



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Worship with Holy Communion

May 25, 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



Prelude
By J.C.F. Fischer

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

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Please stand in body or spirit and face the baptismal font

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ☩ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

Gathering Song of Praise

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,

Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,

sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.



WORD

Scripture Reading

Acts 16:9-15

A reading from Acts.

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

Scripture Reading

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

A reading from Revelation

¹⁰ And in the spirit one of the angels carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel Reading

John 5:1-9

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

¹ After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷ The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." ⁸ Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath.

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

Please be seated.

Children's Time

Sermon

Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes



1 Peace, to soothe our bit - ter woes, God in Christ on us be - stows;
2 Peace with - in the church still dwells in our wel - comes and fare - wells;



Je - sus bought our peace with God with his ho - ly, pre - cious blood;
and through God's bap - tis - mal pow'r peace sur - rounds our dy - ing hour.



peace in him for sin - ners found is the gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
Peace be with you, full and free, now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860–1943, alt.

Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

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 worshiping virtually, please gather your bread and wine to participate in Holy Communion.

Offering

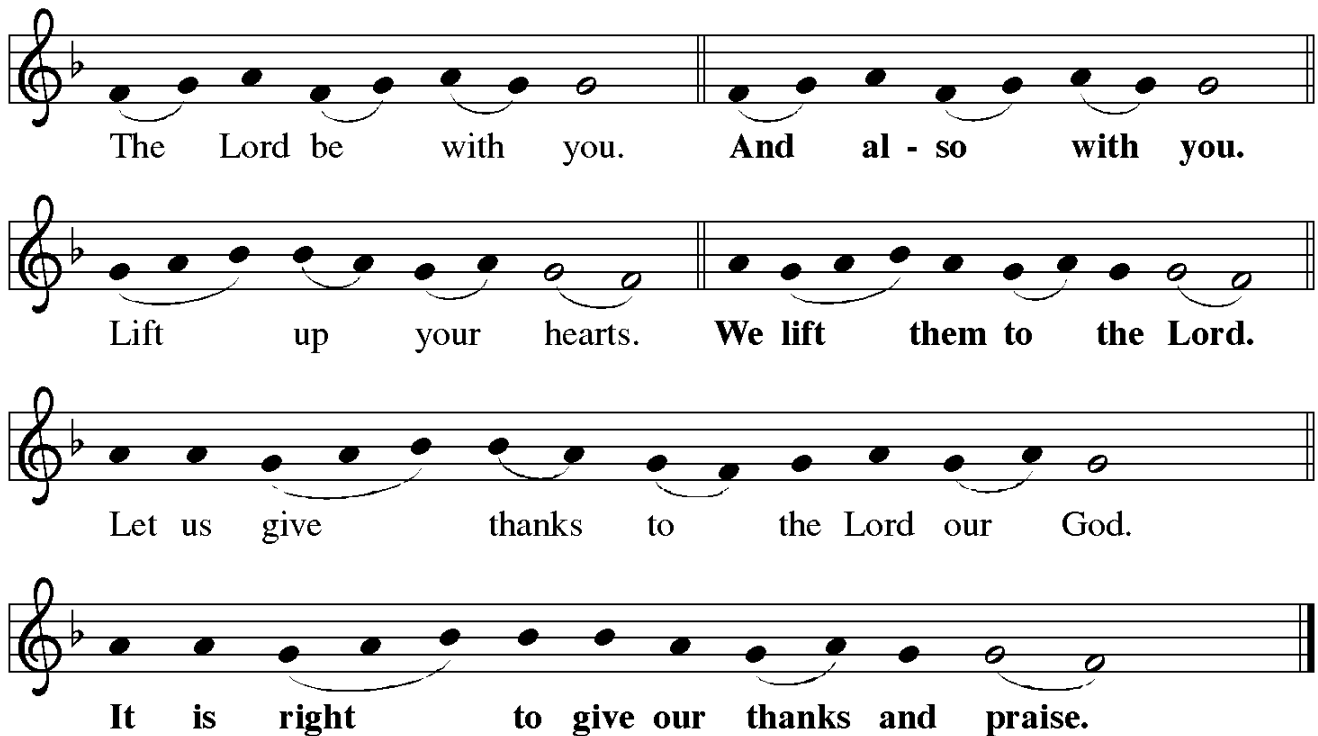
You may use one of our options for giving: Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, Paypal, see our website bethelpdx.org for link, online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> Additionally you may donate by mail or, if worshiping in-person, use the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Thank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

Offering Prayer

Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Please stand in body or spirit.

