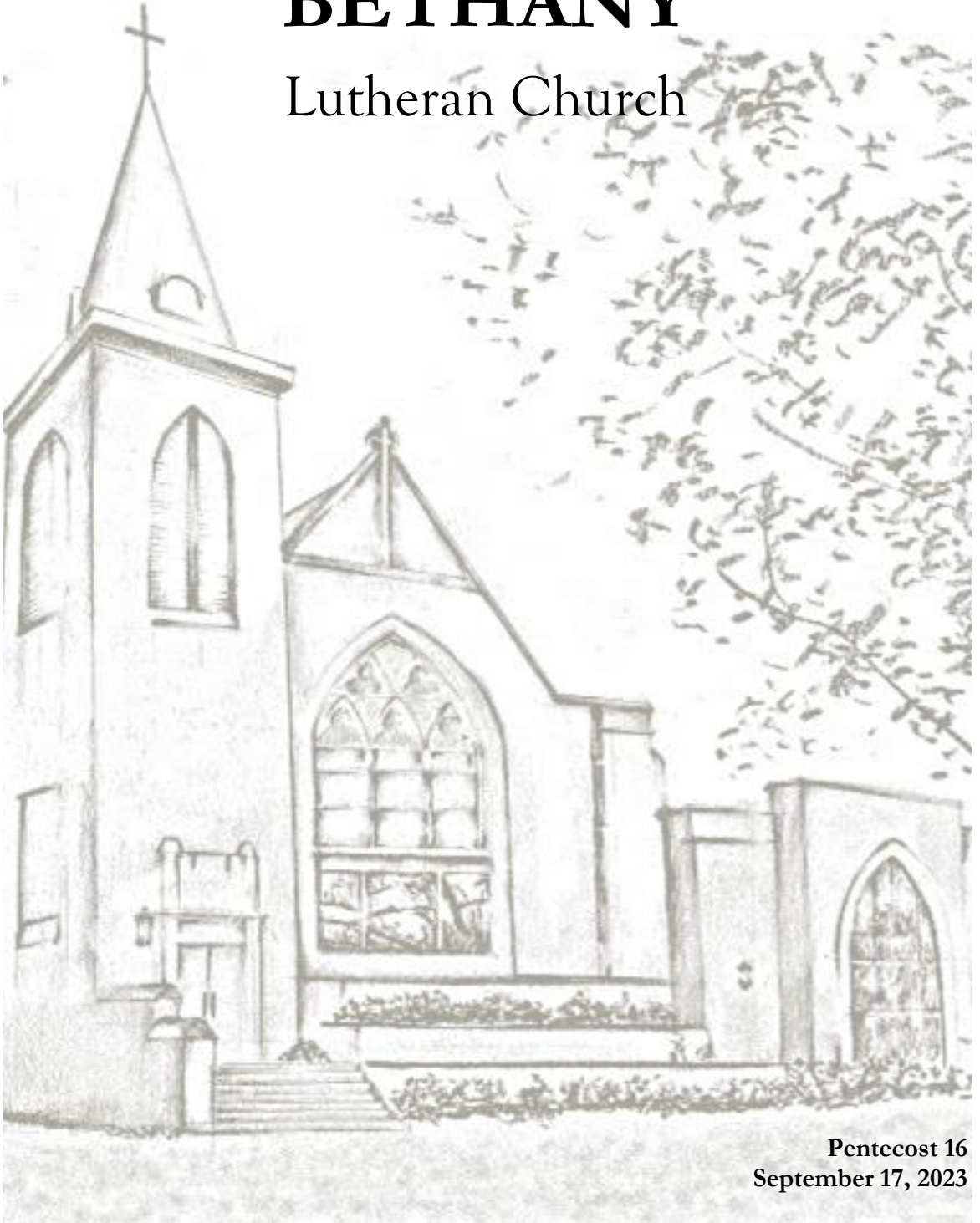


BETHANY

Lutheran Church



Pentecost 16
September 17, 2023

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome all God's people to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve.

Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Bethany. If you have questions for the pastor or church office, please call at 630.879.3444 or visit our website at www.bethanybatavia.org. Welcome!

Assistance in Worship

For those who find it difficult to stand or prefer to sit during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated.

Children's Resources

Children's worship bulletins are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Nursery

While not staffed, the nursery is open for parents who may find it helpful. The nursery is located on the sanctuary level, where you will find a changing table, rocking chair and some toys. You can still hear the worship service through a speaker in the room. Ask an usher if you need assistance.

Cell Phones and Pagers

Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

Coffee Hour

Thank you to the Foelske Family for hosting Coffee Hour after service today in Fellowship Hall. Please join us.

Holy Communion

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to the pastor.

As We Gather:

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Lutheran Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in bold.

This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red) – referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

+ GATHERING +

Worship often begins with an instrumental piece of music, during which the congregation can prepare their minds and hearts for worship.

PRELUDE: Improvisation on "Aberystwyth"
Adagio

Setting by Hal Hopson
Allesandro Marcello

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confessing our sins and receiving forgiveness prepares us to receive Christ in the proclamation of his Word and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage 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.**

P 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.

C Amen.

We begin our worship as a gathered community by praising God in song.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: In Thee Is Gladness

ELW #867



1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
 2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
 death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
 change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
 glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
 in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ning to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
 glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
 and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

The Gloria, or some other song of praise, centers the service on the God we gather to praise in our worship.

HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God in the Highest



Ⓐ Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



Ⓑ Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo- ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on- ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho- ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,



you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho- ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men

The prayer of the day, or collect, is appointed for each Sunday and “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord God,

merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.

Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you,

that we may delight in doing your will,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

We sit.

+ WORD +

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph’s brothers said, “What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?”¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this instruction before he died,¹⁷ ‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him.¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.”¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. The biblical book of Psalms is the hymnal of ancient Israel, many written for use in temple worship.

PSALM 103:1–13

Daniel Kallman

ANTIPHON: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

L Bless the Lord, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name.

C **Bless the Lord, | O my soul,*
and forget not | all his benefits.**

L He forgives | all your sins*
and heals all | your infirmities;

C **he redeems your life | from the grave*
and crowns you with mercy and | lovingkindness;**

ANTIPHON

L he satisfies you | with good things,*
and your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.

C **The Lord ex- | ecutes righteousness*
and judgment for all who | are oppressed.**

L He made his ways | known to Moses*
and his works to the chil- | dren of Israel.

C **The Lord is full of compas- | sion and mercy,*
slow to anger and | of great kindness.**

L He will not al- | ways accuse us,*
nor will he keep his an- | ger forever.

C **He has not dealt with us according | to our sins,*
nor rewarded us according | to our wickedness.**

ANTIPHON

L For as the heavens are high | above the earth,*
so is his mercy great upon | those who fear him.

C **As far as the east is | from the west,*
so far has he removed our | sins from us.**

L As a father cares | for his children,*
so does the Lord care for | those who fear him.

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own
(Reading continues on the next page.)

lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.” ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel acclamation, or sometimes sequence hymn, moves us toward the summit of the Liturgy of the Word – the reading of the Holy Gospel. Gospel means “good news” – specifically the “good news of Jesus.” We stand.

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.

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven can be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand

talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the day's scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

SERMON

Rev. Julie Grafe
Matthew 18:21-35

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY: I Come With Joy

ELW #482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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We sit.

COMMISSIONING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STAFF

During the Hymn of the Day, we invite our Sunday School teachers to come forward for their commissioning.

L: In Christian love, you, the parents and families of this congregation, presented your children for Holy Baptism just as you yourself were Baptized. In baptism, sacred promises are made. It is your calling to keep these sacred promises:

- To faithfully come AND bring others to the services of God's house.
- To study AND teach the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments.
- To use the Holy Scriptures AND to share those with those who do not know the stories.
- To take the opportunities to be instructed AND to provide for the instruction in Christian faith.

