

Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2023

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

REFORMATION SUNDAY • OCTOBER 29TH, 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.



Today we celebrate with Andrew Chan and his family as he publicly affirms his baptismal vows after 3 years of confirmation instruction. It's especially heartwarming as Andrew has been a lifelong member of Bethel. Take a moment after worship to read his posted faith statement and give him your support.



Kids meet with the Lisas in Lentz Hall Adults meet with Pastor Carolyn

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) **Introduction to the day**: Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

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

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.**



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.**



CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 139)

Music and lyrics on following pages





PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

[Please be seated]

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

(Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman)

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 46 (Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman)

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

³though its waters rage and foam,

and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD,

what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

(Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman)

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

A reading from Romans.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS' MESSAGE (Andrew Chan)



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

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36 (Pastor Carolyn)

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (ELW 517)



AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM RITUAL

Pastor Carolyn: Child of God, there was a day when your parents and godparents brought you as young child and presented you to God in Holy Baptism. On that day they lit a candle, made the sign of the cross, and committed to sacred vows on your behalf.

Lisa Herlocker: This was their promise: to bring you faithfully to worship in God's house, to teach you the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the 10 Commandments, to place in your hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for your instruction in the Christian faith.

Pastor: Young friend, today you make these vows your own; not as a child in the faith, but as a young man who has prepared for this day through study, service, and fellowship within our faith

community. The church doesn't confirm you today. You confirm and affirm your own faith. You come here to publicly say "Yes" to the God who said "Yes" to you in Baptism. Is it therefore your intention to present your body as a living sacrifice to God, to make this ancient confession your own, and to assume a greater role in the body of Christ at this church and in the world? If so, please answer, "Yes! And I ask God to help and guide me."

Andrew: Yes! And I ask God to help and guide me.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor: Child of Faith, you have studied God's Word, the Creeds, and the faith of the church. In a world of cynicism and uncertainty, of multiple gods and philosophies, you have chosen to stand with the God of the Bible. Do you now say "Yes" to this amazing God, the Creator of all?

Andrew & Congregation: Yes! I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Lisa: What do you believe about this God?

Andrew & Congregation: I believe that God has created me and all that exists. He has given me and still preserves my body and soul with all of their powers. He provides me with food and clothing, home and family, daily work and all that I need from day to day. God also protects me in times of danger and guards me from every evil. All this he does out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, though I do not deserve it. Therefore, I surely ought to thank and praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true!

Pastor: Child of Hope, you have come to know the miracle that is God in flesh, Immanuel. You have studied Christ's words and works, his sufferings for your sake, and the resurrection power that breaks the chains of sin and death forever, winning for you eternal life. In a world of doubt and despair, of multiple voices and competing choices, you have chosen to stand with the Christ of the cross. Do you now say "Yes" to this Jesus as Lord of your life?

Andrew & Congregation: Yes! I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will have no end.

Lisa: What do you believe about this Jesus?

Andrew & Congregation: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, Son of the Father from eternity, and true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. At great cost he has saved and redeemed me, a lost and condemned person. He has freed me from sin, death, and the devil, not with silver or gold, but with his holy and precious blood, and his innocent suffering and death. All this he has done that I may be his own, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness. Just as he has risen from the dead, he lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true!

Pastor: Child of Love, you have studied the mystery that is God's presence among us now, the Holy Spirit; the One who calls us to be godly people and sets us apart for right living; the One who gathers us together to keep us strong; the One who enlightens us with God's gifts to make us good and wise and true; the One who cleanses and purifies our thoughts and deeds; the One who keeps us together in one true faith. In a world of hatred, emptiness and confusion, you have chosen to stand with the Spirit of Love. Do you now say "Yes" to the Holy Spirit and ask this Spirit to be alive and evident in your thoughts, words, and deeds?

Andrew & Congregation: Yes! We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen!

Lisa: What do you believe about this Spirit?

Andrew & Congregation: I believe by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with its gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith. Just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common true faith. Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins of mine and those of all believers. On the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true!

