



# 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

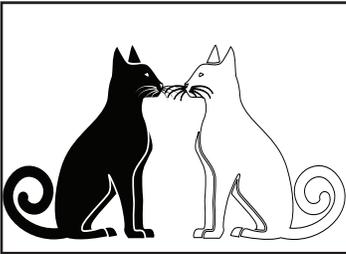
## Blessing of the Animals

YOUR PASTOR

Pastor Christine Core  
email: ccore@comcast.net  
phone/text: 503-805-3653

October 6, 2019

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



We are glad you are here and we pray God will be real to you as you worship. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Knowing God loves all creation and holds us all, we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We welcome everyone and honor the rich diversity and giftedness that age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships.

## WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

*Toccata for Harvest*, Martin Setchell

Welcome

Call to Worship

**Psalm 84:1-4**

How lovely is your dwelling place,  
O LORD of hosts!

**My soul longs, indeed it faints  
for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh sing for joy  
to the living God.**

Even the sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for herself,  
where she may lay her young,  
at your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.

**Happy are those who live in your house,  
ever singing your praise.**



Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. A gender neutral restroom located behind the worship space next to the church office. Please ask the Usher or Greeter for assistance. There is also a rocking chair in the rear of the Sanctuary. Please use it as you wish.

Address [5658 North Denver Avenue](#) • Portland, Oregon 97217 • Email [bethel@bethelpdx.org](mailto:bethel@bethelpdx.org) • Website [www.bethelpdx.org](http://www.bethelpdx.org)

## Opening Hymn

## For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

### *Refrain*



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.



## Greeting

The joy of our Redeemer Jesus Christ, the compassion of God, and the creative power of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Source and sustainer of life, we cherish the myriad works of your hands. Water, earth, and sky are yours, as are all their inhabitants, wild and tame. We thank you for creatures that nourish and serve us, befriend, enrich, entertain, and protect us. May we, who are made in your image, care for them well. And may your groaning yet wondrous creation rally and thrive, revealing to all who come after us your wise, redemptive, transfiguring love; through Jesus Christ, our Brother and Redeemer. Amen

# WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

## First Reading

**Genesis 1:1, 20-28, 31a**

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

P: Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

## *This Is My Father's World*



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all  
2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the  
3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,



na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.  
morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.  
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of  
This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the  
This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; hand the won - ders wrought.  
rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.  
Lord is king, let heav-en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

# The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

## Meditation

### Hymn

### All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



1 All crea-tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and  
2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and  
3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad - ows, join the  
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor  
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,  
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in  
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur - dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:  
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -  
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:  
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,  
waiting to hush our final breath:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,  
fair is the night that leads us home.  
Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
and worship God with humble heart:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:  
Alleluia.

## Prayers of the People

Response: Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.

## Blessing of Animals

**Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon all these animals. May our relationships with them mirror your love, and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy. Grant the animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ our Lord and God's servant Francis. Amen**

*One by one, you are invited to bring forth your animal companion for a blessing.*

