

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 6, 2023

8:00 & 9:30 AM

We are so glad you are here in God's house for worship.

Before worship, talk to God! (see inside cover of hymnal for pre-service prayer prompts)

During worship, let God talk to you!

After worship, talk to one another.

If You're a Visitor, let us get to know you. Scan the QR Code here:



Parents of Young Children: *We love to have children in worship.* God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to completely suppress it in God's house. We know the presence of children in worship is a gift to the church! It is in the Lord's house that we learn how to listen and speak to our God with our brothers and sisters in faith. Feel free to quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of those leading worship. Children learn how to worship by copying you. If you have a need, we have "worship bags" in the Narthex filled with items to help children and families during worship. There is a **Cry Room** across the courtyard in the office complex, where you as a parent may take your little one needing a break. You will still be able to hear the worship service; and thus be able to continue your worship of the Lord.

Please place cell phones and electronic devices on mute as you join us in worship this morning. Thank you.

AS WE GATHER:

"This epistle is really the chief part of the New Testament, and is truly the purest gospel. It is worthy not only that every Christian should know it word for word, by heart, but also that he should occupy himself with it every day, as the daily bread of the soul. We can never read it or ponder over it too much; for the more we deal with it, the more precious it becomes and the better it tastes." ~ Martin Luther's Works vol. 35:365

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN:

“United In Christ”

People of the Lord, Come now and sing
Every nation and tongue, To Christ our King
With empty hands, His gifts receive

Whether young or old, You're a child of God
Whether rich or poor, No matter what you got
He gathers all to the foot of the cross

Chorus:

His body broken, makes this body whole
His resurrection, it assures us all
No darkness, nor doubting nor pain in this life
Could keep us from being united in Christ

All you Sinner and saints, You have a place
With the Spirit's gifts, Proclaim His grace
There's nothin' too small, To be used by the living God

Bridge:

We are the body, Christ is the head
Sealed with the promise, through blood he shed
We are the body, Christ is the head
His grace the heartbeat, our confidence
So, love one another, joined with the saints
We're bound together, in Jesus' name

INVOCATION:

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, from the Lord Jesus Christ
and from the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from both. (*Romans 1:7*)

People: **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: All of you who were baptized into Christ Jesus
have been united with Him in His death and resurrection (*Romans 6:3*)

People: **that we might live a new life.** (*Romans 6:4*)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God,
for all of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (*Romans 3:23*)

**People: I confess Lord, that I am no better than anyone else.
No one really understands You as they should.
No one truly seeks You in a way that is pure.**

Leader: At some point, all of us have turned away from You, Lord.
No one constantly does the right thing.
In fact, oftentimes when I have done the right thing,
It has been with a hidden agenda, rather than from a pure heart.

**People: I confess Lord, that my talk has been foul,
My speech has contained cursing and bitterness;
I've opened my mouth and polluted the air.**

Leader: I have sought revenge, tried to get even
And have been quick to defend myself or my cause to get my way -
Regardless of who is hurt in the process.

**People: Heartbreak and ruin have littered the lives of many,
as a result of my actions.
For the sake of Jesus Christ,
Who was delivered over to death for my sins
and raised to life for my justification,
forgive me and restore me. Amen. (*Romans 3:10-17 & 4:25*)**

Leader: God has demonstrated His love for you in this:
While yet a sinner, Christ died for you!
Now that you have been set right with God
by the sacrificial death of Christ,
there is no longer a question of being at odds with God in any way.
If you were restored to friendship with God by the death of His Son
while you were His enemy,
you will certainly be delivered from eternal punishment by His life.
(*Romans 12*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Leader: In mercy,

People: **God, send us Your Spirit
that we might offer You ourselves as living sacrifices,
Holy and pleasing to You.**

Leader: Transform us by the Spirit's presence,
that we no longer conform to the pattern of this world,
but are renewed into Your image,
O Lord,

People: **Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen. (Romans 12)**

RESPONSIVE HYMN: "My Help, My God"



1. Why are you so full of heav - i - ness?
2. Deep goes un - to deep like o - cean waves.



Why are you dis - qui - et - ed with - in, oh my soul?
All Your floods and ra - pids on me break. Oh my soul,



Oh my soul? — As the deer longs for the wa - ter brooks,
oh my soul. — I will say un - to my God, my strength,



so my soul, it longs and thirsts for You, oh my God,
"How it is You have for - got - ten me? Oh, how long?"

