

Bethany Lutheran Church

10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 14, 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: "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" LSB 909



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of
3 Grant, we pray, to all Your faith - ful All the gifts they
△ 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Praise and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; Come with all Your lov - ing - kind - ness,
ask to gain; What they gain from You, for - ev - er
to the Son, Praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,

Bind - ing all the Church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's
Hear Your peo - ple as they pray; And Your full - est
With the bless - ed to re - tain; And here - af - ter
Ev - er three and ev - er one: One in might and

help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in these walls to - day.
in Your glo - ry Ev - er - more with You to reign.
one in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run!

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: *Jeremiah 23:16-29*

This is what the LORD of Armies says:

Don't listen to what the prophets are saying to you.
They fill you with false hope.
They speak about visions that they dreamed up.
These visions are not from the LORD.
They keep saying to those who despise me,
"The LORD says, 'Everything will go well for you.'"
They tell all who live by their own stubborn ways,
"Nothing bad will happen to you."
Who is in the LORD's inner circle
and sees and hears His word?
Who pays attention and listens to His word?
The storm of the LORD will come with His anger.
Like a windstorm, it will swirl down on the heads of the wicked.
The anger of the LORD will not turn back

until He has done everything He intends to do.
In the last days you will understand this clearly.
I didn't send these prophets,
yet they ran with their message.
I didn't speak to them, yet they prophesied.
If they had been in my inner circle,
they would have announced my words to my people.
They would have turned back from their evil ways
and the evil they have done.
"I am a God who is near. I am also a God who is far away," declares the LORD.
"No one can hide so that I can't see him," declares the LORD.
"I fill heaven and earth!" declares the LORD.

"I've heard the prophets who speak lies in my name. They say, 'I had a dream! I had a dream!' How long will these prophets continue to lie and deceive? They tell each other the dreams they had, because they want to make my people forget my name, as their ancestors forgot my name because of Baal. The prophet who has a dream should tell his dream. However, the person who has my word should honestly speak my word. What does grain have to do with straw?" asks the LORD. "Isn't my word like fire or like a hammer that shatters a rock?" asks the LORD. – GW®

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *Hebrews 12:4-29*

You struggle against sin, but your struggles haven't killed you. You have forgotten the encouraging words that God speaks to you as His children:

"My child, pay attention when the Lord disciplines you.
Don't give up when He corrects you.
The Lord disciplines everyone He loves.
He severely disciplines everyone He accepts as His child."

Endure your discipline. God corrects you as a father corrects His children. All children are disciplined by their fathers. If you aren't disciplined like the other children, you aren't part of the family. On earth we have fathers who disciplined us, and we respect them. Shouldn't we place ourselves under the authority of God, the father of spirits, so that we will live? For a short time our fathers disciplined us as they thought best. Yet, God disciplines us for our own good so that we can become holy like Him. We don't

enjoy being disciplined. It always seems to cause more pain than joy. But later on, those who learn from that discipline have peace that comes from doing what is right.

Strengthen your tired arms and weak knees. Keep walking along straight paths so that your injured leg won't get worse. Instead, let it heal.

Try to live peacefully with everyone, and try to live holy lives, because if you don't, you will not see the Lord. Make sure that everyone has kindness from God so that bitterness doesn't take root and grow up to cause trouble that corrupts many of you. Make sure that no one commits sexual sin or is as concerned about earthly things as Esau was. He sold his rights as the firstborn son for a single meal. You know that afterwards, when he wanted to receive the blessing that the firstborn son was to receive, he was rejected. Even though he begged and cried for the blessing, he couldn't do anything to change what had happened.

You have not come to something that you can feel, to a blazing fire, to darkness, to gloom, to a storm, to a trumpet's blast, and to a voice. When your ancestors heard that voice, they begged not to hear it say another word. They couldn't obey the command that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." The sight was so terrifying that even Moses said he was trembling and afraid.

