

25th Sunday after Pentecost November 19, 2023

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

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST · NOVEMBER 19TH, 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.



Thanksgiving "Prayer Chapel"

Wednesday, November 22nd

11:30am - 1:30pm

You are invited to come take part in a self-paced experience of thanks and gratitude.

Prayer stations will be located in the sanctuary for you to use at your own pace at any time during the two-hour time block.

Come center yourself in thankfulness before the holiday rush arrives.

Open to all, so invite friends and neighbors!



Sunday School for All Ages

(following worship)

Our two "Lisas" will have the kids in Lentz Hall for Bible Stories and crafts.

Pastor Carolyn will meet with the adults. They will be using the book, *The Forty Parables of Jesus*, by Gehard Lohfink. Introduction to the day: Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

GATHERING

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

OPENING SONG/PRELUDE

(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)

Thanksgiving Prayer

©Johnny Cash

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.

GATHERING SONG Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (ELW 693)



- 1 Come, ye thank-ful peo ple, come; raise the song of har vest home.
- 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un to his praise to yield;
- 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har vest home;
- 4 E ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi nal har vest home.



be safe - ly All gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin. wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, sor - row grown. un - to joy or his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way; Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup - plied. First the blade, and then the the full corn shall ap - pear. ear, then charge at give his an - gels last in the fire the tares to cast, there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



to God's own Come tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home. Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be. the fruit - ful but ears to store his gar - ner ev - er - more. in Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

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.**

KYRIE Kyrie ©Kent Alleluia Liturgy

Words and music on following page



HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

Kent Alleluia Liturgy

Words and music on following page





PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Please be seated

Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 (Linda Dunn)

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

A reading from Zephaniah.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GoD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;

the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,

he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,

"The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter.

the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,

¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

17 will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;

because they have sinned against the LORD,

their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath;

in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed:

for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 90:1-12 (Linda Dunn)

- ¹Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
- ²Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.
- ³You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."
- ⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;
- 5you sweep them away like a dream,

they fade away suddenly like the grass:

in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.

⁷For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.

Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

- ⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- ¹⁰The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
- ¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?

Who rightly fears your indignation?

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (Linda Dunn)

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁻for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁶But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁶For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE (Pr. Allen Dunn)

¹²So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things. I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing. even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

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 Let All Things Now Living (ELW 881)

Music and Lyrics on the following page



CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world this Pentecost Season 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.

Please be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Linda Dunn)

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.

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to seek justice and so today 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.

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith we praise your goodness. 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.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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)

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please rise in body and/or spirit for the Blessing.

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

(LBW 90)

Music and Lyrics on the following page



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 26th Christ the King Sunday

- Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
- Psalm 95:1-7a
- Ephesians 1:15-23
- Matthew 25:31-46

Today's Worship Team

Usher: Mike & Loraine Anderson

Reader: Linda Dunn Sound: Rick Mendonsa

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

Next Week's Worship Team

Usher: Mavis Hotchkiss **Reader:** Barbara Morris **Sound:** Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson **Altar Guild:** Loraine Anderson **Kids Message:** Lisa Herlocker

Musician: Jeff Dodge

"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.

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.

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)



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!

BIRTHDAYS

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.

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/

December at Bethel

Annual

St. John's Christmas "Store"

We are collecting donations for the women at the shelter run by the St. John's Program for Real Change in Sacramento. Our donations are used to set up a "store" for the children living there to "shop" for a gift for their mother. This year about 55 women are being housed at the shelter along with 43 children.

The best donations are things like cozy socks, gloves, journals, lotions, and other small items that don't need electricity or batteries.

We will also need gift bags.

Donations may be left in the back of the sanctuary through Dec 17th.

Interested in helping with the "store"?
We will be heading down on Dec 21st at 2:00pm. We'll spend about 2 hours there.
Contact Cindi Roxworthy to volunteer or to get your questions answered.



The Worship & Music Ministry Team would like to ask congregation members to help with making the sanctuary beautiful for our Advent/Christmas seasons. Since December 9th is a regularly scheduled work day, we'll dovetail with that activity and are asking for help on that day starting at 9:00am.

Some of the decorating involves climbing ladders. So we are especially looking for assistance from some tall – perhaps younger – members. The Christmas tree will available to decorate and getting garland ready to hang.

There will be donuts for helpers!

Hope to see you there!

Save these Dates!

December 3 - First Sunday in Advent

Special "Themed" Liturgy - "God with Us" - throughout Advent

Wednesdays, December 6, 13, and 20

Advent Worship Gathering at 5:30pm AND Soup Supper at 6:15pm

NOTE - new start time for both worship (Holden Evening Prayer) and soup supper fellowship

Saturday, December 9 at 9:00am

Decorating the Sanctuary – All ages encouraged to come help – Donuts provided – (see above for details)

Sunday, December 17th at 9:00am

Worship led by our Little Lutherans

Sunday, December 24th – morning worship gathering at 9:00am

Special 4th Sunday in Advent Liturgy by variety of congregation members

Sunday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Gathering

Two options including communion – 5:00pm and 11:00pm – we will be joined by our friends at Incarnation Monday, Christmas Morning, December 25th at 10:00am

Celebrate with a simple gathering of guitar-led Christmas carols including communion

Sunday, December 31st at 9:00am

Special "Lessons and Carols" worship gathering

Sunday, December 31st at 6:00pm - tentative plans

Family New Year's Eve Celebration

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
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