



18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023

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

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • OCTOBER 1ST, 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 with challenges making 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.

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) or 916-223-2114 (mobile)

SPECIAL GUESTS TODAY!

A warm welcome to our worship leaders this morning, Tyra Dennis and Joe Davis. Last night they offered us a great concert and helped raise money for Lutheran Social Services of Northern California.

This morning, Tyra will lead us in music and Joe will share spoken word poetry and stories as part of our worship gathering. Please follow their directions and be flexible as we move through worship this morning.

Afterward worship, take a moment to say “Hi” and join them for snacks and conversation.

Prayer Requests

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 in worship both in the sanctuary and online to hear the prayers.



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 Gerhard Lohfink.

Introduction to the day

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice,

yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed

by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have

for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused,

known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others

and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away

from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

Please turn and face the altar for the Gathering Song.

GATHERING SONG *How Great Is Our God/How Great Though Art*

The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty
Let all the Earth rejoice
All the Earth rejoice

He wraps himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
Trembles at His voice

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

Age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the end
Beginning and the end

The Godhead Three in One
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

Oh Lord, my God
When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Name above all names (how great is our God, sing with me)
Worthy of our praise (how great is our God, and all will see)
My heart will sing
How great is our God

How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Nobody Like You Lord*

Verse:

Oh, Lord our Lord
How excellent is Your name
Your name is strength
Your name is power
A Strong Tower, makes me safe

Chorus:

Oh Oh Oh
Nobody like you Lord
Nobody like you Lord
Oh Oh Oh
Nobody like you Lord
Nobody like you Lord

Bridge:

You're amazing God and none can compare
Nobody like you Lord
Nobody like you Lord

When I consider the heavens and the work of your hands
Nobody like you Lord
Nobody like you Lord

At your name every demon must flee
It's strong enough to fight for me
Nobody like you Lord
Nobody like you Lord

Thou, art a shield for me
You're my glory, You're my glory
Nobody like you Lord
Nobody like you Lord

Chorus:

Oh Oh Oh
Nobody like you Lord
Nobody like you Lord
Oh Oh Oh
Nobody like you Lord
Nobody like you Lord

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 (Barbara Morris)

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

A reading from Ezekiel.

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9 (Barbara Morris)

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13 (Barbara Morris)

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

A reading from Philippians.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE: *The Power Struggle* (Joe Davis/Tyra Dennis)

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32 (Joe Davis/Tyra Dennis)

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this

authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON & HYMN OF DAY (Joe Davis/Tyra Dennis)

Grace is Like an Ocean (during sermon/wait for instructions)

Grace is like an ocean/ **Grace is like an ocean**
Grace can be overflowing/**It can be overflowing**
My soul can't even hold it/**It can't even hold it**
You better learn to swim
Ooh ooh ooh (4x)
Ooh ooh ooh (4x)

The congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the Creed.

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 (Barbara Morris)

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

We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with them in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way. Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. Keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Prayer requests provided by congregation members to be added here by reader.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 143)

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

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.

OFFERING SONG *Show Up*

You may be hurting or afraid

Show up

I gather my people along the way

Show up

We will be strong we will be brave

Show up

Dream of a world that we'll create

Show up

OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.

We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.

Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,

you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,

and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners

and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us and his rising from the grave,

we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:

strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,

and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

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

Jesus invites you to this table.
Come, eat and live.

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

COMMUNION (Special Music by Tyra Dennis during distribution)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

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

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

BLESSING

The God of glory,
✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *Show Up (reprise)*

You may be hurting or afraid

Show up

I gather my people along the way

Show up

We will be strong we will be brave

Show up

Dream of a world that we'll create

Show up

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

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God and we will.



Finance Update

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

Giving in September

9/3 = \$2299

9/10 = \$862

9/17 = \$1305

9/24 = \$368

Total for Month = **\$4834**

TOTAL for August = \$5345

Thanks for your ongoing support of
Bethel's Ministries!



Consider Online Giving

Sign up for Online Giving at our website, bethelroseville.org

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



“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.

