This Little Light of Mine

#677

(Currently supporting the Willmar Child Guides program.)

OFFERING

From the Father

Notes of Praise

In My Heart There Rings a Melody

(Congregation is invited to join in on the final refrain.)

In my heart there rings a melody- there rings a melody- with Heaven's harmony.

In my heart there rings a melody- there rings a melody of love!

THE TABLE BLESSING

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 our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF PROMISE FOR THE MEAL OF HOLY COMMUNION

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

(Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table. Children receive a blessing. Please inform the pastor if you need a gluten-free communion wafer. The cups in the middle of the communion tray are grape juice. Upon returning to your seat, enjoy silent prayer or singing.)

Now We Join in Celebration

#462

Borning Cry

#732

There Is a Balm in Gilead

#614

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Together we pray: **God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

We Are Called

#720

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loves us. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Simple Gifts

Jane Kochis