

24th Sunday after Pentecost November 12, 2023

Welcome to Bethel! We're glad you're here!

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST · NOVEMBER 12TH, 2023



All Are Welcome

We mean it when we say "all are welcome" – no matter where you are on your faith journey or how you identify. Your presence is important to us – we are not complete without you. Our Worship & Music team is continually listening and adapting our worship practices to reflect our desire to welcome ALL of God's children.

Hospitality Details

We firmly believe that there is no age limit in GoD's house. Young or old, you are an essential part of our worship community. Families with young children are encouraged to sit near the front of the sanctuary so children can see what is happening. If a young child gets antsy during long periods of inaction like the sermon, they are welcome to quietly play in front of the sound table near the door.

Those participating in worship who find standing for long periods of time difficult are encouraged to take care of themselves and adapt the "Lutheran Aerobics" of frequent standing and sitting to meet their needs. Traditions of standing at certain times during the liturgy are not meant to cause pain or discomfort. Please sit or stand in ways that make your time with us comfortable.

If you need a restroom, you have options:
In the main building, one is located through the side door near the piano. It can also be accessed by going outside through the main door and re-entering the building using the door located under the bell tower. The restroom will be to your left.

A larger, wheelchair accessible restroom with a baby changing table, is located in our back building. Go through the iron gate to the left of the sanctuary. As you enter the back building the restroom is immediately to your left. Feel free to ask the usher for directions as well.



Sunday School for All Ages

(following worship)

Both of our "Lisas" are away this weekend so NO groups for children this morning.

Pastor Carolyn will meet with the adults. They will be using the book, *The Forty Parables of Jesus*, by Gehard Lohfink.

Prayer Requests

Yellow paper is available as you enter for you to write prayer requests on. Return the paper to an usher no later than during the Hymn of the Day. The reader will include it during the Prayers of the People.

It is our hope that this will help all those worshipping in the sanctuary and on online to hear the prayers.

"Noisy Offering!"

Encouraging the participation of our youngest members in worship is important to us. When they help collect the offering each week, they may be confused when folks don't drop something in the basket. So, please consider dropping a little spare change into the basket when it comes your way as a "noisy offering." The "noisy offering" will be periodically donated to a local charity.

Contact Pastor Carolyn

Contact Pr. Carolyn first to double-check her office hours. She is available Tuesday – Thursday most weeks.

pastor@bethelroseville.org 916-781-3333 (office)

Introduction to the day

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the diverse people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit and turn to face the baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation.
Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through + Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

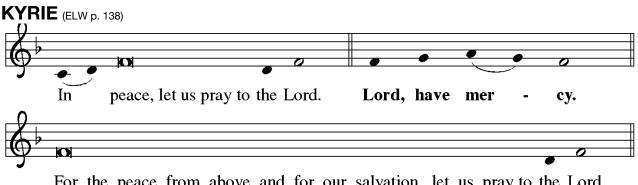
Amen.

Please turn and face the altar for the Gathering Song.

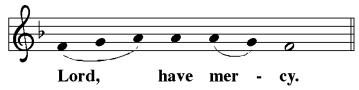


GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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.

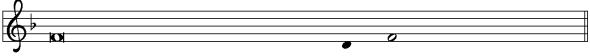


For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

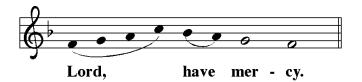


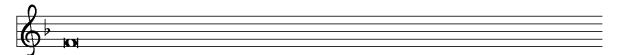


For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



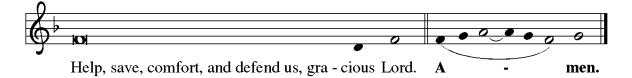
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

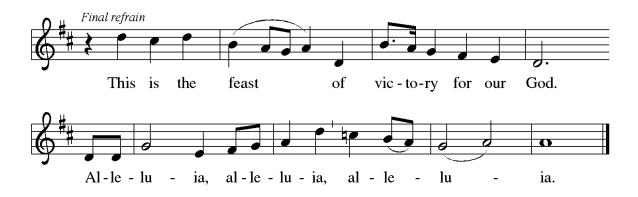




CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 139)







PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24 (Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman)

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

A reading from Amos.

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 70 (Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman)

¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;

O LORD, make haste to help me.

²Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.

³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman)

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE (Jeri Wartena)

[The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit to welcome the Gospel.]



