

14th Sunday after ~~Pentecost~~

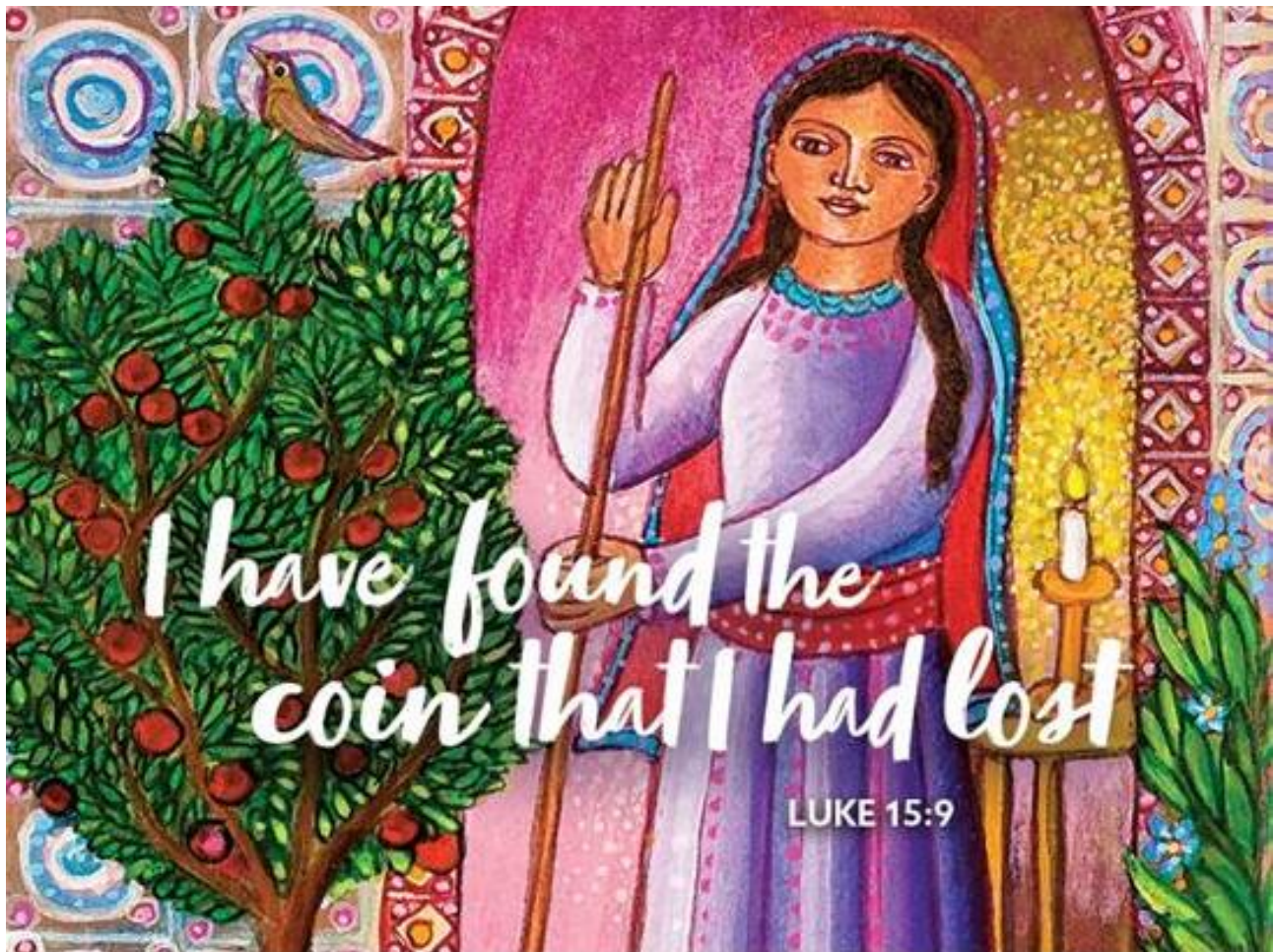
ELW Holy Communion Setting Three

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



Introduction to the day

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

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Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church is a congregation and community affiliated with the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)** and part of the Body of Christ expressed through the **Northern Great Lakes Synod**. We affirm a world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation through the activation of each of us so more people know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice and love (ELCA vision and purpose).

