



# 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Worship with Holy Communion

September 3, 2023

## Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



We are glad you are here, and we pray God will be real to you as you worship with us. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation; therefore, we invite all people, including those of all races, ethnicities, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, ages, economic levels, and abilities. God loves all creation and holds us all, so we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We honor and appreciate the rich diversity of age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity and expression, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships. We commit ourselves to embracing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care.

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**Communion** - We will celebrate Holy Communion together via Zoom, as well as gathered in person. 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 or grape juice, you may receive Communion without the cup—Christ is present in the bread, as Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life.” (John 6:35)

## GATHERING

**Prelude**

**Prelude**

*By Johann Caspar Ferdinand Fischer*



*Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. An all gender restroom is 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)

# Confession and Absolution

*Please stand in body or spirit*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails,  
whose promise is sure.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have hurt our community.**

**We have squandered your blessings.**

**We have hoarded your bounty.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy:

you are freed and forgiven

in the name of † Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**



# Come, All You People

## *Uyaimose*



*U - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;*  
 1 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
 2 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
 3 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;



*u - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;*  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;



*u - ya - i - mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwa - ri;*  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
 come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;



*u - ya - i - mo - se Zvi - no.*  
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.  
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.  
 come now and wor - ship the Lord.

Text: Alexander Gondo; tr. I-to Loh, b. 1936, alt.

Music: UYAIMOSE, Alexander Gondo

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## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

**O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### Scripture Reading

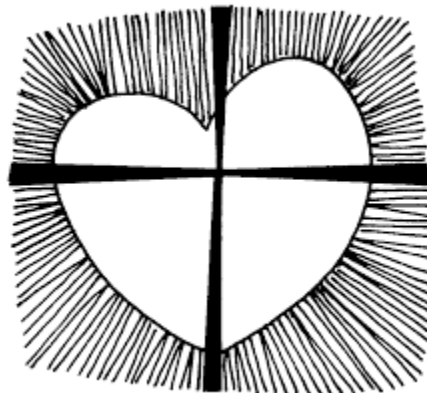
**Romans 12:9-21**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

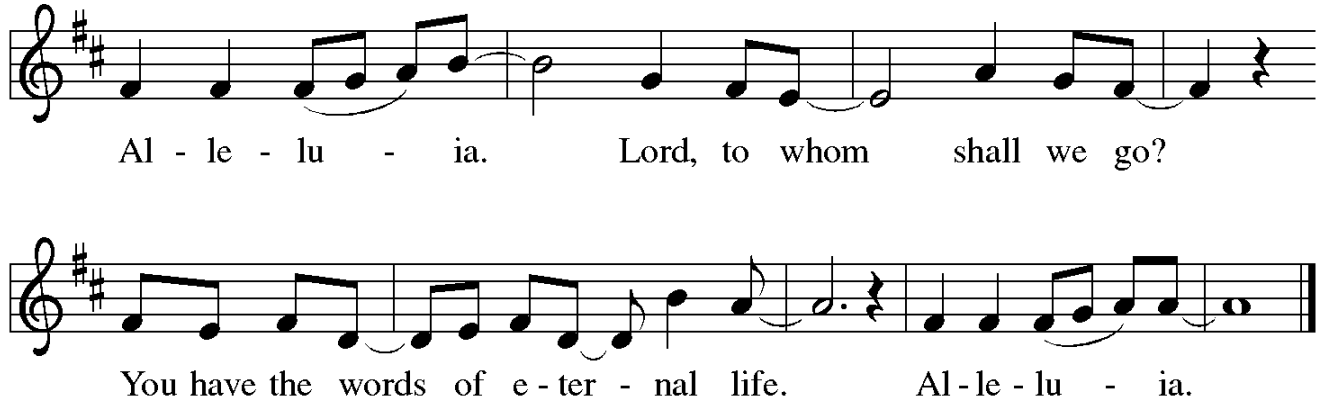
<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit*



