



Gathered Connected Sent

Bethany Lutheran Church | Long Beach, CA

NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 10, 2025

PRELUDE:

Organ

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN:

“Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray”

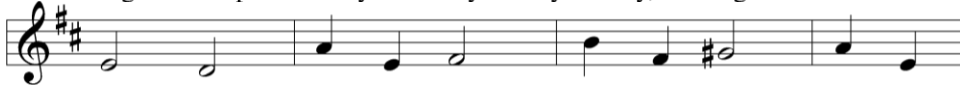
LSB 663



1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a - wak -
2 Watch a - gainst the dev - il's snares Lest a - sleep he find
3 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de - feat
4 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you tri -
5 But while watch - ing, al - so pray To the Lord un - ceas -



en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a - wares o'er -
you; For in - deed no pains he spares To de - ceive and
you Lest with bold de - cep - tions hurled It be - tray and
fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's mer - cy
ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and faith in -



tak - en; For the foe, Well we know, Is a
blind you. Sa - tan's prey Oft are they Who se -
cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less
sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your
creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.
cure are sleep - ing And no watch are keep - ing.
friends to charm you, Who but seek to harm you.
hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.
nite to serve Him And for - ev - er love Him.

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(based on Col. 1:2)*

[L]: Good will and peace from God our Father are yours!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: *(based on Col. 1)*

[L]: God has rescued us from the power of darkness and has brought us into the kingdom of His son, whom He loves.

[P]: **Yet, Lord we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We are tempted to return to the shadows and thus we have failed to love You with our whole heart and we have failed to love our neighbor as ourselves. For the sake of**

Your Son, who paid the price to set us free, come to us again in mercy and grace, forgive our sins and send us Your Spirit that we might walk in Your ways and delight in Your will. Amen.

[L]: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives the power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. Amen.

FIRST READING: *Colossians 3:12-17*

As holy people whom God has chosen and loved, be sympathetic, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. Put up with each other, and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Above all, be loving. This ties everything together perfectly. Also, let Christ's peace control you. God has called you into this peace by bringing you into one body. Be thankful. Let Christ's word with all its wisdom and richness live in you. Use psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to teach and instruct yourselves about God's kindness. Sing to God in your hearts. Everything you say or do should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. -GW®

RESPONSIVE HYMN: "Voices Raised to You We Offer" LSB 795



1 Voic - es raised to You we of - fer; Tune them, God, for
 3 Christ, the song of Love in - car - nate, Touch - ing earth with
 4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion, Kin - dle faith with -
 5 How can an - y praise we of - fer Mea - sure all the
 songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute
 heav - en's grace, For Your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,
 in each heart. Lift our voic - es high in cho - rus;
 thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voic - es—
 For Your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!
 For Your ris - ing, hear our praise! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through our hands Your love im - part. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Gifts of love we can be - stow. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to You we sing!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, Re - deem - er, Lord of life!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Spir - it, Help - er, breath of life!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to You we sing!

HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 12:22-34*

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "So I tell you to stop worrying about what you will eat or wear. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothes. Consider the crows. They don't plant or harvest. They don't even have a storeroom or a barn. Yet, God feeds them. You are worth much more than birds.

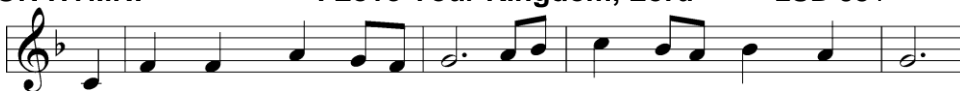
"Can any of you add an hour to your life by worrying? If you can't do a small thing like that, why worry about other things? Consider how the flowers grow. They never work or spin yarn for clothes. But I say that not even Solomon in all his majesty was dressed like one of these flowers. That's the way God clothes the grass in the field. Today it's alive, and tomorrow it's thrown into an incinerator. So how much more will he clothe you people who have so little faith?

"Don't concern yourself about what you will eat or drink, and quit worrying about these things. Everyone in the world is concerned about these things, but your Father knows you need them. Rather, be concerned about His kingdom. Then these things will be provided for you. Don't be afraid, little flock. Your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom.

"Sell your material possessions, and give the money to the poor. Make yourselves wallets that don't wear out! Make a treasure for yourselves in heaven that never loses its value! In heaven thieves and moths can't get close enough to destroy your treasure. Your heart will be where your treasure is. -GW®

SERMON HYMN:**"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"**

LSB 651



1 I love Your king - dom, Lord, The place of Your a - bode,
 2 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize its heav'n - ly ways,
 3 I love Your Church, O God, Your saints in ev - 'ry land,
 4 For them my tears shall fall; For them my prayers as - cend;
 5 Sure as Your truth shall last, To Zi - on shall be giv'n

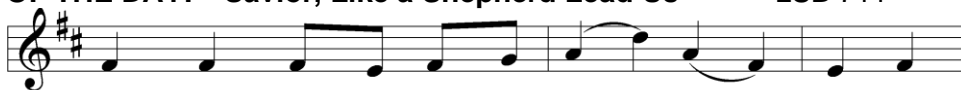


The Church our blest Re-deem-er saved With His own pre-cious blood.
 Its sweet com-mu-nion, sol-emn vows, Its hymns of love and praise.
 Dear as the ap-ple of Your eye And grav-en on Your hand.
 For them my cares and toils be giv'n Till toils and cares shall end.
 The bright-est glo-ries earth can yield And bright-er bliss of heav'n.

