

Worship Notes

WE HOLD IN PRAYER

THOSE WHO ARE SICK, INJURED AND IN NEED OF HEALING:

David Babcock, Pastor Bob Bipes, Leslee Camarata, Cilla Dressen, Don Evers, Don & Linda Flatt, Merry Heilmann, Trina Hilke, Greg Hojem, Ed Hustad, Andrew Janisch, Jennifer Kapaun, Jackie Krebsback, Edith Lampman, Nan Lopatka, Mary Martin, Kay Monroe, Terri Pomeroy, Dorothy Vietor

THOSE SERVING OR DEPLOYED IN THE MILITARY:

Evan Hojem, Isabelle & Sam Rick

TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

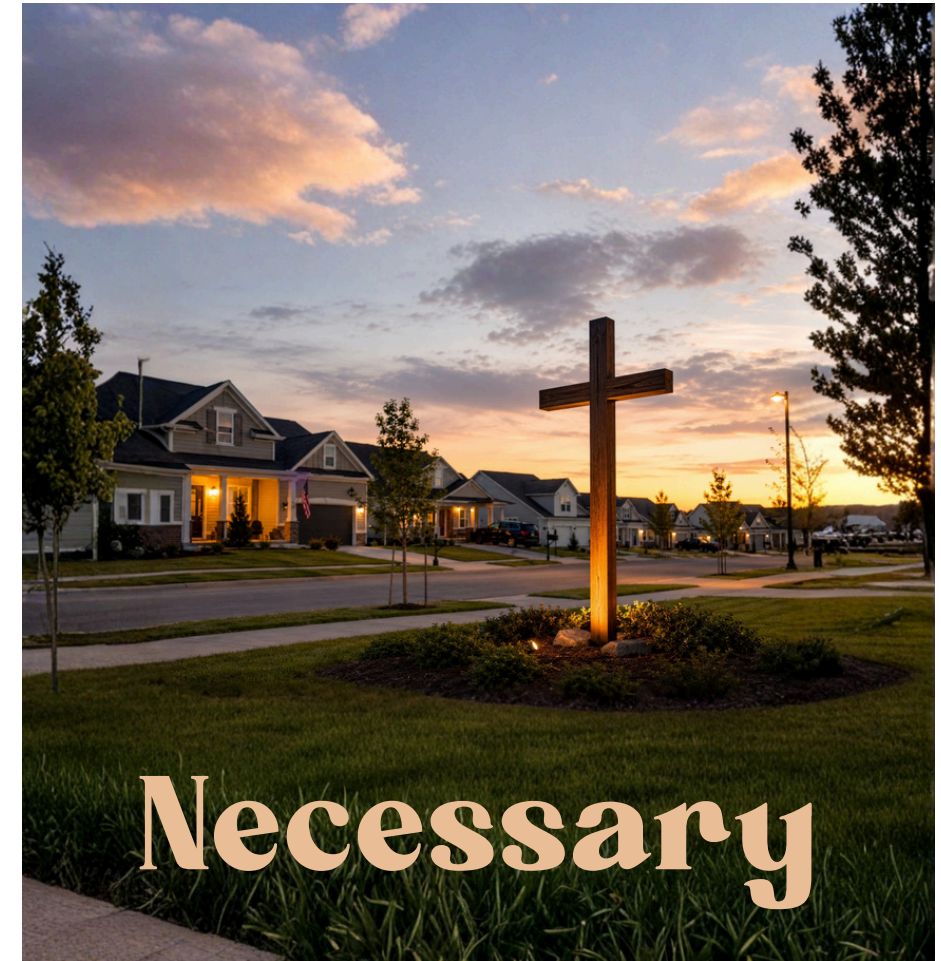
Piano: Skip James

Scripture Reader: Chuck Boeder

Worship Support: Janet & David Benson

Technical Assistants: Patrick Willson, Roger Nilsson, Eli Helm, Isaac Pettey

Shuttlebus: Dave Datt



SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2026
10:30 AM WORSHIP | DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

Pastor Keith Ruehlow, Preacher
Pastor Ladd Sonnenberg, Worship Leader

Bethel service's are livestreamed on Bethel's website, Bethel's YouTube page, and are broadcast on River Channel 15, Wednesday at 7:00pm & 9:00pm and Thursday at 7:00am.

