

Sunday, September 6, 2020
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

RINGING OF BELL AND PRELUDE

WELCOME

*Those gathered online are invited to respond with the bold printed words and sing the hymns.
Those gathered in person are invited to quietly sing hymns and speak congregational responses.*

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.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

HYMN *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

WORD

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

PSALM 119:33-40

Psalm 119 is an instructional psalm celebrating God's law.

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.**

READING: Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

A reading from Romans.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le -
lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN *Where Charity and Love Prevail* (See next page)



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842
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APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*Each petition ends with, "Lord, in your mercy." Those worshipping respond with, "**Hear our prayer.**"*

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

During this time, an offering would normally be taken for the mission of Christ's church. We are grateful for your gifts and they are needed to continue the work of the church. We understand in this time some have lost their jobs, hours reduced and may be incurring a financial hardship and therefore unable to financially give; while others may be able to give more. Options on ways to give are found on our website (www.wbbethany.org). Thank you!

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with the gifts of ourselves, 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

BLESSING

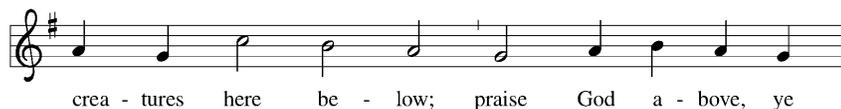
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.
Music: OLD HUNDREDETH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

SENDING

Whether gathered in this place or in your home, go in peace and share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



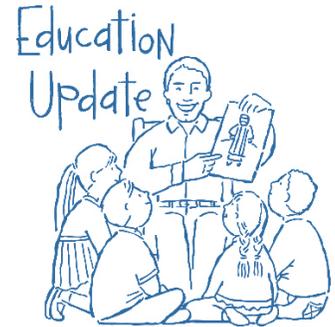
Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! We invite you to join us again next Sunday at 9:30 AM on Facebook or outdoors (weather dependent). Blessings to you as you shine forth the light of Christ in the world this week! Thanks, and praise to God for everything you do in the name of Jesus Christ!



Confirmation class will begin Wednesday, September 9th. We will gather outdoors from 6:30 – 7:15 PM. Please bring a chair and face mask. All 7th and 8th graders are invited to attend. In case of rain, we will gather at the Beranek Park shelter. Please contact Pastor Chad with any questions.

Faith Formation class for youth in 4th-6th grade will all begin Wednesday, September 9th. We will gather outdoors from 6:30 – 7:15 PM. Please bring a chair and face mask. All are invited to attend. In case of rain, we will gather at the Beranek Park shelter.

Like VBS, children in PreK-3rd grade will receive an at-home kit with lessons and activities to assist them in growing in Christ's love. Please look for more information to come soon.



Join us every Monday at noon for a 30-minute discussion about the upcoming Sunday gospel reading. We gather via Zoom Meeting so join at home or work while on your lunch break. If interested, contact Pastor Chad at pastor@wbbethany.org and the Zoom invitation will be forwarded to you. The gospel for Sunday August 9 is Matthew 14:22-33. Thanks!



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Scripture passage from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

“God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday **September 13, 2020**

Dear members of Bethany,

God’s Work, Our Hands began early this year with the storm that blew through on August 10th. Many of you helped neighbors and friends in cleanup efforts and this truly was in the spirit of this designated Sunday of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Due to COVID restrictions, we can’t do “God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday as a group, like usual. But there still are needs in our community and we have come up with some ideas to make this a memorable day of service. If you have a yellow shirt, wear it that day.

◇ If you have helped a neighbor haul branches, fix fence, or something like that, take a picture and send it to Paula and we will put on Bethany’s Facebook page. If you will be doing a project on September 13th, please do the same.

◇ Gardeners: The church grounds have continuing needs like deadheading flowers, pulling weeds, and general cleanup. If other people are helping at the same time, keep a safe distance or wear a mask.

◇ A “Not a Christmas” Angel Tree: Select something from the list of needs to help school kids or DVIP (Domestic Violence Intervention Program). Bring items to the church and we will deliver them to WBCSD and DVIP. The list of needed items is at the bottom of this page. If you would rather give money, we will use it to purchase needed items.

We have much to be thankful for and giving back to our community is how God would want us to respond.

DVIP needs list:

- Gift cards for groceries/household items
- Cooking Oil
- Baby formula
- Diapers size 5/6
- Sugar
- Microwave popcorn
- Body Wash
- Women’s underwear sizes 5, 6, and 8
 - New and prepackaged

School Needs List:

- Boys underwear sizes 4-6
 - * New and prepackaged
- Girls underwear sizes 4-6
 - * New and prepackaged
- New black sweatpants sizes 4-6
 - * Girls and boys
- New gray sweatpants sizes 4-6
 - * Girls and boys

Please contact Al Beyer with any questions. Thank you!



God’s work.
Our hands.