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Last year Spaulding Elementary (Gurnee District 56) collected hundreds of pounds of plastic caps from bottles that are turned into a Buddy Bench for their playground. The Buddy Bench is a place for a student to go sit, signaling to others that they're looking for someone to play with. This sounds a lot like



Bethel's "Park Bench" metaphor from our Mission Glossary: "A park bench is anything that brings people together in relationships."

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In worship, we're not just individuals. We are brothers and sisters in Christ; Jesus gathers us as a community of disciples in this place. So every pew, every row of chairs is a Buddy Bench. We use our time together as opportunities to introduce ourselves to others, to maybe have to reintroduce yourself and admit your forgot someone's name, to welcome some you haven't met yet, and to watch for ways to encourage one another in Jesus.

MY WORSDSP 60008CS

Use this space to write down the names of the people around you today:



Worship & Sermon Series



10th Week after Pentecost Thursday, August 15, and Sunday, August 18, 2019

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

Pastor Ben Squires

Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: pastor@bethelgurnee.org

Katrina Johns, Equipping Coordinator

Direct line: 224-623-0800 or email: katrina@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thursday 6:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays and the Thursday prior
Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,
Mandi Diver – Choir/New Music Accompanist

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated according to the Lutheran Confessions based on the teaching Jesus gave his disciples and us that he is truly present in this meal. Confident that our sins are forgiven, we experience our oneness with him and each other as he gathers us at his table. His true body and blood, given and shed for us, we share in this meal as he invites in Matthew 26:26-28, "Take and eat; this is My Body ... This is My Blood..." Baptized Christians sharing these beliefs are invited to receive Communion. All others are invited to the altar rail for a blessing. Wine can be taken by common chalice, individual cup, or by dipping your wafer into the chalice. Please address questions to the Elders or the Pastor. **Non-alcoholic wine is in purple-colored cups.**

NURSERY

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

SERVING TODAY

TODAY'S FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

Rasmussen/Souza/Kazarian families in memory of Mark Souza, and Kozlik family in celebration of John's birthday.

In Today's Prayers

If you have something you'd like added, please go to one of the Prayer Stands, write down your request, & put in the plastic rack.



In our weekly Worship Prayers, we lift up praises, thanksgivings, requests, and concerns to our Lord. In order to help us pray to God about the wholeness of our lives in the world, we have a schedule for when we will focus on specific areas for prayer. Any immediate needs will always take priority, but in general, we will follow this schedule. Please note that this means on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, Pastor will speak the names of everyone on our health concerns list, but on other Sundays, this will be lifted up only as a general prayer for health and healing.

Government & Safety

Local, State and Federal government and leaders Local police and fire departments

Local concerns

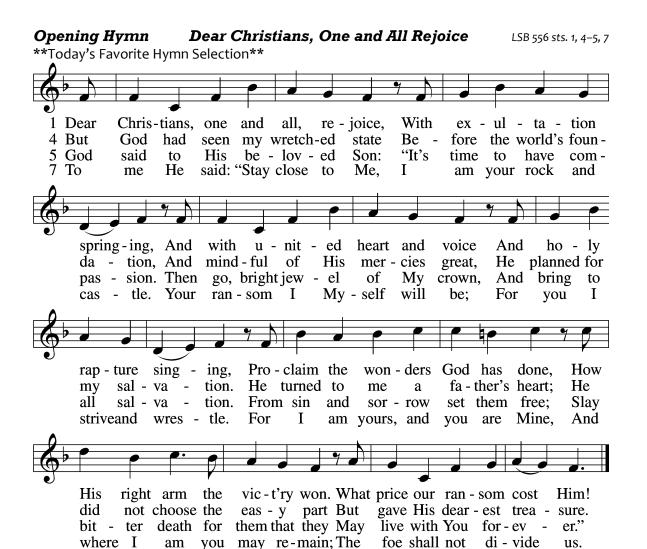
Human trafficking, here locally and across the world Marc & Pedro, men who burglarized Bethel, 30 months probation/rehabilitation

Congregation: Spiritual Conversation

Help us talk about spiritual things that are the source and foundation for life, and build relationships and friendships that include these conversations

ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SING

This service is based on the Praise service in the hymn/songbook, All God's People Sing.



