Bethany Lutheran Church

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 11, 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:

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

During worship, let God talk to you!

<u>After</u> 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 <u>Cry Room</u> 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.

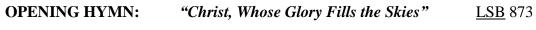
<u>Please</u> place cell phones and electronic devices on mute as you join us in worship this morning. Thank you.

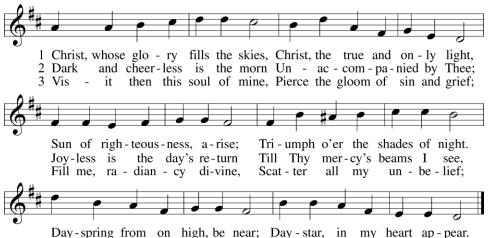
PRESERVICE MUSIC:

Organ

"Chorale Prelude On a Melody" ~ by Orlando Gibbons, Healey Willan

Prelude on "Hydrydol" ~ Healey Willan





CALL TO WORSHIP: (Based on 1 Timothy 1:2b, 15-17)

Leader: Grace, mercy and peace are yours from God the Father

and Christ Jesus our Lord, and the Spirit who proceeds from both.

More and more Thy-self dis-play, Shin-ing to the per-fect day.

in - ward light im - part, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

People: Amen.

Till they

Leader: Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves our acceptance:

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners!

People: So that in us, people as guilty of sin as anyone else,

Christ Jesus might display His unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on Him

and receive eternal life.

Leader: Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God,

be honor and glory forever and ever.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Leader: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart

and confess our sins unto God our Father,

beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

to grant us forgiveness. (Hebrews 10:22)

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth. (*Psalm 124:8*)

Leader: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, **People:** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (*Psalm 32:5*)

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God,

we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will

and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

Amen.

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,

and for His sake God forgives us all our sins.

To those who believe in Jesus Christ

He gives the power to become the children of God

and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(*John 1:12*; *Philippians 1:6*)

People: Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Ezekiel 34:11-24

"This is what the Almighty LORD says: I will search for my sheep myself, and I will look after them. As a shepherd looks after his flock when he is with his scattered sheep, so I will look after my sheep. I will rescue them on a cloudy and gloomy day from every place where they have been scattered. I will bring them out from the nations, gather them from the countries, and bring them to their own land. I will take care of them on the mountains of Israel, by the streams, and in all the inhabited places of the land. I will feed them in good pasture, and they will graze on the mountains of Israel. They will rest on the good land where they graze, and they will feed on the best pastures in the mountains of Israel. I will take care of my sheep and lead them to rest, declares the Almighty LORD. I will look for those that are lost, bring back those that have strayed away, bandage those that are injured, and strengthen those that are sick. I will destroy those that are fat and strong. I will take care of my sheep fairly.

"'As for you, my sheep, this is what the Almighty LORD says: I will judge disputes between one sheep and another, between rams and male goats. Isn't it enough for you to feed on the good pasture? Must you trample the rest of the pasture with your feet? You drink clean water. Must you muddy the rest of the water with your feet? Must my sheep eat what your feet have trampled and drink what your feet have muddied?

"'So this is what the Almighty LORD says to them: I will judge disputes between the fat sheep and the skinny sheep. You fat sheep push the skinny sheep with your sides and shoulders, and you knock down all the sick sheep with your horns. You have scattered them all over. So I will rescue my sheep, and they will no longer be prey. I will judge between one sheep and another. Then I will place one shepherd over them, my servant David, and he will take care of them. He will take care of them and be their shepherd. I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be their prince. I, the LORD, have spoken. — GW ®

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord that He has trusted me and has appointed me to do His work with the strength He has given me. In the past I cursed Him, persecuted Him, and acted arrogantly toward Him. However, I was treated with mercy because I acted ignorantly in my unbelief. Our Lord was very kind to me. Through His kindness he brought me to faith and gave me the love that Christ Jesus shows people.