Instead, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, to the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to tens of thousands of angels joyfully gathered together and to the assembly of God's firstborn children (whose names are written in heaven). You have come to a judge (the God of all people) and to the spirits of people who have God's approval and have gained eternal life. You have come to Jesus, who brings the new promise from God, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better message than Abel's.

Be careful that you do not refuse to listen when God speaks. Your ancestors didn't escape when they refused to listen to God, who warned them on earth. We certainly won't escape if we turn away from God, who warns us from heaven. When God spoke to your ancestors, His voice shook the earth. But now He has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the sky."

The words *once more* show clearly that God will change what He has made. These are the things that can be shaken. Then only the things that cannot be shaken will remain. Therefore, we must be thankful that we have a kingdom that cannot be shaken. Because we are thankful, we must serve God with fear and awe in a way that pleases Him. After all, our God is a destructive fire. – GW®

MISSIONARY MESSAGE: *Britt Odemba*

Hebrews 1:1-2

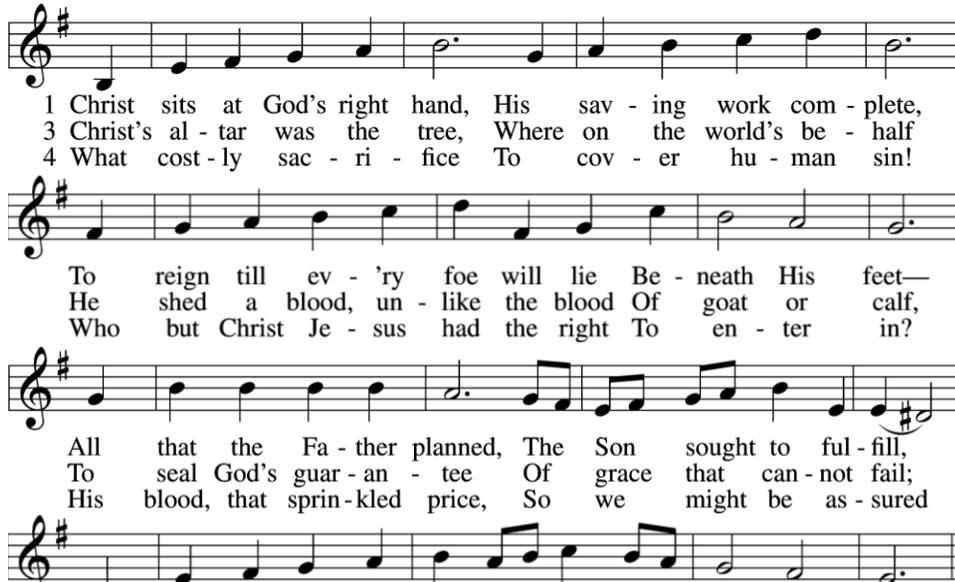
Leader: In the past, God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets,
at many times and in various ways,
but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 12:49-53*

“I have come to throw fire on the earth. I wish that it had already started! I have a baptism to go through, and I will suffer until it is over.

“Do you think I came to bring peace to earth? No! I can guarantee that I came to bring nothing but division. From now on a family of five will be divided. Three will be divided against two and two against three. A father will be against his son and a son against his father. A mother will be against her daughter and a daughter against her mother. A mother-in-law will be against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.” – GW ®

SERMON HYMN: *“Christ Sits at God’s Right Hand”* LSB 564, Vs. 1, 3 & 4



1 Christ sits at God's right hand, His sav - ing work com - plete,
3 Christ's al - tar was the tree, Where on the world's be - half
4 What cost - ly sac - ri - fice To cov - er hu - man sin!