We, at Bethany, have chosen to **express our unique gifts from God through dedicating our Call through “serving God, Community and Individuals”**. We express the unique gift that we each, and you are with us, as local representatives of a world-wide expression of grace and God's invitation to love through our support of the Lutheran World Federation and its ministries, both nationally (like Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran Disaster Response, and Global Refuge) and internationally (like Lutheran World Relief and ELCA Good Gifts).

We welcome you to participate in these, and the celebration of God's presence in and with us throughout our worship, today and all days we gather. This bulletin is a guide for you to be fully present with us as we explore God's call to us, God's gift of grace through Jesus Christ, and God's expansive love through heritage, questions, and openness while you're with us. We have **Assisted-Listening Devices available** for folks that might appreciate some help in hearing what goes on during the service. We have several spare units available if you'd care to try one. Just speak to someone at the sound desk, at the back of the Sanctuary, prior to the service. We can put your name on one if you'd like to use one regularly.

We recognize an open table here, knowing that Jesus' invitation for forgiveness is available to all people. You are welcome to express that invitation by participating in communion here, no matter your age or questions carried in this season of your life. At the invitation of an usher, during The Meal portion of our worship, you may come to the altar to receive the Body and Blood of Christ as a reminder that you are free from sin, forgiven and justified by faith in Jesus, through God's grace, not by works of our hands. You may also come to the altar and receive a blessing, if you're not comfortable in the expression of communion at this time. You may also opt to receive communion where you are, if you struggle with mobility; we will happily come to you.

You are welcome here. We welcome you here. We affirm God's love for you here.

At the end of this bulletin are all the events upcoming in our life, together. You are welcome to participate in any that strike you as interesting or about which you may have some curiosity. Don't worry about engaging events that have already started, we're learning how to tell stories of our lives together, so welcoming new voices in the midst of our work, and play, is an opportunity for us to practice expressing “God with us” (Emmanuel) in our lives of faith. We want to share what God is doing with us, and we would like to learn with you, if you'll let us.

Regardless of your choices and call from God, we're glad to spend time with you today.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand, as you are willing or able, in body or in spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

*Our confession is that we have forgotten
whose we are and therefore who we are
– created and lovingly made to walk in
God's way of peace and live in God's
peace; we confess as an opportunity to
begin reconciliation, with one another
and with God.*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all
desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by
the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify
your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

silence is held for reflection

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by
what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not
loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy
on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk
in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God
forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by
his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name
of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (ELW 834)



