



# 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Worship with Holy Communion

February 9, 2025

## 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**

**VI Fugue Faciles**  
By Georg Fridrich Handel



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 Forgiveness

*Please stand in body or spirit*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
our creator,  
our protector,  
our wellspring of life.

**Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act  
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
we resist your call to oppose injustice;  
we give in to scarcity and fear;  
we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults  
and release us from their grasp.**

**Show us your lovingkindness.**

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,  
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

**Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance:  
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name. You are mine."  
In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,  
live anew as beloved children of God.

**Amen.**



# Gathering Song of Praise

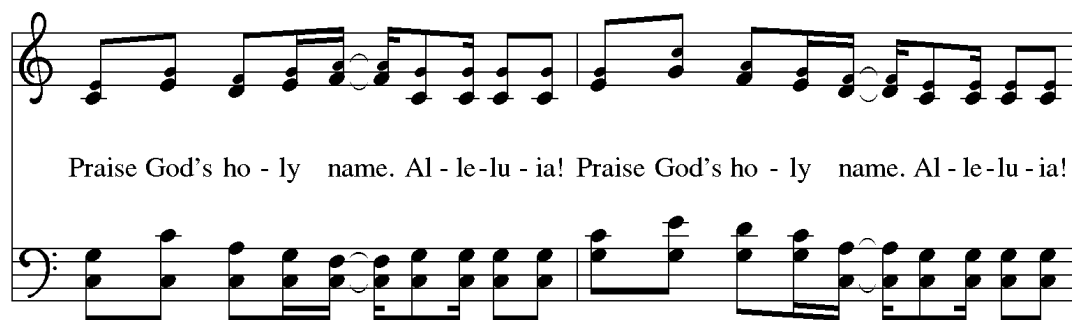
# Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord




Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!



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Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cameroon traditional, collected by Elaine Hanson  
Music: CAMEROON PRAISE, Cameroon processional; arr. Ralph M. Johnson  
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## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

**Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### Scripture Reading

**Isaiah 6:1-13**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

<sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” [<sup>9</sup> And he said, “Go and say to this people:

‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend;  
keep looking, but do not understand.’

<sup>10</sup> Make the mind of this people dull,  
and stop their ears,  
and shut their eyes,  
so that they may not look with their eyes,  
and listen with their ears,  
and comprehend with their minds,  
and turn and be healed.”

<sup>11</sup> Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said:

“Until cities lie waste  
without inhabitant,  
and houses without people,  
and the land is utterly desolate;

<sup>12</sup> until the Lord sends everyone far away,  
and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

<sup>13</sup>Even if a tenth part remain in it,  
it will be burned again,  
like a terebinth or an oak  
whose stump remains standing  
when it is felled."  
The holy seed is its stump.

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

## Scripture Reading

## 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

A reading from Corinthians.

<sup>1</sup> Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

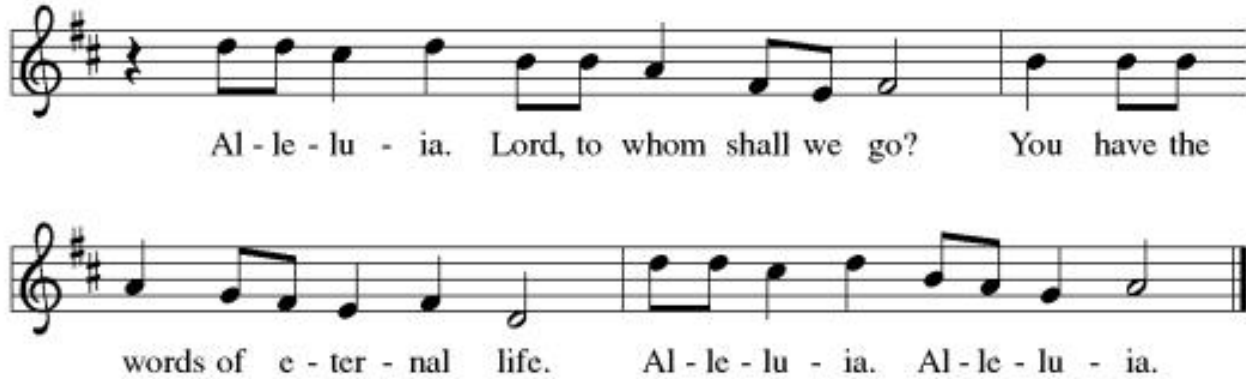
<sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel Reading

**Luke 5:1-11**

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

<sup>1</sup> Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." <sup>6</sup> When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup> and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." <sup>11</sup> When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

*Please be seated*

## Children's Time

### Sermon

# Hymn of the Day

# Here I Am, Lord

Please Stand in body or spirit



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

*Refrain*



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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## 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](http://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

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,  
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:  
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,  
now and always.