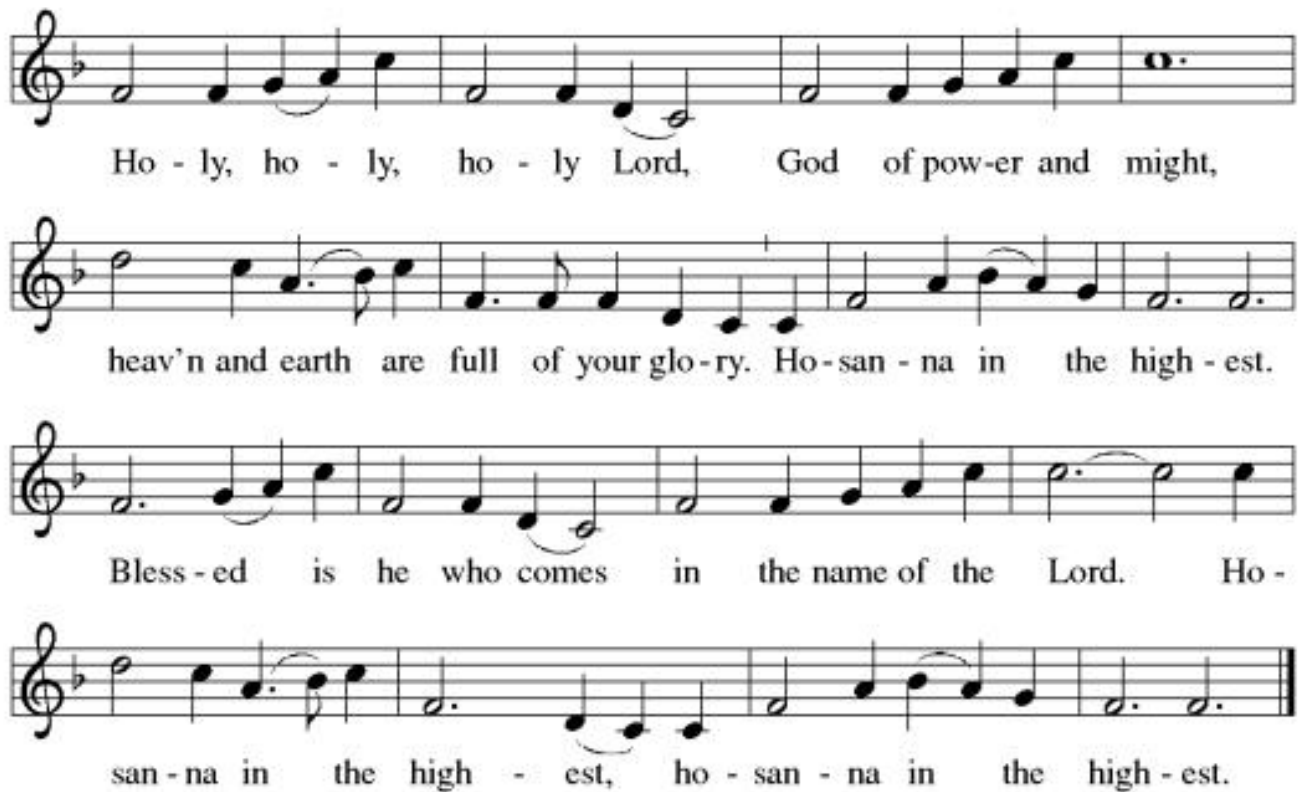


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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 for the season.

*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

Suite IV: Allemande

By J.S. Bach



SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ☩ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

Amen.

Sending Song

Home

By Phillip Phillips

The Sending.

Alleluia! Christ has risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



Stewardship of Service	This week – May 25, 2025	Next week – June 1, 2025
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Musician/Music Director	Shlomo Faber	Shlomo Farber
Zoom Host	Joann Noll	Volunteer needed!

*Hymns shown on this bulletin are licensed via Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number SAS10330
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Pray for:

Pray for the people in all of the Middle East, Ukraine, Kashmir, 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 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 2025 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 for the excellent counselors who will be working with Elizabeth!

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 the Middle East.

Pray for our children, as spring arrives, that they blossom where ever they find themselves planted.