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

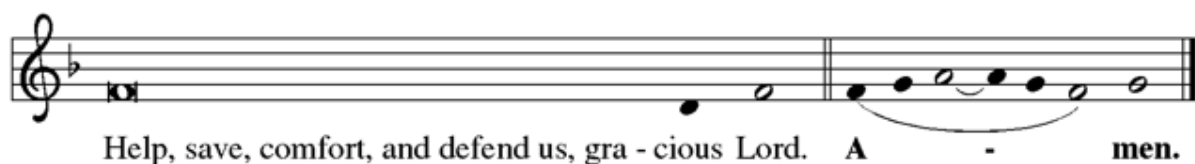
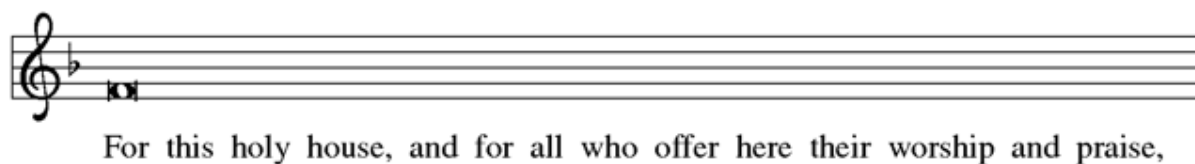
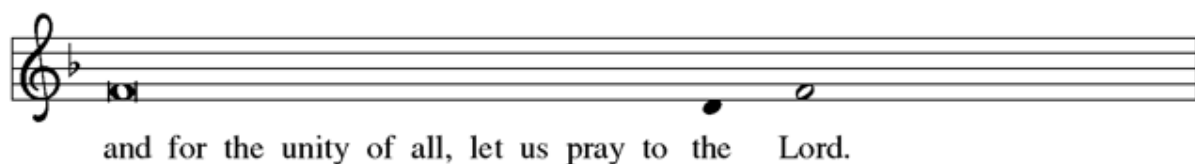
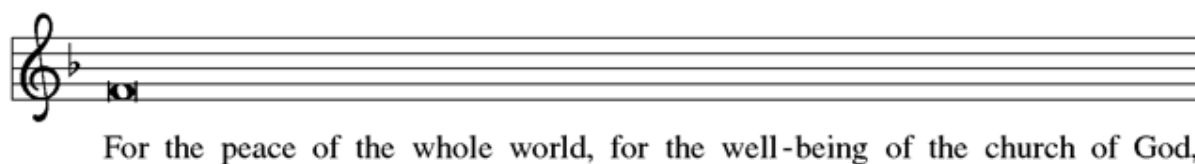
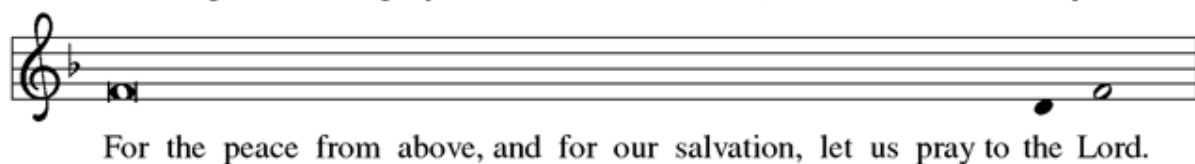
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

The Kyrie, from the Greek "Kyrie eleison" (meaning "Lord, have mercy"), is a prayer of supplication, a plea for God's grace and forgiveness. In many ELCA traditions, the Kyrie is a threefold repetition of "Lord, have mercy" (Kyrie eleison), often followed by "Christ, have mercy" (Christe eleison) and then "Lord, have mercy" (Kyrie eleison) again.



CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

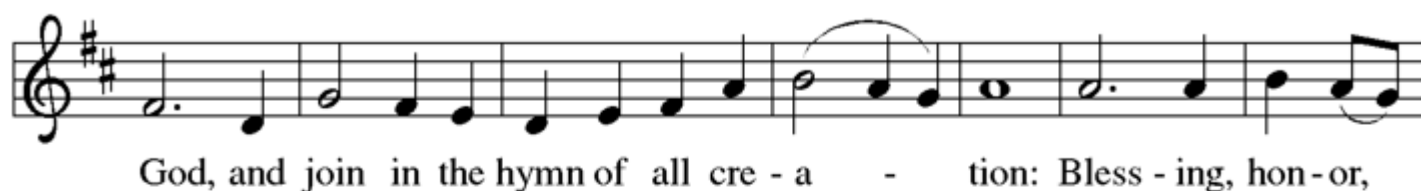
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray, together.

O God, **overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our young people wishing to engage a youth-oriented faith experience are invited to depart the sanctuary until our celebration of communion.

FIRST READING

Exodus 32:7-14

A reading from Exodus.

⁷ The LORD said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

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

PSALM

51:1-10

Our psalm, this morning, will be experienced as “call and response”, with the assembly following the lector, each verse (reading the bold print).

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- ² Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother’s womb.
- ⁶ Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.
- ⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

ANTHEM

Amazing Grace

published in 1779 by English Anglican clergyman and poet John Newton (1725–1807)

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

A reading from 1 Timothy.

