



# 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Worship with Holy Communion  
September 8, 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.

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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**

**Minuet BWV Anh. 121**  
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](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,  
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.**



## Gathering Song of Praise

## My Life Flows On in Endless Song



- 1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
- 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

**Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

# WORD

## Scripture Reading

**Isaiah 35:4-7a**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you."

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
<sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
<sup>7a</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

## Scripture Reading

**James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17**

A reading from James.

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

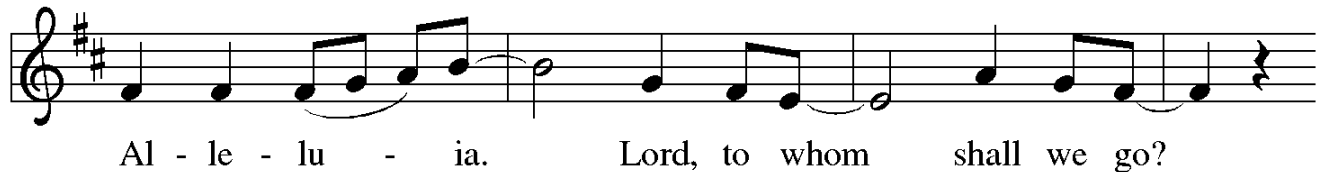
<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [<sup>11</sup>For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit*



## Gospel Reading

**Mark 7:24-37**

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

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,<sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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


## Children's Time

### Sermon

## Hymn of the Day

## Healing of Our Every Ill

*Refrain*



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,




give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your  
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is  
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,  
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

*Refrain*



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.  
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.  
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.  
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

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Please stand in body or spirit

## Prayers of Intercession

*The response to each prayer is: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

## 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](http://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.

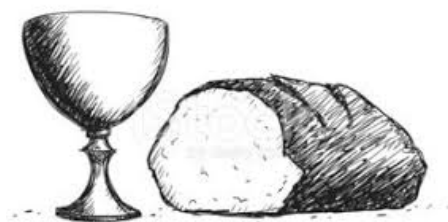
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

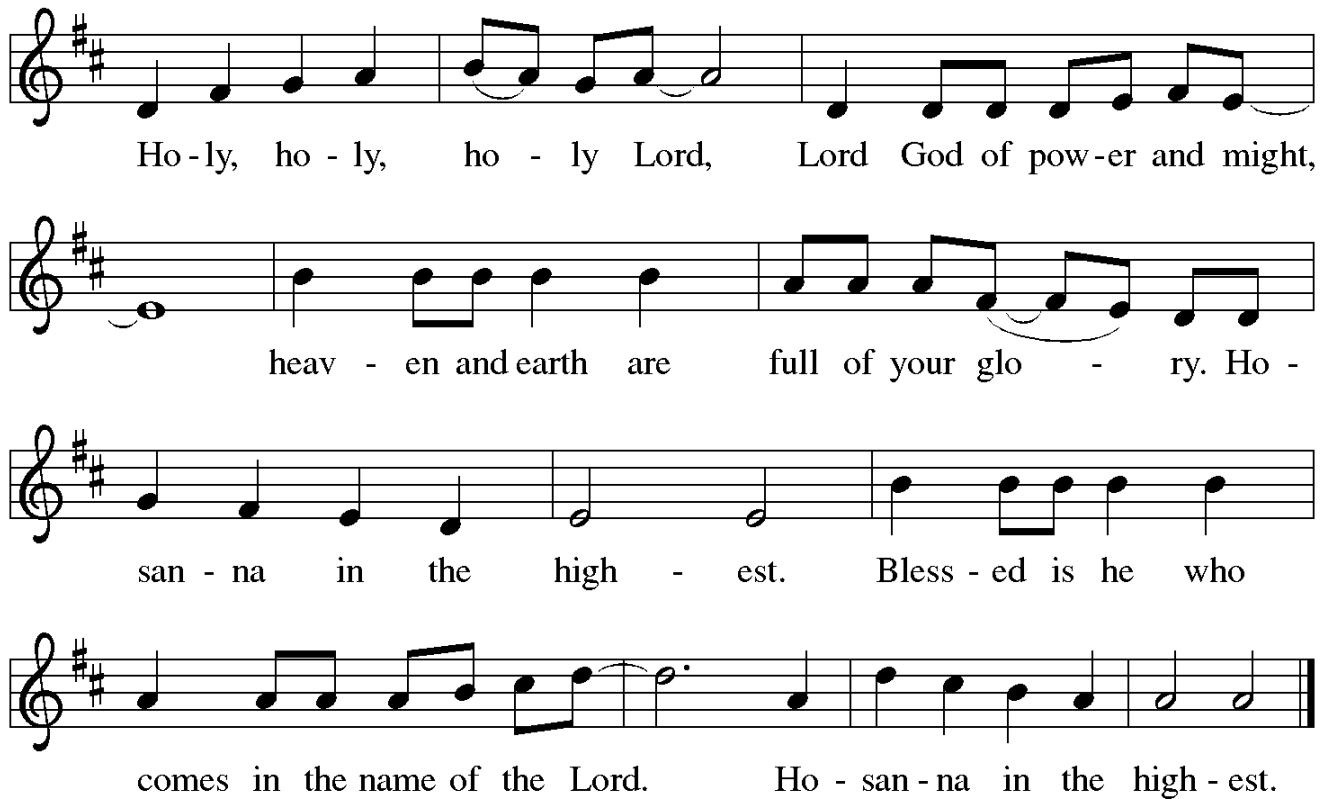
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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**

