



Reformation Sunday

Worship with Holy Communion

October 29, 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

Lean On Me

By Bill Withers



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

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Please stand in body or spirit

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.



Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



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.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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



Psalm

Psalm 46

Pulpit side reads plain text. Organ side reads bold text.

- ¹God is our ref-uge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- ³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- ⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away. R**
- ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- ⁸**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up- on the earth;**
- ⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- ¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
- ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. **R**

Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28

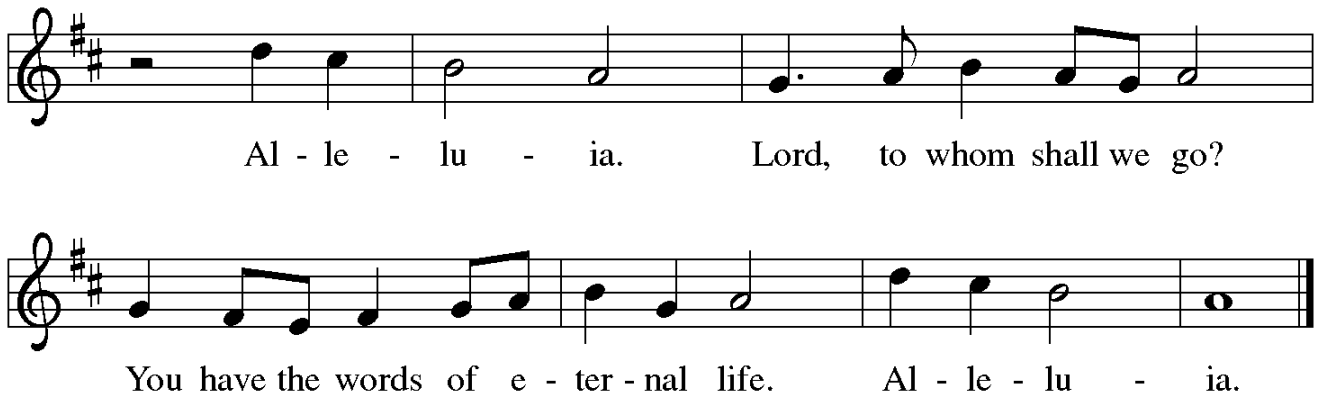
¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit



Gospel Reading

John 8:31-36

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

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
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CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Rite starts with prayers and questions to the confirmands. The congregation joins with:

Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Let us pray together.

**Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.**



Mary Day Bentley
Baptized December 5, 2010
Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.



Brady Nolan Burdick
Baptized January 4, 2009
Psalm 46:10

Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth



Collin Joseph Burdick
Baptized April 3, 2011
2 Corinthians 16b, 19b

But, crafty person that I am, did I take you in by deceit? Everything we do, beloved, is for the sake of building you up.



Gabriel Ryan Moody-Burghard
Baptized November 8, 2009
Isaiah 11:2

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.



Miriam Jean Moody-Burghard

Baptized March 31, 2013

1 Corinthians 22b-23

I have become all things to all people,
that I might by all means save some. I
do it all for the sake of the gospel, so
that I might become a partner in it.

Let us, the members of Bethel Lutheran Church, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Prayers of Intercession

The response to each prayer is: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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



COMMUNION MEAL

For those worshipping 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.

