



15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2020

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



We are glad you are here with us via Zoom 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. 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.

Communion

We will celebrate Holy Communion together via zoom -- a temporary practice during this time of forced social distancing. Please have bread/cracker(s) and a cup of wine/grape juice ready, if you and those with you would like to participate. If you do not have access to wine/grape juice, you may receive Communion without the cup – Christ is present in the bread, as Jesus said, "I am the bread of Life."

GATHERING

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 103)

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

God does not constantly accuse, not does God hang on to anger forever.

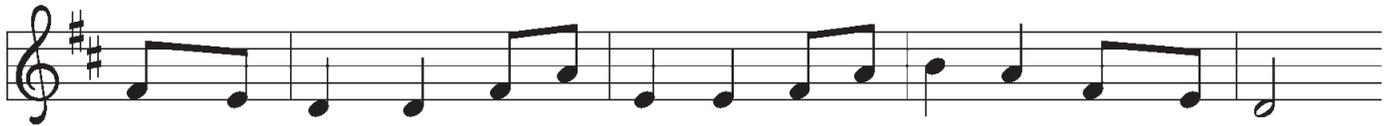
God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love; as far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our sins from us.

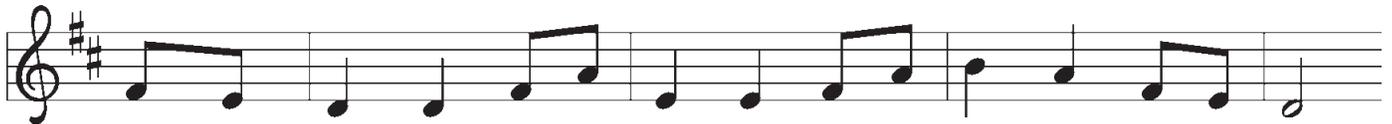


Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing, verses 1 and 3



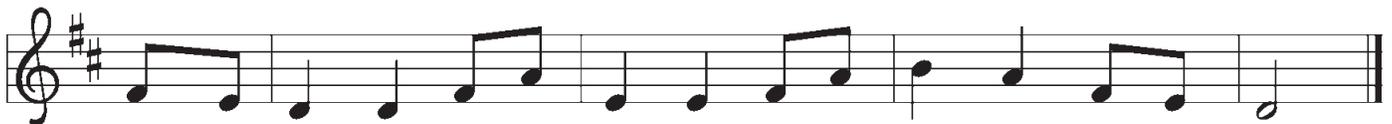
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Contemporary Hymn

A Heart that Forgives, Kevin LeVar

I want a heart that forgives, A heart full of love
One with compassion just like yours above
One that over comes evil with goodness and love
Like it never happened, never holding a grudge

I want a heart that forgives that lives and lets lives
One that keeps loves over and over again
One that men can't offend, Cuz your word is deep within
One that loves without price like you lord Jesus Christ
I want a heart that loves everybody, Even my Enemies
I want to love like, be like you, just like you did
I want a heart that forgives, want a heart that forgives

Want a heart that forgives!, When the ones that are closes
and that I've known the longest, They hurt me the most;
I still wanna love them just like you loved me
Even though I'm hurting, God should know they hurt me deep

Ohhh, want a heart that forgives
When the pain is so deep and it's
so hard for me to speak about it, To any one
Just like your son
I give up my rights to hold it against them with hatred inside
I want a heart that loves everybody, even my Enemies
I wanna love like you, be like you, just like you did
Wanna walk like you, talk like you, Just like you did,
Wanna be like you Jesus
Just like you Jesus Christ, I want a heart
Cuz the heart that forgives that is the heart that will live
Totally free from the pain of the past
and the heart that lets go
That is the heart that will know so much freedom,

Do you wanna be free, my answer is Yes
Lord I wanna be free, my answer is Yes
God I'm tired of being bound, father my answer is Yes
I don't want this in my life, father my answer is Yes
God I'm ready to let it go, father my answer is Yes
God I'm tired of saying No, father my answer is Yes
I don't wanna be hindered by the spirit of offense
I don't wanna be hindered by people that do me wrong
I wanna love them like you love me, wanna love them like you love me, Wanna love them like you
love me,

I want a heart that forgives
No matter what happens Lord, give me grace, give me grace
Lord no matter what comes, no matter what people do
I still wanna love them, I wanna love them, Just like you



Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray together:

Gracious God, Merciful Judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, and delight in loving all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lover of our Souls. Amen.