Emma: One of the ways we, as a congregation, help you do this is through our Sunday School Program. Sunday School is an important part of the life of a Christian, from birth until death, because it is here that you grow in your faith, learn the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and Ten Commandments. You learn the stories of our faith and you join with other Christians as we build up the body of Christ. Today we commission our Sunday School Teachers and Staff.

Emma: Will you assume this ministry in the confidence it comes from God?

Teachers: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Emma: Will you teach in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church?

Teachers: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Emma: Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and prayer?

Teachers: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Emma: Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

C: Amen

Emma: I now commend you as teachers of our Sunday School program at Bethany, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Emma: Let us pray. O God of wisdom, in your goodness you provide faithful teachers for your whole Church. By your Holy Spirit give all teachers insight into your Word, holy lives as examples to all, and the courage to know and do the truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Emma: We thank you for your service to our youth and our congregation. Let's appreciate these teachers for the giving of their time and talents...

*** *Commissioning Service is adapted from the Lutheran Book of Worship Occasional Services.*

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." The Apostles' Creed expresses biblical doctrines that have been articulated, defended, and embraced as central to the Christian faith for nearly two thousand years of church history.

APOSTLES' CREED

L Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C **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.

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church – the Body of Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

L We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations, that they uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. For those strained financially; for all living with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or otherwise afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L We pray for this congregation. Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
Trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

+ MEAL +

We share Christ's peace with each other as a sign of charity and unity in preparation for the Holy Communion.

PEACE OF CHRIST

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

We sit.

OFFERING MUSIC: Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul

I. Watts/A. Williams

Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!
Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless his name
Whose favors are divine.

'Tis he forgives my sins;
'Tis he relieves my pain;
'Tis he that heals my sicknesses
And makes me young again.

Oh, bless the Lord, my soul,
Nor let his mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness
And without praises die.

He fills the poor with good;
He gives the sufferers rest;
The lord has judgments for the proud
And justice for the oppressed.

His wondrous works and ways
He made my Moses known,
But sent the world his truth and grace
By his beloved Son.

We stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L Let us pray. Merciful God,
C **as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n 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.

We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper.

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God;
you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will
and accomplished our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving Passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again,
we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought, but as we are able;
and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving,
and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine;
that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son
may be filled with heavenly peace and joy,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body,
and have our portion with all your saints.

All glory and honor is yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, now and forever.

C Amen.

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**C 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.

P The gifts of God for the people of God.

C Thanks be to God.

P All are welcome at the Lord's table. Come, for all is now ready.

We sit.

Echoing both John 1:29 and Revelation 5:6, this song addresses the risen Christ giving himself away at this table as the true Lamb.

LAMB OF GOD



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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to his banquet meal. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.

Gluten-FREE rice wafers are available upon request and for those desiring it, non-alcoholic wine cups are in the center of the tray.

MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION

HYMN: Now We Join in Celebration

ELW #462



1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' n - ly glad - ness.
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990

Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
 Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray. O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sending reminds us that every Sunday worship gathering is a cycle, existing for a time and then dispersing. We arrive at the “sending” after traveling from the rite of gathering to the word and meal. We heard and proclaimed the Word; we were nourished at the Meal; and now we complete the cycle. We have encountered the living Christ in this place and are empowered for ministry in the world.