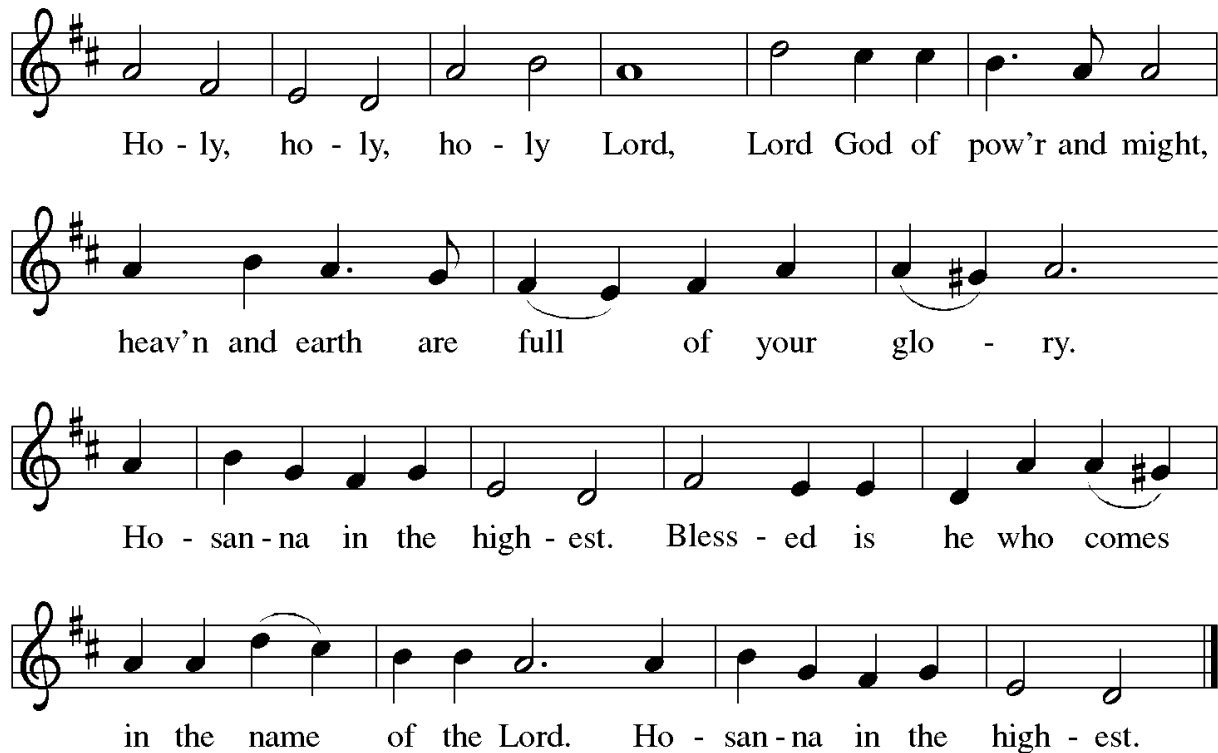
We lift them to the Lord.

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'r and might,
heav'n 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

Your Song
By Elton John

SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Song

Don't Stop

By Christine McVie

The Sending.

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.



Stewardship of Service	This week – Oct. 29, 2023	Next week – Nov. 5, 2023
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Music Director	Shlomo Farber	Shlomo Farber
Singer	Kimberly Nagorska	
Reader	TBD	TBD
Zoom Host	Joann Knoll	Volunteer needed!

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All other music used with the artist permission

Pray For:

Pray for the people in Israel, Palestine, and all of the Middle East as they suffer war, violence, terror, and retribution. Show the world a path to peace and justice.

Pray for all those struggling after earthquakes, including those on the Turkey/Syrian border, in Afghanistan, and in Papua New Guinea, as they mourn their losses and rebuild homes and communities.

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

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

Pray for peace and justice in Russia and Ukraine, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

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 the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center Board as they prepare for the Summer 2024 Day Camp. Send us excellent applicants for Director and Staff.

Pray for Shlomo Farber, that his family and friends in Israel may be safe.

Pray for the young leaders in our confirmation program that they grow in faith and gain a deeper understanding of Jesus as a guiding, loving force in their lives. Bless this day as we celebrate confirmation of Mary, Brady, Collin, Gabriel and Miriam as adult members of the Bethel congregation and community,

Pray for our children, as they continue the school year and their journey to become creative and adventurous lifelong learners.