WORD

Reading

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”
So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



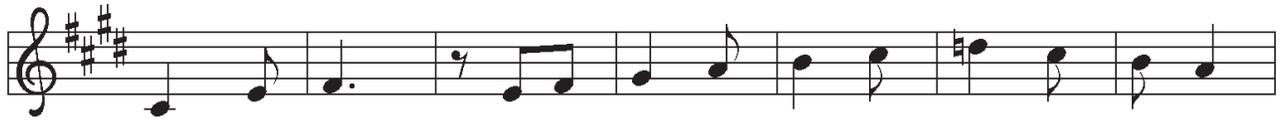
Gospel Hymn

Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

Refrain



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Refrain

Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord!

Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

Children's Time

Sermon



Hymn

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

Chords: Dm C F Dm Gm Dm

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," You
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless The
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals The
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls And

Chords: Bb F Am Dm Am Bb Dm C

taught us, Lord, to pray; But you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew: How tri - fling oth - ers?
 bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, by your mer - cy

Chords: F Dm Am F Gm Am7 Dm

grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 debts to us; How great our debt to you!
 rec - on - ciled, Our lives will spread your peace.

Prayers of Intercession

The response to each prayer will be: Hear us, O Lord.

Your mercy is great!

Sharing the Peace

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy and peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always

And also with you.

Offering and Affirmation of Giving (based on Matthew 13:22 and 1 Timothy 6:7-9, 18-19)

Jesus said that the cares of the world and the lure of money and material things can choke the Word in us, so that it yields nothing.

We bring nothing into this world, and we take nothing out of it.

We who call Jesus Lord devote ourselves to resisting greed, which plunges the human heart into ruin, and pierces it with many griefs.

We are determined to practice generosity with free hearts, fixing our hope on God and not the uncertainty of wealth.

We desire to be rich in good deeds and willing to share all that we have, laying up for ourselves treasure that will not decay but will shine in the age to come.

Please Donate to Bethel using Give Plus: Donate by Text:

(855) 944-1171 or one of our other options:

<http://bethelpdx.org/donate/>

COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer

The pastor will guide you when to take the bread & cup and eat & drink

Holy God, Mighty Wind, Gentle Presence:

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and on these gifts of bread and fruit of the vine.

Bless this meal and breathe new life into us.

Come, Holy Spirit.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to disciples, saying, Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, and gave thanks; and gave it for all to drink, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all people, that sins may be forgiven. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The 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.



Sharing the Bread and Cup

SENDING

Announcements

Sending Hymn

The Lord bless you and keep you
May His face shine upon you and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His
Face toward you
And give you peace

Amen, amen, amen
Amen, amen, amen

The Blessing

Blessing

As the most loving parents have have compassion for their children,
so the Lord has compassion for us.
For God knows of what we are made; God remembers that we are dust—even if we forget.
And so God forgives (+) all our sins, heals all our wounds, redeems us from the pit,
and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy, now and forever.

Amen.

Go in grace and mercy. Forgive as you have been forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Soul on Fire, Mac Powell and Be Essential Songs

