



18th Sunday After Pentecost

Worship with Holy Communion
September 22, 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



Prelude
By Lorraine Fort

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.



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:

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Scripture Reading

A reading from Jeremiah.

¹⁸It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

²⁰But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

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

Scripture Reading

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

A reading from James.

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.^{4:}

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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

Mark 9:30-37

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

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

Please be seated

Children's Time

Sermon



Hymn of the Day

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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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 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.

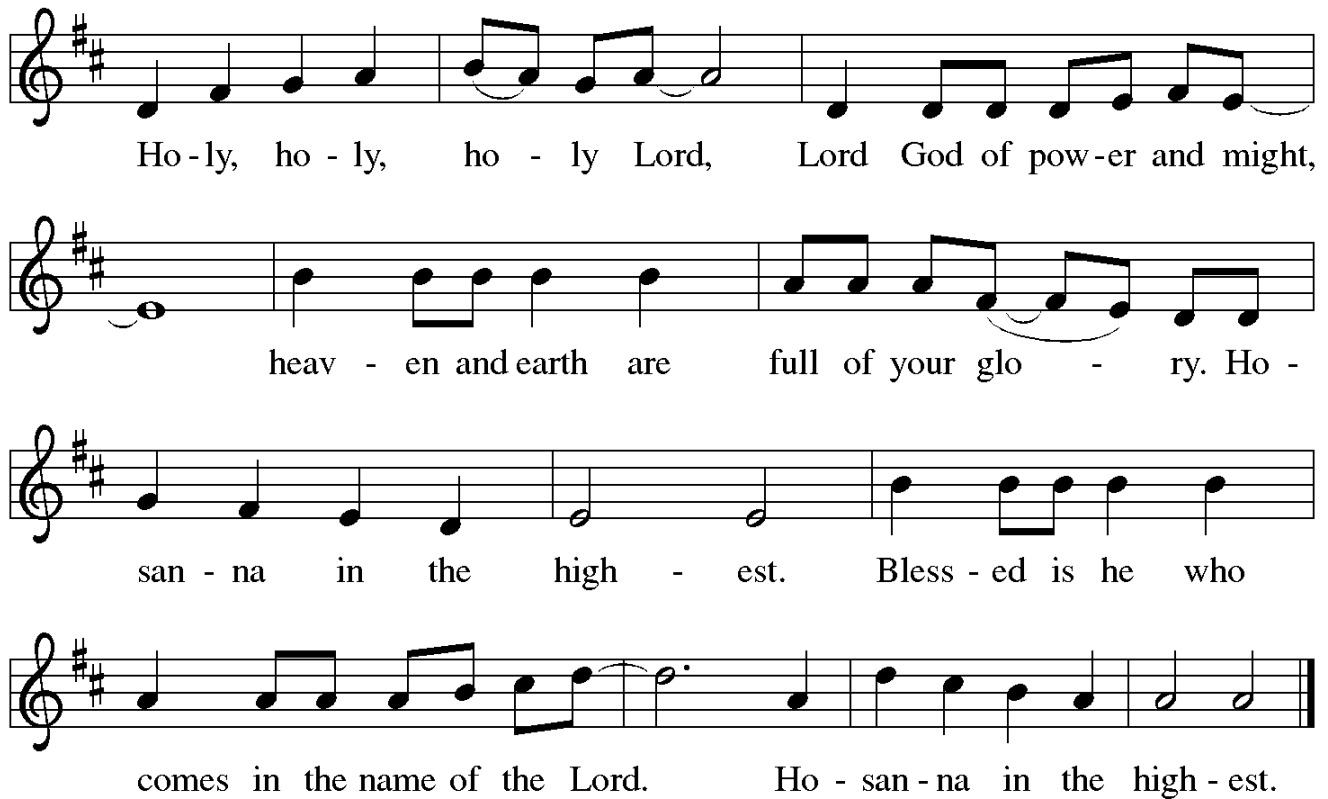
We lift them to the Lord.