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life.

¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Gospel Acclamation serves as a welcome and a call to listen to the Word of God, expressing faith and anticipation for the Gospel reading. During Lent, the "Alleluia" is omitted, and a different acclamation is used, often a verse from the Lectionary.

Please stand as you are willing or able, in body or in spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

Luke 15:1-10

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.

⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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

Please be seated.

SERMON



Please stand as you are willing or able, in body or in spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (ELW 588)



- 1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
- 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
- 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayers that ask God to intervene on behalf of people and causes in need. They can be used in worship services and for personal prayer.

silence is held for preparation

Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful and caused harm with our words and deeds. Renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain. We lift up those Siblings who have invited us to walk with them through our prayer connections, and offer those names for whom we hold care, either silently, or aloud May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life. Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

"Passing the peace" is a ritual where members share God's peace with one another symbolizing unity and reconciliation before receiving communion. The practice of "passing the peace" is rooted in scripture, where Jesus greets his disciples with "Peace be with you" and the apostle Paul begins his letters with "Grace and peace be with you".

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Ways to support the ministry here at Bethany and in Ishpeming:

- Certainly, you are welcome to take part in our “noisy offering” collection, by placing your gifts **in the containers passed** by our Usher Team, each Sunday during this time. The September Noisy offering supports the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund.
- You are invited to set up a one-time or recurring donation by **texting ASSIST to 844-920-4105**; be sure to have your preferred method of sharing ready.
- Use this **QR Code** (to the right). Open your camera app on your phone, place the QR code in the center of your camera’s view-field, and select the Vanco link that appears!



We give thanks for your sharing of gifts and generosity!

This portion of the service, the Offering, is often relegated to simply passing the plates as a sign of responsible stewardship. We wonder if, instead, we can see this celebration together as a bridge into the mystery of creation and the relationship that God invites us into, with them. We offer here the first fruits, those gifts that God has first given us, back to God and one another in deep thanksgiving for the land, the rocks, the water, the plants and one another. While our treasure is part of that giving, the mystery experienced at the Table (altar) is the culmination of our resonance together, and with God. Giving and receiving, not as a transaction, but as fruit of the covenant of Grace we hold together in our meager attempts at worship, invitation, relationship, and inclusion; here and everywhere.



Please stand, as you are willing or able, in body or in spirit.

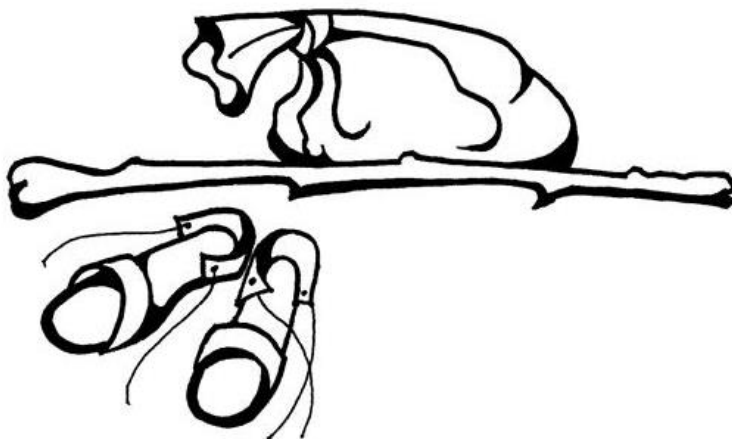
Create in Me (ELW 186)

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, together.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



The service of Holy Communion is at the heart of Christian faith and life. In this sacrament, two essential realities occur for the benefit of God's people. First, God gives us his Son's true body and blood, through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Second, the people of God's church are joined with one another as we share a mysterious and intimate bond as fellow members of Christ's body. This sacrament, together with the proclamation of God's Word, lies at the core of Christian worship, and is the bridge to our mystery with God. We Lutherans often describe our ministry as "Word and Sacrament". Both elements of worship are essential. There have been periods in the history of the Lutheran church where the frequency of Holy Communion waxed and waned. In the late 19th century, a liturgical renewal began, and one of the results was the restoration of weekly Communion. At Bethany, we follow that cadence.

