



Gathered



Connected



Sent

**SEVENTEETH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

OCTOBER 5, 2025

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: "Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good" LSB 819



1 Sing praise to God, the high - est good, The au - thor of cre -
3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
4 He nev - er shall for - sake His flock, His cho - sen gen - er -
5 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, Give God the praise and



a - tion, The God of love who un - der - stood
hear us, Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness
a - tion; He is their ref - uge and their rock,
glo - ry. Let all who know His pow'r pro - claim



Our need for His sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our
And came with peace to cheer us. For this we thank and
Their peace and their sal - va - tion. As with a moth - er's
A - loud the won - drous sto - ry. Cast ev - 'ry i - dol



souls He fills And ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stills:
praise the Lord, Who is by one and all a - dored:
ten - der hand, He leads His own, His cho - sen band:
from its throne, For God is God, and He a - lone:



To God all praise and glo - ry!
To God all praise and glo - ry!
To God all praise and glo - ry!
To God all praise and glo - ry!

CALL TO WORSHIP: (based on 1 Timothy 1:2)

[L]: Good will, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord are yours!

CONFESSION OF GUILT AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

(based on 1 Timothy 1:15 & 2 Timothy 1:9)

- L:** This is a trustworthy saying,
P: **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am worst.**

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

LSB 611

1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
all to me; All that I want to Him are known,
Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.

- L:** Beloved, God saved you not because of what you had done, but because of His own plan and kindness revealed in and accomplished through Jesus, His Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen

PSALMODY: **PSALM 138:1-5** (we read responsively)

- L:** I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
P: **before the gods I sing Your praise;**
L: I bow down toward Your holy temple
and give thanks to Your name for your steadfast love and Your faithfulness,
P: **for You have exalted above all things**
Your name and Your word.

L: On the day I called, You answered me;
P: **my strength of soul You increased.**

L: All the kings of the earth shall give You thanks, O LORD,
P: **for they have heard the words of Your mouth,**

L: and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
P: **for great is the glory of the LORD. -ESV®**

L: The Holy Scriptures have the power to give you wisdom, for every passage is inspired by God and useful for teaching, correcting, and training God's people.
(based on 1 Timothy 3)

EPISTLE READING: II Timothy 1:1-14

From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will—a will that contains Christ Jesus' promise of life.

To Timothy, my dear child.

Good will, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord!

I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day when I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience as my ancestors did. I remember your tears and want to see you so that I can be filled with happiness. I'm reminded of how sincere your faith is. That faith first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice. I'm convinced that it also lives in you.

You received a gift from God when I placed my hands on you to ordain you. Now I'm reminding you to fan that gift into flames. God didn't give us a cowardly spirit but a spirit of power, love, and good judgment. So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord or be ashamed of me, His prisoner. Instead, by God's power, join me in suffering for the sake of the Good News. God saved us and called us to be holy, not because of what we had done, but because of His own plan and kindness. Before the world began, God planned that Christ Jesus would show us God's kindness. Now with the coming of our Savior Christ Jesus, He has revealed it. Christ has destroyed death, and through the Good News He has brought eternal life into full view. I was appointed to be a messenger of this Good News, an apostle, and a teacher.

For this reason, I suffer as I do. However, I'm not ashamed. I know whom I trust. I'm convinced that He is able to protect what He had entrusted to me until that day.

With faith and love for Christ Jesus, consider what you heard me say to be the pattern of accurate teachings. With the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us, protect the Good News that has been entrusted to you. -GW®

L: Having heard the Word, you are equipped as a servant of God and prepared to do good in, for and through Him. Amen

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

“10,000 Reasons”
~Matt Redman

Trinity Choir 8:00 am

Troubadour Choir 9:30 am

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

8:00 & 9:30

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

“Celebration No. 5 in C”
~Michael R. Keller

The Treble Makers 9:30 am

HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 17:1-10*

Jesus told His disciples, “Situations that cause people to lose their faith are certain to arise. But how horrible it will be for the person who causes someone to lose his faith! It would be best for that person to be thrown into the sea with a large stone hung around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to lose his faith. So watch yourselves!

“If a believer sins, correct him. If he changes the way he thinks and acts, forgive him. Even if he wrongs you seven times in one day and comes back to you seven times and says that he is sorry, forgive him.”

Then the apostles said to the Lord, “Give us more faith.”

The Lord said, “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Pull yourself up by the roots, and plant yourself in the sea!’ and it would obey you.

