

Morning Worship

**Bethesda Lutheran Church - 8:30 AM
Immanuel Lutheran Church - 11:00 AM**

July 7, 2024

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Before we begin our worship this morning, I acknowledge that Bethesda Lutheran Church/Immanuel Lutheran Church sits on the traditional grounds of the Anishinaabe People, and we honor their elders both past and present. Their presence is imbued in the lands and waters surrounding us. We nurture our relationships with our indigenous neighbors, and the shared responsibilities to their homeland where we all reside today.

HOLY COMMUNION

Prelude

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

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.

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.


God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: ELW #513 “Listen, God Is Calling”


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.



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Hymn of Praise: WOV (Blue hymnal) p. 29-30 “Glory to God”

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. **God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5

In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.

¹ [A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.² And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³ He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴ The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." ⁵ Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 123

Refrain: Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy. (Ps. 123:2)

¹ To you I lift ¹ up my eyes,
to you enthroned ¹ in the heavens.

² **As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand ¹ of her mistress,**

**so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show¹ us
your mercy. R**

³ Have mercy upon us, O¹ LORD, have mercy,
for we have had more than enough¹ of contempt,
⁴ **too much of the scorn of the in-¹ dolent rich,
and of the derision¹ of the proud. R**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.

² I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³ And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴ was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵ On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶ But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷ even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸ Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹ but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰ Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation:

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: Handt Hanson
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GOOD SOIL
PM

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

¹ [Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.² On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴ Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” ⁵ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶ And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷ He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹ but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰ He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹ If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹² So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³ They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Connie Monson

Hymn of the Day: **Bethesda - ELW #688** “*Lord of Light*”
Immanuel – ELW #841 “*Lift Every Voice and Sing*”

Affirmation

We believe in God the Creator, who created and is creating everything: the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us; each of us, unique, individual and beloved of God.

We believe in God the Christ, who saved and is saving everything:

the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us: each of us; unique, individual and beloved of the Christ.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who guided and is guiding everything: the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us; each of us, unique, individual and beloved of the Spirit.

We believe that this one God in three persons, is present among us, working directly in our lives and the lives of all who are born into this world, striving to bring us back into harmony with all creation and with God: forgiving, healing, touching everyone, never rejecting any who willingly receive this freely offered gift of love and grace and eternal life. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

Glorious God, you bend down to wash the feet of your disciples. Let the servant church arise in our teaching, our praying, our healing, and our doing. Make all your faithful people powerful in weakness and strong in grace. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Life-giving God, your fingers trace the heavens and your hands mold the earth. Where there is drought, bring nourishing rain. Where there is devastation from fire or flood, bring relief. Sustain the well-being of every living thing. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Merciful God, you speak and the nations listen. Open those who govern to the cries of all who journey with no food or shelter, particularly people fleeing violence, those seeking freedom, and those in search of community. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, your embrace brings wholeness to those who are troubled. Anoint (*names and*) all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing and grant them renewal. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Welcoming God, in your presence strangers become companions and enemies become neighbors. Open our doors to those we have so easily shut out, particularly people who are different from us or who are marginalized by church or society. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Other intercessions: You know the need for healing, comfort, help or resolution for those we name before you today: Myrna & Richard Northrop, Kermit Delmain, Marty Burkel, Casey French, Kerissa Morrin, Ed DePerry, Lorayne Reedy, Lois Osterberg, Bill & Barb Peterson, Courtney Byerhof, Bill Bodner, Chuck & Marcia Perry, Sharon Johnson, Rhiannon Tourdot, Judy, Holly Tourdot, Colleen Nozal, Chick Anderson, Kelli Ann Clapero, Bennett Anderson, Konnie LeMay, Vicki Gordon, Michael Babineau, Jennifer Schlack, Karen Novachek, Dick Florence, Ruthann Compton, Kris Anderson, Larry Jorstad, Stacey Uhlman, Kit Bottem, Anders Elmblad and family, Jeanna Morshead-Metelica, Deanne Mason, Sarah Norton, Tricia Roode, and John Frederick. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Eternal God, you gather us into your house of many dwelling places. We give you thanks for our faithful departed (*especially*). Inspire us by their lives of faith until, with them, we rest forever at our journey's end. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(Share a sign of God's peace with one another.)

Offering

Offering Prayer

**Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

**The Lord be with you.
And also 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Invitation to Communion

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

Come!

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life,

we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

Amen.

Communion Hymn: Bethesda - ELW #465 *“As the Grains of Wheat”*
Immanuel – ELW #471 *“Let Us Break Bread
Together”*

Announcements:

Sunday	AA at Immanuel 7:00; Ice cream social 12:00 at Immanuel
Monday	Immanuel Quilters 9:00; Carol Arent's birthday
Tuesday	Brunch Bunch 10:00
Wednesday	South Shore Quilters 9:00; Midday Prayer Service 12:00 at Episcopal church

Thursday Immanuel Painters 10:00
Friday ROMEO 8:00; Knit Wits 1:00;
Sunday Joint Lutheran Worship 10:00 at Cornucopia Town Hall

Benediction

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.

Sending Hymn: Bethesda - ELW #546 "To Be Your Presence"
Immanuel – ELW #661 "I Love to Tell the Story"

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Reconciling in Christ Statement

*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free,
there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*
Galatians 3:28

We welcome YOU to Bethesda and Immanuel to participate fully in our congregational life. You who may have experienced exclusion, injustice or racial inequity; You who are young, old, rich, poor; You of all abilities; You from all nations and ethnic backgrounds; You of all sexual orientations, gender identities or gender expression.

We are committed to racial equity, economic equity, gender equity, sexual equity. We are committed to learn, celebrate, advocate and welcome everyone through a series of forums and educational opportunities. May we grow in acceptance and become a voice for inclusion, equity and justice.

No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.