



**OUR
Church's
Talents**

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS:

We extend a warm welcome from Bethel Presbyterian Church!

We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders adding your name and address and if you desire a church newsletter or a pastoral call.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "sins...sin against us" rather than "debts..." or "trespasses..."

Prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks and placed in the offering plate.

**The Service for the Lord's Day
Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
20th Sunday in Ordinary Times
August 15, 2021 - 11:00 AM**

** Indicates congregation standing if able.
Congregational responses indicated in bold.*

GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Friendship Pad found in your pew, passing it down the pew then back.

Prelude

“WAYFARING STRANGER”

arr. M. Hayes

Call to Worship (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: We gather here in your presence, God,

P: in our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.

L: We come to you, for you come to us in Jesus,

P: And you know by experience what human life is like.

L: We come with our faith and with our doubts;

P: We come with our hopes and with our fears.

L: We come as we are, because you invite us to come.

All: And you have promised never to turn us away.

Prayer of Invocation

Gracious God, source of all healing,

in Jesus Christ you heal the sick and mend the broken.

By your Spirit, come to all of us gathered this day,

that we may know your healing touch and be made whole,
to the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*In deep-est night, in dark-est days,
when harps are hung, no songs we raise,
when si-lence must suf-fice as praise,
yet sound-ing in us qui-et-ly
there is the song of God.*

*When friend was lost, when love de-ceived,
dear Je-sus wept, God was be-reaved;
so with us in our grief God grieves,
and round a-bout us mourn-ful-ly
there are the tears of God.*

*When through the wa-ters winds our path,
a-round us pain, a-round us death,
deep calls to deep, a sav-ing breath,
and found be-side us faith-ful-ly
there is the love of God.*

Memorial Prayers

Loving God, you share with us the care of creation, and call each of us by name. We remember that those who encountered Jesus found acceptance, healing and the possibility of new life; that the disciples, though imperfect human beings, through prayer and touch helped others to find healing in the power of your Holy Spirit. And so in the name of the Triune God, we pray.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer the effects of 18 months of a pandemic: loss of loved ones, lingering health issues, isolation, fear and anxiety, economic distress, layers and layers of changes to the way we worship, the way we shop, the way we visit friends and family, the way we go to school and work.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

***Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.***

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence the divisions that exist among us that impede our collective abilities to adequately address issues of health, housing, poverty, education, security and prosperity.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

***Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.***

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence the future that is unknown. So much has and continues to change. Help us to feel your healing and comfort as we move forward. Enable us to face the future with courage and hope knowing that you go with us.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

***Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.***

Into your hands O God, we commend all that we have lost this past 18 months, trusting in your mercy. God of compassion and love, we offer you all our suffering and pain. Give us strength to bear our weakness, healing even when there is no cure, peace in the midst of turmoil and love to fill the spaces in our lives. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

THE WORD

Readings from Scripture

Wisdom Psalm 42 (Longing for God and His Help in Distress) Pg. 487

Gospel Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20 (The Resurrection of Jesus) Pg. 32

Sermon

“I Am With You Always”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God
Who has created and is creating
Who has come in Jesus,
The Word made flesh,
To reconcile and make new,
Who works in us and others
By the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the church:
To celebrate God's presence,
To live with respect in creation,
To love and serve others,
To seek justice and resist evil,
To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
Our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us,
We are not alone.
And so we commit ourselves to Jesus,
To one another as brothers and sisters
And to his mission in the world
In the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

* Hymn No. 795

“HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL”
*Heal-er of our ev-ery ill,
light of each to-mor-row,
give us peace be-yond our fear,
and hope be-yond our sor-row.*

*You who know our fears and sad-ness,
grace us with your peace and glad-ness;
Spir-it of all com-fort, fill our hearts.*

*Heal-er of our ev-ery ill,
light of each to-mor-row,
give us peace be-yond our fear,
and hope be-yond our sor-row.*

*In the pain and joy be-hold-ing
how your grace is still un-fold-ing,
give us all your vi-sion, God of love.*

*Heal-er of our ev-ery ill,
light of each to-mor-row,
give us peace be-yond our fear,
and hope be-yond our sor-row.*