"A time and place when you wear a cross is not just to show the world who you are, but to remind yourself of who the world needs you to be."

— Karoline Lewis

WAYS TO GIVE

To Bethel's Mission:
Connect, Grow, and Serve

Via Text Message:

Text: (833) 222-5193
In the message line type "give"
then follow the prompts

Via Online:

Visit bethelhudson.org click on
GIVE NOW or SCAN HERE

Via Mail:

Bethel Lutheran Church
920 3rd Street
Hudson, WI 54016



BETHEL
CONNECT. GROW. SERVE.

BETHELHUDSON.ORG
715-386-8821

WELCOME

to Bethel Lutheran Church!

We are so glad you are with us for worship! At Bethel, our mission is to Connect, Grow, and Serve God and others. Today Jesus reminds us that following Him is not always the easiest or most comfortable path, but it is the path that leads us toward lives shaped by God’s love. As we worship, may God give us courage to take up our cross, follow Christ, and live in ways that reflect His love for all people.

*You are invited to stand, as you are able.

All who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome and encouraged to join us for communion, regardless of church membership or denomination.

The Prelude: Hymn-sing with Tracey and Skip

The Welcome/Announcements

***The Opening Hymn: “The God of Abraham Praise” #831**
(vss. 1-4)

*The Greeting:
Leader: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.
L: Jesus calls us to follow Him.
P: Lead us in the way of love.

*The Responsive Reading:
L: Jesus calls us beyond what is easy.
P: We will follow where He leads.
L: When God’s way is different from our own...
P: set our minds on the things of God.
L: When following Christ asks something of us...
P: give us courage to take up our cross.
L: May our words, choices, and actions reflect His love.
All: We will follow Jesus in the way that leads to life.

*The Prayer:
L: Faithful God...
P: Your ways are not always the ways we would choose for ourselves. Give us courage to follow Jesus even when the road is difficult. Help us set our minds on Your purposes, take up our cross, and make choices that reflect Your love for all people. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

*The Sharing of God’s Peace:
L: The peace of the Lord be with you always...
P: And also with you!

The Children's Message: Pastor Keith Ruehlow

The Music Ministry: “Great is Thy Faithfulness” Layton James
Daryl Skobba, cello; Skip James, piano

The Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 26:1–8
L: The Word of the Lord.
P: Thanks be to God!

The New Testament Lesson: Romans 12:9–21
L: The Word of the Lord.
P: Thanks be to God!

***The Gospel Acclamation: “O God of Light” #507**
(vs. 1)

*The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 16:21–28

The Message: “Necessary” Pastor Keith Ruehlow

***The Apostles' Creed: pg. 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 into hell. 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.

***The Hymn: “Take My Life, that I May Be” #685**

***The Offering Prayer:**
L: Generous God...
P: You have given us everything we need to love and serve our neighbors. Receive these gifts and use them to bring hope, healing, and grace into the world. Help us make choices that reflect Your love and Your purposes. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Giving our First and Best to God through our Offering

The Offering Music: Improvisation on “Patmos” James

*The Great Thanksgiving:
L: The Lord is with you.
P: The Lord is with you, too.
L: Lift up your hearts.
P: We lift them to the Lord.
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
L: It is indeed right and joyful that we gather around God’s table this day. Here we remember Jesus, who gave Himself fully in love for us and for the world. In this meal Christ strengthens us to follow where He leads, even when the way is difficult. Fed by His grace, may our lives reflect the self-giving love we receive here.

*The Words of Institution

*The Lord’s Prayer:
ALL: 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 Invitation to Communion:
L: Come to the table of Christ, who gave Himself for us and calls us to follow in the way of love. Here we receive grace for the journey, strength for the difficult road, and forgiveness when we lose our way. Come, for all is ready.

The Communion Hymn: “By Your Hand You Feed Your People” #469

*The Communion Blessing

*The Prayers of God’s People:
L: Faithful God...
P: Lead us in the way of love.

*The Closing Blessing

***The Closing Hymn: “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said” #667**

*The Sending:
L: Go in peace and follow where Christ leads.
P: We will take up our cross and follow Him.
L: Let your choices and your service reflect God’s love.
P: We will live for the sake of others. Thanks be to God.

The Postlude: Improvisation on “Bourbon” James