

Bethany Lutheran Church

9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 7, 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.

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN:***“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”*****LSB 915**

1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,
How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?
How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,
Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

CALL TO WORSHIP: (*Hebrews 1:3ff*)

Leader: The Son is the radiance of God's glory
and the exact representation of His being,
sustaining all things by His powerful Word.

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 7:26-27 & Hebrews 12:2*)

Leader: We need a high priest who is holy, pure, innocent, set apart from sinners, and who has the highest position in heaven, the throne of majesty. Jesus, our High Priest, sacrificed for sins once and for all when He offered Himself.

People: **Dear Lord Jesus, it was for my sins You were offered.
Forgive me anew today,
especially of those things that bother me most.**

(Silence for confession.)

Leader: Fix your eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of your faith. Who for you endured the cross and scorned its shame. He is at the right hand of the throne of God and for His sake your sin is forgiven.

People: **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Genesis 15:1-6*

Later the LORD spoke his word to Abram in a vision. He said,

“Abram, don’t be afraid.
I am your shield.
Your reward will be very great.”

Abram asked, “Almighty LORD, what will you give me? Since I’m going to die without children, Eliezer of Damascus will inherit my household. You have given me no children, so this member of my household will be my heir.”

Suddenly, the LORD spoke his word to Abram again. He said, “This man will not be your heir. Your own son will be your heir.” He took Abram outside and said, “Now look up at the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” He also said to him, “That’s how many descendants you will have!” Then Abram believed the LORD, and that faith was regarded as the basis of Abram’s approval by the LORD. – GW ®

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *Hebrews 11:17 – 12:3*

When God tested Abraham, faith led him to offer his son Isaac. Abraham, the one who received the promises from God, was willing to offer his only son as a sacrifice. God had said to him, “Through Isaac your descendants will carry on your name.” Abraham believed that God could bring Isaac back from the dead. Abraham did receive Isaac back from the dead in a figurative sense.

Faith led Isaac to bless Jacob and Esau.

While Jacob was dying, faith led him to bless each of Joseph’s sons. He leaned on the top of his staff and worshiped God.

While Joseph was dying, faith led him to speak about the Israelites leaving Egypt and give them instructions about burying his bones.

Faith led Moses’ parents to hide him for three months after he was born. They did this because they saw that Moses was a beautiful baby and they were not afraid to disobey the king’s order.

When Moses grew up, faith led him to refuse to be known as a son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to suffer with God’s people rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a little while. He thought that being insulted for Christ would be better than having the treasures of Egypt. He was looking ahead to his reward.

Faith led Moses to leave Egypt without being afraid of the king’s anger. Moses didn’t give up but continued as if he could actually see the invisible God.

Faith led Moses to establish the Passover and spread the blood on the doorposts so that the destroying angel would not kill the firstborn sons.

Faith caused the people to go through the Red Sea as if it were dry land. The Egyptians also tried this, but they drowned.

Faith caused the walls of Jericho to fall after the Israelites marched around them for seven days.

Faith led the prostitute Rahab to welcome the spies as friends. She was not killed with those who refused to obey God.

What more should I say? I don’t have enough time to tell you about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith they conquered kingdoms, did what God approved, and received what God had promised. They shut the

mouths of lions, put out raging fires, and escaped death. They found strength when they were weak. They were powerful in battle and defeated other armies. Women received their loved ones back from the dead. Other believers were brutally tortured but refused to be released so that they might gain eternal life. Some were made fun of and whipped, and some were chained and put in prison. Some were stoned to death, sawed in half, and killed with swords. Some wore the skins of sheep and goats. Some were poor, abused, and mistreated. The world didn't deserve these good people. Some wandered around in deserts and mountains and lived in caves and holes in the ground.

All these people were known for their faith, but none of them received what God had promised. God planned to give us something very special so that we would gain eternal life with them.

Since we are surrounded by so many examples of faith, we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially sin that distracts us. We must run the race that lies ahead of us and never give up. We must focus on Jesus, the source and goal of our faith. He saw the joy ahead of him, so he endured death on the cross and ignored the disgrace it brought him. Now he holds the honored position—the one next to God the Father on the heavenly throne. Think about Jesus, who endured opposition from sinners, so that you don't become tired and give up. – GW ®

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,
People: **but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 12:22-34*

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “So I tell you to stop worrying about what you will eat or wear. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothes. Consider the crows. They don't plant or harvest. They don't even have a storeroom or a barn. Yet, God feeds them. You are worth much more than birds.

