

16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 8, 2024

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

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • SEPTEMBER 8, 2024



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 squirmy during long periods of inaction like the sermon, they are welcome to quietly play in front of the sound table near the main 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 is 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.

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

TODAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

Bibles for our 3rd Graders!

One of our traditions – children are gifted with a Bible that's been "marked up" with favorite verses of family and friends usually when they enter 3rd grade. Today, Tessa Boswell, Hudson & William McBain, and Natalie Back will all receive Bibles.

God's Work Our Hands!

After worship we'll be sorting and filling lunches of non-perishable foods to be given to the Mustard Seed School to distribute as needed to hungry children. Please stay to help with this important task for our larger community. A light lunch will be available for all who participate – all ages welcome to help. ©

Introduction to the day

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing. Gracious God.

have mercy on us.

We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.

The cravings at war within us

cause conflicts and disputes.

In our desire to be first

we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,

our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of \oplus Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

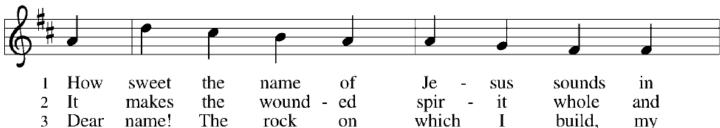
Amen.

Please turn and face the altar for the Gathering Song.

GATHERING SONG How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

my

prayers



ac





- 5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, my prophet, priest, and king, my Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring.
- 6 How weak the effort of my heart, how cold my warmest thought; but when I see thee as thou art, I'll praise thee as I ought.

(ELW 620)

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7 Till then I would thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath; and may the music of thy name refresh my soul in death!

GREETING (ELW p. 138)

4

By

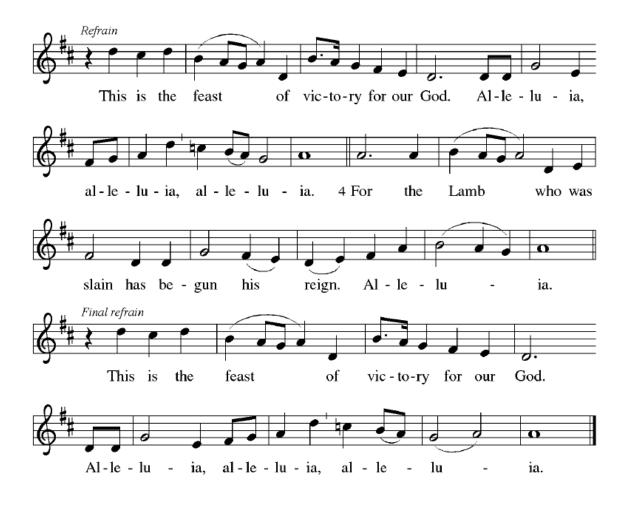
thee

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)





PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a (Jeff Dodge)

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

A reading from Isaiah.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

"Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

^{7®}the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 146 (Jeff Dodge)

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the captive free.

The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: James 2:1-17 (Jeff Dodge)

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

A reading from James.

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in

peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

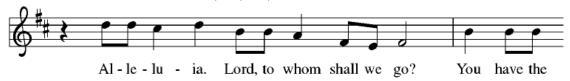
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE (including presentation of Bibles) (Jeri Wartena)

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)





GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophoenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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.



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)

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and abilities. Deepen our commitment to ecumenical and interreligious partnerships. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring forth water to nourish plants and animals in places suffering from drought. Renew our commitments to protect our waterways and make us good stewards of water in our homes and communities. Preserve wetland habitats and the creatures that make their homes there. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire leaders of cities, nations, and tribes to lead with wisdom and humility. Bring peace among peoples in conflict, especially those in the Holy Land, Ukraine, and Sudan. Strengthen global commitments to nonviolent solutions. Guide all who seek refuge from war to a safety. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort all who live with chronic illness. Surround them in your tender embrace and sustain all who provide ongoing care and support. Bring hope and healing to people struggling with addiction and nourish the spirits of all who are in recovery. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nurture in all people the gift of your creating Spirit. Inspire artists and musicians, woodworkers and quilters, poets and dancers. Revive those whose artistic wells have run dry and enliven all who doubt their creative talents. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for all who have died and now find their rest in you. May their faithful witness guide us in our daily life with you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 143)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

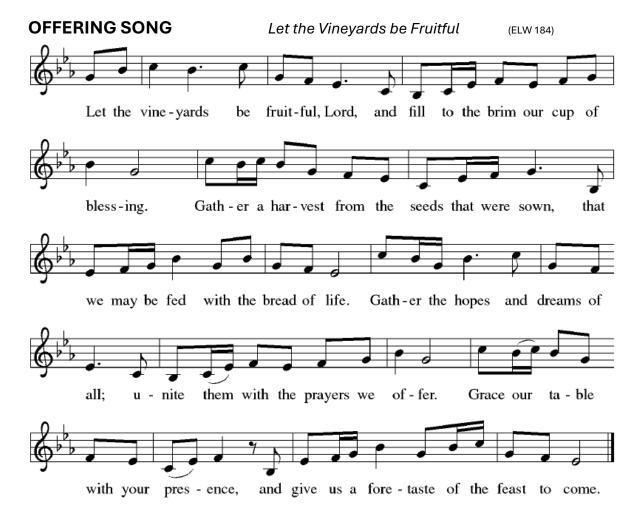
And also with you.

