



14th Sunday After Pentecost

Worship with Holy Communion

August 25, 2024

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

Little Suite No. 1: Corrente

By J. S. Bach



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,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.





1 What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929
 Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

Scripture Reading

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

A reading from Joshua.

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴“Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

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

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak

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

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

John 6:56-69

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

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living God sent me, and I live because of God, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by God.”

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

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

Please be seated

Children's Time

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Bless Assurance



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
an - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

Please stand in body or spirit

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*

Please be seated

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: Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, Paypal, see our website bethelpdx.org for link, online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> Additionally you may donate by mail or, if worshipping in-person, use the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for supporting the many ministries of Bethel!

Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Please stand in body or spirit

The Lord be with you.

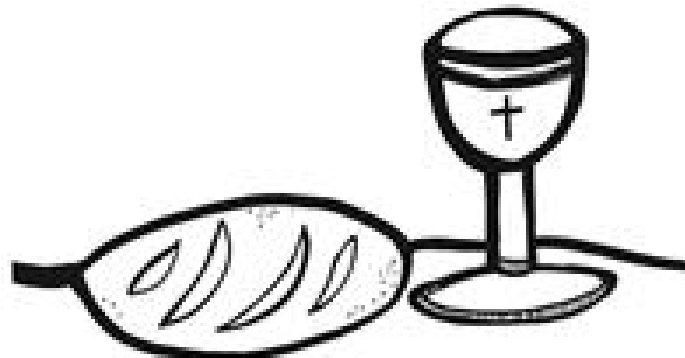
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

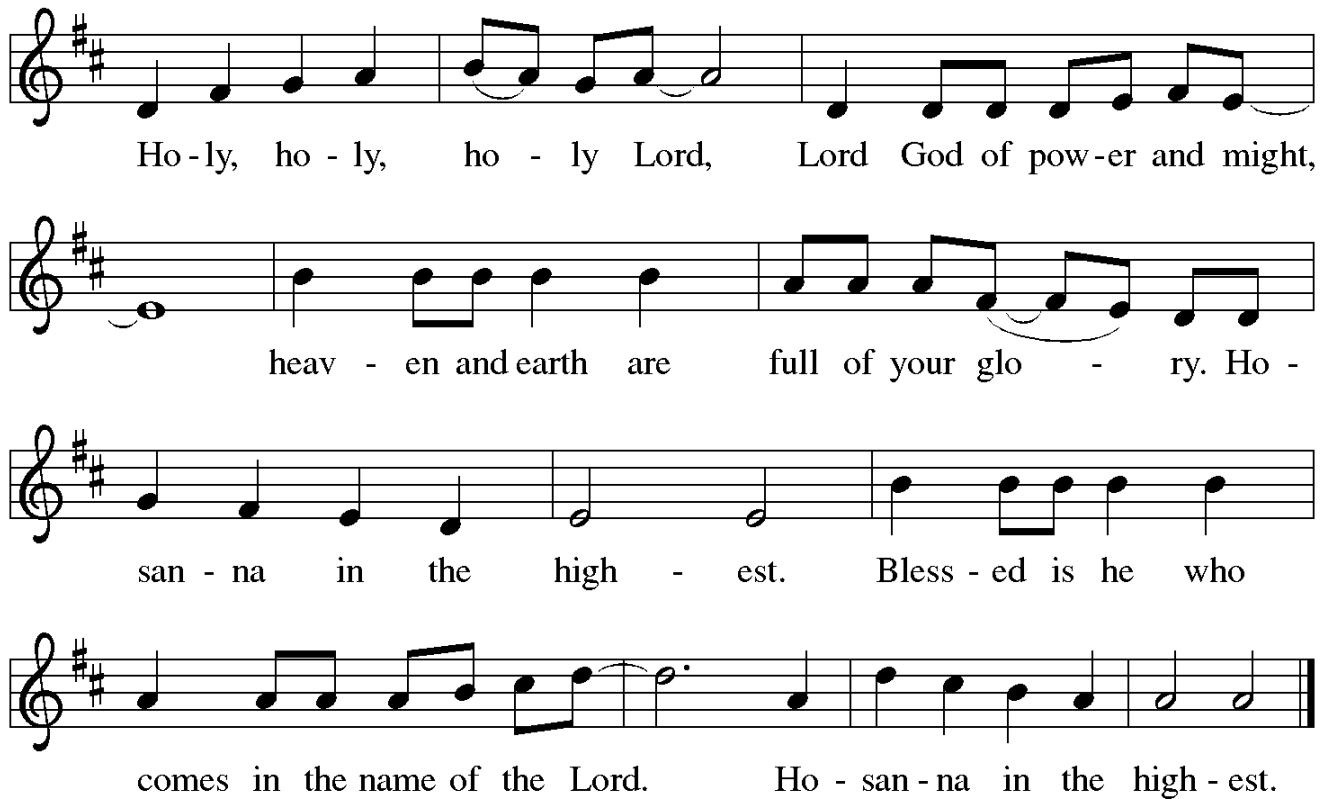
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



The Thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season.