“Can any of you add an hour to your life by worrying? If you can't do a small thing like that, why worry about other things? Consider how the flowers grow. They never work

or spin yarn for clothes. But I say that not even Solomon in all his majesty was dressed like one of these flowers. That's the way God clothes the grass in the field. Today it's alive, and tomorrow it's thrown into an incinerator. So how much more will he clothe you people who have so little faith?

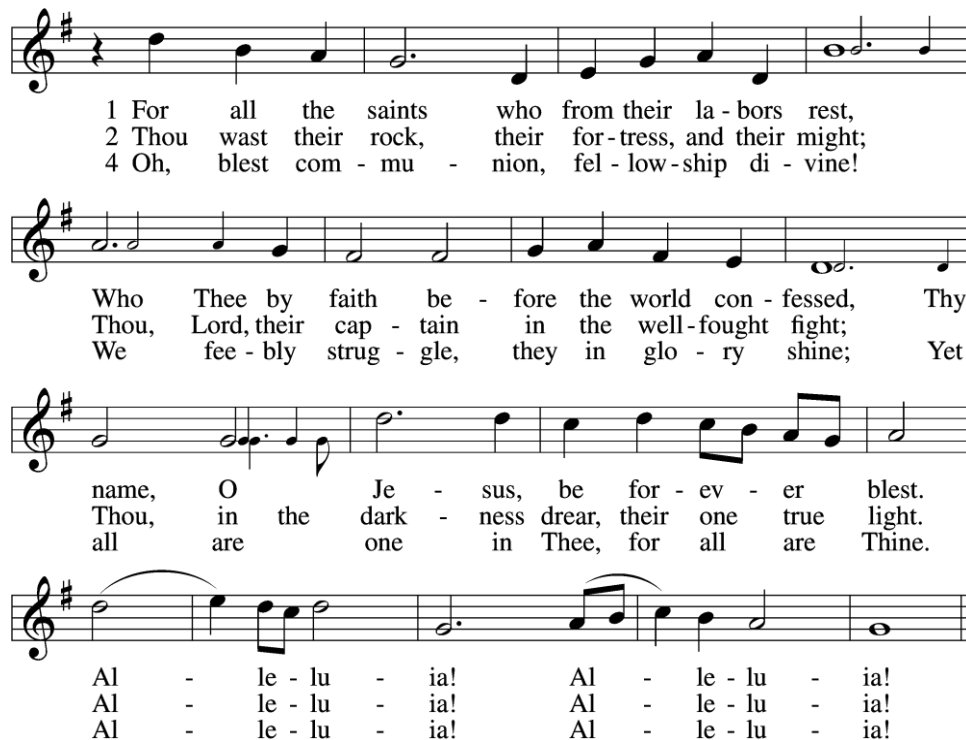
“Don't concern yourself about what you will eat or drink, and quit worrying about these things. Everyone in the world is concerned about these things, but your Father knows you need them. Rather, be concerned about his kingdom. Then these things will be provided for you. Don't be afraid, little flock. Your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom.

“Sell your material possessions, and give the money to the poor. Make yourselves wallets that don't wear out! Make a treasure for yourselves in heaven that never loses its value! In heaven thieves and moths can't get close enough to destroy your treasure. Your heart will be where your treasure is. – GW ®

SERMON HYMN:

“For All the Saints”

LSB 677



1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for-tress, and their might;
 4 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low-ship di - vine!

Who Thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, Thy
 Thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well-fought fight;
 We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; Yet

name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 Thou, in the dark - ness dwell, their one true light.
 all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

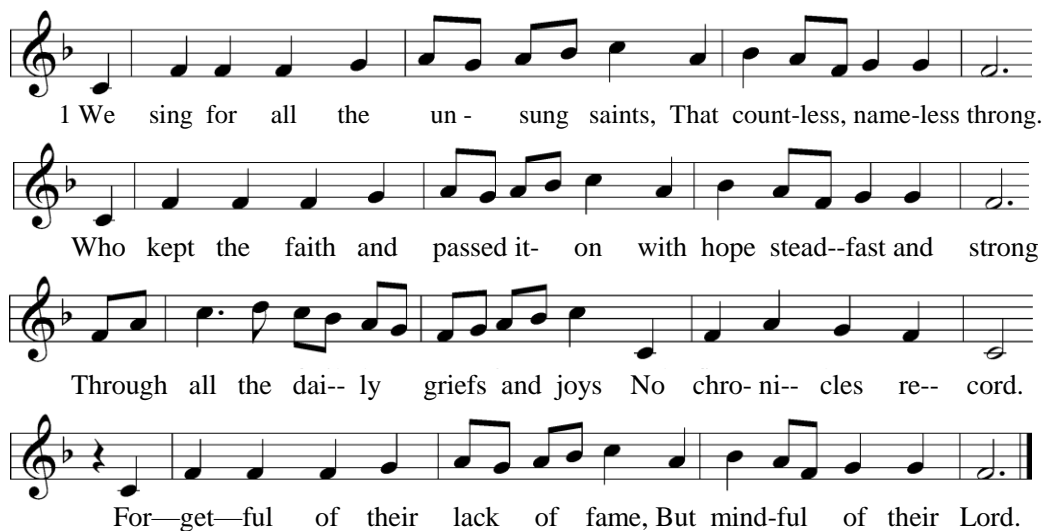
SERMON: “Just What We Needed”

Text: Hebrews 11:17 – 12:3

HYMN OF THE DAY: “We Sing for All the Unsung Saints”

LSB 678

Tune: Forest Green



1 We sing for all the un - sung saints, That count-less, name-less throng.
Who kept the faith and passed it- on with hope stead-fast and strong
Through all the dai- ly griefs and joys No chro- ni- cles re- cord.
For—get—ful of their lack of fame, But mind-ful of their Lord.

- 2 Though uninscribed with date or place,
 With title, rank, or name,
 As living stones their stories join
 To form a hallowed frame
 Around the myst'ry in their midst:
 The Lamb once sacrificed,
 The Love that wrested life from death,
 The wounded, risen Christ.
- 3 So we take heart from unknown saints
 Bereft of earthly fame,
 Those faithful ones who have received
 A more enduring name:
 For they reveal true blessing comes
 When we our pride efface
 And offer back our lives to be
 The vessels of God's grace.

Hebrews 10:22a & 23a

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

NICENE CREED: (* *catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy *catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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 Maralee 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.

+ Holy Communion +

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.

For those wishing to use a self-contained communion chalice, let an usher know.

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.

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION:

“What Is This Bread”

LSB 629

1 What is this bread? Christ's bod - y
2 What is this wine? The blood of
3 So who am I, That I should
4 Yet is God here? Oh, yes! By
5 Is this for me? I am for -

ris - en from the dead: This bread we break,
Je - sus shed for mine; The cup of grace
live and He should die Un - der the rod?
Word and prom - ise clear, In mouth and soul
giv - en and set free! I do be - lieve

This life we take, Was crushed to pay for our re -
Brings His em - brace Of life and love un - til I
My God, my God, Why have You not for - sak - en
He makes us whole— Christ, tru - ly pres - ent in this
That I re - ceive His ver - y bod - y and His

lease. O taste and see— the Lord is peace.
sing! O taste and see— the Lord is King.
me? O taste and see— the Lord is free.
meal. O taste and see— the Lord is real.
blood. O taste and see— the Lord is good.



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -
3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through
mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives,
on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

- 5 When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING: (*Hebrews 13:20-21*)

Leader: May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant
was brought back from the dead.
Our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep,
equip you with everything good for doing His will,
and may He work in you what is pleasing to Him,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *"Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go"* LSB 920

1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;
5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show

Christ to the world with joy we bring;
This world of time to con - se - crate,
Proph - ets are we whose deeds pro - claim
That in His Church all na - tions find

Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
This world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's truth in love that we may be
Their hearth and home where Christ re - stores

Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.
Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.
True peace, true love to all man - kind.

POSTLUDE

+ + + + + +

COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

Liturgy (or the appropriate portion thereof) from *Lutheran Service Book*
©2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. License #000012696

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us” LSB 915

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-78, alt. Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812-after 1857;
setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and music: Public domain.

“For All the Saints” LSB 677

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, alt. Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
Text and music: Public domain

“We Sing for All the Unsung Saints” LSB 678

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., b. 1944. Tune: English; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958;
Setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams. Text: ©1996 Hope Publishing Co., All rights reserved.
Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149. Tune: Public domain

“What Is This Bread” LSB 629

Text: Frederic W. Baue, b. 1946. Tune: Jean Neuhauser Baue, b. 1951.
Text and tune: © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.
Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149.

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” LSB 563

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700-60; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703-91, alt
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93. Text and music: Public domain.

“Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go” LSB 920

Text: James Quinn, b. 1919. Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.; setting: *Cantica Spiritualia*, 1847
Text: ©1969, 1987 Sleah Publishing Co., Inc. Used with permission. All rights reserved.
Music: Public domain. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149

REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

OUT OF THE OFFICE IS:

Blake Flattley – All August