## Gospel Reading

**Matthew 16:21-28**

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

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## Children's Time

## Sermon

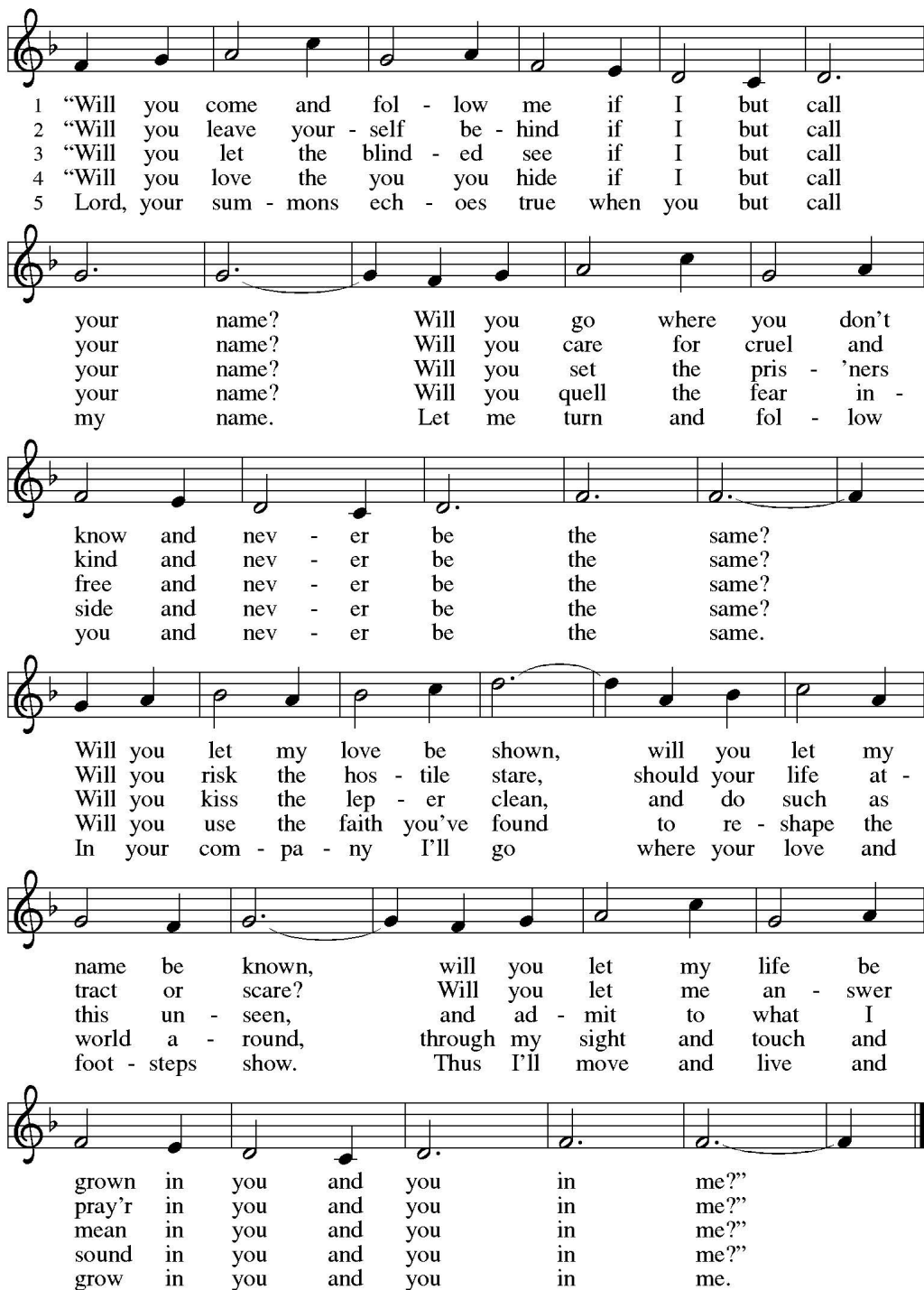
# Hymn of the Day

Please Stand in body or spirit

## Will You Come and Follow Me

### Will You Come and Follow Me

#### The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't  
your name? Will you care for cruel and  
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
my name. Let me quell the fear in -  
and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?  
kind and nev - er be the same?  
free and nev - er be the same?  
side and nev - er be the same?  
you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be  
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"  
pray'r in you and you in me?"  
mean in you and you in me?"  
sound in you and you in me?"  
grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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## Prayers of Intercession

*The response to each prayer is: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.***

**Sharing of Peace** — *Take time to share the peace on Zoom and in person*

## COMMUNION MEAL

*For those worshiping virtually, please gather your bread and wine to participate in Holy Communion.*

### Offering

*You may use one of our options for giving: The offering plate will be passed by the ushers, Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, PayPal, see our website [bethelpdx.org](http://bethelpdx.org) for link, online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> Additionally you may give by mail. Thank you for supporting the many ministries of Bethel!*

### Offertory

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**God of field and forest, sea and sky,  
you are the giver of all good things.  
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,  
and multiply your graciousness in us,  
that the world may be fed with your love,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

*The Pastor will guide you when to take the bread and cup to eat and drink.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

