

14th Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 2023

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

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • SEPTEMBER 3RD, 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.

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.

Parents and other near-by adults are encouraged to help developing readers follow along with the congregation and the printed Order of Worship.

Be patient with our children as they learn to participate in the rituals of worship. Celebrate as they learn to help with various aspects of worship leadership. Small gestures can go a long way.

Some Practical Visitor Info

If you need a restroom, you have two options. In the sanctuary building, you will find the restroom through the side door near the piano. You can also access it by going outside through the main entrance and re-entering the building near the offices by using the door located under the bell tower. The restroom will be to your left.

If you need an accessible restroom or a baby changing table, you can find that in our back building. Go through the iron gate at the rear of our patio on the left of the sanctuary. As you enter that back building the restroom is immediately to your left.

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.



Next Sunday, September 10th is God's Work Our Hands Sunday, an intentional day for ELCA Congregations to serve in their communities.

This year we are joining forces with Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Granite Bay to help the hungry in our community.

We will worship at Bethel at 9:00am as usual, and then meet at Resurrection at 11:00am for a potluck lunch – please bring whatever you'd like as a dish to share, plus serving utensils. We will begin our work after lunch – there are project for all ages and abilities. (An additional project will take place on Monday, Sept. 11, please see Kelly or Pr. Carolyn for details.)

Resurrection is located just down the road at 6365 Douglas Blvd., in Granite Bay. To help us plan for lunch, please sign up with Kelly today after worship.

We will need grocery bags to put the lunches in. If you could donate some heavy-duty plastic or paper grocery bags that would be great! Kelly will be collecting them up until September 10th.

Introduction to the day: The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

GATHERING

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

OPENING SONG/PRELUDE

Only Hope

(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)

WELCOME

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able and 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.

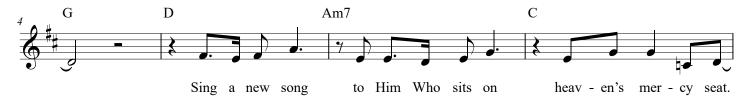
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

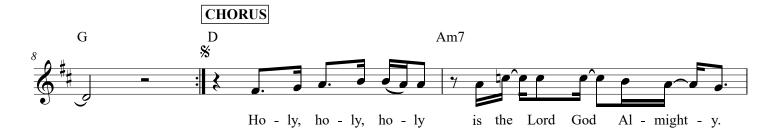
Amen.

Please remain standing and turn to face the altar as you are able.

GATHERING SONG Revelation Song Philips, Craig, and Dean

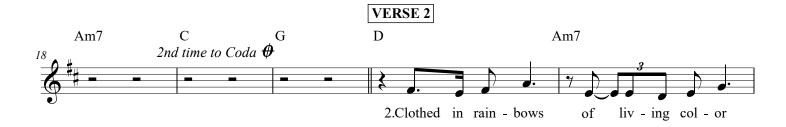










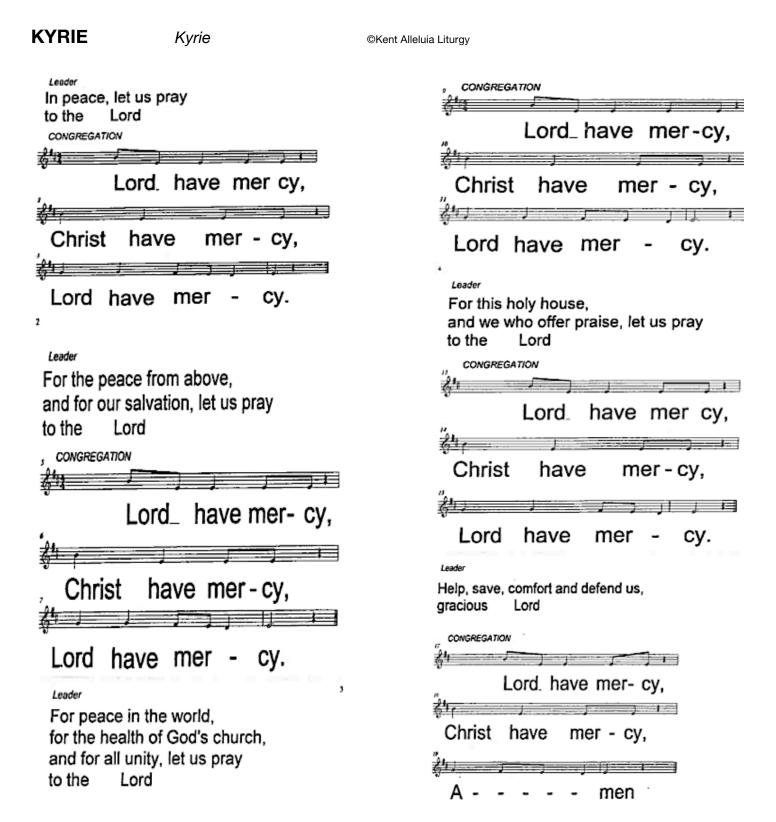


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GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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.**







PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-15 (Jeff Dodge)

Moses experienced the call of God when God appeared to him in a bush that burned but was not consumed. When Moses expressed his unworthiness, God promised to be with him. When Moses objected that people would demand to know God's name, God revealed his personal name, Yahweh (I am who I am), or the Lord. Israel discovered God's true identity when God took them out of Egypt.

A reading from Exodus.

¹Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹²He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

¹³But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,

and this my title for all generations."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8 (Jeff Dodge)

Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;

I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

²Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

³For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.

⁵I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar, ⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21 (Jeff Dodge)

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

A reading from Romans.

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE (Pr. Trudy Franzen)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside

and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁶Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

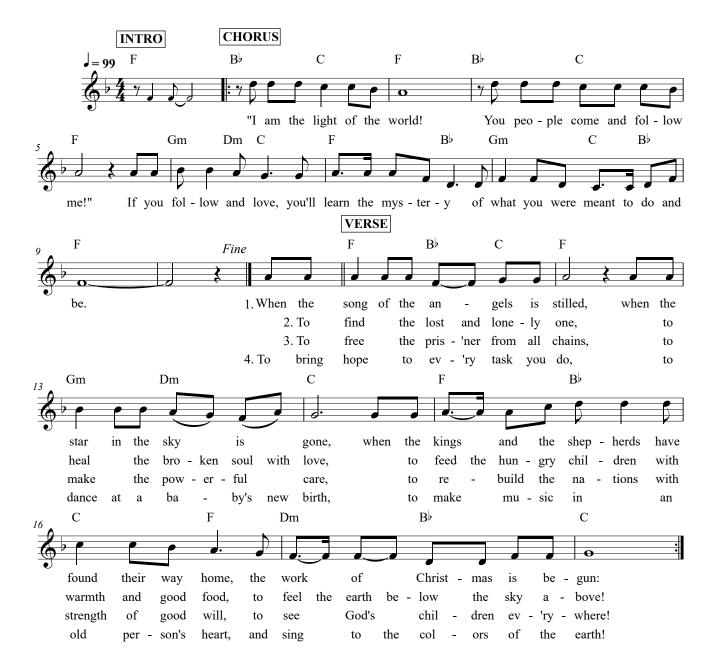
SERMON (Pr. Trudy Franzen)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able for the Hymn of the Day

HYMN OF THE DAY *I Am the Light of the World* ©Jim Strathdee

Words and Music on 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 (Jeff Dodge)

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

God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of deliverance, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain. Liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and insure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God of glory, we give thanks for the saints who now dwell with you in splendor. Nurture us in faith until the day we join their heavenly song. 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.

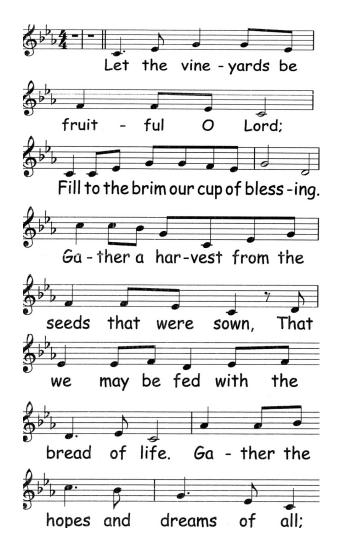
And also with you.

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.





7

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 Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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 acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, 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.

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.

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able

SENDING

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

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

Testify to Love

@Avalon

¹ All the colors of the rainbow, All the voices of the wind Ev'ry dream that reaches out, That reaches out to find where love begins Ev'ry word of ev'ry story, Ev'ry star in ev'ry sky Ev'ry corner of creation lives to testify

Chorus

For as long as I shall live
I will testify to love
I'll be a witness in the silences
When words are not enough
With ev'ry breath I take
I will give thanks to God above
For as long as I shall live
I will testify (to love)

2 From the mountains to the valleys, from the rivers to the sea Every hand that reaches out, every hand that reaches out to offer peace Every simple act of mercy, every step to kingdom come All the hope in ev'ry heart will speak what love has done

Bridge

Colors of the rainbow voices of the wind Dream that reaches out where love begins Word of ev'ry story star in ev'ry sky Corner of creation testify

Mountains to the valleys rivers to the sea Hand that reaches out to offer peace A simple act of mercy kingdom come Ev'ry heart will speak what love has done

Ending

Testify Your way
Testify Your truth
Testify Your life
Your love and mercy

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.