This is a statement that can be trusted and deserves complete acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, and I am the foremost sinner. However, I was treated with mercy so that Christ Jesus could use me, the foremost sinner, to demonstrate His patience. This patience serves as an example for those who would believe in Him and live forever. Worship and glory belong forever to the eternal king, the immortal, invisible, and only God. Amen. - GW @

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" The Bethany Choir ~ J.S. Bach

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

All the tax collectors and sinners came to listen to Jesus. But the Pharisees and the experts in Moses' Teachings complained, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Jesus spoke to them using this illustration: "Suppose a man has 100 sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the 99 sheep grazing in the pasture and look for the lost sheep until he finds it? When he finds it, he's happy. He puts that sheep on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says to them, 'Let's celebrate! I've found my lost sheep!' I can guarantee that there will be more happiness in heaven over one person who turns to God and changes the way he thinks and acts than over 99 people who already have turned to God and have his approval."

"Suppose a woman has ten coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house, and look for the coin carefully until she finds it? When she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Let's celebrate! I've found the coin that I lost.' So I can guarantee that God's angels are happy about one person who turns to God and changes the way he thinks and acts." - GW @



SERMON: "Jesus Is for Everybody"

Text: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

HYMN OF THE DAY: "How Wide the Love of Christ" LSB 535



1 How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race



But holds our one hu - man - i - ty With -in its broad em - brace.

- 2 How long the love of Christ!
 Its patience will not cease
 Until this broken world is bound
 In everlasting peace.
- 3 How high the love of Christ!
 Beyond all thought it soars,
 And yet upon our passing lives
 Unmeasured mercy pours.
- How deep the love of Christ,
 Descending to a cross!
 He bears within His wounded hands
 All human pain and loss.
- All praise to You, O Christ,For love whose depth and height,Whose length and breadth fill time and spaceWith endless life and light!

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.

PRAYERS: (Based on I Tim 2:1-6)

Leader: I urge you to bring your requests, prayers, intercessions

and thanksgivings for everyone, for all in authority,

that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

This is good, and pleases God our Savior,

who wants everybody to be saved

and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

People: For there is one God and one mediator between God and everybody,

the God who took on a body and became man in Jesus Christ

and gave Himself as a ransom for everybody.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Leader: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with

me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and

those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in

death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend (names) and all who are in need, praying for

them at all times. Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and

help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our

hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You,

and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue

our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil

with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and

soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through

Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: 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!

***For our 8:00 a.m. worshippers, the service continues on page 12 with the special announcements.

***For our 9:30 a.m. worshippers, the service continues with the Celebration of Holy Communion below:

+ 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.

***Our communion pattern at Bethany for the 8:00 AM service is the 1st and 3rd Sundays, generally at the rail. For the 9:30 AM service, it is the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays, generally walking past the fount. Follow the direction of the ushers. For those members desiring to commune with the individual packets, we ask that you pick one up from the Church Narthex prior to worship. After the words of institution, when your row is dismissed to the table, we invite you to commune.

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: (Based on 1 Timothy 6)

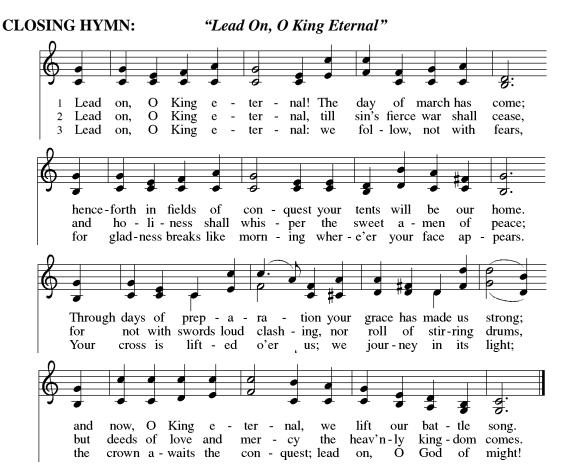
Leader: Put your hope in God, who richly provides you with all you have.

So be rich in good deeds and be generous and willing to share.

Take hold of life, that is true life and the Grace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you.

Amen.



POSTLUDE: "Epilogue" Organ ~ Healey Willan

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"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" LSB 873

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88. Tune: attr. Johann G. Werner, 1777-1822; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and music: Public domain.

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" LSB 711

Text: Hymns for the Young, 4th ed., London, 1836, alt. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68.

Text and music: Public domain.

"How Wide the Love of Christ" LSB 535

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., b. 1923. Tune: "ST. THOMAS" LSB 331.

Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731-76; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941.

Text: ©1997 GIA Publishing, Inc., Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149. Music: Public Domain

"Lead On, O King Eternal!" LBW 495

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879.

Text and music: Public domain.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR TODAY'S SERMON OR PREVIOUS SERMONS AGAIN...

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

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