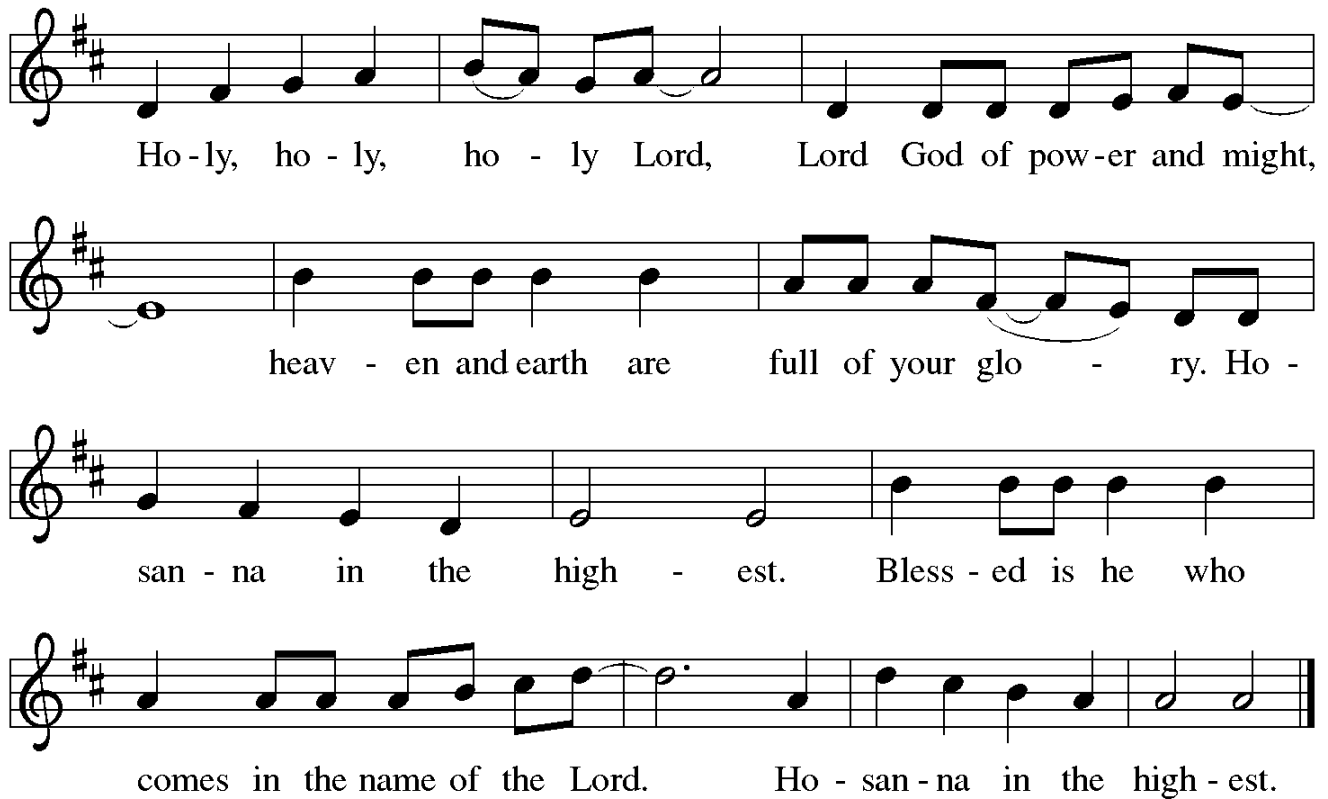
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



*The Thanksgiving continues with the preface.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The presiding minister continues with the Thanksgiving at the Table. At the end, all say: **Amen.***

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is 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**

### **Communion Music**

***I Want Jesus to Walk With Me***  
*Spiritual, Arr. Mark Hayes*





# SENDING

## Announcements

### Blessing

The God who calls across the cosmos  
and speaks in the smallest seed  
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you  
now and to the end of the age.  
**Amen.**

### Sending Song

**Faith**  
*By Mark Hayes*

### The Sending.

Go in peace. Share the harvest.  
**Thanks be to God.**



Stewardship of Service	This week – Sept. 3, 2023	Next week – Sept. 10, 2023
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Music Director	Shlomo Faber	Shlomo Faber
Reader	TBD *	TBD *
Zoom Host	<b>Joann Knoll</b>	<b>Volunteer needed!</b>

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*\* Please consider signing up to be a reader. Thank you.*

## Pray For:

**Pray for all those on the Turkey/Syrian border** as they continue to rebuild following the earthquake.

**Pray for those on Maui** who have suffered tremendous loss due to wildfires.

**Let us continue to pray for all victims of gun violence.**

**Pray for peace and justice in Russia and Ukraine**

**Pray for peace and justice** and safety among our houseless neighbors. Help us understand how we can share your love with them.

**Pray for Bethel leaders**, including Pastor Leon LaCross, Music Director Shlomo Farber, YDIC Summer Program Director Heather Anderson, Admin Assistant Kerry Czuba, the 2023 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

**Pray for those going through our confirmation program** that they grow in faith and have a deeper understanding of Jesus as someone who is a guiding, loving force in their lives.