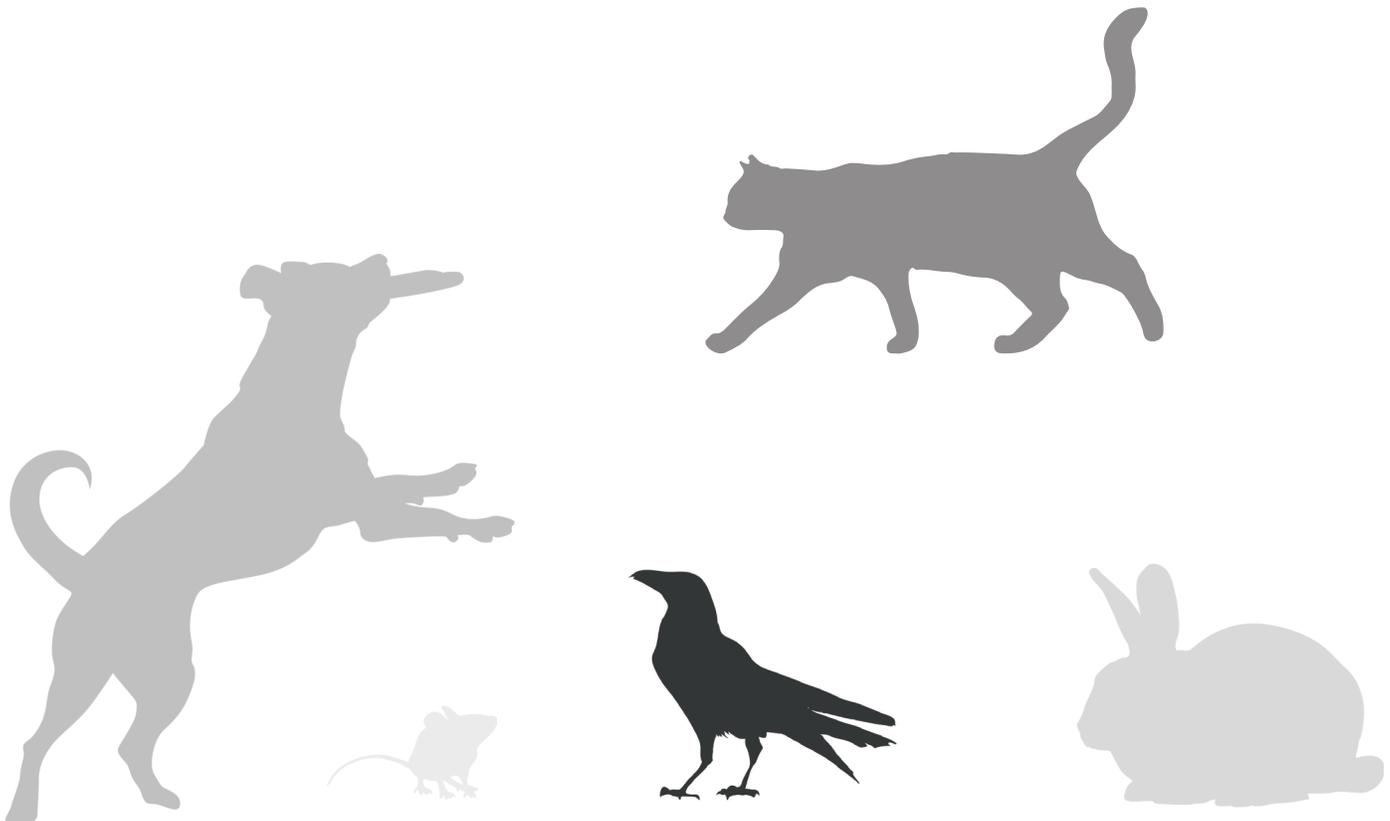
*Once all the animals have been blessed, we continue in prayer.*

**May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that we will live deeply in our hearts. May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people and the earth, so that we will work for justice, equity and peace. May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer, so that we will reach out our hands to comfort them and change their pain to joy. And may God bless us with the foolishness to think that we can make a difference in our world, so that we will do the things which others say cannot be done.**

*Prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi*

## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you**



# WE CELEBRATE THE MEAL

## Offertory

*Ah, Jesus Lord, Thy Love to Me*, Gerhardt/Wesley

## Offertory Prayer

All good gifts come from you, dear God, and you reveal glimpses of your grace through them. Thank you for inviting us to be partners with you in caring for your creation. We offer these gifts now, knowing that they come first from you, then from other members of your family of creation, then from us. Bless these symbols of our awareness that we depend upon you and your creation for all that we call "ours." Please accept these gifts and our desire to be your partners. In Your name, Amen

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer, (from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer)

Eternal Spirit Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all.

Loving God, in whom is heaven.  
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen

## Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites all Creation to the table. Come, take your place at the feast.

## Communion Distribution

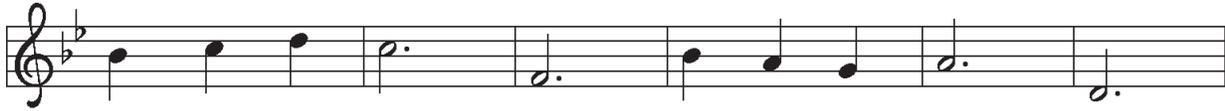


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Our welcome extends to the Communion Table. We recognize that this is Christ's Table and Christ's invitation. Please come forward as you are invited. If you prefer not to receive Communion at this time, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – just fold your arms across your chest so that we know you prefer a blessing. Wine is served from the first chalice; grape juice is served from the second. We also offer gluten-free bread and individual cups of wine.

# Communion Hymn

# Touch the Earth Lightly



1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,  
2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,  
3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,  
4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour-ish the life of the world in our care:  
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,  
wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,  
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



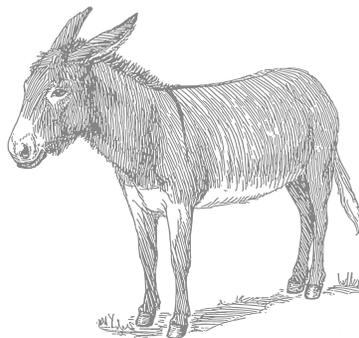
gift of great won - der, ours to sur - rend - er,  
we who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter—  
health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,  
teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.  
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!  
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.  
us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

## Prayer After Communion

God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen



# WE ARE SENT IN JESUS' LOVE

## Announcements

## Blessing

## Sending Hymn

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*, verses 1 & 2



- 1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
- 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
- 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
- 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.  
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.  
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.  
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme  
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,  
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield  
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.  
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.  
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.  
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

## Sending

Go out into God's world. Live in peace with one another  
and with all God's creatures.

Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

*Haymakers Gavotte and Jig*, Betty Roe

<b>Prayer Requested For:</b>	<b>Prayer Concern:</b>	<b>Prayer Contact:</b>
For the environment and all those working to bring about live-giving change	Grant us wisdom to care for earth and energy to act now for the good of future generations	Staff
For the People of Bethel Lutheran	May the Holy Spirit move within our hearts as we move out into our community to serve	Staff
For those who suffer from any affliction	Be close to all who are feeling the bitter winds of flagging hope and scarcity. Help us remember those who have been overtaken by the challenges of poverty, loss, unjust discrimination or exclusion.	Staff
Houseless people on Interstate	Prayers that their hunger be alleviated, that they are warm and they may live with privacy and dignity.	Greysen Balles
Barbara Horne	Prayers of healing and comfort.	Tammy Gover
Steve Stoner	Prayers of healing and comfort.	Staff
Katie Reitel & Family	Prayers for peace & assurance of God's love.	The Bentleys
Faith St. John	Prayers of thanksgiving for a successful surgery. Peace and comfort as further treatment is discerned.	Pastor Core
Leo Lawrence	Prayers for healing.	Pastor Core
Jennifer Nevills, former YDIC director	Struggling with heart disease.	Karen Anderson
Bob Hoggard	Prayers of peace and comfort as he nears the end of his earthly life.	Becky McAllister
Paul Tweten	Prayers of peace and comfort following a diagnosis of inoperable prostate cancer.	Jim VanDyke
Karen Anderson	Prayers for continued healing after a difficult fall.	Staff
Shirley Kolpin	Prayers for a speedy recovery.	Shirley Kolpin
Margie Fletcher.	Prayers of healing; Peace and comfort for her and Mike, Mitch and Micah.	Karen Anderson
Mary Rix	Preparing for surgery; prayers of comfort.	Pastor Core
Dorothy Hansen and all of the residents of the Smith Tower Apartments, Vancouver, WA	Peace of mind following the tragic shooting of three residents, resulting in the death of one. All three people, including the perpetrator were friends of Dorothy	Pastor Core
Willie Torrey and his family	Prayers of thanksgiving for a good turn of events in his life; prayers for his son and for peace in his family.	Willie Torrey
<b>Our prayers continue for many among us:</b> for Bertha Anderson, Timothy Collins, Elizabeth, Rob, Jacob Bard, Miles Bard, Annalu Lingnau, Ben Lingnau III, David Lingnau, Patricia Connor.		

<b>Stewardship of Service</b>	<b>Today - Oct 6</b>	<b>Next Week - Oct 12</b>
Ministers:	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor:	Pr. Christine Core	Pr. Christine Core
Lay Leader		Jim VanDyke
Music Director	Jamie Webster	Jamie Webster
Usher:		
Reader:		
Communion:		
Preparation of the Altar:		

# BETHEL NEWS

## TODAY

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- **Blessing of Animals**

The blessing of pets and animals is often celebrated on or near the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis preached God created the world good and beautifully. St. Francis held great love for animals and the environment. St. Francis believed all creatures should praise God and we human creatures are to be stewards of God's creation.



The feast day of St. Francis on October 4, we will bless our animals on Sunday, October 6.

All furry, finned and feathered, and yes, even scaly, friends are welcomed on this Sunday. Please make sure your friend is properly leashed or restrained, or in a cage or bowl. Come prepared for sounds of barking, meowing, cawing and snuffing as well as music and prayer.

- **Parsonage Neighborhood Open House** 11-2 pm, immediately following worship.

Join us at the Parsonage for a special surprise celebration! **HINT: The celebration involves cake!**



## COMING UP:

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- **Oct 9 | YDIC Board Meeting**, 6:30 pm at Mary Flood-Klein's home
- **Oct. 11-13 | Women's Retreat** at McKenzie Bridge
- **Oct 12 | El Salvadoran Consulate Immigration Services**  
Fellowship Hall, 9 am – 2 pm
- **Oct 20 | Bread for the World Sunday**
- **Oct 20 | Church Council Meeting**, after worship
- **Nov 3 | St. Charles Church 69th Annual Spaghetti Dinner**, 12 PM – 6 PM  
5310 NE 42nd Ave, Portland, Oregon 97218.

## OTHER NEWS

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### Bethel's Choir

Everyone is welcome to join in on the singing and celebrating. And, thank you to everyone who sang through some of our upcoming music and through bits of others. Please continue to give Jamie your feedback about what piques your interest and is joyful for you to sing. If the music selections are challenging (either positively or negatively), she would like to hear that too. Your feedback is critical as worship planning for the fall continues.

