



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.)
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 11, 2022 - 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

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

L: Whether we embrace God's call in our lives or try to avoid it,

**P: God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

L: Whether we are long-timers or latecomers in the life of faith,

**P: God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

L: Whether our lives in Christ are comfortable or bring hardship,

**P: God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

We praise God's name forever and ever!

Prayer of Invocation

Generous God, you come to us again and again,
no matter how late it is in the day or in our lives.

Calling to us, gathering us in,
you give us your good work to do,
daily bread, and boundless grace.

Increase in us a generous spirit
so that we may do your work with joy
alongside others whom you also love.
We celebrate your salvation not only in our lives,
but also in the lives of other people,
even those we had not imagined
would be included in the kingdom you are bringing.
Align us with your ways
and help us receive your gift of justice and mercy as good news.
In Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

* 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!*

* Call to Confession

Because we do not always live our lives
in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ,
we confess before God and one another
our sins and shortcomings.

In repentance, let us turn toward God's grace and mercy.

* Corporate Prayer of Confession

God of abundant goodness,

**we confess that we want your grace for ourselves
but often wish punishment or exclusion on others.**

**We judge the efforts and motives of others
while ignoring the faults of our own.**

Forgive us, we pray, when we let jealousy overtake us.

Forgive us, we pray,

when we are petty even in the presence of your generosity.

Forgive us, we pray, when we feel slighted by you.

May we ask once again for your mercy?

Will you help us to be more merciful toward one another?

We pray in the name of Christ Jesus,

by whose grace we are saved. Amen.

* Sung Response No. 575 "LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US"

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us;

Christ have mer-cy up-on us;

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

* Assurance of Pardon

L: God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving,
grace beyond our ability to earn it.

P: **God has granted us the privilege of believing in Christ;
therefore we will live as grateful and forgiven people!**

Thanks be to God!

* Sung Response No. 581 **“GLORY BE TO THE FATHER”**

GLORIA PATRI

*Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be,
world with-out end. A-men, a–men.*

THE WORD

Children’s Moment

Musical Interlude

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God,

your Word surprises, challenges, upsets,
and overturns our way of seeing and thinking.

Come and find us today wherever we are, however we are.

By the power of your Holy Spirit,

cause that which is withering in us to blossom
and that which is exacting in us to broaden until we see as you see,
and thereby glimpse the kingdom you are bringing.

In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Readings from Scripture

Wisdom	Psalm 145:1-8	<i>(The Greatness ... of God)</i>	Pg. 548
Gospel	Matthew 20:1-16	<i>(The Laborers in the Vineyard)</i>	Pg. 21
Prophet	Jonah 3:10 – 4:11	<i>(Conversion of Nineveh)</i>	Pg. 811

Sermon

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith

A Brief Statement of Faith
Sections 4 & 5

Hymnal pg. 38

*Taken from The Brief Statement of Faith, 1991,
The Book of Confessions, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

God of unending mercy and steadfast love,
we are grateful that you are slow to anger,
for there is much in this world that is wrong
and set against your purposes.

Overcome our many injustices with your justice;
overtake our lust for revenge with your great mercy.

We pray for nations locked in enmity
to be set free from old patterns and to embrace a new way of relating.

We pray for people who wield economic power
to take notice of those whom you notice
and to have compassion for those who are vulnerable.

We pray for day laborers and the unemployed and the homeless.

Inspire us who have enough to share what we have,
not in measured and resentful amounts,
but gladly, abundantly, so basic needs do not go unattended.

Gather up the first and the last, the least and the greatest,
in the common work of your kingdom,
until there is no more first or last at all,
for all are one in your name.

Help us all to see not only your grace at work in the world,
but also your humor at work among us,
the holy laughter that heals us and helps us see ourselves rightly.

We thank you for the privilege of believing in Christ,
of living in Christ, and of living for Christ.

In all things, at all times,
we give thanks to you, who never lets us go;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

And now as Jesus has taught us, we are bold to pray together:

**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

Whether we have much or only a little,
we can share our daily bread so that all will be fed.
As we have received, so now we give,
in the vineyard of the Lord, our tithes and offerings.

Offertory

* 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

God of the harvest,
we are privileged to be counted among those whom you have called,
graced to have been given your work to do,
blessed to receive more than we will ever earn.
Accept, we pray, our thanksgivings and offerings,
and do what you choose with what already belongs to you.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

* Hymn No. 300

“WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT”

(They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love)

*We are one in the Spir-it; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spir-it; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all u-ni-ty may one day be re-stored:*

*And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.*

*We will walk with each oth-er; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each oth-er; we will walk hand in hand;
and to-geth-er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:*

*And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.*

*We will work with each oth-er; we will work side by side;
we will work with each oth-er; we will work side by side;
and we'll guard hu-man dig-ni-ty and save hu-man pride:*

*And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.*

*All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Je-sus, God's on-ly Son,
and all praise to the Spir-it who makes us one.*

*And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.*

* Charge

Go out this day practicing God's strange generosity toward others,
sharing the good news with them,
and rejoicing in their well-being that you, too, may be well.

* Blessing

May the generous grace of Christ attend you,
the astounding love of God find you,
and the surprising movement of the Holy Spirit guide you,
everywhere and always.

* Sung Response No. 748 **“GO WITH US, LORD”**

TALLIS' CANON

*Go with us, Lord , and guide the way
through this and ev-ery com-ing day,
that in your Spir-it strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.*

* Postlude

MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“Lord, Have Mercy upon Us”

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

Music: J. Christopher Pardini, 2005

Music © 2011 Birnamwood Publications (a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.)

“We Are One in the Spirit”

Text and Music: Peter Scholtes, 1966.

Text and Music © 1966 F.E.L Publications, assigned 1991 to The Lorenz Corp.

“Go with Us, Lord”

Text: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1986

Music: Thomas Tallis; adapt. Parker’s Whole Psalter, c. 1561

Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

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“To God Be the Glory”

“Glory Be to the Father”

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

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