



**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.)**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Times**  
**August 29, 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

“HIS EYE IS ON THE SPARROW”

arr. M. Hayes

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

L: In the beauty of this moment

**P: we worship you.**

L: In the fellowship of your people

**P: we worship you.**

L: In the presence of your Spirit

**P: we worship you.**

L: In the company of creation

**P: we worship you.**

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

Holy One, on this summer day we look at the wonder of your creation  
and our hearts open to your steadfast love and care.

May your Spirit hold us in this time of worship  
and offer us some words from you. Amen.

*Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling,  
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing; all thy faith-ful mer-cies crown.  
Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion;  
pure un-bound-ed love thou art;  
vis-it us with thy sal-va-tion; en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.*

*Breathe, O breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it  
in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;  
let us all in thee in-her-it; let us find the prom-ised rest.  
Take a-way the love of sin-ning;  
Al-pha and O-me-ga be;  
end of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.*

*Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er;  
let us all thy life re-ceive;  
sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-more thy tem-ples leave.  
Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,  
serve thee as thy hosts a-bove,  
pray, and praise thee with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.*

*Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion;  
pure and spot-less let us be;  
let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in thee:  
changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise.*

\* Call to Confession

All Knowing God knows our hearts through and through.  
Our failures and successes are known,  
as are our good intentions and sometimes poor follow through.  
It is only God's love that can heal us and make us whole.  
Let us trust God with the truth of inmost lives.

\* Prayer of Confession

**We confess to you, O God, that we have not loved as we ought.  
We have measured others against standards  
we dare not measure ourselves.  
We have placed heavy burdens on others,  
while forgetting our own places of privilege.  
Forgive us,  
for love ought to level the playing field,  
by bringing us down and lifting those from the margins.  
Forgive us, that we receive grace, but do not extend it.  
Hear our prayers of repentance,  
and lead us into the way of your steady love.  
We pray in the name of Love. 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

God's love forgives.  
God's love heals.  
God's love is the only thing that can make us whole.  
Believe in this expansive love, and trust that we are forgiven and freed.

\* Sung Response 591 “HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJA”

*Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal-le-lu-ja!*  
*Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal-le-lu-ja!*  
*Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal-le-lu-ja!*  
*Hal-le-lu-ya! Hal-le-lu-ya!*

## THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

Holy One, open our hearts, and our ears  
to hear what you have to say to us today.

Readings from Scripture

Wisdom	Psalm 19	<i>(God's Glory in Creation and the Law)</i>	Pg. 472
Epistle	1 Corinthians 13:4-7	<i>(The Gift of Love)</i>	Pg. 164
Gospel	John 15:9-17	<i>(Jesus the True Vine)</i>	Pg. 103

Sermon

“Love is Hard Work”

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\* Affirmation of Faith

© Lisa Frenz 1999, All Rights Reserved.  
Used with permission.

**We believe in one God, who is Creator,  
maker of all we see and all we don't see.  
Who is Ruler of the universe: Source of all creation!**

**We believe in one God, who is Jesus Christ,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God and true human.  
He is one with the Creator; the Word made flesh,  
our Messiah: Savior of all creation!**

**We believe in one God, who is Holy Spirit,  
Breath of God moving among us.  
Who is one with the Creator; one with the Christ;  
our Comforter and our Guide: Mentor of all creation!**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.

As beloved children, let us be imitators of God,  
presenting our gifts as a fragrant offering and sacrifice,  
through Christ our Lord.

Offertory

“INTERLUDE”

arr. M. Hayes

\* Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift,  
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,  
that we may praise you not with our words only,  
but with our whole lives.

## THE SENDING FORTH

\* Hymn No. 693

### “THOUGH I MAY SPEAK”

O WALY WALY

*Though I may speak with brav-est fire,  
and have the gift to all in-spire,  
and have not love, my words are vain,  
as sound-ing brass, and hope-less gain.*

*Though I may give all I pos-sess,  
and striv-ing so my love pro-fess,  
but not be giv'n by love with-in,  
the prof-it soon turns strange-ly thin.*

*Come, Spir-it, come, our hearts con-trol,  
our spir-its long to be made whole.  
Let in-ward love guide ev-ery deed;  
by this we wor-ship and are freed.*

\* Benediction

Go now in peace with yourself and with others.  
As Christ has loved you, so love one another,  
and abide always in God who is love.  
May the Holy God instill you with love;  
may Christ Jesus lead you and you live;  
may the Holy Spirit walk with you wherever you go.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

\* Sung Response No. 432 “SONG OF HOPE”

ARGENTINA

*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,  
Bringing light and hope to ev-ery land and race.*

*Pray-ing, let us work for peace, Sing-ing, share our joy with all,  
Work-ing for a world that's new, Faith-ful when we hear Christ's call.*

\* Postlude

### “BE THOU MY VISION”

arr. Jay Rouse

## MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“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, 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.)

Music Arr. © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

“Though I May Speak”

Text: Ruth Duck, 1994

Music: Irish melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011

Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press

Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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

## PUBLIC DOMAIN

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

“Song of Hope”