MESSAGE: “Sinking down Roots...As...Be...” Col. 3:12-17

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

LSB 711



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *(based on Col. 1:15 ff)*

L: Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. He created all things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible. He is the head of the church which is his body and with the church on earth and in heaven we confess the faith once and for all delivered to the saints:

NICENE CREED: *(*catholic means the universal Christian Church)*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy *catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maralee at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

CONSECRATION OF GIFTS: *(based on Col. 3:16)*

L: Bless these our gifts Lord;

P: Through them, fund ministry that causes Your Word to dwell richly in us.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

***** For our 8:00 a.m. worshippers, the service continues on the bottom of page 9 with Announcements.**

***** For our 9:30 a.m. worshippers, the service continues with the Celebration of Holy Communion:**

✠ Service of Holy Communion ✠

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To prepare for communion you can find prayer prompts on the front page of the burgundy hymnal. Or simply pray: "Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation, You invite me to come to You; to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacred meal. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts. Amen."

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are **alcohol free**. The wafers on the stand next to the pillar pulpit side (when kneeling for communion) or on the stand in front of the baptismal font (when processing for communion) are **gluten free**.*

At our 9:30 a.m. service, we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints: come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther
 4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver
 5 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, Tru - est
 8 Je - sus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
 cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of
 this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is
 friend, and dear - est trea - sure, Peace be - yond all un - der -
 glad - ly here o - bey You. By Your love I am in -



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
 bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:
 stand - ing, Joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing:
 vit - ed, Be Your love with love re - quit - ed;



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
 With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to
 Hum - bly now, I bow be - fore You; Love in - car - nate,
 By this Sup - per let me mea - sure, Lord, how vast and



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -
 I a - dore You; Wor - thi - ly let me re -
 deep love's trea - sure. Through the gift of grace You



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!
 ceive You And, so fa - vored, nev - er leave You.
 give me As Your guest in heav'n re - ceive me.

“Father Welcomes”

LSB 605

Refrain



Fa - ther wel-comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly



through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,



Life for - ev - er has been won.



1 Lit - tle chil-dren, come to Me, For My king - dom
2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,
3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly



is of these. Life and love I have to give,
be as - sured: Those who are bap - tized and be - lieve
rise with Him, Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,



Refrain

Mer - cy for your sin.
Shall be born a - gain.
Live in the peace of God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING: (based on Col. 2:7)

L: You received Christ Jesus the Lord, so continue to live as Christ's people. Sink your roots in Him and build on Him. Be strengthened by the faith that you were taught, and overflow with thanksgiving.

CLOSING HYMN: "Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go"

LSB 920



1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth;
4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;
5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show



Christ to the world with joy we bring;
King - ship with Him His ser - vants gain;
This world of time to con - se - crate,
Proph - ets are we whose deeds pro - claim
That in His Church all na - tions find



Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
With Christ the Ser - vant - Lord of all,
This world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's truth in love that we may be
Their hearth and home where Christ re - stores



Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.
Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.
Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.
True peace, true love to all man - kind.

POSTLUDE:



COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS:

Liturgy from *Lutheran Service Book*, © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission, LSBHymnLicense.net #000012696

"Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray" LSB 663

Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671-1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Tune: *Hundert...geistlicher Arien*, Dresden, 1694, alt.; setting: *Christian Worship*, 1993. Text and music: Public domain.

"Voices Raised to You We Offer" LSB 795

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., b. 1923; © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under

ONELICENSE #A-706149. Music: Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936; ©1996 Carolyn Jennings. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149

"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord" LSB 651

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752-1817, alt.

Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731-76.

Text and music: Public domain.

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" LSB 711

Text: *Hymns for the Young*, 4th ed., London, 1836, alt.

Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68.

Text and music: Public domain.

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" LSB 636

Text: Johann Franck; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978, sts. 1, 4-5; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, sts. 2-3, 6-8, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text (sts. 1, 4-5): ©1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149. Text (sts. 2-3, 6-8) and music: Public domain.

"Father Welcomes" LSB 605

Text and Tune: Robin Mann, b. 1949

Text and Tune: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew, Ltd. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149

"Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go" LSB 920

Text: James Quinn, b. 1919; Text: ©1969, 1987 Sleah Publishing Co., Inc. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.; setting: *Cantica Spiritualia*, 1847 Music: Public domain

Text: Reprinted under ONELICENSE #A-706149



SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Crucifer 9:30...Timothy O'Conner

Lector 8:00...Elsie Rivera 9:30...Sherri & Tom Esswein 11:00...Brady Bowman

Preacher & Liturgist 8:00 & 9:30...Pastor Kevin Kritzer 11:00...Karl Fink

Organist 8:00 & 9:30...Robert Bottoms Piano 11:00...Trinity Alwood

Children's Message...Kayleigh Lopez



If You're a Visitor, WELCOME! We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. If you would like more information about Bethany and its ministries, please scan the QR code to the right. You will be directed to Bethany's fillable information form.





Today's Flowers are given to the glory of God:

~ In celebration and thanksgiving to God on our 31st wedding anniversary on August 13th ~

~by David & Janice Akins



Today's Flowers are given to the glory of God:

~ In celebration of 27 years of marriage for Douglas & Rose Crawford on August 8th ~

~by Rose Crawford



Please visit our websites to find out more about our Church, School and Preschool. Get weekly updates by signing up for the **Bethany Broadcast**—our weekly capsule of worship highlights and campus-wide information.

Bethany Lutheran Church and its Ministries are found at: www.bethanylutheran.org

Bethany Lutheran School information can be found by visiting their website at: www.bethanylutheran.org/school/

Bethany Preschool's website: www.bethanylutheran.org/preschool/

To sign up for the weekly **Bethany Broadcast**: <https://bit.ly/BethanyBroadcastSignUp>