

Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

... a welcoming community.



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.)
Youth Sunday / 6th Sunday of Easter
May 14, 2023 - 11:00 AM**

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

GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Introit

*This is the day [echo: this is the day]
That the Lord has made [echo: that the Lord has made]
We will rejoice [echo: we will rejoice]
And be glad in it [echo: and be glad in it]
This is the day that the Lord has made
We will rejoice and be glad in it
This is the day [echo: this is the day]
That the Lord has made*

Welcome and Announcements

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

Prelude

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

John Dykes

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

L: God of our life, through all the circling years

P: We trust in Thee

L: In all our days, through all our hopes and fears,

P: Thy hand we see.

L: With each new day,

P: When morning lifts the veil,

L: We are blessed by thy promises,

P: Lord, which never fail.

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

Immortal, invisible, God you are wise,
in worship, in promises, reveal to our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days;
almighty, victorious, thy great name we will praise. Amen.

* Hymn No. 275 “A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD”

EIN' FESTE BURG

*A might-y for-tress is our God, a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing.
Our help-er he, a-mid the flood of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.
For still our an-cient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cru-el hate,
on earth is not his e-qual.*

*Did we in our own strength con-fide, our striv-ing would be los-ing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos-ing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je-sus, it is he.
Lord Sab-a-oth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the bat-tle.*

*And though this world, with dev-ils filled, should threat-en to un-do us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to tri-umph through us.
The Prince of Dark-ness grim, we trem-ble not for him.
His rage we can en-dure, for lo, his doom is sure.
One litt-le word shall fell him.*

*That word a-bove all earth-ly powers, no thanks to them a-bid-eth.
The Spir-it and the gifts are oursthrough him who with us sid-eth.
Let goods and kin-dred go, this mor-tal life al-so.
The bod-y they may kill; God's truth a-bid-eth still.
His king-dom is for-ev-er.*

* Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this:
while we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith, we approach God.
When we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just will forgive us and cleanse us.
Please join me in unison confession.

* Corporate Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you enough
with our heart, mind, and strength,
we have not truly loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy, forgive us, help us amend,
please direct us that we may delight in Your will
and walk in Your ways,
to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.**

* Sung Response No. 735 **“I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR”**

(verse 2)

*I need thee ev-ery hour; stay thou near by;
temp-ta-tions lose their power when thou art nigh.
I need thee, O I need thee, ev-ery hour I need thee!
O bless me now, my Sav-ior— I come to thee!*

Need

* Declaration of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
God keeps promises, He forgives, restores, and strengthens us.
I declare to you, in the name of the risen Jesus Christ,
We are forgiven. Amen.

* Sung Response

“HALLELUJAH!”
Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelujah!
Praise Ye the Lord!
Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelujah!
Praise Ye the Lord!
Praise Ye the Lord, Hallelujah!
Praise Ye the Lord, Hallelujah!
Praise Ye the Lord, Hallelujah!
PRAISE YE THE LORD!

THE WORD

Adult Moment

Children’s Choir

“I AM A PROMISE”

William J. Gaither

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the Scriptures are read
and your Word is proclaimed,
we may hear with joy
what you say to use today. Amen.

Readings from Scripture

<i>The Word of the Lord</i>	Psalm 66:8-20	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>
<i>The Word of the Lord.</i>	Acts 17:22-31	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>
<i>The Word of the Lord.</i>	1 Peter 3:13-22	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>
<i>The Word of the Lord.</i>	John 14:15-21	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>

Sermonette

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith

Let us rejoice in what we believe.

Please join me in saying what we believe using words from hymn 481.

**I believe in God the Father, merciful and mighty Lord,
maker of earth and heavens, who we worship and adore;
and in Jesus Christ the Son, only Savior, sovereign one,
by the Holy Spirit given, born of Mary, blessed virgin.**

**Under Pilate, Jesus suffered, faithful to his final breath.
He was crucified and buried, and descended into death.
From the grave he did arise; he ascended through the skies;
now enthroned with God in heaven,
he will judge the dead and living.**

**I believe in God the Spirit, and the church in every place;
saints in glorious communion, all forgiven, full of grace;
flesh and blood will live again; life in Christ will never end.
Holy Spirit, Son, and Father: I will praise your name forever.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

You are now invited to share joys and concerns with your brothers and sisters and your Lord in this space. Please raise your hand to share.

Prayers of the People

Let us join our hearts and voices together through this responsive Prayers of the People.

For a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For our church when hearts are sad and when they so rejoice;
open us up to unity, give your promises true voice.

Lord, hear our prayer.

The poor be rich; the weak be strong; the foolish ones be wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Join me in the Lord's Prayer

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

Hymnal pg. 35

**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.**

Call to Offering

God, the divine giver, gifting us with life and breath and all that is.
In gratitude, let us offer our gifts
in return for the goodness and grace of God in Christ.

Offertory

“GOD IS SO GOOD”

* Hymn No. 606 “PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW”

*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 loving God, we give you thanks
that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people
the gift of generosity and the desire to keep your commandments.
Bless these gifts and use them to reveal to everyone
your love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

* Hymn No. 769

“FOR EVERYONE BORN”

*For ev-ery-one born, a place at the ta-ble,
for ev-ery-one born, clean wa-ter and bread,
a shel-ter, a space, a safe place for grow-ing,
for ev-ery-one born, a star o-ver-head,*

(Refrain)

*and God will de-light when we are cre-a-tors
of jus-tice and joy, com-pas-sion and peace:
yes, God will de-light when we are cre-a-tors
of jus-tice, jus-tice and joy!*

*For wom-an and man, a place at the ta-ble,
re-vis-ing the roles, de-cid-ing the share,
with wis-dom and grace, di-vid-ing the pow-er,
For wom-an and man, a sys-tem that’s fair.*

(Refrain)

*For young and for old, a place at the ta-ble,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrin-kled,
For young and for old, the right to be-long.*

(Refrain)

*and God will de-light when we are cre-a-tors
of jus-tice and joy, com-pas-sion and peace:
yes, God will de-light when we are cre-a-tors
of jus-tice, jus-tice and joy!*

*For just and un-just, a place at the ta-ble,
a-bus-er, a-bused, with need to for-give,
in an-ger, in hurt, a mind-set of mer-cy,
for just and un-just, a new way to live.*

(Refrain)

*For ev-ery-one born, a place at the ta-ble,
to live with-out fear, and sim-ply to be,
to work, to speak out, to wit-ness and wor-ship,
for ev-ery-one born, the right to be free.*

(Refrain)

*and God will de-light when we are cre-a-tors
of jus-tice and joy, com-pas-sion and peace:
yes, God will de-light when we are cre-a-tors
of jus-tice, jus-tice and joy!*

* Charge

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage.

Hold on to what is good. Return no one evil for evil.

Support the weak, help the suffering.

Honor all people.

Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

* Blessing

God bless you today and always.

* Sung Response

“JOHNNY APPLESEED BLESSING”

Oh, the Lord is good to me,
And so, I thank the Lord,
For giving me the things I need,
The sun, the rain and the apple seed.
The Lord is good to me.
Amen.

* Postlude

MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“For Everyone Born”

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, 1998

Music: Brian Mann, 2006

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

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“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

I Need Three Every Hour

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

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