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN: Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing

ELW #544



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Rejoicing

G. F. Handel

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Julie Grafe, Presiding Minister
Mark Waldron, Worship Leader
Alan Spear, Organist
Ellen Grashorn, Reader
Fred Holch, Todd Toles, A/V
Jackie Page, Kathy Richmond, Altar Guild
Ben Toles, Jacob Harmon, Acolytes
Ralph Beck, Jon Habegger, Virden Von Qualen,
Ushers
Mark Waldron, Susan Colella, Ellen Grashorn,
Comm. Asst's

STAFF

Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor
Mark Waldron, Director of Music
Alan Spear, Organist
Darlene Hutchens, Church Administrator
Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant
Emma Hess, Youth Director
Ed McQuillan, Financial Secretary

YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Todd Toles, President
Alan Spear, Vice President
Marsha Schuster, Secretary
Steve Mickelson, Treasurer
Doug Boehm
Karol Clark
Brad Hirt

Dale Howard
Billy Hutchens
Rich Kreis
Pastor Jeff Mikyska
Kathy Richmond
Mia Rusev
Lane Stahl

If you have questions or concerns for members of the Church Council you're invited to speak with them personally or via email to council@bethanybatavia.org.

Bethany's Vision: We are a Grace-based, people-powered, refuge for all.

Code of Conduct: At Bethany, we believe everyone should live a faithful life in service with charity, kindness and integrity, and treat others with respect and understanding, act responsibly, and serve as an example of Christian faith in action.

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LET US PRAY...

We pray for all who are hospitalized in our greater community and for those who are serving them.

Please pray for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns:

Mary Bradtmueller, Marilyn Cornwell, Diane Garland, Debbie Garrison, Shirley Grant, Marie Holtz, Deb Hruby, Anna Jackson, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bill Lechnick, Bob Novy, Louise Pruitt, JoAnn Sargent, George & Shirley Striedl, Pat Sullivan, Brigitte Winkler

Please pray for those who are homebound and those in a care facility:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mark Anderson | Silverado Memory Care, St Charles |
| Lois Elfstrom | Aurora, IL |
| Dolores Hoffman | Heritage Woods |
| Bill Keele | Heritage Woods |
| Pam Klingberg | Heritage Woods |
| Wanda Krentz | Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad |
| Mildred Miller | Reserve of Geneva, Geneva |
| Joan Olson | Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad |
| Jay & Carol Wierz | Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad |

Please pray for all those serving in the military, especially those who are connected to our congregation.

Owen Schuster

Please pray for our family and friends:

Alisha

Wesley Schroeder
Bonnie & Jim Hines
Pat
Kristen Benakis
Pat Pydo
Todd Streidl
Marilyn
Tracy Clark
Sarah McCarthy
Mary Lawrence
Steven & Janice Brown & Grace
Lee Peterson
Loda George Ricker
Calvin, Diane & Family
Katie Taylor
Jane Wirth
Michelle Hartzell
Rick Gaston
Bob Gustafson
Stahl
Tina Motter
Mary Hughs
Dottie
Diane Sharp
Lizzie Bork
Nancy
Jeffrey Campbell
Kate and Family
Damon Schultz

Niece of Pastor Jeff and Gail Mikyska

Nephew of Gail Mikyska
Parents of Suzanne Grashorn
Brother-in-Law of Suzanne Grashorn
Friend of Bob & Sue Novy
Friend of John & Laura Peterson/Marty Offutt-Gruber
Son of George & Shirley Streidl
Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman
Sister of Tara Shannon
Friend of Jan Bristow & Kathy Richmond
Sister-in-Law of Carole Benson
Friends of Tom & Dee Schuman
Friend of Dottie White
Friend of Fred & Ann Holch
Friends of Kathy Richmond
Great Niece of Ken & Judy Henschler
Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler
Friend of Beth Richard
Friend of Ann Holch
Husband of Cindy Gustafson/Father to Nate Gustafson & Janna
Sister of Jackie Page
Sister of Jackie Page
Friend of Paulette Smigo
Friend of Ed Schalk
Friend of Julie Howard
Sister of Karol Clark
Nephew of Nan Phillips
Friend of John & Karol Clark
Son-in-Law of Shyla Carbone

