



19th Sunday After Pentecost

Worship with Holy Communion
September 29, 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

The Sun Is In Your Eyes
By Jacob Collier



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:

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Scripture Reading

A reading from Numbers.

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

¹⁶So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you."

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!"

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

Scripture Reading

James 5:13-20

A reading from James.

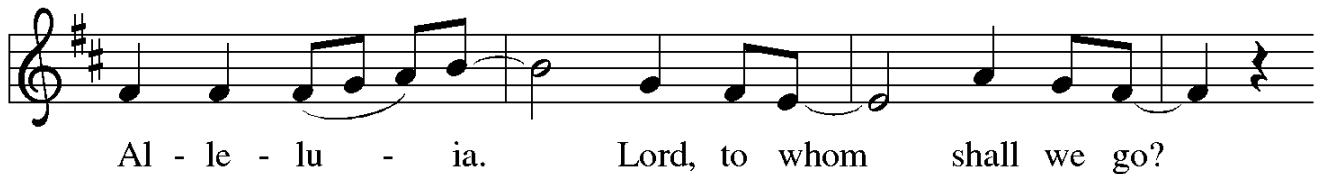
¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit



Gospel Reading

Mark 9:38-50

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

³⁸John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

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

Please be seated

Children's Time

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.
 Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

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.

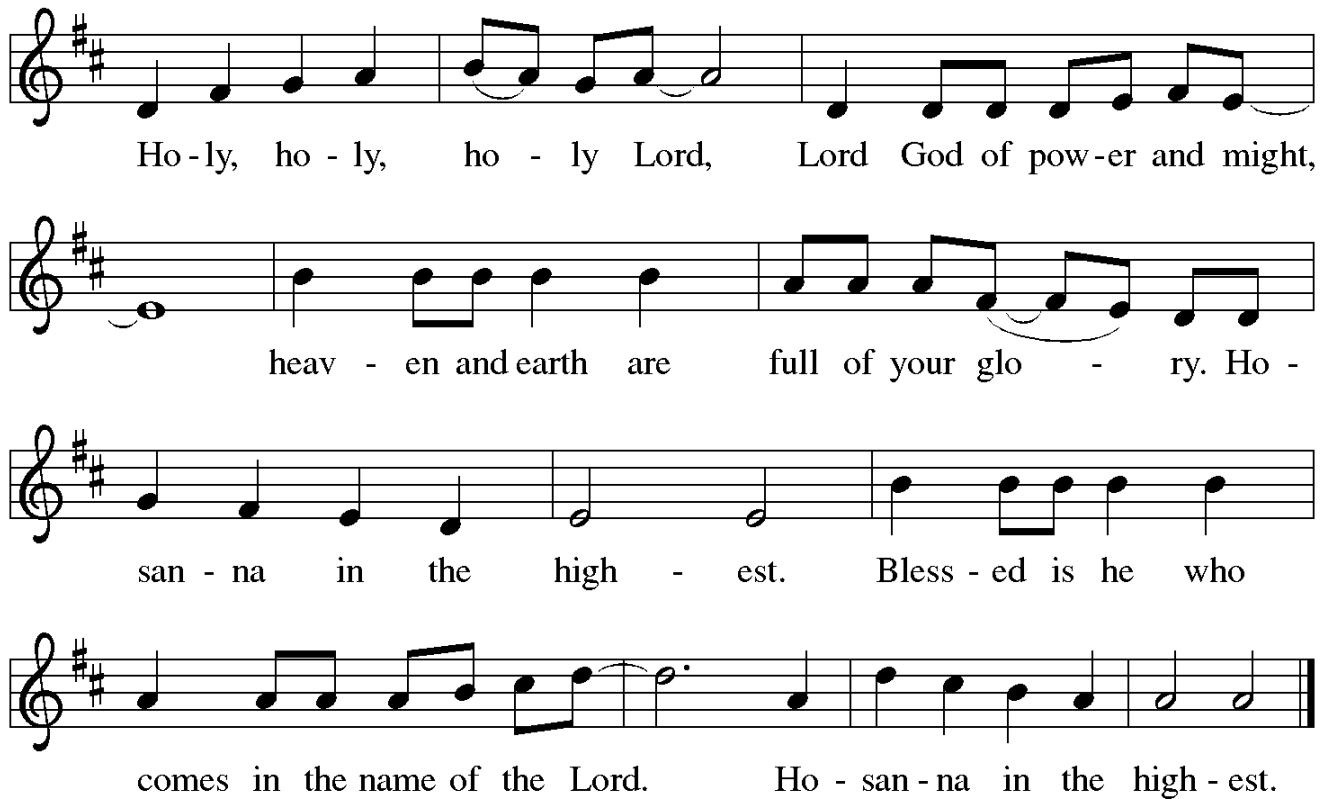
We lift them to the Lord.

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. 4: Courante
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

Just the Way You Are

By Billy Joel

The Sending.

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.



Stewardship of Service	This week – Sept. 29, 2024	Next week – Oct. 6, 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.

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

09/29 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom
09/29 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom
09/29 11:15 AM Council Meeting
09/29 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Play Practice
09/30-10/04 – Pr. Leon at First Call Theological Gathering
09/30 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Play Practice
10/03 4:30-5:30 PM Happy Hour on Zoom
10/03 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Play Practice
10/05 8:30 AM Women's Prayer Group
10/06 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom
10/06 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom
10/06 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Play Practice

Women's Prayer Group beginning
October 5!!

Join Carol Knight & Julieann Edman
for a morning of conversation,
contemplation, and prayer.

We will begin at 8:30 AM at Carol's.

Meetings going forward will be
October 26, Nov. 9 & Nov. 23. Then
every other week.

Interested in joining...email or call
the office. 503.285.4919 or
bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org

Happy anniversary!



Thank you, Shlomo, for bringing the
music to Bethel! You are a great gift
to this community, and we are all so
grateful to have you here!!

Upcoming:

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
5658 N. Denver Ave
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.



**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!



Crafternoon with Pr. Leon on Sunday, October 13 at
11:15 AM!

Have a project you just need to get done but need
some community to get it finished? This is the place
to be. Bring a friend and get a head start on those
holiday gifts!