Pray for those who are ill:

- **Lorraine Griffey**, Cari Catlow's mom, who fell and suffered multiple hip/pelvis fractures.
- **Mary Flood-Klein**, longtime Friend of Bethel and Drop-In Board leader, as she recovers from heart valve surgery.
- **Mark Sjostrom**, Svea's uncle, as he recovers from cancer treatments and health complications.
- **Neil Marshall** (Nash's Portland family) as Neil undergoes treatment for a brain tumor.
- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) as Faith enters her second century!
- **David Gyles** for his improved lung health.
- **Leo Lawrence** for recovery from 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 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**, in thanks for his continued good health.
- **Jackie Calder** for healing and health that allows travel and volunteer work.
- **Bethel Players** for those who have Covid that they have mild cases and recover quickly.
- **Matthew LaCross** for treatment and healing after a diagnosis of early-stage colon cancer.
- **Mary Rix**** as she undergoes surgery and radiation for cancer.
- **JulieAnn Edman*** in thanksgiving for a successful surgery and optimistic prognosis and continued healing as she undergoes her treatment.

*Send cards and notes to her temporary Arizona address 3227 E Glenn St Tucson AZ 85716 or email her at jedman999@gmail.com. NOTE CORRECTED ZIP CODE.

**If you'd like to send a message to Mary Rix please use the Caring Bridge website:
<https://www.caringbridge.org/signup/5f4bb34ebe55a79bad3c12a3cc7aae6f11447288e0500c2c2b9c23254dc826b7> Site name: maryrix Your support, including comments and hearts are much appreciated.

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

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.

Continue to give thanks for Joann's mom, Faith Moser, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

Give thanks and celebrate the recent baptism of Ellis & Solveig Erickson-Spencer.

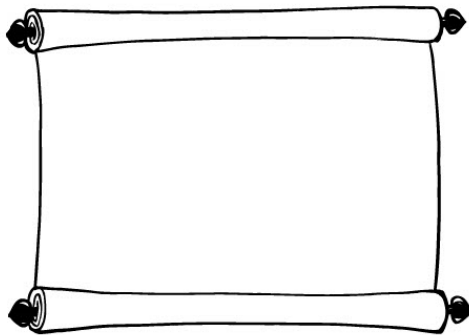
Pray we know that God is close and that we are open to receiving and sharing God's love.

Pray for Bethel Lutheran Church.

Send

Stories to share

Martin Luther and his wife Kate told Bible stories in their home. Perhaps they had favorites. What are your favorite Bible stories?



Draw a picture of one of your favorite Bible stories here. Tell someone about it.



Thank you, God, for Bibles we can read and understand. Amen.

this week

Check out a new Bible storybook from your church or public library. Read it again and again.

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gather

Welcome to worship! Today is a festival—Reformation Day. What do you notice about your worship space?



painting the Sistine Chapel ceiling



Gutenberg



printing press



Martin Luther



posting theses



Michelangelo

Today we hear about Martin Luther, a man who worked to reform—make changes—in the church. A lot was happening in the world at that time.

Draw a line connecting the person to what he did.

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

10/29 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom
10/29 9:00 AM Confirmation rehearsal
10/29 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in-person or on Zoom
10/29 Confirmation
10/29 5:00 PM Codfather Rehearsal
10/30 5:00 PM Codfather Rehearsal
11/02 Noon Crafternoon w/Pr. Leon
11/02 4:30-5:30 PM Happy Hour on Zoom
11/02 10:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Food Prep for play
11/03 6:30 PM Doors open for The Codfather
11/04 2:00 PM Matinee for The Codfather
11/04 6:30 PM Doors open for the Codfather
11/05 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom
11/05 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in-person or on Zoom
11/05 3:00 PM Matinee w/Dessert for The Codfather

The Bethel Players present

The Codfather



Dinners:	Nov. 3, Nov. 4	7PM	\$25
	Nov. 10, Nov 11	7PM	\$25
Desserts:	Nov. 5, Nov. 12	3PM	\$20
Just the Play:	Nov. 4, Nov. 11	2PM	\$10

Bethel Lutheran Church
5658 N. Denver Ave.

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503-285-4919 bethelplayers@gmail.com

!! 40th Anniversary T-Shirts !!

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