Invocation

P: In the Name of God the Father:
P: In the Name of His Son, Jesus:
P: In the Name of God the Spirit:
P: Let us join our thankful voices,
C: Praise to our creating God!
C: Praise to our redeeming God!
C: Praise to our renewing God!
C: Amen! Amen! Praise the Lord!

Confession (based on Psalm 51)

P: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your unfailing love;

C: according to Your great compassion, wipe out our sin.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Create in me a pure heart, O God,

C: and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us. Amen.

Absolution (based on Psalm 103)

P: The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He does not deal with you according to your sins,

nor repay you according to your iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

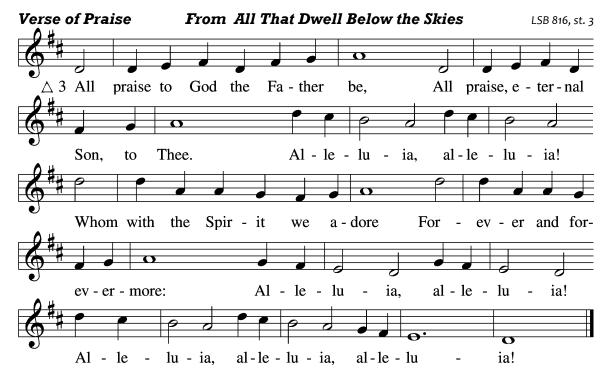
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,

so far does he remove your transgressions from you.

According to this Word from the Lord, and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you your sins in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Bless the Lord, O my soul! Bless His Holy Name! Amen.



Greeting and Prayer of the Day

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lord God, protect and guide those who gather here for worship and life together in Christ. Let them show hospitality to all who visit this congregation, so that those who enter here may find peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

First Epistle Reading (New Testament Letter)

Peter 4:7-11 (ESV)

⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹Whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Epistle Reading (New Testament Letter) 1 Timothy 5:9–10 (ESV)

⁹Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband, ¹⁰and having a reputation for good works: if she has brought up children, has shown hospitality, has washed the feet of the saints, has cared for the afflicted, and has devoted herself to every good work.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Reading from the History of the Early Church

Acts 18:5-11 (ESV)

⁵When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. ⁶And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles." ⁷And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. ⁸Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. ⁹And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, ¹⁰for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people." ¹¹And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

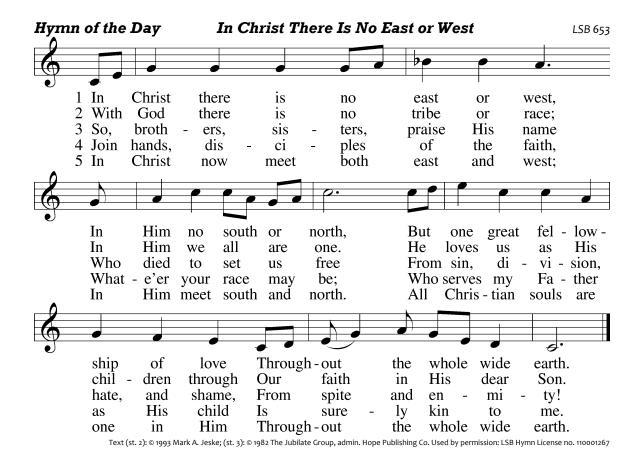
P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.—And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.—I 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.



Sermon "The Gift of Hospitality"

- (1) Learn someone's name who is new to you
- (2) What if you forgot their name?
- (3) Change your focus
- (4) Practice
- (5) Remember the bears...