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

French Suite no. 5 in G Major: Bourrée

By J. S. Bach

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

As

By Stevie Wonder

The Sending.

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.



Stewardship of Service	This week – Sept. 22, 2024	Next week – Sept. 29, 2024
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	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 Sean Fitzgerald, Kim Bucholz's son-in-law, who has been deployed to Iraq.

Pray for our children that they nurture their curiosity and find joy in all they do.

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
- **Rick Van Dyke,** Jim Van Dyke's brother, as he lives with the uncertainty of his illness and prepares for treatment.
- **Lee Climan** that he finds a way to get back on his feet again.
- **Darin Schmidt,** a former Bethelite, and his wife Jessica, as he navigates a liver cancer diagnosis
- **Matt LaCross** for an easy surgery and quick recovery.
- **David Leslie** for support in his new mental health diagnosis.
- **Marlo Edman** as he heals from a broken elbow.

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.

Ed Barry, father of Cheryl Prochaska, who passed away recently.

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

- 09/22 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom
- 09/22 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom
- 09/22 4:00 PM Jazz Concert
- 09/22 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Play Practice
- 09/23 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Play Practice
- 09/25 Shlomo's Anniversary at Bethel!! Thank you!!
- 09/26 2:00 PM – Bethel Bees Prep & Serve for Renaissance Commons
- 09/26 4:30-5:30 PM Happy Hour on Zoom
- 09/26 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Play Practice
- 09/29 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom
- 09/29 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom
- 09/29 11:15 Council Meeting

The graphic features a stylized guitar on the left and a piano keyboard at the bottom. It consists of several overlapping shapes: a teal circle, an orange circle, and a large orange rectangle. The teal circle contains the text 'Sept. 22 at 4:00 PM'. The orange circle contains the address 'At Bethel Lutheran Church, 5658 N. Denver Ave, PDX, OR, 503-285-4919, donations accepted'. The orange rectangle contains the text 'Jazz Concert with Northwest Tempo'. A blue square is partially visible behind the orange rectangle. At the bottom right, the text 'find us at bethelpdx.org' is written.

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

Up coming:

BETHEL PLAYERS PRESENTS
AS THE BUTTER CHURNS

A STORY OF COWS, FAMILY FEUDS,
AND A HOSPITAL ROMANCE



COMING IN NOVEMBER

Nov. 2nd & 9th Matinees at 2:00 PM \$10
Nov. 2nd & 9th Dinner shows at 7:00 PM \$25
Nov. 3 & 10 Dessert Shows at 3:00 PM \$20
Doors open 30 minutes before show times

Bethel Lutheran Church
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Portland, OR 97217
Phone: 503.285.4919
www.bethelpdx.org

Tickets sales begin Oct. 1 - call or email bethelplayers@gmail.com to reserve.
Payment by Venmo (@BethelLutheran-Church phone # 6064) or by check.

A festive illustration featuring green garlands with orange pom-poms at the top. Below are four wrapped gift boxes in blue, pink, and orange with various ribbons.

2024 Winter Makers Market & Gift Fair

December 7th from 12 to 5pm
Hosted by Bethel Lutheran - 5658 N. Denver Ave

Paintings + Pottery + Letterpress + Decorations
& All Manner of Handmade and Vintage Gifts!

This is a non-religious event! Come in and meet artists, browse the wares, and take a cozy break with a hot drink.
If you have questions, please email bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org!

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 6 at 1:00pm

at Bethel Lutheran Church in the parking lot

Bring your furry and no so furry friends for a special blessing in honor of St. Francis of Assisi.
Invite your friends with their pets too!



Women's prayer group - 1st meeting on Oct. 5 then continues Oct. 26, Nov. 9 and Nov. 23, 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM at Carol Knight's home. This is an opportunity to gather as women for conversation, contemplation, prayer and to draw us closer.

If interested please call the office at 503.285.4919 or email at bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org