

Bethany Lutheran Church

8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 31, 2022

8:00 & 9:30 AM

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are so glad you are here in God's house for worship. Here are some things to remember as we are gathered together today:

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; and if you're a visitor, please stop by the Connections table before you leave today and capture the QR codes for more information.

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.

PRELUDE: Variation on AZMON for Organ,
~ by Carol R.S. McDaniel
(*Composed for Bethany Lutheran, Long Beach, with love!*)

THEME: OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

Variation I Bicinium "Jesus the Name that Charms Our Fears..."

Variation II Lament: "See All Your Sin on Jesus Laid..."

Variation III Risoluto "He Breaks the Pow'r of Cancelled Sin..."

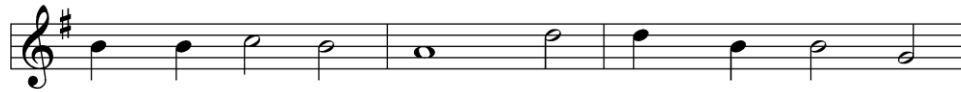
Variation IV Fughetta "To Go All Glory, Praise and Love..."

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" LSB 528



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -
3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That
4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He



great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the
sets the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!
earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.
sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for me.

- 6 See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made
For ev'ry soul of man.
- 7 To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n.

CALL TO WORSHIP: (*Hebrews 4:16*)

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the + Holy Spirit
we approach the throne of grace with confidence
and receive God's mercy.

CALL TO CONFESSION: (*Hebrews 3:12*)_

Leader: See to it brothers and sisters, that none of you has a wicked,
unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: (*Hebrews 12:1b-2*)

Leader: Let us throw off everything that hinders
and the sin that so easily entangles
and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

**People: Dear Lord Jesus,
I confess that I have on occasion embraced sin's entanglements
and too often I have been apathetic in the race You've laid out for me.
Forgive me my sins
and heal those things that are heavy on my heart this day.**

(Time for silent confession.)

Leader: Focus on Jesus. The source and goal of your faith.
For you, He endured death on the cross
and ignored the disgrace it brought Him.
He has received the highest position in heaven,
the one next to the throne of God
and for His sake, your sins are forgiven.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Hebrews 11:1-16*

Faith assures us of things we expect and convinces us of the existence of things we cannot see. God accepted our ancestors because of their faith.

Faith convinces us that God created the world through his word. This means what can be seen was made by something that could not be seen.

Faith led Abel to offer God a better sacrifice than Cain's sacrifice. Through his faith Abel received God's approval, since God accepted his sacrifices. Through his faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

Faith enabled Enoch to be taken instead of dying. No one could find him, because God had taken him. Scripture states that before Enoch was taken, God was pleased with him. No one can please God without faith. Whoever goes to God must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Faith led Noah to listen when God warned him about the things in the future that he could not see. He obeyed God and built a ship to save his family. Through faith Noah condemned the world and received God's approval that comes through faith.

Faith led Abraham to obey when God called him to go to a place that he would receive as an inheritance. Abraham left his own country without knowing where he was going.

Faith led Abraham to live as a foreigner in the country that God had promised him. He lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who received the same promise from God. Abraham was waiting for the city that God had designed and built, the city with permanent foundations.

Faith enabled Abraham to become a father, even though he was old and Sarah had never been able to have children. Abraham trusted that God would keep his promise. Abraham was as good as dead. Yet, from this man came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these people died having faith. They didn't receive the things that God had promised them, but they saw these things coming in the distant future and rejoiced. They acknowledged that they were living as strangers with no permanent home on earth. Those who say such things make it clear that they are looking for their own country. If they had been thinking about the country that they had left, they could have found a way to go back. Instead, these men were longing for a better country—a heavenly country. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God. He has prepared a city for them.

– GW®

SOLOIST:

*By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight*

*By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the power of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign*

CONGREGATION SINGS REFRAIN:

We will stand as chil - dren of the prom - ise;

We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's re - ward.

Till the race is fin - ished and the work is done,

we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

(Song continues on next page.)

SOLOIST:

*By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the power to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave*

*By faith the church was called to go
In the power of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In every corner of the earth*

CONGREGATION SINGS REFRAIN:

(See page 6 for Refrain.)

SOLOIST:

*By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name*

CONGREGATION SINGS REFRAIN:

(See page 6 for Refrain... Sing 2 times.)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Hebrews 1:1-2

Leader: In the past, God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets,
at many times and in various ways,
but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 12:13-21*

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to give me my share of the inheritance that our father left us."