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

Pray for the following:

- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) and her daughters as Faith's health diminishes.
- **David Giles** as he discontinues treatment for lung cancer.
- **Leo Lawrence** for recovery from neuropathy surgery.
- **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 continued health and safety.
- **Miles Bard** for health and stamina.
- **Pam Coffman** as she navigates treatment for lung cancer.
- **Marlo Edman** who is recovering after surgery.
- **JulieAnn Edman** for continued healing of her back.
- **Dean Peterson** for conditions related to cerebral amyloid angiopathy.
- **Jon Roschke and family (Svea's brother-in-law)** as he undergoes cancer treatments.
- **Nash Ababu**, as he continues to heal and faces some new medical realities.

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

Prayers for the family of Mark Sjostrom (Svea's Uncle). He passed away at home after a long battle with cancer.

Prayers for Natalie Peterson and her family as they mourn the loss of Laura Day, Natalie's mom.

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.

As we continue to pray for a full recovery from strokes for Nash, if you are interested in visiting Nash, he is currently at Evergreen Post Acute (503) 256-2151. If you'd like to send a card please mail to Nash Ababu c/o Evergreen Post Acute, 8643 NE Beech St., Portland, Oregon 97220. He is looking forward to getting visitors. Afternoon are best for visits. Thank you for supporting Nash! To space out visits please use sign-up genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4CABAC2CA4F49-56920901-visits>

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 Calendars:

05/25 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom

05/25 11:15 AM Parking Lot Parlay

05/25 4:00 PM Jazz Concert

05/28 5:30 PM Girl Scouts meet in Hall

05/28 6:30 PM New Horizons Band Practice

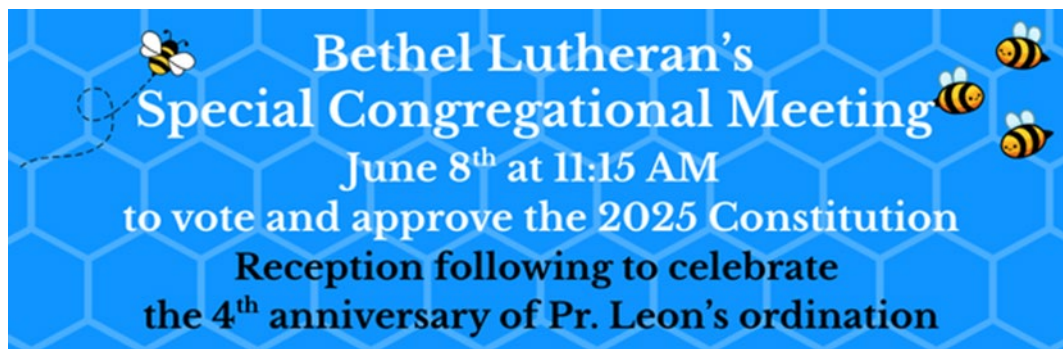
05/29 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Bethel Happy Hour

05/30 – 06/01 Oregon Synod Assembly

06/01 11:00 AM Sunday Worship on Zoom w/Oregon Synod

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q83KgQagibI>

06/01 Parking Parlay



PARKING LOT PARLAY

Parking Lot Parlay, please join JulieAnn and Marlo after service. This continues every Sunday at 11:15 AM.

A table will be set up in the parking lot to be connect with our neighbors. There will be coffee and tea.

Volunteers include a captain and 4 crew members. Use Sign-up Genius or sign-up in the back of church.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4CABAC2CA4F49-56774407-parking>





AT BETHEL

JUNE 11
JULY 9
AUG. 13

JOIN US IN THE PARKING LOT
HOT DOGS/VEGGIE DOGS PROVIDED
BRING SIDES TO SHARE

5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

SET UP 5:00 PM TO 5:30 PM
TAKE DOWN 7:00 PM TO 7:30 PM
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



2025 Summer Day Camp Program @ Bethel Youth Drop-In Center

Program Dates/Times: June 30 through August 8
MTWThF, 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM
Ages: entering 1st through 6th in Fall 2025
Register at www.bethelpdx.org/summer-program
Email: ydic@bethelpdx.org
Phone: 503-285-4919
Address: 5658 N. Denver Ave
Portland, OR 97217



Saturday, June 21st at 6:00 PM

Shlomo Farber - Bethel's music director - is hosting a student recital and a special concert with his band - New Horizons Big Band!



Add this event to your calendar!
Evening begins at 6:00 PM with cocktails
6:15 PM Student Recital
6:45 PM New Horizons Big Band Concert & Reception

Please feel free to bring snacks to share.
RSVP - Link on Blast



**MAY 25,
2025
4:00 PM**

AZZ WITH NORTHWEST TEMPO

**AT BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5658 N. DENVER AVE.**

bethelpdx.org

**Donations
accepted**

