

Bethany Lutheran Church

15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 18, 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:

"Sing"

1. We are a bro - ken peo - ple, Not wor - thy of Your Grace.

Humb - ly we will en - ter, The tem - ple of Your praise.

2. Fall to our knees, Lay at Your scarred feet. The

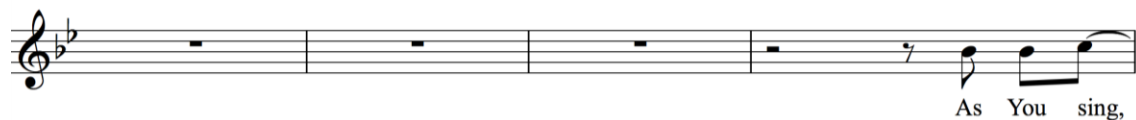
Lamb who took our place, u - pon the mer - cy seat. And You sing

o - ver us You sing o - ver us And we'll

sing of Your great mer - cy, sing of Your great grace Be -

cause of Your great love, We'll sing a - loud Your praise.

3. You are the one who's made us ho - ly and set a - part.



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

Leader: Grace, mercy and peace are yours from God the Father,
Christ Jesus our Lord, and the Spirit who proceeds from both.

People: Amen.

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: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Leader: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins,
and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Leader: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Amos 8:4-7*

Listen to this, those who trample on the needy
and ruin those who are oppressed in the world.
You say to yourselves,
“When will the New Moon Festival be over
so that we can sell more grain?
When will the day of rest—a holy day, be over
so that we can sell more wheat?
We can shrink the size of the bushel baskets,
increase the cost, and cheat with dishonest scales.
We can buy the poor with money and the needy for a pair of sandals.
We can sell the husks mixed in with the wheat.”

The LORD has sworn an oath by Jacob’s pride:
“I will never forget anything that they have done.” – GW ®

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *1 Timothy 2:1-6*

First of all, I encourage you to make petitions, prayers, intercessions, and prayers of thanks for all people, for rulers, and for everyone who has authority over us. Pray for these people so that we can have a quiet and peaceful life always lived in a godly and reverent way. This is good and pleases God our Savior. He wants all people to be saved and to learn the truth. There is one God. There is also one mediator between God and humans—a human, Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for all people to free them from their sins.

This message is valid for every era. – GW ®

CHILDREN’S SERMON

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 16:1-15*

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “A rich man had a business manager. The manager was accused of wasting the rich man’s property. So the rich man called for his manager and said to him, ‘What’s this I hear about you? Let me examine your books. It’s obvious that you can’t manage my property any longer.’

“The manager thought, ‘What should I do? My master is taking my job away from me. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg. I know what I’ll do so that people will welcome me into their homes when I’ve lost my job.’

“So the manager called for each one of his master’s debtors. He said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

“The debtor replied, ‘Eight hundred gallons of olive oil.’

“The manager told him, ‘Take my master’s ledger. Quick! Sit down, and write “four hundred!” ’

“Then he asked another debtor, ‘How much do you owe?’

“The debtor replied, ‘A thousand bushels of wheat.’

“The manager told him, ‘Take the ledger, and write “eight hundred!” ’

“The master praised the dishonest manager for being so clever. Worldly people are more clever than spiritually-minded people when it comes to dealing with others.”

Jesus continued, “I’m telling you that although wealth is often used in dishonest ways, you should use it to make friends for yourselves. When life is over, you will be welcomed into an eternal home. Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with a lot. Whoever is dishonest with very little is dishonest with a lot. Therefore, if you can’t be trusted with wealth that is often used dishonestly, who will trust you with wealth that is real? If you can’t be trusted with someone else’s wealth, who will give you your own?

“A servant cannot serve two masters. He will hate the first master and love the second, or he will be devoted to the first and despise the second. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Pharisees, who love money, heard all this and were making sarcastic remarks about him. So Jesus said to them, “You try to justify your actions in front of people. But God knows what’s in your hearts. What is important to humans is disgusting to God. – GW ®

SERMON HYMN:

“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!

SERMON: *“This IS His Body”*

Text: 1 Timothy 2:1-6

HYMN OF THE DAY: ***“Your Grace Finds Me”***

Verse 1:

It's there in the newborn cry
There in the light of ev'ry sunrise
There in the shadows of this life; Your great grace
It's there on the mountain top
There in the ev'ryday and the mundane
There in the sorrow and the dancing
Your great grace; O such grace

Chorus 1:

From the creation to the cross; There from the cross into eternity
Your grace finds me; Yes, Your grace finds me

Verse 2:

It's there on a wedding day
There in the weeping by the graveside
There in the very breath we breathe; Your great grace
The same for the rich and poor
The same for the saint and for the sinner
Enough for this whole wide world
Your great grace; O such grace

Chorus 2:

From the creation to the cross; There from the cross into eternity
Your grace finds me; Yes, Your grace finds me
There in the darkest night of the soul; There in the sweetest songs of victory
Your grace finds me; Yes, Your grace finds me

Bridge:

Your great grace, O such grace; Your great grace, O such grace
The same for the rich and poor; The same for the saint and for the sinner
Enough for this whole wide world; Your great grace, O such grace

Chorus 3:

Breathing in Your grace, And breathing out Your praise
I'm breathing in Your grace, Forever I'll be

Ending:

It's the same for the saint and the sinner; It's enough for this whole wide world
Yes, Your grace finds me; Yes, Your grace finds me

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.