Today's Worship Team

Usher: Terri Larson

Reader: Barbara Morris

Sound: Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson

Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson

Kids Message: Lyrical Avenue/Jeri Wartena

Musician: Lyrical Avenue

Next Week's Worship Team

Usher: Mavis Hotchkiss

Reader: Lisa & Andrew Chan

Sound: Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson

Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson

Kids Message: Pr. Carolyn Brodt

Musician: Audrey Woods

Upcoming Scripture Readings

Next Sunday, October 8th
the 19th Sunday after Pentecost

- Isaiah 5:1-7
- Psalm 80:7-15
- Philippians 3:4b-14
- Matthew 21:33-46



October 8 - Hadley Gale

October 10 - Lisa Kaufman-Chan

October 14 - Cheryle Sorenson

October 16 - Lan Dodge

October 22 - Jeff Dodge

October 24 - Mike Anderson

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



Blessing of the Animals

Join us next Sunday, October 8th as we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and the joy our pets bring to us.

Our Worship Gathering will be outdoors on our patio so you can bring your pets can attend with you and receive a special blessing.

Pets must be on leashes, in carriers, or join us virtually via photos.

(Be prepared to clean up after your pets 😊)

We could use a few volunteers to arrive a little early to help set up chairs and the sound system for worship; let Rick know if you're available.



OKTOBERFEST

Saturday, October 7th at 4:00pm
Herlockers' backyard "Biergarten" – including the debut of Scott & Vincent's homebrewed beer!

Fun & Food for all Ages!

Play House for Kids!

Bocci Ball & other Yard Games!

Sausages and non-alcoholic drinks provided by Congregational Life Team.

Please sign up today to help with shopping and to share what side dish or dessert you'll be bringing. 😊

Find the fun at 5932 Blackstone Dr. in Rocklin



A PLACE FOR YOU

A PLACE FOR YOU

Families are invited to a special Sunday School session on October 8th to learn more about our weekly Communion celebration.

Kids and parents will be reminded about why this sacrament is important in Lutheran worship as well as some practical details of how it all comes together during worship.

Join Lisa Herlocker in the main room of Lentz Hall.



Save these Dates!

As part of our annual budget process, the Finance and Administration Team will host a **Budget Forum** to preview the proposed 2024 congregation budget following worship on **October 15th**.

Bring your questions and discernment.

We will have a **Congregation Meeting** on Sunday, **October 22nd** after worship to give members the opportunity to ask final questions and to vote on the budget.

Please plan to attend both of these important meetings. Questions? Contact Scott Larson or Rick Mendonsa

Special Opportunity!

Support Bethel's Youth!

Something new from our Christmas Wreath Company, – Autumn Wreaths!

Go <https://giftitforward.com/> and check out the options. If you like what you see – order using the code BETHELCA002 – and Bethel will earn \$8 per product you order. This money will go to help Bethel kids attend camp at Mt. Cross or the ELCA Youth Gathering.

Christmas wreath sales are coming soon – you can see new options and even pre-order at the same website, GiftItForward.com



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 (831)-336-5179  www.mtcross.org 

POLICY UPDATE

Bethel members are welcome to use Lentz Hall or to borrow chairs and folding tables when they are not being used by for congregational activities. In order to be good stewards of our property, we ask that you check with either Terri or Scott Larson to coordinate. Use of Lentz Hall will be put on the calendar and table/chair usage will be listed in a rental binder. When returning items, we ask that you please coordinate drop off with Terri or Scott so that the students in the preschool aren't disturbed and to assure items are put back into storage appropriately.

Thank you for understanding.

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING IN NEW ORLEANS

JULY 16–20, 2024

Would you like to volunteer at the Gathering and help our young people grow in faith and encounter Christ? Serving the youth of this church is a vocational calling that requires careful discernment.

Serving as a volunteer requires no application fee, but applicants offered a volunteer role will be asked to pay a \$50 processing fee to cover the cost of running a background check and ensuring your attendance at the Gathering.

Application Deadline extended until November 1st

Applications and more info available here:

<https://www.elca.church/gathering/attend/volunteers>

Or ask Lisa Herlocker for more information



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)**



Bethel
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Bethel is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Nisenan people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