**Pray for our children**, as they begin the school year and embrace their yearning to learn.

**Pray for those who are ill:**

- **Neil Marshall** (Nash's Portland family) as Neil undergoes treatment for a brain tumor.
- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) and all her family who are caregiving and traveling and dealing with plumbing adventures in Faith's older home.
- **David Gyles** for his improved lung health
- **Leo Lawrence update:** He is no longer going through cancer treatment. He does have a surgery coming up for his neuropathy but otherwise is doing very well.
- **John Knight and family** as John continues in memory care
- **Laura Day, mother of Natalie Peterson**, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer
- **Gary Andeen** as he receives treatments for lung cancer.
- **Amy Bishop McDonald** for her diagnosis and surgery for breast cancer.
- **Chuck Huntley**, brother of Marjorie Strieff, for his ongoing health.
- **Glenn Chase** for continued good health.
- **Jim Beck** who had a mild case of COVID and has fully recovered.

**Pray for all those who have passed away that they experience the loving embrace of God's love.**

**Pray for Pastor Christine Core at the death of husband John**, who passed away unexpectedly.

**Continuing prayers for well-being for our loved ones Timothy, Elizabeth, Faith, Jim, Rob, Jacob, Miles, Andrew, Nash, and Patricia--may they walk in light and peace.**

**Pray in thanksgiving for all the blessings received this week.**

**Pray we know that God is close and we are open to receiving and sharing God's love.**

**Pray for Bethel Lutheran Church.**

## Mark Your Calendars...See what's happening at Bethel and Beyond this week:

09/03 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

09/03 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in-person or on Zoom

09/05 7:00 PM Bethel Players read through of The Godfather

**09/07 – 09/09 Church Campout, Milo McIver State Park \***

09/10 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

09/10 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in-person or on Zoom

\* If interested in going to the campout on Saturday for the day, please email Karen Anderson at [keapdx@gmail.com](mailto:keapdx@gmail.com)



### Bethel's Annual Community Block Party and Rummage Sale

When: Sept. 23, 2023 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Where: Corner of N. Jessup and N. Campbell in the parking lot of Bethel Lutheran Church

This community event is truly for everyone! There will be food, drink and a bounce house for the kids to play so you can shop

Bring your donations before 9:00 AM on the 23rd.

Consider volunteering - Many hands make light work!



### A Jazz Concert with Northwest Tempo

Sept. 24 at 4:00 PM

5658 N. Denver Ave.  
Portland, OR 97217  
[bethelpdx.org](http://bethelpdx.org)

donations accepted

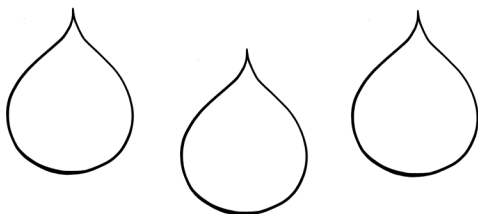
## Send

### The promise of love

A shell helps us remember God's promise of love in baptism.



Draw something in the water drops to remind you of a promise you make to God, to yourself, to others.



Show your drawing to someone else. Tell them why that promise is important to you.

### This week

Be aware of promises you make this week, and remember to keep them.

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# Kids Celebrate

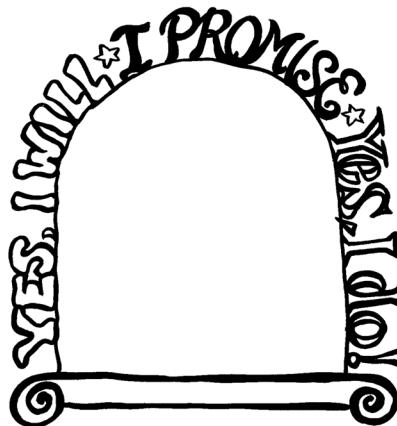
Lectionary 22



## gather

Welcome to worship! A promise is a vow or a pledge. Have you ever made a promise? Did you keep it?

Draw what happened here.



When we keep promises, people know we mean what we say and can trust us.

## hear & celebrate

### God's promises

Matthew 16:21-28

In today's reading, Jesus tries to tell his disciples about hard times to come. They can't understand and don't want to hear about it.



Think about a time when you have not wanted to hear the truth.

The Bible is a book of God's promises.

A promise doesn't mean everything will be easy or fun. This is true for God's promises too. We can trust God's promise to be with us no matter what.

Unscramble the words and write God's promises on the lines provided.

God promises:

...to **ovle** us **rovfeer**

---

...to **yats** with us **laaysw**

---

...to **tenlis** to our **rp yraes**

---

...that we will **evli** with God in **vh enae**

---



Thank you, God, for always keeping your promises. Amen