

**Sunday, July 4, 2021  
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)**

**PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES  
RINGING OF BELL  
WELCOME**

*The assembly stands.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 118:24)**

This is the day that the LORD has made;  
**let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**CONFESSION AND 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.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**HYMN Listen, God Is Calling (ELW 513) (Congregation sings all parts)**



Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,  
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,



ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.  
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.



Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.  
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news  
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.  
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,



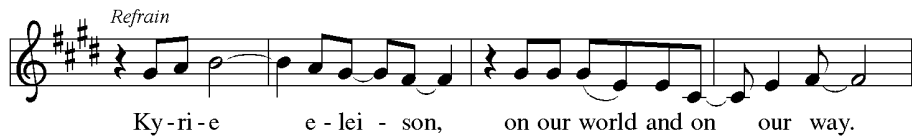
Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.  
that he came to save us and set us free.  
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.  
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

## GATHERING (ELW p.184)

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,**

## KRYIE (ELW p.184)



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
hun - gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam - i - ly; for  
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

### WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1-5

*In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.*

A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>1</sup>[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.<sup>2</sup>And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup>The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.” <sup>5</sup>Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 123**

*Psalm 123 is a community prayer.*

<sup>1</sup>To you lift up my eyes,

to you enthroned in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>**As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy.**

<sup>3</sup>Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy,  
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

<sup>4</sup>**too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,  
and of the derision of the proud.**

### **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

*Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.*

A reading from 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians.

<sup>2</sup>I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup>even considering the exceptional character of the revelations.

Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (ELW p.188)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL READING: Mark 6:1-13** (*The Message*)

*At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1-2</sup> He left there and returned to his hometown. His disciples came along. On the Sabbath, he gave a lecture in the meeting place. He stole the show, impressing everyone. "We had no idea he was this good!" they said. "How did he get so wise all of a sudden, get such ability?" <sup>3</sup> But in the next breath they were cutting him down: "He's just a carpenter—Mary's boy. We've known him since he was a kid. We know his brothers, James, Justus, Jude, and Simon, and his sisters. Who does he think he is?" They tripped over what little they knew about him and fell, sprawling. And they never got any further. <sup>4-6</sup> Jesus told them, "A prophet has little honor in his hometown, among his relatives, on the streets he played in as a child." Jesus wasn't able to do much of anything there—he laid hands on a few sick people and healed them, that's all. He couldn't get over their stubbornness. He left and made a circuit of the other villages, teaching.

<sup>7-8</sup> Jesus called the Twelve to him, and sent them out in pairs. He gave them authority and power to deal with the evil opposition. He sent them off with these instructions: <sup>8-9</sup> "Don't think you need a lot of extra equipment for this. *You* are the equipment. No special appeals for funds. Keep it simple. <sup>10</sup> "And no luxury inns. Get a modest place and be content there until you leave. <sup>11</sup> "If you're not welcomed, not listened to, quietly withdraw. Don't make a scene. Shrug your shoulders and be on your way."

<sup>12-13</sup> Then they were on the road. They preached with joyful urgency that life can be radically different; right and left they sent the demons packing; they brought wellness to the sick, anointing their bodies, healing their spirits.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**

*The assembly stands.*

**HYMN We Are All One in Mission (ELW 576)**



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.  
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:  
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.  
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

**APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p.105)**

**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 INTERCESSION**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*Each petition ends with, "Lord, in your mercy." Those worshipping respond with, "**Hear our prayer.**"*

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WE GIVE THANKS

## OFFERING

*We are grateful for your gifts and they are needed to continue the work of the church. For those worshipping online, options on ways to give are found on our website ([www.wbbethany.org](http://www.wbbethany.org)). Thank you!*

*After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands and sings the hymn below as the gifts are brought forward.*

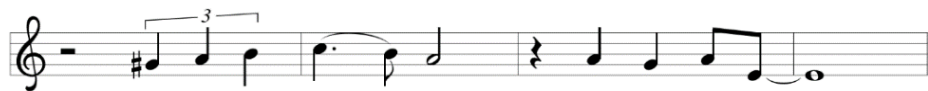
## OFFERTORY HYMN *Change My Heart, O God (ELW 801)*



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**Let us pray.**

**Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with the gifts of ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 190)

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p.191)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name,  
 thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## COMMUNION

*All gathered who believe Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior are invited to come to Holy Communion with repentant hearts believing that Christ forgives our sins and guides our lives. Strengthened, forgiven, and nourished through this meal the Spirit sends us forth in service and to proclaim the good news of Christ's love. Children and adults who do not take communion may come forward for a blessing.*



# HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

## Lamb of God (ELW p.191)

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, Lamb of God.