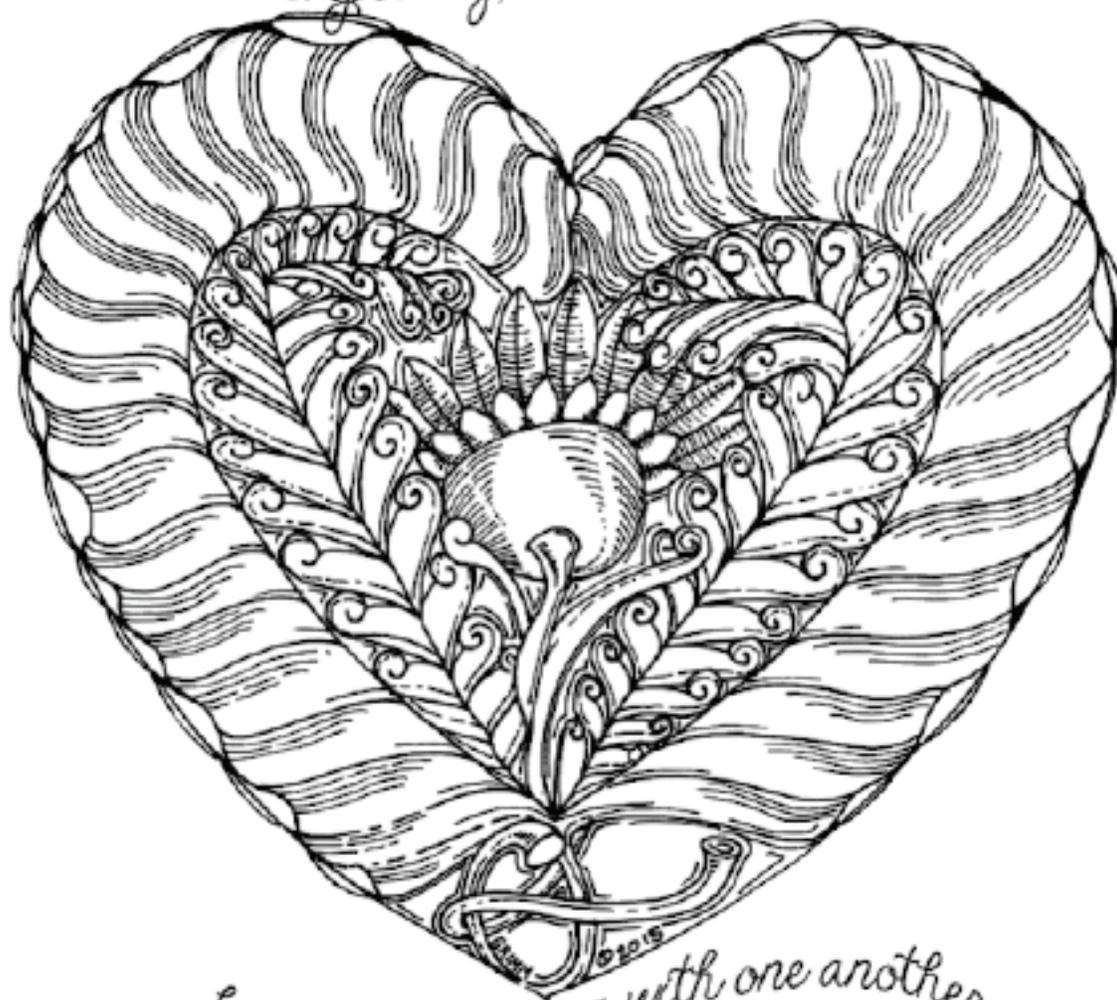
Prayer Requested For:	Prayer Concern:	Prayer Contact:
For the world	Prayers for assurance of God's love and healing as we work together during this global pandemic.	Staff
For all those affected by wildfires	Prayers of strength and counsel for the thousands of people affected by the wildfires.	Staff
For the People of Bethel Lutheran	May the wisdom and counsel of the Holy Spirit abide within the people of Bethel during this time of change and transition.	Staff
Katie Reitel & Family	Prayers for peace & assurance of God's love.	The Bentleys
Faith St. John	Healing and support as she undergoes treatment for cancer.	Staff
David Gyles	Continued prayers for David and Sandy as David continues to struggle with his lung problems	Bethel Care Team
Joan Barber	Peace and comfort and freedom from discomfort as she begins palliative care.	Pastor Core
The Griffin Family	Prayers for, the Griffin family, their son Harry, is hospitalized and is receiving chemotherapy cancer.	Tana & Scott Burris
Bethel's guests and volunteers	Peace and safety for Bethel's guests and volunteers who we cannot be with at this time, and especially for Rich Blackwood and Leo.	Joann Noll
Paul Hansen (Joyce & Warren's oldest son)	Healing, strength and comfort after colon cancer diagnosis; surgery scheduled for July.	Bethel Care Team
Carol and John Knight	Prayers for Carol and John Knight as he's isolated in memory care unit during the pandemic.	Karen Anderson
Pastor Glenn and his family	Pastor Glenn's nephew Colton, killed in a car accident over the holiday. Colton was Glenn's sister Diane's son. He and his girlfriend were/are expecting a baby in Jan.	Karen Anderson
Pastor Christine and John Core	Prayers of strength and courage for them as they lost their home a wildfire after evacuated from their home at Mackenzie River without notice. They were able to save Barnabas too. Otherwise they lost just about everything. Texts or emails only please.	Joann Noll
Our prayers continue for many among us: for Timothy Collins, Elizabeth, Rob, Jacob Bard, Miles Bard, Annalu Lingnau, Ben Lingnau III, David Lingnau, Patricia Connor.		

Stewardship of Service	Today - Sept 13 Virtual	Next Week-Sept 20 Virtual
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Scott Dunfee	Pastor Scott Dunfee
Music Director	Dr. Kathleen Hollingsworth	Dr. Kathleen Hollingsworth

View Bethel News <https://mailchi.mp/699a79b723eb/bethel-news-09-11-20>



"Be completely humble and gentle,



*Be patient, bearing with one another
in love." Ephesians 4:2*