Praise for the Wisdom of God - a Gift to Us Through the Holy Spirit

- P: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
- C: The Lord is worthy of eternal praise.
- P: The wisdom of God transforms our "heart life."
- C: The Lord is worthy of eternal praise.
- P: Lord, teach us to number our days, and live according to Your wisdom.
- C: The Lord is worthy of eternal praise.
- P: In Christ, we have received the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.
- C: The Lord is worthy of eternal praise.
- P: May the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.
- C: The Lord is worthy of eternal praise. Amen.

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.



The Church our blest Re-deem-er saved With His own pre-cious blood. Dear as the ap-ple of Your eye And grav-en on Your hand.

Prayers

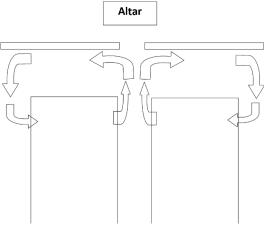
The Lord's Supper: What We Believe

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.

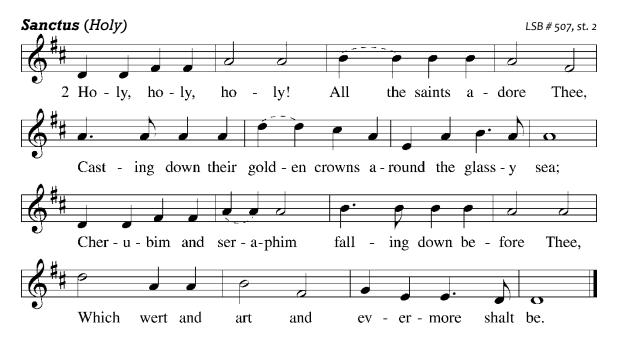
Communion Distribution

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you
 may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



Preparation for the Lord's Supper

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts in praise to God.
- C: We lift our hearts to the Lord.
- P: Give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: We lift our hearts to the Lord.
- P: We give thanks to the holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who defeated death and the grave. Because He rose from the dead, we, too, will have new life. So let us sing and praise Him with the song the angels sing.



The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

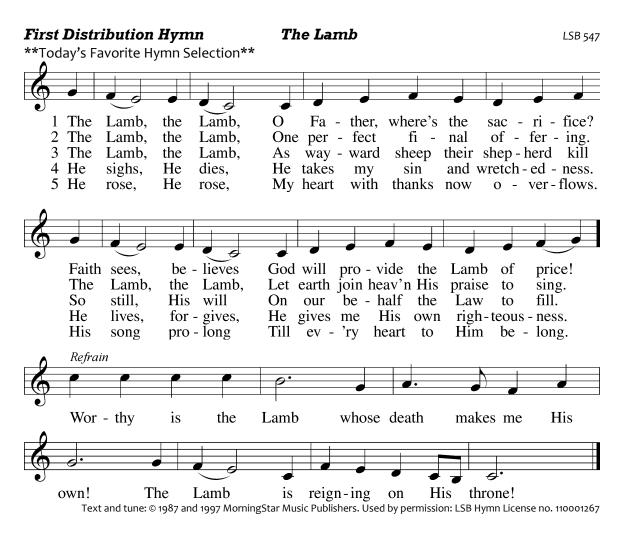
Words of Institution

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(We greet one another in peace saying "God's peace" or "The Lord be with you.")





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Thanksgiving Prayer

P: Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, we give you praise this day for all of your blessings, especially for giving us your body and blood. Keep us through this meal to always be under your care. Watch over us as we go throughout the day, so that we may never wander from your way. This we pray in your name, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.



Announcements



Tuesday, August 27 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Bethel is holding a Back to School Open House.

Children from the community as well as currently enrolled children are welcome to attend. It will be a wonderful opportunity to see the classrooms and meet with the teachers.

Please invite your friends with preschool aged children to attend.

Acknowledgements

This service is based on the Praise service in All God's People Sing. Other portions adapted from Lutheran Service Book.

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