PREFACE:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud, magnify, and praise Your glorious name.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

Leader: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

*****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.*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE: *(Based on Luther's Small Catechism)*

Leader: The Words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words.

People: **So while fasting and body preparation are certainly fine outward training, the person is truly worthy and well prepared to receive the sacrament is the one who believes in these words: "Given and shed of you."**

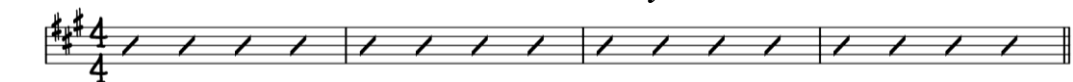
Leader: For those who believe these words have what they promise, the forgiveness of sins.

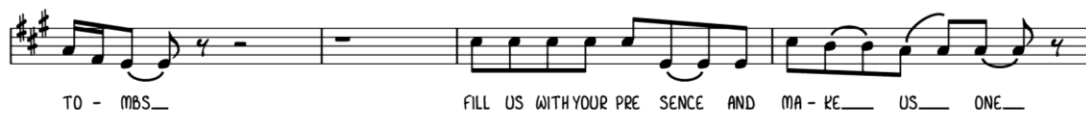
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: “We Are Your Body”





“Is He Worthy”

Verse 1:

Do you feel the world is broken? We do
Do you feel the shadows deepen? We do
But do you know that all the dark
Won't stop the light from getting through? We do
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? We do

Verse 2:

Is all creation groaning? It is
Is a new creation coming? It is
Is the glory of the Lord
To be the light within our midst? It is
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? It is

Chorus 1:

Is anyone worthy, Is anyone whole
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's Root
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
Is He worthy, Is He worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy of this? He is

Verse 3:

Does the Father truly love us? He does
Does the Spirit move among us? He does
And does Jesus our Messiah
Hold forever those He loves? He does
Does our God intend to dwell again with us
He does

(Song continued on next page.)

Chorus 2:

Is anyone worthy, Is anyone whole
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
From ev'ry people and tribe every nation and tongue
He has made us a kingdom and priests
To God to reign with the Son
Is He worthy, Is He worthy
Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy, Is He worthy
Is He worthy of this? He is

Ending:

Is He worthy, Is He worthy
He is, He is

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:

Leader: Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN:

"Glory Be to Jesus"

Glo - ry be to Je - sus who in bit - ter pain
 Blest through end - less a - ges be the pre - cious stream

poured for me the life blood from His sa - cred veins.
 which from end - less tor - ment did the world re - deem.

Grace and life e - ter - nal in that blood I find
 A - bel's blood for ven - gence plea - ded to the skies

Blest be His com - pass - ion in - fi - nit - ly kind.
 But the blood of Je - sus for our par - don cries.

We lift our voi - ces sing - ing praise to Your name for the mer - cy that flows from the Lamb (who was)

1. slain.

2. We lift our voi - ces sing - ing praise to Your name for the mer cy that flows from the Lamb who was

slain. Praise You I will ne - ver cease to praise You!

We'll not be si - lent we'll shout it a - loud, let - ting all the world know of His love

We lift our voices singing praise to Your name for the mercy that flows from the Lamb (who was) slain.

“Our Sabbath continues at 11:00 AM as we gather for study via zoom to connect more deeply with the texts read and proclaimed in worship and to connect with one another; brothers and sister sent with us into the world as His hands, feet and voice.”

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/879060806> Meeting ID: 879 060 806

There is no password.

SUNDAY MORNING LINEUP

Fantasy Football managers, and NFL head coaches alike, are getting ready to set their starting lineups for the season opener.

Our fall season at Bethany, The Gathering and Holy Cross “opens” on September 11th.

- **In person worship** on the campus of Bethany at 8:00 & 9:30AM and Holy Cross at 11:00AM. Live streamed at 9:30AM. Worship theme and preacher same on both campuses.

Sunday morning study in person on the campus of Holy Cross at 9:30AM and hosted by The Gathering via zoom at 11:00AM. Study leader and text (lessons of the day with particular attention to the sermon text) the same in both venues.

- To Join the 11:00AM Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/879060806>; Meeting ID: 879 060 806. There is no password.

September worship and study line up:

The Body of Evidence from I Timothy

9/11 Jesus is FOR Everybody - I Tim. 1:12-17

9/18 This IS His Body - I Tim. 2:1-6

9/25 We ARE His Body - I Tim. 3:11b-12, 17-18

In October, we start a four-week series leading up to Reformation Day from II Timothy:

“Gathered, Connected, Sent! What Does This Mean?”

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“Sing”

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“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,
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“Is He Worthy”

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“Glory Be to Jesus”

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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!***