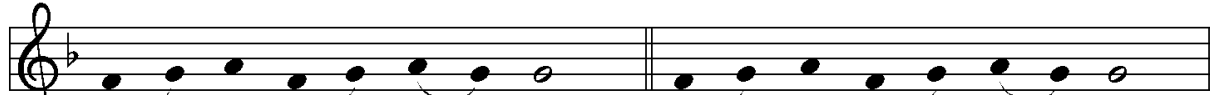
**Amen.**





# Great Thanksgiving


*The Pastor will guide you when to take the bread and cup to eat and drink.*



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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

**Anakin's Theme**

*By John Williams*

# SENDING

## Announcements

### Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God

✠ bless you with joy,

anoint you with compassion,

and send you in love.

**Amen.**

### Sending Song

**Keep Holding On**

*By Avril Lavigne*

### The Sending.

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

| Stewardship of Service | This week – Feb. 9, 2025       | Next week – Feb. 16, 2025      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ministers              | All Baptized Members of Bethel | All Baptized Members of Bethel |
| Pastor                 | Pastor Leon LaCross            | Pastor Leon LaCross            |
| Music Director         | Shlomo Farber                  | Shlomo Farber                  |
| Reader                 | TBD                            | TBD                            |
| Zoom Host              | <b>Joann Noll</b>              | <b>Volunteer needed!</b>       |

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## **Pray For:**

**Pray for the people in Israel, Palestine, all of the Middle East, Ukraine, and Georgia** 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** in thanksgiving for Elizabeth DeLozier as she begins as director of the Summer Youth Program and that we receive excellent applicants for our other positions.

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

**Pray for Julia Rankin** as she continues her education at seminary.

**Pray for Sean Fitzgerald** (Nikki Bucholz), Kim Bucholz's son-in-law who has been deployed to Iraq.

**Pray for our children,** as they anticipate the coming holidays, that they know hope, peace, joy and love.

**Pray for the teachers, school staff, parents, guardians, and grandparents** who care for our children.

**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 Giles** as he discontinues treatment for lung cancer.
- **Leo Lawrence** for recovery from neuropathy surgery.
- **Laura Day,** mother of Natalie Peterson, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Darin Schmidt,** a former Bethelite, and his wife Jessica, as they navigate a diagnosis of liver cancer.
- **Bob Enke,** cousin of JulieAnn Edman, for healing from a fall and for getting the care he needs.
- **Denny Hepp,** for treatment & care as he battles brain cancer.
- **Miles Bard** for health and stamina.
- **Pam Coffman** as she navigates treatment for lung cancer.

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

**Especially for Carol Knight and family** as they mourn the loss of John Knight  
**And Marjorie Strieff** for the loss of her brother Chuck Huntley.

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.

## What's Up This Week at Bethel!

02/09 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
02/09 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom  
02/12 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Cash Oregon  
02/12 5:30 PM Girl Scouts  
02/12 6:30 PM New Horizons Band Practice  
02/13 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Cash Oregon  
02/13 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Bethel Happy Hour  
02/16 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
02/16 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom  
02/16 11:15 AM Council Meeting



Get Your Taxes Done For Free!

Beginning February 5 till April 10<sup>th</sup> Bethel is hosting Cash Oregon. If you or someone you know has a household income below \$67,000. Please check the website or call for more requirements and to make an appointment.

**[www.cashoregon.org](http://www.cashoregon.org) or  
call 503.243.7765**

**Jazz Music**  
with  
**Northwest Tempo**  
Sunday, Feb. 23  
at 4:00 PM

At  
Bethel Lutheran Church  
5658 N. Denver Ave.  
Portland, OR 97217



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donations accepted