



16th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship with Holy Communion

September 17, 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.

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 Anonymous



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 • **Website** 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.

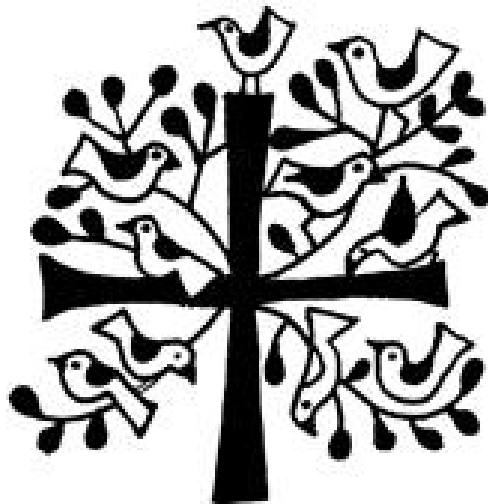
God offers boundless grace when we fail.

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

Text and music © 1986 World Council of Churches and the Asian Institute of Liturgy & Music

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

Scripture Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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



Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit



Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

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

²¹Peter 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?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, 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. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So 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 the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

Children's Time

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Please Stand in body or spirit

Where Charity and Love Prevail



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

Text © 1960 World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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 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.

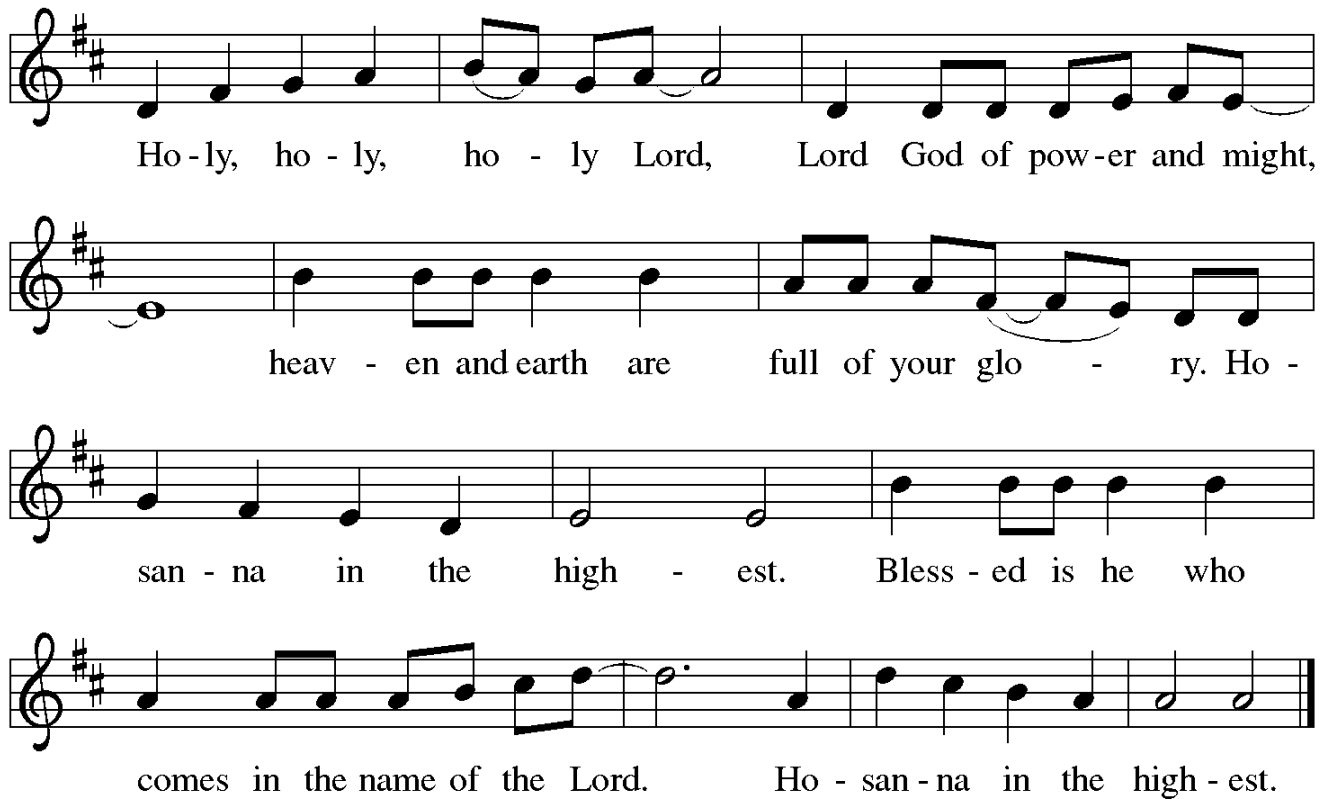
We lift them to the Lord.