Great Thanksgiving

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

The Preface introduces us to the next part of the service, where we are invited into God's presence for the sharing of the meal. It is an ancient aspect of Christian liturgy. St. Hippolytus mentions that in the early 3rd century, Christians were using a preface in worship. This exchange has survived for centuries almost word-for-word in our liturgy!

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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 musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

The musical score is written on one staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the staff. The staff ends with a double bar line.

...To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

The musical score is written on one staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the staff. The staff ends with a double bar line.

LORD'S PRAYER

We invite you to use the words of the Lord's Prayer that speak loudest to you, gaining comfort in the cacophony of Pentecost, and experiencing the rhythms of the Spirit that speak to each of us, creating both dissonance and resonance. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

**Fader Vår, som är i himmelen
Helgat varde ditt namn.
Tillkomme ditt rike. Ske din vilja,
såsom i himmelen så ock på jorden.
Vårt dagliga bröd giv oss idag,
och förlåt oss våra skulder,
såsom ock vi förlåta dem oss skyldiga
äro,
och inled oss icke i frestelse utan fräls
oss ifrån ondo.
Ty riket är ditt och makten och
härligheten i evighet. Amen.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in 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.**

**Isä meidän, joka olet taivaissa
Pyhitetty olkoon sinun nimesi
Tulkoon sinun valtakuntasi
Tapahtukoon sinun tahtosi
Myös maan päällä niin kuin taivaassa
Anna meille tänä päivänä
Meidän jokapäiväinen leipämme
Ja anna meille meidän syntimme
anteeksi,
Niin kuin mekin anteeksi annamme
niille
Jotka ovat meitä vastaan rikkoneet
Äläkä saata meitä kiusaukseen
Vaan päästä meidät pahasta
Sillä sinun on valtakunta
ja voima ja kunnia iankaikkisesti.
Aamen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Thanks be to God.**