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



OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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Holy God,
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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 (ELW p. 145)

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.

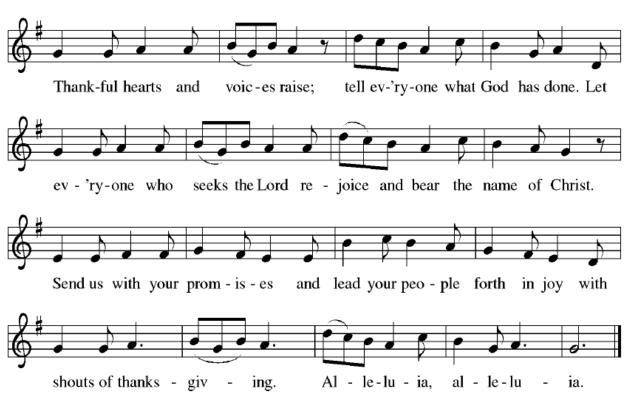
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

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

After all have communed, the congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit for the song.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise (ELW 207)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

God all mighty,
God most merciful

→ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

(ELW 886)



- Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem er's praise.
- 2 My gra cious Mas ter and my God, as sist me to pro claim,
- 3 The name of Je sus charms our fears and bids our sor rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace! to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name. sings mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace. the mourn - ful, bro-ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race! Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (ELW p. 146)

After **brief** announcements related to the ministry of Bethel are shared from the podium microphone, the congregation is invited to rise in body and/or spirit and turn to face the font.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God and we will.



To meet our 2024 Operating Expenses each month, Bethel needs \$9995. Your generosity helps us to meet our ministry goals.

Giving in September

9/1	=	\$2545.06
9/8	=	\$
9/15	=	\$
9/22	=	\$
9/29	=	\$

Current Month Total = \$2545.06 TOTAL for August = \$8302.53

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 egiving from your phone



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

Today's Worship Team

Usher: Lan & Jeff Dodge Reader: Jeff Dodge Sound: Rick Mendonsa Zoom: Scott Larson

Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson Kids Message: Jeri Wartena Musician: Audrey Gale

Next Week's Worship Team

Usher: John & Olivia D'Antonio

Reader: Barb Morris Sound: Rick Mendonsa Zoom: Scott Larson

Altar Guild: Loraine Anderson **Kids Message:** Pr. Allen Dunn **Musician:** Wing and a Prayer

Upcoming Scripture Readings

September 15th 17th Sunday after Pentecost

- Isaiah 50:4-9aPsalm 116:1-9
- James 3:1-12
- Mark 8:27-38



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

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

"Noisy Offering!"

Please consider dropping your spare change into the basket when it comes your way as a "noisy offering." When our youngest members help collect the offering each week, they may be confused when folks don't drop something in the basket. We keep the loose change offering separate and donate it to a local charity every few months.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH



Pastor Carolyn will meet with all interested adults in her office AND via Zoom. They will be using the book, *The Forty Parables of Jesus*, by Gehard Lohfink. New folks are encouraged to attend, no prior knowledge necessary.

The Zoom link will be open at 10:25, and the conversation will begin at 10:30.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89637655924?pwd=eTJ
60VIEMVZDcG53OG1KdW5hV2E1dz09

Meeting ID: 896 3765 5924 Passcode: 295449

God's Love Made Real

A Zoom conversation with ELCA Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton.

Tuesday September 10th Noon to 2:00pm

God's Love Made Real is a movement encouraging the ELCA to create a world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation.

To access the meeting Zoom link, go to https://www.spselca.org/events/gods-love-madereal-zoom-conversation



Children will meet in Lentz Hall for ageappropriate Bible learning and activities. Grab a snack and join us "in back" after worship until about 10:45.

Older kids with Lisa H in the Youth Room (please bring your Bibles!)

Younger kids Lisa KC, Jessica, and/or Allison in the Main Room. (Depending on numbers, this age-group may divide into smaller groups)



Those interested in continuing the conversation on the ELCA Social Statement, "Civic Life and Faith" or just wanting to know more about it, are invited to join Pastor Carolyn via Zoom on Tuesday, September 17th from 11:30-12:30.

Join the meeting at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81303929871?pwd=vC9yMzxHHRfYDxNKRfKanDCRcE7Vla.1

Meeting ID: 813 0392 9871 Passcode: 082958

save these dates! Additional fall activities!

Friday, September 13 & 27 – Game Night – starting at 6:30pm in Lentz Hall Saturday, September 14 Work Party – starting around 8:30am Friday, September 27 – Game Night – starting at 6:30pm in Lentz Hall Sunday, October 6 – Budget Forum – following worship Saturday, October 12 – Work Party – starting around 8:30am Saturday, October 19 – Oktoberfest – starting at 4:00pm at the Herlockers' Sunday, October 20 – Semi-annual Congregation Meeting – budget vote

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 www.bethelroseville.org

Bethel is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Maidu & 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.