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.

Please be seated

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

He Keeps Me Singing

By Luther B. Bridgers

SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

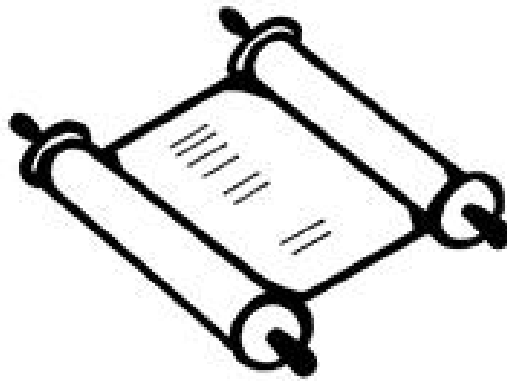
Sending Song

Love of My Life
By Queen

Farewell and Godspeed for Julia Rankin

The Sending.

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.



Stewardship of Service	This week – Aug. 25, 2024	Next week – Sept. 1, 2024
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Preacher	Julia Rankin	Pastor Leon LaCross
Musical Director	Shlomo Farber	Shlomo Farber
Reader	TBA	TBA
Zoom Host	Joann Noll	Volunteer needed!

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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.

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

Pray for peace and justice in Ukraine, Holy Land, and Yemen.

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 2024 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

Pray for the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center Board as we now look to a new year. Continue to pray in thanksgiving for our excellent staff and for our Director, Marie Houk, and for the families as they begin the school year.

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

Pray for Julia Rankin, as she enters seminary.

Pray for our children, as they get ready for the school year to begin.

Pray for the teachers, school staff, parents, guardians, and grandparents who teach our children and keep them safe.

Pray for the following:

- **Mark Sjostrom,** Svea's uncle, as he recovers from cancer treatments and health complications
- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) and her daughters as Faith moves into assisted living.
- **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.
- **Chuck Huntley,** brother of Marjorie Strieff, for his ongoing health.
- **Glenn Chase,** in thanks for his continued good health.
- **Jackie Calder,** in thanks for healing and health that allows her to travel and to accomplish loving volunteer work.
- **Lorraine Griffey** for health, stamina, and joy.
- **Rhonda Pederson,** after a liver cancer diagnosis
- **Denny Hepp,** Family of Tana & Scott & Jared & Steph, for healing of medical issues.
- **Rick Van Dyke,** brother to Jim Van Dyke, as Rick lives with the uncertainty of his illness and works with his medical team to prepare for treatment.
- **Steve Cleveland** as he recovers from a stroke
- **Deb Gingrich, RN,** lifelong friend of Mary Rix, in thanksgiving for a miraculous recovery as her health improves and she is now in rehab.
- **Pat Greene,** friend of Lisa Siems, who is in hospital due to a bike accident.
- **Darin Schmidt,** a former Bethelite, was recently hospitalized for several tests, waiting for results.

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

Neil Marshall, friend and family of Nash Ababu, passed away in his sleep on Saturday, August 17. Pray for Neil's family and Nash as they mourn the loss of a great & generous person.

Doris Jane Bishop, mother of Tana Bishop and grandmother of Jared Burdick, as Doris has moved from this life to the next. Pray for the Bishop family as they gather to share love, laughter, tears, and stories about a mother who had both foresight and fortitude.

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

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

Pray for Bethel Lutheran Church.

Mark Your Calendar....Here's What's Happening at Bethel this Week

08/25 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

08/25 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom

08/25 4:00 PM Jazz Concert

08/29 4:30-5:30 PM Happy Hour on Zoom

09/01 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

09/01 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom – Blessing of the Backpacks during Sunday worship.

Bethel Lutheran Church presents

**Sunday
Aug. 25
at
4:00 PM**

**Jazz Concert
with
Northwest Tempo**

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

Donations accepted

The poster features a central orange circle with the text 'Jazz Concert with Northwest Tempo'. To the left is a teal circle with 'Sunday Aug. 25 at 4:00 PM'. Above the central circle is an orange rectangle with 'Bethel Lutheran Church presents'. Below the central circle is a graphic of a guitar and a piano keyboard. At the bottom left is a QR code, and at the bottom right is a yellow circle with 'Donations accepted'. The address and website are listed at the bottom center.



Community Block Party

and

Rummage SALE!

September 14th

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

At

Bethel Lutheran Church

5658 N. Denver

Portland, OR 97217