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

Giving in August

8/6 = \$1268 8/13 = \$1938 8/20 = \$671 8/27 = \$1468

Total for Month = \$5345

TOTAL for July = \$7393.92

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. The total collected from January through June was \$156.50. It was donated to St. Vincent de Paul's feeding program here in Roseville. ©

Today's Worship Team

Usher: Jeff & Lan Dodge **Reader:** Jeff Dodge **Sound:** Rick Mendonsa

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

Next Week's Worship Team

Usher: Terri Larson **Reader:** Barb Morris **Sound:** Rick Mendonsa

Zoom: Jeff Dodge/Scott Larson **Altar Guild:** Loraine Anderson **Kids Message:** Pr. Carolyn Brodt

Musician: Audrey Gale

Upcoming Scripture Readings

Next Sunday, September 10th 15th Sunday after Pentecost

- Ezekiel 33:7-11
- Psalm 119:33-40
- Romans 13:8-14
- Matthew 18:15-20

Welcome Pastor Trudy!

We're glad to have Pastor Trudy Franzen with us this morning.

Pastor Carolyn has had a rough week as she's been healing from conjunctivitis and pneumonia. Please keep her in your prayers

Pastor Trudy will be joining us again on September 17th while Pastor Carolyn is at Synod Assembly in Burlingame.

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)



September 4 – John D'Antonio September 4 – Kelly Mendonsa September 8 – Gwen Boswell September 12 – Robert Edmonds September 16 – Tessa Boswell September 28 – Jacob Chan

Blessings to all of our Sept Birthdays.
Please let us know if we've accidently left
anyone off this list!



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.

Applications close October 4th

Applications and more info available here: https://www.elca.church/gathering/attend/volunteers



September 24th following worship Opportunities for all ages!

Our two Lisas will have the kids in Lentz Hall and Pastor Carolyn will meet with the adults around the picnic tables or in her office depending on the weather.

Leadership Team Meeting

Sept. 14th @6:00pm

All Ministry Team Leaders and Servant Team Members should plan to attend this important conversation. Meeting will be held on Zoom and followed by Servant Team meeting. See Terri Larson for details.

Serve @ St. Vincent's

Sunday, September 17th

Join Bethel's long-standing tradition and help cook & serve lunch to area folks in need. Chat with Scott Larson for further information or to volunteer your time.

Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly

"Broken Yet Whole"

September 15 - 17 in Burlingame

This is the annual business meeting of our synod where important decisions are made on your behalf as members of a synod congregation. This year our voting delegates are Terri Larson, Kary Pfennig, and Pastor Carolyn. Please keep them in your prayer as this year not only will they be voting on budget matters, and new Synod Council members, but also a new Synod Bishop. Learn about the bishop pre-nominees here! You can also learn more about the bishop election process here! (https://www.spselca.net/2023-sps-synod-assembly/2023bishopprenominees)

Lisa Herlocker, Maggie Vergara, and Pr. Paul Larson will also be attending as part of their role as Adult Leaders of the Sierra Pacific Synod Youth Committee (SPSYC). They will be guiding 14 members of SPSYC attending as voting members. So Bethel's spirit will be well represented for the weekend.

As your Fall calendars start to fill up, be sure to include these Bethel activities ©



Special Concert & Poetry Night September 30th @6:30pm

Tyra Dennis & Joe Davis – Lyrical Avenue

All Ages Event – Bring Friends! Ice Cream Social to follow

Free Admission thanks to a generous grant from the Lutheran Development Society of Sacramento.

An **offering** will be **gathered** for **Lutheran Social Services** and its **Connections program** which provides housing and services to keep formerly homeless young people ages 18-24 from returning to homelessness.

(Tyra & Joe will join us for worship on Sunday October 1st too!)

Also coming in October

Sunday, Oct 8th – Blessing of the Pets Outdoor Worship Gathering Bring Fido & Fluffy (or their pictures) to Worship

Congregation Budget Forum &
Congregation Meeting – TBD
On 2 different Sundays following worship

Reformation Sunday, Oct 29th, including Affirmation of Baptism (confirmation) for Andrew Chan



Saturday, October 7th at 4:00pm Herlockers' backyard "Biergarten" Fun & Food for all Ages!



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.



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.