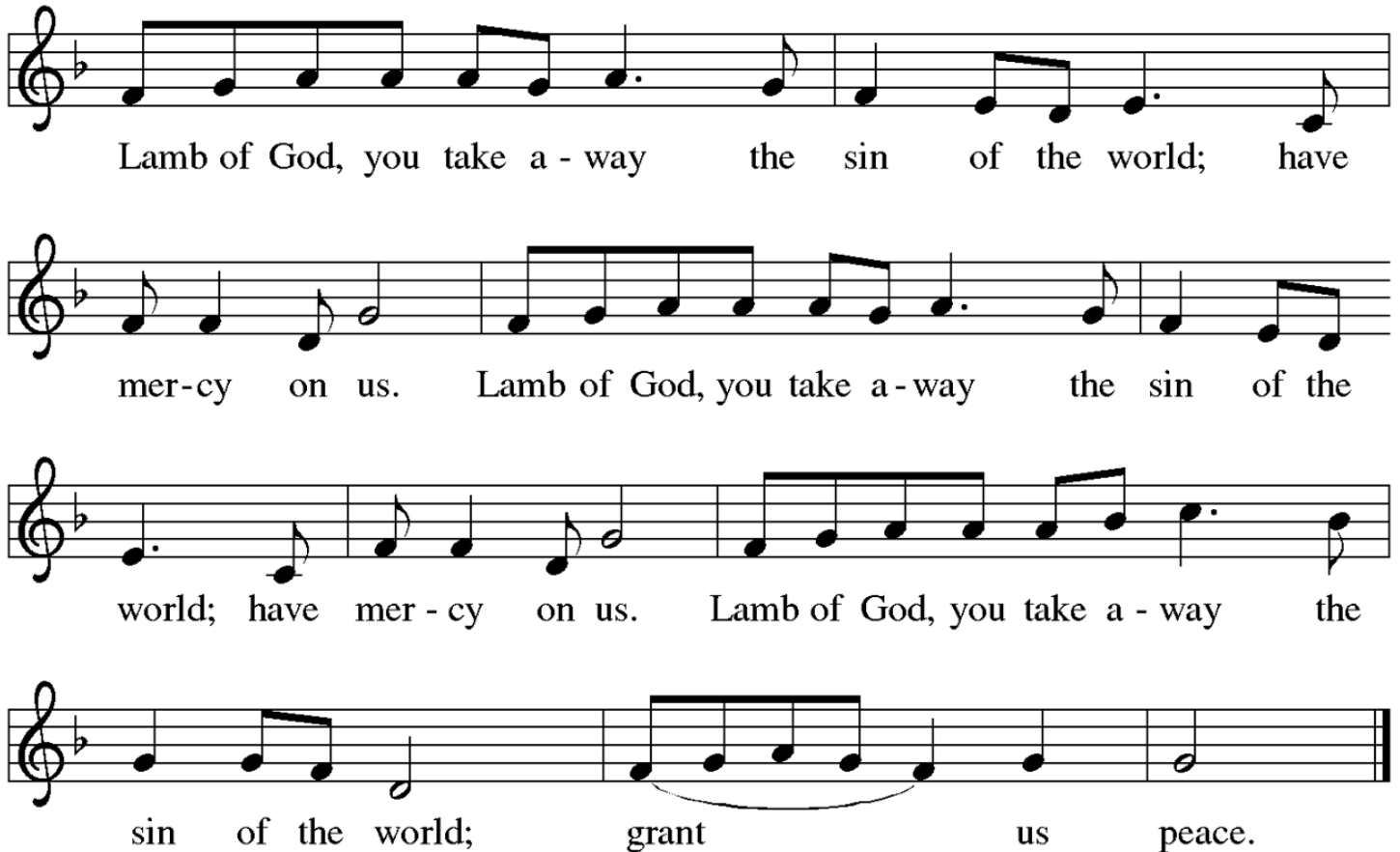
COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

Holy Communion, also known as the Lord's Supper or Eucharist, is a central practice where the crucified and risen Christ is believed to be truly present, offering his body and blood as food and drink, and is celebrated every Sunday and festival. We believe that the presence of Christ is in, with, through, around, and under the elements of bread and wine. We hold that there are two Sacraments (sacred acts of divine institution), Communion and Baptism, both outward and visible signs of an inward and spiritual grace coupling earthly elements with divine command.

At the invitation of an usher, you may come forward for the Eucharist or a blessing. We are blessed with a caring community that recognizes the importance of wide invitations at this Table; the bread for all is gluten and tree-nut free. Both grape juice and wine are available in each passed tray; please take the option that best suites your expression and embodiment of this celebration at God's Table. All are welcome here; ask and you will receive.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.

SONG DURING DISTRIBUTION

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us (ELW 789)



1 Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Please stand, as you are willing or able, in body or in spirit.

POST-COMMUNION COMMENDATION

May the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray, together.

O God, **we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thankful Hearts



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Almighty God, Creator, ✚ Redeemer, and Sustainer, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Can You Feel the Seasons Turning (ACS 991)



1 Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing, winds and waves grown
2 Can you hear the crea - tures cry - ing— lynx and ot - ter,
3 Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing? Storm clouds gath - er



wild and strange? Can you feel cre - a - tion groan - ing,
wolf and whale? Can you hear the Spir - it sigh - ing
in the skies. All a - round us signs of warn - ing



fear - ful of the com - ing change: ice - caps melt - ing,
as her chil - dren grieve and fail? Na - ture's poor, the
bid us o - pen fright - ened eyes. Called by God to



o - ceans ris - ing, homes and hab - i - ta - tions lost?
first to suf - fer, pay the price of hu - man greed.
serve as stew - ards till earth's gar - den greens and thrives,



Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing? Can you count the bit - ter cost?
Can you hear the crea - tures cry - ing, beg - ging us to stop and heed?
can we learn in time to lis - ten? Can we turn and change our lives?