§ **CHORUS**



oh my God. — Put your trust in God; I will yet give thanks to Him.
Oh, how long?" —

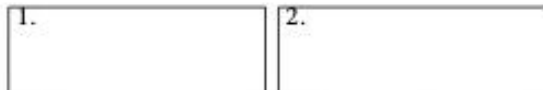


Put your trust in God; I will yet give thanks to Him.

Last time to Coda ◊



Put your trust in God; I will yet give thanks to Him, my Help, my



God. God. 3. Yah - weh grants His kind-ness in the



day. Through the night His song it is that

Allegretto D.S. al Coda



stays, oh my soul, oh my soul. _____

◊ Coda

ENDING



God. My Help, my



God. My Help, my God.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Romans 8:18-27*

I consider our present sufferings insignificant compared to the glory that will soon be revealed to us. All creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal who his children are. Creation was subjected to frustration but not by its own choice. The one who subjected it to frustration did so in the hope that it would also be set free from slavery to decay in order to share the glorious freedom that the children of God will have. We know that all creation has been groaning with the pains of childbirth up to the present time.

However, not only creation groans. We, who have the Spirit as the first of God's gifts, also groan inwardly. We groan as we eagerly wait for our adoption, the freeing of our bodies from sin. We were saved with this hope in mind. If we hope for something we already see, it's not really hope. Who hopes for what can be seen? But if we hope for what we don't see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

At the same time the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we don't know how to pray for what we need. But the Spirit intercedes along with our groans that cannot be expressed in words. The one who searches our hearts knows what the Spirit has in mind. The Spirit intercedes for God's people the way God wants him to. – GW ®

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 14:13-21*

When Jesus heard about John, he left in a boat and went to a place where he could be alone. The crowds heard about this and followed him on foot from the cities. When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw a large crowd. He felt sorry for them and cured their sick people.

In the evening the disciples came to him. They said, "No one lives around here, and it's already late. Send the crowds to the villages to buy food for themselves."

Jesus said to them, "They don't need to go away. You give them something to eat."

They told him, "All we have here are five loaves of bread and two fish."

Jesus said, "Bring them to me."

Then he ordered the people to sit down on the grass. After he took the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed the food. He broke the loaves apart, gave

them to the disciples, and they gave them to the people. All of them ate as much as they wanted. When they picked up the leftover pieces, they filled twelve baskets.

About five thousand men had eaten. (This number does not include the women and children who had eaten.) – GW ®

SERMON HYMN: *“This Is My Father’s World”*

1. This
is my Fa - ther's world, And to the list' - ning ears, All
The birds their car - ols raise, The
Oh let me ne'er for - get That

10
na - ture sings and round me rings The mu - sic of the spheres.
mor - ning light the li - ly white De - calre their ma - ker's praise. This
14
though the wrong seems oft' so strong God is the ru - ler yet.

is my Fa - ther's world, I rest me in the thought of
He shines in all that's fair, in the
Why should my heart be sad? The

18
rocks and trees of skies and seas, His hand the won - ders
rust - ling grass I hear Him pass. He speaks to me e - v'ry
Lord is king, let the hea - vens ring God reigns let the earth be

21 | 1.2. This
wrought. where.

25
glad The Lord is king, let the hea - vens ring God reigns let the earth be glad!

SERMON: "F.A.T.H.E.R."

Text: Romans 8:18-27

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Hear Us, Father, When We Pray" LSB 773



1 Hear us, Fa - ther, when we pray, Through Your Son and
2 When we know not what to say And our wound - ed
3 Je - sus, ad - vo - cate on high, Sac - ri - ficed on
4 By Your Spir - it now at - tend To our prayers and



in Your Spir - it. By Your Spir - it's Word con - vey
souls are plead - ing, May Your Spir - it, night and day,
Cal - v'ry's al - tar, Through Your priest - ly blood we cry:
sup - pli - ca - tions, As like in - cense they as - cend



All that we through Christ in - her - it,
Groan with - in us in - ter - ced - ing;
Hear our prayers, though they may fal - ter;
To Your heav'n - ly hab - i - ta - tions.