### ***The Lily of the Valley***

*By William S. Hays*



# 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

**Little Blue**  
By Jacob Collier

### The Sending.

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



<b>Stewardship of Service</b>	<b>This week – Sept. 8, 2024</b>	<b>Next week – Sept. 15, 2024</b>
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Musical Director	Shlomo Farber	Shlomo Farber
Reader	TBA	TBA
Zoom Host	<b>Joann Noll</b>	<b>Volunteer needed!</b>

*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 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 Sean Fitzgerald**, Kim Bucholz's son-in-law who has been deployed to Iraq.

**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**, Jim Van Dyke's brother, as he lives with the uncertainty of his illness and prepares for treatment.
- **Steve Cleveland** as he recovers from a stroke
- **Deb Gingrich, RN**, Mary Rix's friend, in thanksgiving for a miraculous recovery.
- **Lee Climan** that he finds a way to get back on his feet again.
- **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.

**Cheryl Prochaska and family** o the loss of her dad.

**Wally Gustav**, brother of Laura Spurrell, who died recently that Laura and family find peace as they grieve.

**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

- 09/08 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom
- 09/08 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom
- 09/08 11:15 AM Crafternoon with Pr. Leon
- 09/11 6:00 PM St. John's Fund Team meeting on Zoom
- 09/12 4:30-5:30 PM Happy Hour on Zoom
- 09/12 7:00 PM YDIC Board Meeting on Zoom
- 09/14 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Rummage Sale (includes time for set-up and take down)
- 09/15 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom
- 09/15 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom
- 09/15 11:15 Council Meeting

## 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**



Sept. 22  
at 4:00 PM

**Jazz Concert**  
with  
**Northwest**  
**Tempo**

At Bethel Lutheran  
Church  
5658 N. Denver Ave  
PDX, OR  
503-285-4919  
donations accepted

find us at [bethelpdx.org](http://bethelpdx.org)



## **Campers, Potential Campers, Day Campers & Day Trippers!!!**

The Bethel Campout is close, in distance and in time.....September 20 thru 22 and this is an informational email to organize a few things.

The campout is at Champoeg State Park Group Site RVLoop just down I-5 and has a Group Site Building with **indoor plumbing**. There is also a huge area for tents and several RV spaces. You will be close to water, but not on the water. There is a brand-new playground and frisbee golf course.

To organize the food, we would like to go full **potluck** this year with some volunteers doing a main dish and others adding to the meal! Our meals will consist of Friday night supper, Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Saturday night supper, and Sunday morning breakfast!

So far we can have a fire in the fire ring at the site, so obviously we want **potluck smores!!**

**Coffee will be provided with milk and cream! Other beverages will be bring your own adult or NA beverages and something to share.** Also bring your own chair or let us know if you need one.

We paid the deposit for the campout upon reserving the site and are figuring about \$10 per person will cover the costs for the weekend. My venmo is @Tana-Bishop-3 (4918)

Here are suggestions and feel free to volunteer or make suggestions or even fix this information for me. 😊

Friday Night - **Scott's** chicken with potluck salad and sides

Saturday Morning - **Someone's** Pancakes and eggs and/or meat/protein with potluck cereal and yogurt and fruit

Saturday Noon - **Potluck sandwiches and sides/chips by all**

Saturday Night - **Someone's** main dish with potluck salad and sides

Sunday Morning - **Someone's** Pancakes and eggs and/or meat/protein with potluck cereal and yogurt and fruit

Please check out the website for the group site information:

<https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=park.profile&parkId=79>