*Give us strength to love each oth-er,
ev-ery sis-ter, every broth-er;
Spir-it of all kind-ness, be our guide.*

*Heal-er of our ev-ery ill,
light of each to-mor-row,
give us peace be-yond our fear,
and hope be-yond our sor-row.*

*You who know each thought and feel-ing,
teach us all your way of heal-ing;
Spir-it of com-pas-sion, fill each heart.*

*Heal-er of our ev-ery ill,
light of each to-mor-row,
give us peace be-yond our fear,
and hope be-yond our sor-row.*

Invitation to Commitment

So come and follow Jesus, you who have committed yourselves already,
and you who would like to do so for the first time;
you who have given yourselves to care of creation
and to the suffering ones of the world,
and you who feel moved by the Spirit to begin to offer yourselves;
and you who have been faithful in your life commitments
and you who have failed.

Come for our Lord invites us to follow him,
and to make new beginnings in our lives.

Sung response No. 698 **“TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM”**

(sung several times)

***Take, O take me as I am;
sum-mon out what I shall be;
set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.***

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful and the earth be glad.

We bless you for creating the whole world,

for your promise to your people Israel,

and for Jesus Christ in whom your fullness dwells.

Born of Mary, he shares our life. Eating with sinners, he welcomes us.

Guiding his people, he leads us. Visiting the sick, he heals us.

Dying on the cross, he saves us. Risen from the dead, he gives new life.

Living with you, he prays for us.

Send to us your Holy Spirit, that being made one in Christ,

we may be one with each other and one in ministry to all the world,

until Christ comes in final victory.

Accept and bless these offerings of our life and labor.

We dedicate them to your work in the world and pray that through them

we may join you in bringing love, justice and peace.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ who taught us to pray,

The Lord's Prayer (*sin / sin against us*)

**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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.**

Hymn No. 691 "LORD WHEN I CAME INTO THIS LIFE"

*Lord, when I came in-to this life
you called me by my name;
to-day I come, com-mit my-self,
re-spond-ing to your claim.*

*With-in the cir-cle of the faith,
as mem-ber of your cast,
I take my place with all the saints
of fu-ture, pres-ent, past.*

*In all the ten-sions of my life,
between my faith and doubt,
let your great Spir-it give me hope,
sus-tain me, lead me out.*

*So help me in my un-be-lief
and let my life be true:
feet firm-ly plant-ed on the earth,
my sights set high on you.*

* Benediction (*L = Leader, A = All*)

L: Look at your hands, see the touch and tenderness,

A: God's own for the world.

L: Look at your feet, see the path and the direction,

A: God's own for the world.

L: Look at your heart, see the fire and the love,

A: God's own for the world.

L: Look at the cross, see God's Son and our Savior,

A: God's own for the world.

L: This is God's world,

A: And we will serve God in it.

May the blessing of God almighty, creator, redeemer and sustainer encourage you and equip you to serve God and one another faithfully today and every day. Amen.

Benediction Response No. 698 "TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM"

*Take, O take me as I am;
sum-mon out what I shall be;
set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.*

Postlude

"HOLY MANNA"

arr. J. Martin

This service was taken in part from the
Iona Abbey worship book,
Iona Abbey, Wild Goose publications,
Glasgow, Scotland, 2001.

MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“In Deepest Night”

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1995

Music: David Schwoebel, 2008

Text © 1995 Susan Palo Cherwien (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

Music © 2008 Celebrating Grace, Inc.

“Be Still and Know That I Am God”

Text and Music: John L. Bell, 1989

Text and Music © 1989 WGRG, Iona Community (admin GIA Publications, Inc.)

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, 1986

Text and Music © GIA Publications, Inc.

“Take, O Take Me as I Am”

Text and Music: John L. Bell, 1995

Text and Music © 1995 WGRG, Iona Community (admin GIA Publications, Inc.)

“Lord When I Came into This Life”

Text: Fred Kaan, 1976

Music: American folk melody; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

Text © 1979 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House
(admin. The Copyright Company)

Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed
with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-718125
All Rights Reserved