

COME TO ME,
all who **labor**
and are **heavy** laden,
and I will **give you rest.**

Matthew 11:28, ESV



Sunday, July 9, 2023
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

**PRELUDE
RINGING OF BELL
WELCOME**

The people of God stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

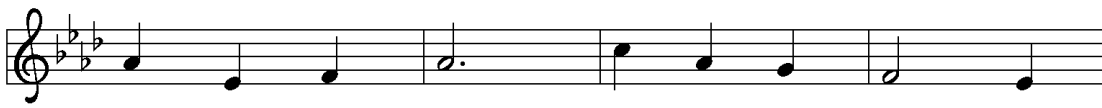
Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

HYMN *Earth and All Stars!* (ELW 731) See next page.



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
 5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
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 Sing to the Lord a new song!



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
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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

Let us pray.

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The people of God are seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

A reading from Zechariah.

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:8-14

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,**

¹²that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

13Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

14The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

A reading from Romans.

15I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. **16**Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. **17**But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. **18**For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. **19**For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. **20**Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

21So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. **22**For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, **23**but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. **24**Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? **25a**Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The people of God stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* ELW 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - iah. Hal - le - lu - iah. Hal - le - lu - iah.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:25-30

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The people of God are seated.

SERMON

HYMN *Praise and Thanks and Adoration (ELW 783)*



1 Praise and thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, Son of God, to you we give,
2 Hold me ev - er in your keep - ing, com - fort me in pain and strife;



for you chose to serve cre - a - tion, died that sin - ers all might live.
through my laugh - ter and my weep - ing, lift me to a no - bler life.



Dear Lord Je - sus, guide my way; faith - ful let me day by day
Draw my fer - vent love to you; con - stant hope and faith re - new



fol - low where your steps are lead - ing, find ad - ven - ture, joys ex - ceed - ing!
in your birth, your life and pas - sion, in your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseauxmes de David*, Geneva, 1551
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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 the hymn below "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (ELW 752)



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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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.

OFFERING

We are grateful for your gifts, and they are needed to continue the work of the church. For those worshipping online please visit our website (www.wbbethany.org) and click on the blue "Give Now" button on the home page. Thank you!

Offerings received are brought forward and placed on the altar as the hymn below is sung.

The people of God stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* (ELW 512)

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
 Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson
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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

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 *Lord, I Lift Your Name On High (ELW 857) (Sing twice)*



Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your prais-es.
 I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.
 You came from heav-en to earth to show the way, from the earth
 to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave,
 from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

Text: Rick Founds, b. 1954
 Music: Rick Founds
 Text and music © 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc., admin. Music Services

LORD, I LIFT YOUR NAME
 PM

SENDING

Go in peace. Share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		
Ministers of:	Today	July 16
Music	Jill Barnhart	Jill Barnhart
Proclamation (Lector)	Wayne Frauenholtz	John Black
Minister of Technology	Paula Casper	Cole Crosthwaite & Tate Frantz
Worship (Altar Care)	Nancy Bruns	Nancy Bruns

Please join us immediately following worship as we dedicate and bless our Butterfly Garden.



Ministry Opportunities This Week

Wednesday, July 12

7:00 AM — Men's Bible Study with Breakfast

Thursday, July 13

6:00 AM — Women's Bible Study

1:00-3:30 PM — Quilters

Sunday, July 16

8:30- 9:15AM — Childrens Playdate

9:30 AM — Worship

10:30 AM — Fellowship

OUR mission

To grow so deep in Christ through worship, education, and fellowship that we celebrate by reaching out to others.



WWW.WBBETHANY.ORG



Thank you for worshipping with us today. Just as Jesus welcomed the stranger, we believe all are welcome here. Please join us again next week. For more information about our life together in Christ, visit: www.wbbethany.org

WILD LIFE VBS

at BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 18-21
5:30-8 PM

Dinner served @ 5:30 pm

Preschool- Grade 6

MORE INFO

bit.ly/bethanyvbs23



VBS 2023 Information

Student Registration Bethany Lutheran Church invites all children to join us for Vacation Bible School this summer! This year, our program will be held in the evenings. Our VBS 4-day program is from 5:30-8:00 PM for the days of Tuesday, July 18 through Friday, July 21. Children currently or will be in Preschool- 6th grade are invited!

Please register online at <https://forms.gle/XHYG6DDgy91hg22y7>.

Thank you for your support with VBS at Bethany Lutheran Church!

VBS Coordinators,
Courtney Heid, Kristen Van Scoyoc, Amber Marsh,
Kristin McElhinney

Land Acknowledgement

Bethany Lutheran is located in the original and ancestral homelands of the Iowa, Sauk, Fox, Kickapoo and Oceti Sakowin peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

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Bethany Lutheran Church's Annual

YOUTH Pool Party

SUNDAY, AUG. 6TH: 6-8 PM

**JAMES KENNEDY AQUATIC CENTER-
TIPTON OUTDOOR POOL**

Bring friends or another family to join us!
We have the entire pool just for us and prepaid for everyone.

SWIM + YARD GAMES + SNACKS + GIANT FREEZE POPS

July 16
8:30-9:15
AM

**CHILDRENS
SUMMER
PLAY SUNDAYS**

August 13
8:30-9:15
AM

**GAMES AND OTHER FUN ACTIVITIES
AND SNACKS**

Did you know...

How your weekly offering makes an impact?

It supports... youth ministries

- 30 children were able to attend Vacation Bible School
- 12 Children were given Bibles in the spring + 15 more this fall
- Wednesday Faith Formation - Starts September 7
- Sunday School resumes - September 11



It supports...small group Bible Studies

- Wednesday Mornings - Men's Study Group - 7:00am
- Thursday Mornings - Woman's Study Group - 6:00am
- Monthly Women's Bible Study - 2nd Wednesday at 9:00am

It supports...community outreach programs

Like the Hope Chest & the Food Pantry which provide clothing and food to those in need



It supports... meals and fellowship

- Free dinner on the 4th Sunday of the month
- the annual community tailgate
- Angel Meals
- annual Spaghetti Dinner

**Thank you for your gifts,
which support these and many more
great ministries at Bethany Lutheran Church**

Did you know...

How your weekly offering makes an impact?



It helps us invest in technology to expand our reach beyond the church doors



**Average Online attendance = 112
viewers**

**Thank you for your gifts,
which support these and many more
great ministries at Bethany Lutheran Church**