Jesus said to him, "Who appointed me to be your judge or to divide your inheritance?"

He told the people, "Be careful to guard yourselves from every kind of greed. Life is not about having a lot of material possessions."

Then he used this illustration. He said, “A rich man had land that produced good crops. He thought, ‘What should I do? I don’t have enough room to store my crops.’ He said, ‘I know what I’ll do. I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones so that I can store all my grain and goods in them. Then I’ll say to myself, “You’ve stored up a lot of good things for years to come. Take life easy, eat, drink, and enjoy yourself.”’

“But God said to him, ‘You fool! I will demand your life from you tonight! Now who will get what you’ve accumulated?’ That’s how it is when a person has material riches but is not rich in his relationship with God.” – GW ®

SERMON HYMN:

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

LSB 809

1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,
There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;
Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,
As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!
Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;
All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

SERMON: *“Just What We Needed”*
Text: Hebrews 11:1-16

HYMN OF THE DAY: *“Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses”* LSB 667



1 Saints, see the cloud of wit - ness - es sur - round us;
2 These saints of old re - ceived God's com - men - da - tion;
3 They call to us, “Your tim - id foot - steps length - en;
4 Come, let us fix our sight on Christ who suf - fered,



Their lives of faith en - cour - age and as - tound us.
They lived as pil - grim - heirs of His sal - va - tion.
Throw off sin's weight, your halt - ing weak - ness strength - en.
He faced the cross, His sin - less life He of - fered;



Hear how the Mas - ter praised their faith so
Through faith they con - quered flame and sword and
We kept the faith, we shed our blood, were
He scorned the shame, He died, our death en -



fer - vent: “Well done, My ser - vant!”
gal - lows, God's name to hal - low.
mar - tyred; Our lives we bar - tered.”
dur - ing, Our hope se - cur - ing.

5 Lord, give us faith to walk where You are sending,
On paths unmarked, eyes blind as to their ending;
Not knowing where we go, but that You lead us—
With grace precede us.

6 You, Jesus, You alone deserve all glory!
Our lives unfold, embraced within Your story;
Past, present, future—You, the same forever—
You fail us never!

Hebrews 10:22a & 23a

Leader: Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart
and hold unswervingly to the hope we profess.

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.

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!*

PRAYERS 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.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING: (*Hebrews 13:1-3, 5*)

Leader: Keep on loving each other as brothers and sisters.
Don't forget to show hospitality to believers you don't know.
By doing this some believers have shown hospitality to angels
without being aware of it.
Remember those in prison, as if you were in prison with them.
Remember those who are mistreated, as if you were being mistreated.
Be happy with what you have because God has said,

People: **"I will never abandon you or leave you."**

Leader: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *"How Firm a Foundation"* LSB 728



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.
My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can He say than to you He has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,



Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne."

POSTLUDE:

**“Trumpet Tune in G”
~ Bankson**

Organ and Trumpets

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“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” LSB 528

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt. Tune: Carl G. Glaser, 1784-1829; setting: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872.
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“By Faith” Vocal Solo

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“How Firm a Foundation” LSB 728

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You can hear them as podcasts on our website www.bethanylutheran.org.

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE BETHANY BULLET?

The *Bethany Bullet* is a weekly capsule of worship highlights, and important information about events taking place at BLC. If you would like to receive the *Bethany Bullet* please email Aimee Coleman (acoleman@bethanylutheran.org) with your name and email address.

The purpose of the *Bethany Bullet* is to bolster you in faith, build you up in the key Biblical themes shared the previous Sunday in worship, to bring to mind the important issues on Bethany's plate, and to broaden your awareness of opportunities of service to your Lord, your church, and your community. Tell a friend about the *Bethany Bullet!*

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday from 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM noon.

Closed Fridays.

WE GIVE HIM BUT HIS OWN

At Bethany we know that “our stuff is not our stuff!” All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from Him. We also know that giving is a spirit-given compulsion. For Jesus Christ, in whose likeness we are being transformed daily, is the ultimate giver. Your gifts fund ministry that give people Jesus. His words, His promises, His presence, His gifts, His comfort, His strength are given through the gifts you are now giving Him. We thank and honor you for these gifts, because they thank and honor Him!

There are multiple ways to give to Bethany Lutheran Church including:

Giving Online, Text to Give, Online Bill-Pay, US Mail, Offering Basket

Please see the GIVING link on Bethany’s website for more information on how to make your offering. **If you need further assistance, contact our Financial Administrator at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org**