## One Bread, One Body (ELW 496)

*Refrain*  
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of  
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y  
through-out the earth, we are one bod-y in this one Lord.

1	Gen - tile	or Jew,	ser - vant	or free,
2	Man - y	the gifts,	man - y	the works,
3	Grain for	the fields,	scat-tered	and grown,

*Refrain*  
wom-an or man, no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath-ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, sr, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, sr

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## As the Grains of Wheat (ELW 465)

*Refrain*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*



may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen  
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## BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## BLESSING

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.**

## HYMN *God Bless Our Native Land (ELW 891)*

1 God bless our na - tive land; firm may it ev - er stand  
2 So shall our prayers a - rise to God a - bove the skies,

through storm and night. When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of  
on whom we wait. Thou who art ev - er nigh, guard - ing with

wind and wave, do thou our coun - try save by thy great might.  
watch - ful eye, to thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

Text: Charles T. Brooks, 1812–1883; John S. Dwight, 1813–1893  
Music: NATIONAL ANTHEM, *The saurus Musicus*, London, 1744

### SENDING

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

### POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		
Ministers of:	Today	July 11
Music	Jill Barnhart	Jill Barnhart
Proclamation (Lector)	Jon Twing	John Black
Christ's Light (Acolytes)		
Minister of Technology	Tate F. & Cole C.	Olivia P.
Worship (Altar Care)	Marsh Family	Marsh Family



Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! We invite you to join us again next Sunday at 9:30 AM on Facebook or outdoors (weather dependent). Blessings to you as you shine forth the light of Christ in the world this week! Thanks, and praise to God for everything you do in the name of Jesus Christ!

If you are interested in learning more about Bethany Lutheran or interested in becoming a member, please contact Pastor Chad Whaley at 319-643-5998 or email ([pastor@wbbethany.org](mailto:pastor@wbbethany.org)).

If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter and email updates, please send your email address to our Administrative Assistant Paula Casper ([blcsecretary@lcom.net](mailto:blcsecretary@lcom.net)).



Join us for worship indoors on the first and third Sunday of the month in which the Sacrament of Holy Communion will also be celebrated. On the second and fourth Sunday of the month we will gather outdoors if weather permits. All worship services will be streamed online via Facebook.

### Attention Youth (8-12<sup>th</sup> Grade) and Parents

We will be having an informational meeting Monday, August 2 at 6:30 PM to explore the possibility of attending the 2022 ELCA Youth gathering in Minneapolis, which will be held July 24-28. Parents and interested students are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Pastor Chad, Amber Marsh or <https://elca.org/gathering>



Join us every Monday at noon for a 30-minute discussion about the upcoming Sunday gospel reading. We gather via Zoom Meeting so join at home or work while on your lunch break. If interested, contact Pastor Chad at [pastor@wbbethany.org](mailto:pastor@wbbethany.org) and the Zoom invitation will be forwarded to you. The gospel for Sunday, July 11 Mark 6: 14-29.

Leading worship and delivering the message on July 11 in Pastor Chad's absence will be Free *Indeed* Pastor Dirk Stadlander. Free *Indeed* is a congregation of the ELCA - Southeastern Iowa Synod at the Anamosa State Penitentiary. Free *Indeed* is a community that shares the good news of Jesus Christ with and through those inside the prison walls, with support of ministry partners outside the prison walls.

A special offering will be taken that day to support this ministry. If you would like to send an offering in please make a check payable to Bethany Lutheran Church and mail it to us at PO Box 236, West Branch, IA 52358. Please note your gift is for Free*Indeed*. Thank you!



# BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## 2020 Stewardship at a glance

1 PETER 4:10:  
AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A GIFT, USE IT TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER, AS GOOD STEWARDS OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE

### MORE THAN 1000 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Many hands make light work. Not only can you offer monetary support, but also donate your time, which is priceless.



### HOPE CHEST CLOTHING DONATIONS



### MORE THAN 200 ITEMS

10 large bags of items were donated to local families in need. Making a difference in the lives of over 22 people

### >900 #

180 bags of groceries donated to support 14 families.  
This was double the need of 2019  
BLC also provides financial support to the WBHS food pantry which serves >13 children

### FOOD PANTRY SUPPORT



### 2020 MONETARY GIFTS \$21,211



Over 13% of our annual budget at BLC is designated to help our neighbors in need.  
Thank you for helping to spread God's Word

OUR CHARITABLE DONATIONS CAN INSPIRE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO ALSO GIVE TO CAUSES CLOSE TO THEIR HEART.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN HELP VISIT [WBBETHANY.ORG](http://WBBETHANY.ORG)

Together we can make a difference in the lives of others

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You are loved!