

to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:3

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.) Communion Sunday August 1, 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

"COME, CHRISTIANS JOIN TO SING"

arr. Haves

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

- L: We do not live by bread alone, but by the Word who became flesh and swells among us.
- P: Christ is the true bread of heaven, the manna of freedom.
- L: Come, let us worship and give thanks.

Prayer of Invocation

Loving Trinity, your justice is the working out of your mercy and peace on earth.

Nourish us with the power of the Son, and let us grow into his image and likeness.

Humble us in our self-conceits so that we act not arrogantly but with humility, patience, forbearance, and love.

Equip us for ministry on behalf of all who cry out to you.

Help us to live lives worthy of the calling to which you call us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but one great fel-low-ship of love through-out the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts ev-ery-where their high com-mu-nion find; his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close-bind-ing hu-man-kind.

Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be. All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.
All Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

* Call to Confession

God has given us a sign showing that love is stronger than death. The sign of the cross points to our exodus from bondage to sin. Let us repent, seek God's forgiveness, and enter into new life in Christ.

* Prayer of Confession

Holy God, whose love and justice condemn us, whose mercy and kindness feed us, we confess our sins and pray for your forgiveness.

What terrible suffering we have unleased.

We have used other persons without regard for their dignity; we have abused the earth without care for its beauty or concern for future life; we have sought to bargain with you to smooth our way to heaven. God, change us.

Put the Spirit of Christ within us and cause us to grow into mature, faithful disciples of the one who came from you to save us from our sin. Free us from captivity to our selfishness, bind us to the whole body of Christ, and let us bear witness to the truth

that your love holds everything together in perfect unity.

...(silent and personal confession)

We pray in the name of our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

* Sung Response No. 551 "LORD, HAVE MERCY"

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

* Declaration of Forgiveness

Whoever comes in Jesus Christ shall never be hungry; whoever believes in him shall never thirst. Believe the good news of the gospel; in Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. Amen.

* Sung Response No. 591 "HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH"

HALLE, HALLE

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-yah! Hal-le-lu-yah!

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Creator of unity, Body of peace, Spirit of community, bind us together around your Word and send us out to do your justice, show your mercy, and embody your redeeming love, glorifying you, Holy Trinity. Amen.

Readings from Scripture

Gospel John 6:24-35 (The Bread from Heaven) Pg. 92 Epistle Ephesians 4:1-16 (Unity in the Body of Christ) Pg. 182

Sermon: "Speaking the Truth in Love"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith **Apostles' Creed (Trad.)** Hymnal – pg. 35

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 Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and life everlasting. Amen. To-geth-er we serve, u-nit-ed by love, in-vit-ing God's world to the glo-ri-ous feast. We work and we pray through sor-row and joy, ex-tend-ing God's love to the last and the least.

We seek to be-come a bea-con of hope, a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet. We learn, year by year, to let love shine through un-til we see Christ in each per-son we meet.

We wel-come the scarred, the wealth-y, the poor, the bus-y, the lone-ly, and all who need care. We of-fer a home to those who will come, our hands quick to help, our hearts read-y to dare.

To-geth-er, by grace, we wit-ness and work, re-mem-ber-ing Je-sus, in whom we grow strong.

To-geth-er we serve in Spir-it and truth, re-mem-ber-ing love is the strength of our song.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Call to Offering

The worship God blesses is honest and personal, a broken and contrite heart. When we give of ourselves to God, our hearts are changed for good. Let us present tithes and offerings.

Offertory "PRELUDE" by J. S. Bach

* Hymn No. 606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD 100TH

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low; praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

* Prayer of Dedication

O God, we present offerings to praise you and to help in the service of the church.

Accept them as outward signs of our joyful discipleship in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Sheaves of wheat turned by sunlight into gold, grapes in clusters, like rubies on the vine, feed our hearts as the precious blood and body of our Lord: gifts of heaven from earthly bread and wine.

Here we gather to share a common meal.

We are harvest by God the Sower sown, brought together to share the joys and sorrows that we feel, all refined by life's common grinding stone.

As each grain blends to form a single loaf, or as notes weave to shape a single song or as droplets unite within the ocean's depth and foam, to each other as Christians we belong.

At the table of God we join to eat, and as sisters and brothers break the bread.

