

Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
... a welcoming community.

NOW YOU ARE
GOD'S
PEOPLE

1 PETER 2:10, NRSV

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 / 5th Sunday of Easter
May 7, 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

Welcome and Announcements

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

Prelude

Handbell Choir

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

L: Let us offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God,
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

P: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way,
revealed to us your truth,
and offered to us everlasting life.

Keep our eyes upon him,
that we may see your path more clearly,
know your truth more fully,
and receive your life more abundantly;
through Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit
in eternal glory. Amen.

*How firm a foun-da-tion, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God’s ex-cel-lent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said—
to you who for ref-uge to Je-sus have fled?*

*“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis-mayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strength-en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
up-held by my righ-teous, om-nip-o-tent hand.*

*“When through the deep wa-ters I call thee to go,
the riv-ers of sor-row shall not o-ver-flow;
for I will be near thee, thy trou-bles to bless,
and sanc-ti-fy to thee thy deep-est dis-tress.*

*“When through fi-ery tri-als thy path-way shall lie,
my grace, all suf-fi-cient, shall be thy sup-ply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I on-ly de-sign
thy dross to con-sume, and thy gold to re-fine.*

*“The soul that on Je-sus hath leaned for re-pose,
I will not, I will not de-sert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should en-deav-or to shake,
I’ll nev-er, no, nev-er, no, nev-er for-sake.”*

* Call to Confession

Whoever believes in Christ will not be put to shame.
Confident in this promise,
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

* Corporate Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, your word offers freedom from sin,
but we confess that we have not obeyed your word.
We have harbored malice toward our enemies;**

Readings from Scripture

Wisdom	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	(... <i>Deliverance from Enemies</i>)	Pg. 478
Gospel	John 14:1-14	(<i>Jesus the Good Shephard</i>)	Pg. 97
Epistle	1 Peter 2:2-10	(<i>The Living Stone and a Chosen People</i>)	Pg. 219

Sermon

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith Apostle's 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; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Almighty God, our creator and redeemer,
you are our strength and our hope.
We bring to you today those people we know,
both within this congregation and without,
who have faced the great sorrow of the death of a child.
We pause now to silently name these parents in our hearts.
(*Silent prayer*)

Loving God, we trust that in life and in death, we belong to you.
Bring healing and peace, we pray.
Help us to be grateful for the ties that bind us to those we have lost
and may their memories be a blessing to us.
Renew our strength each day to seek your will and lean upon your mercy.
Keep us ever in the communion of saints and in the promise of life eternal,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Call to Offering

As people of God, let us offer ourselves and the fruit of our labor
for God's work in the world.

Offertory

Handbell Choir

* 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

Almighty God,
receive the gifts we bring in gratitude for your astounding goodness.
Make our lives to be an acceptable offering
in union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever.
Amen.

*Let us break bread to-gether on our knees;
let us break bread to-gether on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the ris-ing sun,
O Lord, have mer-cy on me.*

*Let us drink wine to-gether on our knees.
let us drink wine to-gether on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the ris-ing sun,
O Lord, have mer-cy on me.*

*Let us praise God to-gether on our knees;
Let us praise God to-gether on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the ris-ing sun,
O Lord, have mer-cy on me.*

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
I am the bread of life.
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

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.

Holy God, we praise you for your love:
bringing order out of chaos, breathing life into dust,
leading captives into freedom, consuming false idols with holy fire,
calling wandering children home,
giving bread to the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty,
raising the dead to life.
Therefore we join our voices with saints and angels
and all the faithful of every time and place, singing,

Hymn 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.*

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ:
Word made flesh, light of the world,
living water, shepherd and gate, way and truth and life.
Remembering your gracious acts,
we offer our lives to you in service and praise
as we keep the feast that Christ prepares.
Great is the mystery of faith:

Hymn 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.*

Gracious God, now pour out your Holy Spirit among us:
in this bread, in this cup, in your people;
one in the body, one in the blood, one with Christ,
one in mission, one in ministry;
in this place, in every place,
in this world, in the world to come.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours,
Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray ...

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.**

Words of Institution

(*Breaking Bread*)

The Lord Jesus on the night he was betrayed, took bread,
and after giving thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

(*Pouring Wine*)

In the same way, Jesus took the cup, saying:

This cup is the new covenant sealed with my blood,
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes.

Brothers and sisters, the gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Distribution of the Elements

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, given for you.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us
as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his body and blood.

Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

* Hymn No. 634

“TO GOD BE THE GLORY”

*To God be the glo-ry, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yield-ed his life an a-tone-ment for sin,
and o-pened the life-gate that all may go in.*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo-ple re-joice!
O come to the Fa-ther through Je-sus the Son,
and give him the glo-ry: great things he has done!*

*Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our re-joic-ing through Je-sus the Son;
but pur-er and high-er and great-er will be
our won-der, our tras-port, when Je-sus we see.*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo-ple re-joice!
O come to the Fa-ther through Je-sus the Son,
and give him the glo-ry: great things he has done!*

* Charge

Sisters and brothers,
God has heard you and given heed to your prayers.
Therefore, go in peace to serve Christ,
and always be eager to do what is good.

* Blessing

May God, who creates, redeems, and sustains,
keep you steadfast in faith, buoyant in hope, and abounding in love.
And the blessing of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

* Sung Response No. 243 **“BE NOT AFRAID”**

*Be not a-fraid; sing out for joy!
Christ is ris-en, al-le-lu-ia!
Be not a-fraid; sing out for joy!
Christ is ris-en, al-le-lu-ia!*

* Postlude

Handbell Choir

MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

Music: Dinah Reindorf, 1987; arr. Sing! A New Creation, 2001

Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf

Music Arr. © Faith Alive Christian Resources

“Alleluia!”

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

Music: Fintan O’Carroll, 1981;

Harm. Christopher Walker, 1985

Music © 1985 Fintan O’Carroll and Christopher Walker (Published by OCP)

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Text: African American spiritual

Music: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1988

Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

“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.

“Be Not Afraid”

Text: Taizé Community, 1998

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1998

Text & Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taize (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

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“How Firm a Foundation”

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

“To God Be the Glory”