#### Upcoming Choir Dates for your Calendars:

Sunday, 10/13, 9 am Rehearsal

Sunday, 10/20, 9 am Rehearsal and 10 am Worship Service

Sunday, 10/27, No Choir Practice as Jamie is away.

## **Women's Spirituality Group** | Thursday (10/24) 7:00 pm at Pastor Christine's home

We continue to grow together as companions in Christ as we meet for pray and time for sharing. We invite you to join us at any time – we truly believe that the people in the room are the people whom God sends! Are you one of those sent?

### **10/9 Meeting Rescheduled to 10/24**

The October Women's Retreat at the McKenzie River conflicts a tad with the regularly scheduled Thursday (10/9) meeting, so has been rescheduled as part of the women's retreat. The next Women's Spirituality Meeting will be Thursday, 10/24 at 6:30 pm at Pastor Christine's home. We're going to try a west side location: 9831 NW Silver Ridge Loop. Call Pastor Christine for directions.

If you have Jan Richardson's book, *In Wisdom's Path*, take a moment to carefully read through and ponder page 118.

### **Upcoming meetings:**

10/24 - 7 pm at Pastor Christine's home

## **Bread for the World Sunday** | October 22, 2019

As we prepare for Bread for the World Sunday, the day we offer prayers for all who are hungry, we are reminded of the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000. Most of us think of this story as a miracle of abundance: Jesus multiplying five loaves and two fish. But Christian Scripture scholar John Dominic Crossan invites us to look at this story as a parable – a story using familiar scenarios and understandings to teach us about what Jesus proclaimed as the kingdom of God. Jesus invited the people to imagine what it might look like in a society where all gave and all shared in God's abundance.



**breadfortheworld**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

*O God, look with compassion on the one in seven Americans who face hunger in this country; the one in five children in our country who lives in a family that struggles to get enough to eat. Grant patience and wisdom to parents who work so hard to see that their children have the food they need to grow and learn. Preserve the dignity of these families as they struggle to get enough to eat. May those who cannot find work or who are unable to work be supported and sustained by their communities. Amen*

## **Eco-Tip**

The voices of our youth are not letting up ... perhaps we ought to listen to these modern day prophets and do our best to "touch the earth lightly".

### **Here's this weeks Eco-tip:**

Keep coffee waste out of our landfills. Many of us would find it hard to start the day without our morning shot of coffee, and we've come to rely on single-brew systems that make it ever-so-easy. But we're paying for the convenience with all the trash those systems create. Consider the alternatives. Instead of the all-plastic pods vendors sell, try some of the compostable options now available. There's still plastic involved, but not as much. Or buy a set of refillable coffee pods and make your own brew. This is much cheaper and when you empty the grounds out of those little pods, you've got a great supplement for your compost pile. If you haven't bought in to the single-brew system yet, explore other ways to attain the same convenience of being able to make just one or two cups of coffee. There are single-cup pour over systems—very low tech—and the traditional Italian Bialetti, or something similar. Don't give up your coffee; give up the plastic waste that often comes with it. And, if you're one of the many folks who pick up your coffee on the way to work, please invest in a stainless steel mug so you can forego the plastic and paper options that coffee shops offer. Take charge of your coffee habit. It will likely be cheaper for you and no

## St. Charles Catholic Church Spaghetti Dinner

**Please join St. Charles Catholic Church for our 69th Annual Spaghetti Dinner!**

This is a fun event year after year. We will have beer and wine for sale, as well as a 50/50 raffle. The dinner consists of Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad, Bread and Pie for Dessert. Full Take Out Available.

**Tickets: \$12 Adults - \$10 Senior (65+) - \$5.00 child (5-12) - under 5 Free**

We hope you will join us!

# NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN HOUSE

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH PARSONAGE**  
**5937 N DENVER AVENUE**

**Sunday, 10/6 | 11-2 pm**

**REFRESHMENTS AND TOURS AT THE PARSONAGE!**



**We are completing the remodel at the Parsonage and inviting our members, neighbors and friends. Stop by the parsonage on Saturday or Sunday for tours and refreshments!**

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Worship Assistants

We can always use help with worship assistance – check out open slots for Ushering, Preparation of the Altar, Communion Assistants, and Reading on the signup sheet in the sanctuary.

### Sandwich Making

We have open slots for sandwich making in October. Please use **sign up genius** to volunteer.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a48a4ad2da46-bethel1>

## Bethel GivePlus

Give by Text Number: 503-608-7267

Texting Code	Fund Name
	General Operating Default Fund
Parsonage	Parsonage Project
Ticket	Cab & Cab Ticket
Auction	Cab & Cab Auction