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him. Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out. But the wise replied, No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves. And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, Lord, lord, open to us. But he replied, Truly I tell you, I do not know you. Skeep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

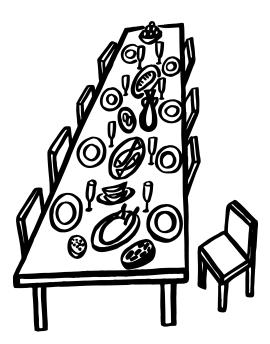
Please be seated

SERMON (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY Build a Longer Table (ACS 1062)

Music and Lyrics on following page





CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world and confess our shared faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman)

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

O God for whom we wait, come quickly to your people, bring your salvation, and center us in hope found only in you. Deepen our faith through meaningful worship and send us out with your justice and truth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God for whom we watch, we glimpse your power in rushing water and your beauty in the darkening night. Restore this creation, and provide clean water to all people and animals. Save us from foolish, wasteful living. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God for whom we long, let justice roll down like waters on all nations. Bless citizens with wise leaders; save your children from war. We pray for the veterans of this community, that they are supported and loved. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God, our help in every trouble, we pray for peace in the Holy Land. Protect those traumatized by escalating violence, especially those with no access to safe spaces; release people held hostage; provide food, water, fuel, and supplies for all in need; sustain medical personnel as they work in horrendous conditions; tend to those who are wounded; comfort all who grieve. Direct your people into the way of peace.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God, in whom we hope, we pray for all who are in need. Provide for those who experience homelessness or hunger, support the under- or unemployed, and comfort any who are suffering this day. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God for whom we listen, inspire the music ministry of our congregation. Fill our worship with songs to proclaim your greatness. Help us to sing and dance with joy and tell boldly of your salvation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God, in whom we remain, we remember our loved ones who have died and now live in you. Bring comfort and the assurance of new life to all who grieve. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Additional prayer requests provided by congregation members to be added here by reader.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 143)

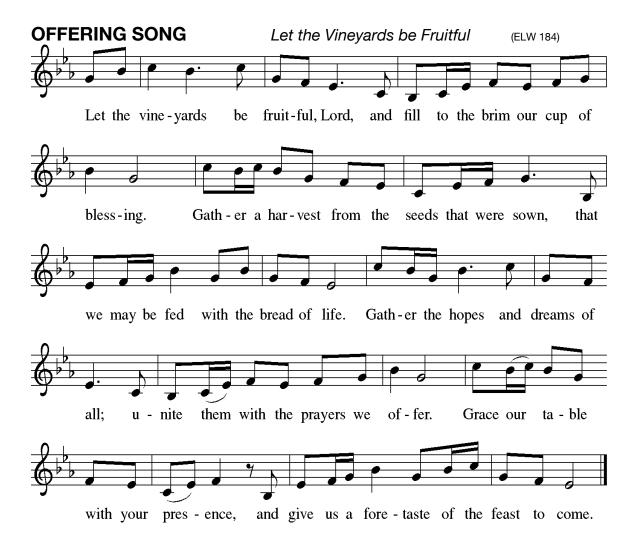
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us. Thank you so much for your continued support.

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the song as offerings are brought to altar.



OFFERING PRAYER

God of all goodness,

generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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,

the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son:

teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the language of our hearts. 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.

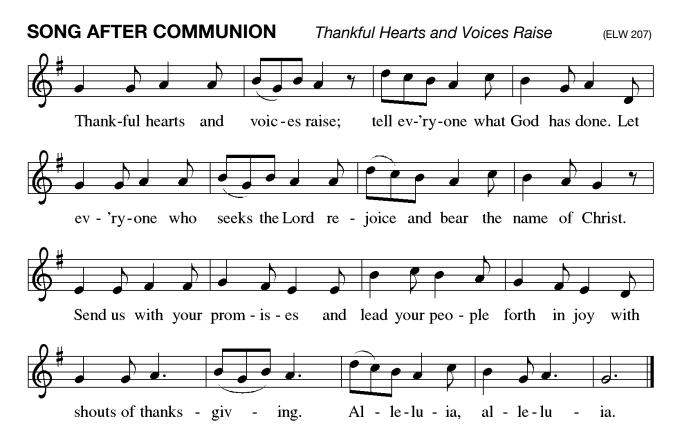
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

All are welcome to join in our communion celebration. Please have a seat and follow the directions of Pastor Carolyn and the usher.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 146)

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the song at the conclusion of Communion.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG Let Justice Flow like Streams (ELW 717)



- 1 Let jus tice flow like streams of spar-kling wa ter, pure,
- 2 Let righ teous ness roll on as oth ers' cares we heed,
- 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de fine our mea sure true,



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en - a-bling growth, re - fresh-ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans-ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans-lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus-tice, right, and peace per-vade this world our whole life through.
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Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After **brief announcements** related to the ministry of Bethel are shared from the podium **microphone**, the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God and we will.



To meet our 2023 Operating Expenses each month, Bethel needs \$6968

Giving in November

11/5 = \$2860 11/12 = \$ 11/19 = \$ 11/26 = \$

Total for Month = \$2860 TOTAL for October = \$8459

Thanks for your ongoing support of Bethel's Ministries!