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

The Love of God
By Frederick M. Lehman

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

When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder

By James M. Black

The Sending.

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



Stewardship of Service	This week – Sept. 17, 2023	Next week – Sept. 24, 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	Andrew VanDyke
Zoom Host	Joann Knoll	Volunteer needed!

Hymns shown on this bulletin are licensed via Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number SAS10330

All other music used with the artist permission

Pray For:

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

Pray for those recovering from natural disasters especially those on Maui, Florida, Morocco, and Libya.

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, 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:** for his upcoming neuropathy surgery.
- **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 treatment 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.

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.

Especially in thanksgiving for Joann's mom, Faith Moser's 100th birthday and the small celebration planned for her in Kansas City. Joann will be visiting her mom and sisters to celebrate.

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:

09/17 11:15 AM Council Meeting

09/17 11:15 AM Bethel Bees – Meal prep for Renaissance Commons

09/21 Crafternoon with Pr. Leon

09/21 4:30-5:30 PM Happy Hour on Zoom

09/23 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM - Block Party & Rummage Sale

09/24 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

09/24 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in-person or on Zoom

09/24 11:15 AM - Confirmation class

09/24 4:00 PM Jazz Concert

09/25 **Shlomo has been with Bethel for 1 year!!** Happy Anniversary Shlomo!



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!



Bethel Lutheran Church Presents

**A Jazz Concert
with
Northwest Tempo**
**Sept. 24
at 4:00 PM**

5658 N. Denver Ave.
Portland, OR 97217
bethelpdx.org

donations accepted

Send

God's amazing forgiveness!

God always forgives us and loves us no matter what.

Find the following phrases in the word search and circle them. What shape do you find?

SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

GOD LOVES YOU

JESUS LOVES YOU

ITS OK

AMAZING FORGIVENESS

I FORGIVE YOU

K I K C K E S E V E N T Y T I M E S S E V E N
I T S O K F S F D J K L S R K L E A L Z C V N
F J K E I R C E L E K K E S L C K V I E N N F
O K K C O Z K B J S N E K W U C L E M V L P G
R J V K E H V K K U R L W P E L D K B N E K O
G K W O E L O E K S L E E K R O W K E M I Z D
I Z K U I O K C O L W L R A L W Q V N N M D L
V A M A Z I N G F O R G I V E N E S S O L E O
E E K L K R K C K V K K S L E K O C K R K E V
Y K V K R O P P W E Q V M N T L S L E K R L E
O P K E R J C U L S R C L B K E K T H E K R S
U O Q P E L L K R Y L V K E K R M R J E Y S Y
D P A L I E J S M O Y C K V L N E K L D L X O
C M R I O P N E N U K R K L K N W R J E L K U



Thank you, God, for your amazing forgiveness. Help me forgive others. Amen

this week

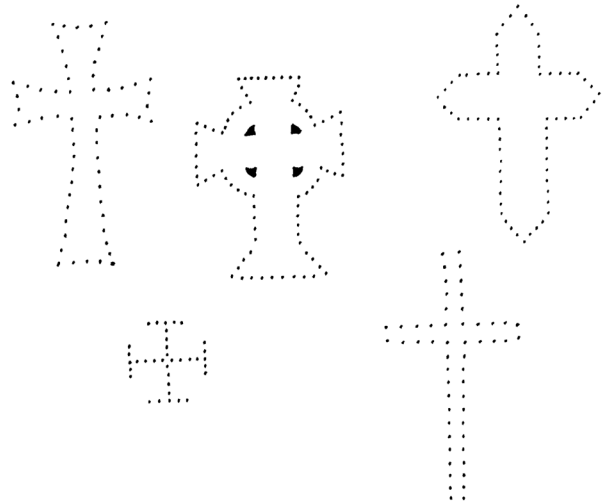
Make a cross by tying two sticks together with your favorite colors of ribbon.

Kids Celebrate copyright © 2004 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced for local use.



gather

Welcome to worship. Holy Cross Day comes on September 14. The cross reminds us of Jesus. Look around your worship space and notice the crosses. Where are they? Do they all look the same?



Trace the dotted lines to uncover different kinds of crosses. Do you have a cross at home? What does it look like?