Sue S.
Nicole
Alice Hendrikson
Maureen Scollon
Chris Sidler
Lisa
Heather
Gretchen VanKempema
Ryan Anderson
Linda Raish
Vic and Anne Lee
Lynne Morrow
Kenzie
Floyd Anderson
Paul Mazen
Bonnie Palshis
Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher & family,
Phil
Kathy Dee's Family
Mary Jo Benstein's Family
Susan Sheley
Bonnie
Carole W.
Brad Blue
Diane Ekstam Johnson
Tammy English
Jerry Martin
Teri Prokes
Tony Prokes
Kelli Robertson
Ed Stahl

Friend of Bob & Sue Novy
Friend of Linda Sullivan
Friend of Lynn & Bill Dreymler
Friend of Lois Benson & Dottie White
Friend of Luke & Diane Land
Friend of Beth Richard
Friend of Schuman Family
Daughter of Ann Holch
Son of Aaron Anderson
Friend of Kathy Richmond & Sandy Conn
Friends of Debbie Garrison
Friend and Colleague of Pastor Jeff & Gail
Friend of Katie Robertson
Beth Richard's Father

Sister-in-Law of Doug Boehm
Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard
Lynn Dreymler's brother
Teri Figura
Teri Figura
Daughter of Louise Pruitt
Friend of Pastor Jeff
Friend of Ann & Fred Holch
Friend of Lois Benson
Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam
Daughter of Shirley Streidl
Father of Nicki McVey
Sister of Sue & Bob Novy
Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy
Daughter of Diane Schalk
Father of Dan Stahl

Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:

Gerald Beck

Adam Holtz
Rhonda Nelson

Father of Jori Toles (Todd, Ben)

Husband of Marie Holtz
Wife of Bob Nelson

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Sunday, September 17

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 9am | Worship..... | Sanctuary |
| 10am | Coffee Hour | Fellowship Hall |
| 10:30am..... | Sunday School/Rally Day | Ministry Center Gym |

Monday, September 18

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 8:30am..... | Bethany Walking Group | Ministry Center Gym |
| 9am | Counters..... | Conference Room |
| 12:30pm | Staff Meeting..... | Conference Room |
| 7pm..... | Troop 6 Leaders | Lower Level |

Tuesday, September 19

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 8:30am..... | Bethany Walking Group | Ministry Center Gym |
| 9am | Quilters/Prayer Shawl Ministry | Fellowship Hall |
| 11am | Senior Picnic Preparation..... | Kitchen |
| 6:30pm | DV Support Group..... | Youth Room/Courtyard |
| 6:30pm | Girls BSA Troop 606..... | Vlahn Room/Gym |

Wednesday, September 20

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8:30 | Bethany Walking Group | Ministry Center Gym |
| 9:30am..... | Senior Picnic..... | Fellowship Hall/Kitchen |
| 10am..... | Senior Advocacy Group..... | Library |
| 1pm..... | Organ Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| 7:30pm | Music/Worship Committee | Library |

Thursday, September 21

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 8:30am..... | Bethany Walking Group | Ministry Center Gym |
| 6pm..... | Bell Choir..... | Balcony |
| 6:30pm | Boy Scout Troop 6..... | Ministry Center Gym/Vlahn Room |
| 7pm..... | Festival Choir | Sanctuary |
| 7:30pm | BSA – Order of the Arrow..... | Fellowship Hall |

Friday, September 22

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 8:30am..... | Bethany Walking Group | Ministry Center Gym |
| 9:30am..... | Fox Valley Court Watch..... | Library |
| 4:30pm | Swedish American Children's..... | Choir Room/Library |
| | Choir Rehearsal | |

Saturday, September 23

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 10:30am..... | Al-Anon | Library |
| 10:30am..... | Al-Ateen..... | Lower Level |
| 6pm..... | Movie Night | Fellowship Hall |
| 8pm..... | AA | Fellowship Hall |

Sunday, September 24

| | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 9am | Worship..... | Sanctuary |
| | Installation of the Church Council | |
| 10am | Coffee Hour | Fellowship Hall |
| 10:30am..... | Sunday School..... | Ministry Center |