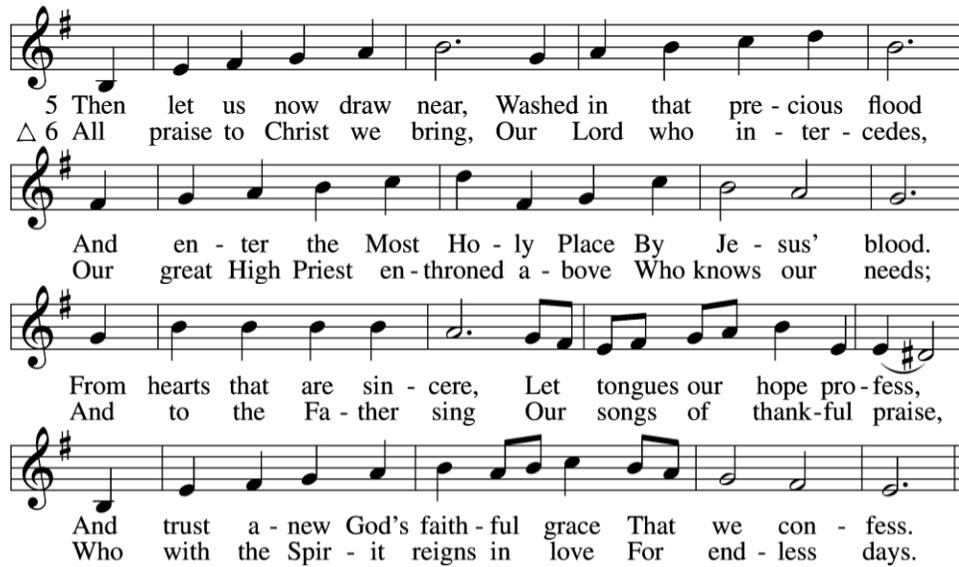
To reign till ev - 'ry foe will lie Be - neath His feet—
He shed a blood, un - like the blood Of goat or calf,
Who but Christ Je - sus had the right To en - ter in?

All that the Fa - ther planned, The Son sought to ful - fill,
To seal God's guar - an - tee Of grace that can - not fail;
His blood, that sprin - kled price, So we might be as - sured

When first He said, “Lord, here am I To do Your will.”
With blood He en - tered for our good Be - hind the veil.
That our in - her - i - tance in light Has been se - cured.

SERMON: *“Just What We Needed”*
Text: Hebrews 12:4-29

HYMN OF THE DAY: *“Christ Sits at God’s Right Hand”* LSB 564, Vs. 5-6



5 Then let us now draw near, Washed in that pre-cious flood
Δ 6 All praise to Christ we bring, Our Lord who in-ter-cedes,
And en-ter the Most Ho-ly Place By Je-sus' blood.
Our great High Priest en-throned a-bove Who knows our needs;
From hearts that are sin-cre, Let tongues our hope pro-fess,
And to the Fa-ther sing Our songs of thank-ful praise,
And trust a-new God's faith-ful grace That we con-fess.
Who with the Spir-it reigns in love For end-less days.

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.

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.**

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!*

+ *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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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: "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" LSB 924



1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling
joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,
Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,
O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

POSTLUDE

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“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” LSB 909

Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Music: Henry Purcell, 1659-95, adapt.

Text and Music: Public domain

“Christ Sits at God’s Right Hand” LSB 564

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955. Tune: Hebrew; setting: Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1875.

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“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” LSB 924

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, sts. 1-2, alt; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 3, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and music: Public domain

FROM BRITT ODEMBA:

At the end of March, I was able to participate in a three day conference on caring for children who have suffered some form of trauma. It is very common here in Kenya for children to have gone through some significant hardships within the first 10 years of life.

As someone who works with these children it is important for me to understand how trauma can affect a child’s behavior and eventually their future. As a caregiver, what are some ways that I can help the children see that they are important in God’s eyes? How can I make them feel valued once again?

This conference helped open my eyes to new ideas and tactics to help such children. Over 100 attendees participated in this special conference. My hope and prayer is that through this training each one of us is better prepared to recognize and provide support and care for that one child in need, so that the child moves on from the trauma and comes to know that they are loved by their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

For more information, go to Bethany’s website at www.bethanylutheran.org and Click on the SERVE/SUPPORT tab. Then, click on Mission Outreach and then, Bethany’s Missionaries. At this point, click on the Britt Odemba Newsletter.