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Upcoming Commemorations

Holy Cross Day

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.

Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, died around 258

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Cyprian served as a bishop during a time of great persecution of Christians. He insisted on receiving back those who had left the faith under duress. He also provided medical care during a severe epidemic.

Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, died 1179

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reproved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.

Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, died 1961

Thursday, September 18, 2025

A Swedish diplomat, Hammarskjöld served as the second Secretary General of the United Nations until his death in a plane crash while trying to negotiate peace in present-day Zambia. His journal, published as *Markings*, revealed the depth of his Christian faith.

Nelson Wesley Trout, bishop, died 1996 (TFF)

Saturday, September 20, 2025

A native of Ohio, Trout served parishes in several parts of the United States before being elected bishop of the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church, the first African American Lutheran to serve in such a capacity.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Community Announcements



Marji Gesick Bike Race

The 4 Ish ELCA churches will have an aid/support station across from Bethel, on the Heritage trail, for the Marji Gesick bike race on September 20th. We will set up at 11:30AM and have two-hour shifts beginning at noon, through midnight. If you are interested in supporting the racers, there will be a sign-up sheet in the back of each church, or you can contact Cheryl Sleeman at 906-362-0849.

There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk!

We need your help!



If you would like to purchase items to help fill the **Lutheran World Relief School Kits**, take advantage of the sales that are ongoing.

Bethany supplies the backpack and fills each with: 4 notebooks, 5 pencils (in elastic band), 5 pens (in elastic band), 1 ruler, 1 pair of scissors, 1 box of crayons (24 pack), 1 eraser, and 1 pencil sharpener. Last year we filled 127 backpacks

Please bring your items to the church and place in the tote provided. Call Sue Holmgren at (906) 204-6864 if you have questions. **Thank you for your generosity!**



The **Marquette County Crop Walk** will be on Oct. 12th, 2024 with registration starting at 1:30 pm and the walk starting at 2:00 pm. Hosted by The Marquette Hope at the Connection Center Campus. Packet distribution will be in August.

John C. Hanson and Barbara Lucas will be walking, so let's support them with our pledges!

SAVE THE DATE!



ROOM AT THE INN

**URGENT PUBLIC
BOARD MEETING**

SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2025 @6PM

**PETER WHITE PUBLIC LIBRARY -
COMMUNITY ROOM
(217 N. FRONT ST. | MQT, MI)**

THE MINISTERS OF THE DAY

Presiding Minister: Pastor Steve Solberg

Assistant Minister: David Leverton

Lector: Karen Kasper

Music Director: Tonya Perry

Organist: Linda Hurrell

Coffee Host: Deb and Bruce Bussone

Flowers: in Memory of Steven and Ethan Chartre' from the Chartre' family

CALENDAR

Today	14 th Sunday after ✈ Pentecost	
	9:30A	Choir
	10:30A	Worship/Online Worship with Pastor Steve
Monday	5:30P	Worship service at Bethel (All are welcome!)
Tuesday	9:00A	Quilters
	11:00A	Bible Study at Bethel
	5:30P	Congregational Council meeting
Wednesday	9:30A	Weight Watcher Support Group
	5:15P	Bell Choir practice
	6:30P	Choir practice
Thursday	6:00P	Room at the Inn Public Board Meeting
	7:00P	Singing Bowls
Saturday	11:30A	Set up stations for Marji Gesick Bike Race
Sunday	15 th Sunday after ✈ Pentecost	
	9:30A	Choir
	10:30A	Worship/Online Worship with Pastor J.
	12:00P	Card Sale to support Social Ministry

Church office hours: Monday-10:00A – 4:00P Tuesday 10:00A – 2:00P
 Thursday 12:00A – 4 :00P Friday 10:00A – 4:00P

Pastor J. will be on vacation from September 14-20. Please contact the office if you have a pastoral need or would like to make an appointment to see Pastor J. when he returns.