Fed by faith, hope, and love, we sing our joy to all we meet, as the body of Christ, our living head.

They shall come from North and South, from East and West to sit together at Table in the Kingdom of God and share the great feast with one another.

Come join the feast!

Great Thanksgiving (L = Leader, P = People)

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high, voices full and joyful...these you deserve.

For when we were nothing, you made us something.

When we had no name and no faith and no future, you called us your children.

When we lost our way or turned away, you did not abandon us.

When we came back to you, your arms opened wide in welcome.

And look, you prepare a table for us offering not just bread, not just wine, but your very self so that we may be filled, forgiven, healed, blessed and made new again. You are worth all our pain and all our praise. So now, in gratitude, we join our voices to those of the church on earth and in heaven:

Sung Response No. 552 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

LAND OF REST

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.

Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.

Lord God, as we come to share the richness of your table, we cannot forget the rawness of the earth.

We cannot take bread and forget those who are hungry. Your world is one world and we are stewards of its nourishment. Lord, put our prosperity at the service of the poor. We cannot take wine and forget those who are thirsty.

The ground and the rootless,

the earth and its weary people cry out for justice.

Lord, put our fullness at the service of the empty.

We cannot hear your words of peace and forget the world at war or, if not at war, then preparing for it.

Show us quickly, Lord, how to turn weapons into welcome signs and the lust for power into a desire for peace.

We cannot celebrate the feast of your family and forget our divisions.

We are one in spirit, but not in fact.

History and hurt still dismember us.

Lord, heal your church, in every brokenness.

For us you were born, for us you healed, preached, taught and showed the way to heaven; for us you were crucified, and for us, after death, you rose again.

Sung Response No. 553 "Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen"

LAND OF REST

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a-gain. Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a-gain.

Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now, for all that you have done and all that you have promised, what have we to offer?

Our hands are empty, our hearts are sometimes full of wrong things. We are not fit to gather up the crumbs from under your table. But with you is mercy and the power to change us.

So as we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, send down your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine that they may become for us your body, healing, forgiving and making us whole; and that we may become, for you, your body, loving and caring in the world until your kingdom comes. Amen

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.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours.

Take us, renew and remake us.

What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

* Hymn No. 526 "LET US TALENTS AND TONGUES EMPLOY"

LINSTEAD

Let us tal-ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy: bread is bro-ken; the wine is poured; Christ is spo-ken and seen and heard.

> Je-sus lives a-gain; earth can breathe a-gain; pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

Christ is a-ble to make us one; at the ta-ble he set the tone, teach-ing peo-ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex-press.

> Je-sus lives a-gain; earth can breathe a-gain; pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

Je-sus calls us in, sends us out Bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man-u-el) ev-ery-where!

> Je-sus lives a-gain; earth can breathe a-gain; pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

* Benediction

Show the love of God in all you do. Be faithful witnesses to the grace of Jesus Christ. Live in the power and joy of the Holy Spirit.

The Son of David lead you to his eternal kingdom; the Son of Mary wipe all tears from your eyes; the Son of the Most High God save you from all evil and make you whole, now and forever. Amen.

May the God of hope go with us ev-ery day, fill-ing all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus-tice speed us on our way, bring-ing light and hope to ev-ery land and race.

Pray-ing, let us work for peace; sing-ing, share our joy with all; working for a world that's new, faith-ful when we hear Christ's call.

* Postlude "PROMISED LAND" arr. Purifoy

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

Music: Swee Hong Lim, 1990 Music © 1990 Swee Hong Lim

(admin. General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBGMusik)

"Halle, Hallelujah!"

Text: Ref., trad. liturgical text; stanzas, Marty Haugen, 1990 Music: Caribbean melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1990; stanzas, Marty Haugen, 1990 Text and Music © 1990 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) Muic Arr. © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Together We Serve"
Text and Music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1996
Text and Music © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

Music: American folk melody; adapt. Marcia Pruner, 1980; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984 Music Adapt. © 1980 Church Pension Fund Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen"
Text: Trad. Liturgical text
Music: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984
Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" Text: Fred Kaan, 1975

Music: Jamaican folk melody; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975 Text and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

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

PUBLIC DOMAIN

"In Christ There Is No East or West"
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow"
"Song of Hope"