BLESSING & LAYING ON OF HANDS

Pastor: Child of the Promise, you have made your statement of faith to this community and your sacred vows to God. No longer a child, you are a young man confirmed, called, and commissioned to share the hope that is in you with all the world. May God grant you the power to keep your vows, and the will to live lives worthy of your calling every day in every way for as long as you live. Salt of the earth! Light of the world! Do not hide your light. Shine in Jesus' name!

Pastor: Andrew, your confirmation is not the central milestone in the life of faith, but one of many significant stepping stones on the journey. You may have finished a course of study today, but you have not finished loving, caring, or growing in your relationship to God and one another.

Please kneel and I'll ask your parents, mentors, and other faith guides to please come forward and place their hands in blessing on you and repeat after me: *Come, Holy Spirit... enter this young person now... in a new and powerful way... establish his faith... transform her heart... guide his path... Give him patience and power... perseverance and peace. And, at the last bring us together... with all your saints in light... to your eternal home...*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Continue with your hands in blessing as we ask the whole congregation to join hands in prayer: O God, who called the cosmos into being and calls this very moment to our hearts, hear the promises this, your precious one, has made. Grace him with your presence as he moves from this moment into a new passage in his life of faith. Grant him the power and wisdom to keep his sacred vows. Make him a teacher and example of right living to his friends and families. When he shines and soars, let him always remember who he is and whose he is. When he falls and fails, lift him on your healing wings.

Lisa: God of all creation, God of birth and death, God of spirit and bone,

congregation: God of love and tears, God of stillness and churning,

Pastor: God of milestones and silent yearnings: Bless this young person on his way. Grant Andrew your gift of grace.

Congregation: Give him joy as he strives to live among your faithful people.

Lisa: Openness to hearing your Word and sharing your supper.

congregation: Eagerness in spreading the good news of Christ through both words and deeds.

Pastor: Dedication in serving all people following the example of our Lord Jesus.

Lisa: And a hunger for justice and peace in your world. Lord in your mercy,

Congregation: Hear our prayer.

[Prayer requests provided by congregation members to be added here]

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray; trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation: **Amen.**

Pastor: Andrew, you have made a strong profession of your faith. Reach out now to your friends and family in Christ and share God's peace. The peace of the Lord be with you.

Andrew & Congregation: And also with you.



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 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 (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

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

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Rise, Shine, You People! (ELW 665)



[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

God is at work in you. Go in peace. Thanks be to God and we will.



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

Giving in October

10/1	=	\$3984
10/8	=	\$949
10/15	=	\$667
10/22	=	\$1456
10/29	=	\$
Total for Month	=	\$7056

TOTAL for September = \$4834

Thanks for your ongoing support of



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



Upcoming Scripture Readings

Next Sunday, November 5th All Saints Sunday

- Revelation 7:9-17
- Psalm 34:1-10, 22
- 1 John 3:1-3
- Matthew 5:1-12

Today's Worship Team

Usher: Cindi Roxworthy Reader: Bruce Seiler/Nancy Garman Sound: Rick Mendonsa Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson Altar Guild: Terri Larson Kids Message: Andrew Chan Musician: Mark Coldiron

Next Week's Worship Team

Usher: Jeri Wartena Reader: Jeri Wartena Sound: Rick Mendonsa Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson Altar Guild: Kelly Mendonsa Kids Message: Pr. Carolyn Brodt Musician: Wing and a Prayer





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 accidently left you off this list!

Community Action Team (CAT) Update

New Ways to Help our Local Community this Fall (October 22 – 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.



2023 Legislative Wrap Up Wednesday, November 1st at 6:30pm via Zoom

You are invited to a virtual evening with the Lutheran Office of Publick Policy – California, as we debrief the highs and lows of the 2023 California legislative session from an advocacy perspective. Learn how Lutheran lobbying efforts helped pass policy that reflects our ELCA Social Statements, our faith, and our efforts to do God's good work.

To listen in, email Savannah Jorgensen at <u>sjorgensen.loppca@gmail.com</u> with your name, city, and congregation. You will receive a Zoom meeting invitation about a week before the event.

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



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.