Consider Online Giving

Sign up for Online Giving at our website, <u>bethelroseville.org</u>

If you prefer to give by traditional check, please mail it into the church office at 1050 Douglas Blvd., Roseville CA 95678 or drop it into the basket during worship.

Use the QR code below to access e-giving from your phone



Upcoming Scripture Readings

Next Sunday, November 19th 25th Sunday after Pentecost

- Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
- Psalm 90:1-12
- 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
- Matthew 25:14-30

Today's Worship Team

Usher: John & Olivia D'Antonio

Reader: Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman

Sound: Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson

Altar Guild:

Kids Message: Jeri Wartena **Musician:** Audrey Gale

Next Week's Worship Team

Usher:

Reader: Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman

Sound: Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson Kids Message: Pr. Allen Dunn Musician: Wing and a Prayer



Looking for a little end of the week fun?

Join Rick & Kelly Mendonsa each Friday at 6:30pm in Lentz Hall for some games and fellowship.

Bring your own food and drinks – and games you'd like to play with the group. This is a low-key activity for all ages and skills.

Bring a friend and join the fun!



November 7 - Roger Linn

November 9 - Loraine Anderson

November 21 - Hudson McBain

November 26 - Scott Larson

November 26 - Allison McBain

Blessings to all of our November Birthdays; please let us know if we accidently left you off this list!

Annual Holiday Wreath Sale!

Order wreaths and other evergreens directly online and help support the youth of Bethel. Funds raised will help send our youth to camp and other retreat opportunities throughout the year.

Visit GiftItForward.com or use the QR code on the poster in the back of the sanctuary to see all the great options available – including some new wreath designs!

Orders arrive directly from FedEx in early December and can be ordered through December 8th.

Each order placed using the code: BETHELCA002 earns our youth \$8.

Community Action Team (CAT) Update

New Ways to Help our Local Community this Fall

(through November 26)





Our friends at **St. Vincent de Paul** have moved their feeding program back inside beginning this month. Besides our bi-monthly cooking & serving opportunity (see Scott Larson for details) they are now seeking **donations of both Egg Noodles and Elbow Macaroni.** Bring your donation to Bethel and we'll see it gets delivered to them.

For those of you new to Bethel, St. Vincent's has been serving hot meals to their mostly homeless guests (currently an average of 60 guests daily) since 1983. For the daily, noon-time crowd of mostly men who gather off Vernon Street in Roseville, this may well be their only hot meal of the day. In summer, it's a nice break from the heat, and in the winter, it is a welcome escape from the cold and damp.

Acres of Hope is beginning to prepare to serve their clients this winter. They are seeking donations of Children's Tylenol, Pedialyte, Disinfecting Wipes, and Paper Towels.

Acres of Hope also wishes to remind you of their **Renew Thrift Store** at 1725 Santa Clara Dr. (behind the Golden 1) in Roseville. All donations including those listed above, as well as other household items, clothing, jewelry, shoes, handbags, and more, can be donated between 9:30am – 2:00pm Monday through Friday. (Bring donations to the door at the back of the store and ring the bell)

For more information about donating or shopping check out their website:

https://www.acresofhopeonline.org/renew-stores/

As a reminder, Acres of Hope is a spiritually-based renewal center based in Auburn that provides a safe family environment and a healthy living program for women with children. Our balanced approach sets the foundation of change and breaks the cycle of homelessness.

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church

Following the example set by Jesus Christ and being mindful of our Lutheran heritage of acceptance through God's grace, we welcome all to God's table. We invite all who are seeking God's love and grace to join us in worship and fellowship. We welcome all because God welcomes all, knowing that God's love is all-inclusive and stronger than any pressure to conform to the labels this world gives us.

We commit to providing a safe and welcoming place for people of any age, ethnic or national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome and love all no matter their socio-economic circumstances, outward appearance, immigration status, political affiliation, or anything that could seemingly divide us. The nature and extent of one's addictions, physical and mental health, or criminal history have no bearing on our commitment to welcome all.

We affirm today, tomorrow, and for all of our days, that we will intentionally strive to live as people of faith, people of compassion, people of love, and people of grace.

We invite you to come as you are to Meet, Pray, & Love together.

In the Season of Pentecost, we celebrate that the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit, we go out from worship to share God's love and grace among the vulnerable of our world.

No matter where you are on your faith journey, we invite you to explore with us. Welcome.

Worship Gathering at 9:00am each Sunday Sunday School for All Ages at 10:15am (Sept - May)



Carolyn Brodt, Pastor
1050 Douglas Blvd • Roseville, CA • 916-781-3333
Pastor@bethelroseville.org