That as bap - tized heirs we may Tru - ly pray.
By His sighs, too deep for words, We are heard.
Place them on Your Fa - ther's throne As Your own.
May their fra - grance waft a - bove, God of love.

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

CONSECRATING THE GIFTS:

Leader: We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

People: We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
we bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

APOSTLES' CREED: (** catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

He 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,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

+ *Service of the Sacrament* +

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are alcohol free.
The wafers next to the Christ candle side are gluten free;
for those with dietary restrictions, please take a gluten free wafer.*

In our 9:30 a.m. service we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

“Amazing Grace”



1. A maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2. The Lord has prom - ised good to me. His
 3. Through ma - ny dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4. Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and
 5. All thanks to Christ, whose death in love, grace

saved a wretch like me! I
 Word my hope se - cures; He
 have al - rea - dy come; His
 mor - tal life shall cease, A -
 to the world re - vealed By

Once was lost, but now am found, Was
 will my shield and por - tion be, As
 grace has brought me safe so far, His
 ma - zing grace shall then pre - vail in
 wa - ter and Word, His Bo - dy and blood, His

blind, but now I see!
 long as life en - dures.
 grace will see me home.
 hea - ven's joy and peace.
 grace to me is sealed!

“His Mercy Is More”



1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
 (2. What) pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What
 (3. What) rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us. His



-ni - scient, all know - ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown
 Fa - ther, so ten - der, is call - ing us home? He
 blood was the pay - ment; His life was the cost. We



in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore, our
 wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor. Our
 stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford. Our

1, 2.



sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.
 sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.
 sins they are man - y; His

3.



2. What mer - cy is more. Praise the
 3. What

Lord, — His mer - cy is more. —

Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn. — Our

sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more. Praise the mer - cy is more.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING:

Leader: May the God who gives endurance and encouragement
 give you a spirit of unity,
 so that with one heart and one mouth
 you may give God glory
 as you follow the Lord Jesus Christ.
(Romans 15:5-6)

CLOSING HYMN:

“Let Me Count the Ways”



1. How ma-ny times Lord Have I been cared for Ev-er - y step You've been with me
2. All of my short-falls all of my bad calls all of my wrongs met_ with mer - cy



So ma-ny mo-ments I have been bro-ken On-ly to find You could fix_ me Let me count the
I don't de-serve it, You say I'm worth it a-gain and again you for- give me



ways Let me count the days that You have been faith - ful Let me count the



ways. Let me count the days that You have been fai - th-ful th ful_ Let me count the ways



— Let me count the days Let me count the ways that you have been faith - ful_ Let me count the ways



Let me count the days_ Let me count the ways that You have been faith - ful_

There is no end to the times you will re-scue one of Your own from de spair

And Lord I know this cause I am a wit-ness to all of the times You've been there!... Let me count the

ways. Let me count the days that You have been fai - th-ful Let me count the

ways. Let me count the days that You have been fai - th-ful Let me count the th- ful..

POSTLUDE

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“This Is My Father’s World” LBW 554
 Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901. Tune: English tune; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930.
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“Hear Us, Father, When We Pray” LSB 773

Text: Chad L. Bird, b. 1970.

Tune: *Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch*, Halle, 1704, ed. Johann A. Freylinghaussen;

Setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text: © Chad L. Bird. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149

Tune: Public domain

“Amazing Grace” LSB 744

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, sts. 1-4, alt.; A Collection of Sacred Ballads, Richmond, 1790, st. 5;

Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829; setting: Joseph Herl. B. 1959.

Additional text: stza. 5, William Cwirla, used by permission. Arr. Blake Flattley.

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“His Mercy is More”

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SERVING GOD’S HOUSE TODAY:

Lector 8:00... Greg Goebel

Artist in Residence... Blake Flattley

Liturgist... Karl Fink

Lector 9:30... Mike Riordan

Director of Music & Worship Arts... Noah Freeman

Preacher... Senior Pastor Kevin L. Kritzer

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