



Woman,
you are set free
from your ailment

LUKE 13:12

August 24, 2025

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Introduction to the day

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

This worship is being streamed live via Facebook and will be posted to our Website and X (formerly Twitter). The camera captures anyone in the first few pews of our worship space and beyond extending to the altar.

PRELUDE
LIGHTING OF CANDLES
RINGING OF BELL
WELCOME

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.
The assembly stands and responds with the words printed in bold.

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.

GATHERING SONG *Jesus Loves Me* (ELW 595)

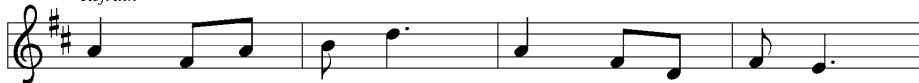


1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

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.

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

A reading from Isaiah.

- ^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water whose waters never fail.
¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.
¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:1-8

- ¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**
³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave**

and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ **O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸ **LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

A reading from Hebrews.

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷ This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Celtic Alleluia (ELW 174)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your

ailment.”¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.”¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water?”¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?”¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Oh Christ, the Healer, We Have Come (ELW 610)*



1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
 2 From ev - 'ry ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
 3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
 yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
 our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
 the whole - ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

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" and the people of God sing "Hear Our Prayer" (ELW 178)



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:



peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.



God of grace, in this place, hear now 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.

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). After the offering is gathered, the people of God stand and sing the hymn on the next page as the gifts are brought forward.

Sanctuary

Words and Music by
John W. Thompson
and Randy Scruggs

$\text{♩} = 46$

D/A Em/A D A G Em⁷

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and

4 D A F#m/A Em/A D

true; With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a

6 A G Em⁷ F#m/A A⁷ D

liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for You.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

The assembly stands.

SENDING HYMN *Go, My Children, with My Blessing (ELW 543)*



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

SENDING

Let us go in peace praising God and giving thanks for Jesus Christ, the wellspring of eternal life!

Worship will conclude downstairs as we gather to dedicate our new water fountain to the service and work of God. The stewardship committee will be serving breakfast following the dedication. All are invited to attend!

OUR MINISTRY ASSISTANTS		
Ministers of:	Today	August 31
Music	Jill Barnhart	Jill Barnhart
Proclamation (Lector)	John Black	Wayne Frauenholtz
Technology	Jill Taylor	Dave Poppen & Kent Kaufman
Hospitality	Dave & Kami Poppen	Jon & Laura Twing
Worship (Altar Care)	Paula Casper & Patsy Ernst	Paula Casper & Patsy Ernst
Food & Fellowship	Stewardship	Pat, Trinity & Patsy



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.wbethany.org



At the conclusion of worship, we will gather outside the kitchen to dedicate the new water fountain provided by the Delores Paulsen memorial.

God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

“God’s work. Our hands.” is Sept. 7, 2025!

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#). Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life — flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.

BLC is organizing three service opportunities, welcoming all ages and skill levels to participate and experience the joy of helping others:

1. **Serving People** – Help members of our congregation and community with household tasks such as minor repairs, cleaning, or moving assistance.
Do you need a helping hand? Know someone who might? Please contact:
 - David Poppen – (563) 940-8012, dkpoppen@hotmail.com
 - Darla Crosthwaite – (563) 357-3624, darlakc2011@hotmail.com
2. **Serving Our Church** – Join us in caring for our church property through landscaping, cleaning, and light repair projects to help beautify our shared place of worship.
3. **Serving Those in Need** – Help assemble school supply kits for children in our community who could use a little extra support as they head back to school.

Mark your calendars and join us in being the hands of Christ in our community, church and world!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

You are loved!

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