“Suppose someone has a servant who is plowing fields or watching sheep. Does he tell his servant when he comes from the field, ‘Have something to eat’? No. Instead, he tells his servant, ‘Get dinner ready for me! After you serve me my dinner, you can eat yours.’ He doesn’t thank the servant for following orders. That’s the way it is with you. When you’ve done everything you’re ordered to do, say, ‘We’re worthless servants. We’ve only done our duty.’” -GW®

SERMON SONG: “He Will Hold Me Fast”

Verse 1

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Verse 2

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

Verse 3

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last

MESSAGE: “Gathered, Gather” // Timothy 1:1-15

SONG OF THE DAY: “Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”

Verse 1

Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood; He has washed us with His blood
He has brought us nigh to God

Verse 2

Let us love the Lord who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood; He has washed us with His blood
He presents our souls to God

Verse 3

Let us sing though fierce temptation
Threatens hard to bear us down
For the Lord our strong salvation
Holds in view the conqu'ror's crown
He who washed us with His blood
He who washed us with His blood; He who washed us with His blood
Soon will bring us home to God

Verse 4

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more
He who washed us with His blood
He who washed us with His blood; He who washed us with His blood
Has secured our way to God

Verse 5

Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood; Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou art worthy Lamb of God

CONFESSION OF FAITH: (*Intro. 2 Timothy 6:12*)

L: The apostle has called us to make a good testimony regarding the Christian faith:

THE APOSTLES' CREED (**catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day He rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

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 Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

COLLECT OF THE DAY: (*1 Timothy 2:5*)

L: “There is one mediator between God and humans; the human Christ Jesus. Let us come therefore to His throne of Grace”:

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.

✠ 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 help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. 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 sacrament of Your altar. 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.*

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.

In our 9:30 & 11:00 am services, we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and 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.

DISTRIBUTION:

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LSB 637

1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,

And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow

Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

“God Who Bleeds”

Verse 1

Oh my soul
Who could ever know
How deep my sins go
Oh my soul
All the gold
On the earth could never pay
For the debt that I have made
On my soul

Chorus

Now I see just how great my need
In His hands and in His feet
Lamb of God oh my soul shall sing
Hallelujah to the God who bleeds

Verse 2

Oh what love
Knew I'd never have enough
So He chose to pay in blood
Oh what love
I'm in awe
Every earthly gain is lost
At the wonder of the cross
Oh what love

Bridge

See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow down for me
Forever all my praise will be
Glory to the God who bleeds
See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow down for me
Forever all my praise will be
Glory to the God who bleeds

Tag

Hallelujah to the God who bleeds

“Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor”

~ Matthew Boswell, Matthew Papa

Trinity Choir 8:00 am
Troubadour Choir 9:30 am

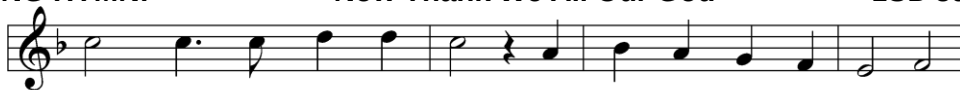
POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**ANNOUNCEMENTS****BENEDICTION:** *(based on I Timothy 1:17)*

L: Worship and glory belong forever to the eternal king, the immortal, invisible, and only God. He will bless you and keep you, make His face to shine upon you, and give you His peace. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Now Thank We All Our God”

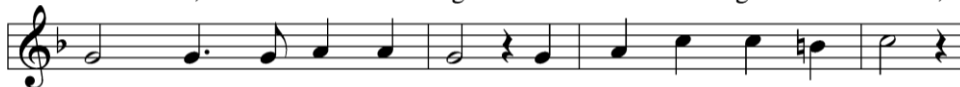
LSB 895



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voice - es,
 2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;
 With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us
 The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way
 And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed
 The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count-less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
 And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
 For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

POSTLUDE



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“Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good” LSB 819

Text: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1640-90; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812-97, adapt., sts. 1-3, 5; tr. Catherine Winkworth. 1827-78; adapt. St. 4. Tune: Melchoir Vulpius, c. 1570-1615; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and music: Public domain

“Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor”

CCLI Song#7045331

Matthew Boswell, Matthew Papa

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10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

CCLI Song # 6016351

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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“He will Hold Me Fast”

CCLI Song # 7016161

Ada Ruth Habershon | Matthew Merker

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"Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"

CCLI Song # 5834479

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"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord" LSB 637

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*. Text and music: Public domain.

"God who Bleeds"

CCLI Song # 7256772

Benji Cowart | Cara Berg | Jon Gruen | Matt Preston

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"Now Thank We All Our God" LSB 895

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662. Text and music: Public domain.



SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Acolyte 8:00...Oliver Koehlinger

Lector 8:00...Ruth Lopez

9:30...Nola Seaman

11:00...Ashlyn Bowman

Liturgist...Pastor Kevin Kritzer

Preacher...Pastor John Alwood

Director of Music and Worship Ministries...Noah Freeman

Accompanist...Kevin Bowers

Artist in Residence...Blake Flattley

Children's Message...Kaley Ross

School Handbell Director...Brad Royuk



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.



Summer worship attendance June-August had an average of 336 per week.
Last year the same time period had an average attendance of 309 per week.

Offering Income in July 2025: \$101,000

Offering Income in July 2024: \$82,000

Tuition and Fees Income July 2025: \$114,000

Tuition and Fees Income July 2024: \$136,000

Expenses in July 2025: \$310,000

Expenses in July 2024: \$308,000

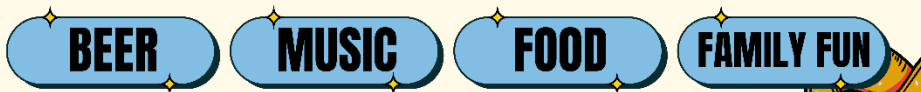
Income/Expense July 2025: (\$75,000)

Income/Expense July 2024: (\$70,000)



JOIN US
OCTOBER 26TH
 AT BETHANY LUTHERAN

MUSIC PERFORMANCE BY: LADYHOSEN



ORDER OF **EVENTS**

**TRUNK
 OR TREAT**

4 - 5 PM

JOIN US IN THE PARKING LOT FOR OUR ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT! ADMISSION IS 1 BAG OF CANDY + 1 CANNED FOOD ITEM.

**FOOD IS
 SERVED**

4:30 - 6:30 PM

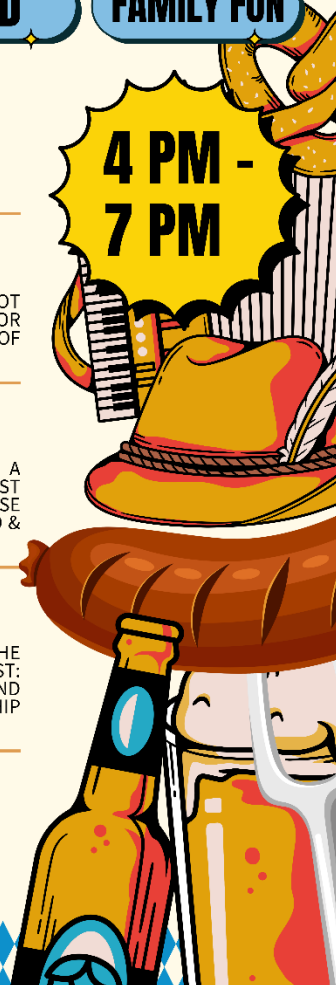
MEET US ON THE FIELD FOR A TRADITIONAL GERMAN FEAST WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS. USE THE QR CODE TO ORDER FOOD & DRINKS!

**OKTO-
 FEST**

4 - 7 PM

THE FUN CONTINUES UNDER THE TENT WITH OKTO-BEAR-FEST: LIVE MUSIC, GOOD FOOD, AND PLENTY OF FUN & FELLOWSHIP FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

**SCAN TO REGISTER
 AND ORDER FOOD +
 DRINKS BY OCT. 21**





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>



TO BETHANY'S FLOWER FUND!

Flowers are used to decorate the altar every Sunday, for special seasons such as Christmas and Easter, as well as other important dates during the church calendar. You are able to make two types of donations to the Altar Flower Fund: a general donation and a special request with recognition.



- **A SPECIAL REQUEST WITH RECOGNITION*** is a special type of Altar Flower donation. This request will be printed in the bulletin. For example, it could be given in memory of a person who has gone before us, for a wedding anniversary, baptismal birthday or a birthday celebration, etc. **This recognition has a suggested donation of \$75.**
- **A GENERAL DONATION TO THE ALTAR FLOWER FUND** enables Bethany to have flowers in worship and for our shut-in and hospitalized members to receive flowers from our flower ministry team, even when no one has ordered flowers for specific purposes on Sunday. **This General Donation is for any amount you wish to give.**

*If you are making a **Special Request with Recognition**, please use this form to let us know of your donation **for a specific Sunday date** and what the significance of that donation is towards. **IMPORTANT:** Please complete this form at least **2 weeks prior** to that date, so that information regarding your donation can be printed in the Sunday bulletin for the date requested.

Sign up to donate to Bethany's Altar Flower Fund, please use this URL:

<https://bit.ly/BLCAltarFlowers>



Or scan Bethany's Flower Fund QR code to the right: