

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope
OCTOBER 18, 2020 **PASTOR ELAINA SALMON**

Prelude *“You Are My Hiding Place”*

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Today as we begin our worship, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and welcome the newly baptized into the community of faith—Luna Rose Johnson and Elsie Jane Baltudis.

Song *“We Welcome You Dear Child of God”*

P People of God, in the baptismal waters we travel with Christ from death to life. Our past, our sin, our failure, our doubt, and our shame are drowned and gone here.

C **You, O God, wash us clean.**

P Our fear, our confusion, our self-righteousness, our despair -- all are washed away by grace.

C **You, O God, wash us clean.**

P Our pride, our hypocrisy, and other people’s opinions of us no longer have the power to define us.

C **You, O God, give us new life.**

P The Spirit lives and moves through us now, a great and joyful mystery, so we may bring love and mercy into the world as the body of Christ.

C **You, O God, give us new life.**

P Rejoice that God has claimed us in this baptismal grace, not by our own doing or believing but by God’s mercy alone.

C **You, O God, give us new life.**

P And so, as we begin worship, we give thanks to God for the gracious gift of baptism that joins us together in Christ by the Spirit’s power. Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness. We praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Gathering Song “Let My Prayer Rise Up” #232

*Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.*

*O God, I call to you, come to me now;
oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.
Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.*

*Keep watch within me, God;
deep in my heart may the light of your love
be burning bright.
Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.*

*All praise to the God of all--Creator of life;
all praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love.
Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.*

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Holy God, we come to your for healing in sickness, in heartache, in uncertainty, in grief. We come to you, because some of this has become too much to carry on our own. Help us to listen to our grief and honor our sorrow. As we do, hold us in love and grant us your peace. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Children’s Sermon

The First Reading Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 6

A O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger, or discipline me in your wrath.

C **Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing; O LORD, heal me, for my bones are shaking with terror.**

A My soul also is struck with terror, while you, O LORD — how long?

C **Turn, O LORD, save my life; deliver me for the sake of your steadfast love.**

A For in death there is no remembrance of you; in Sheol who can give you praise?

C **I am weary with my moaning; every night I flood my bed with tears; I drench my couch with my weeping.**

A My eyes waste away because of grief; they grow weak because of all my foes.

C **Depart from me, all you workers of evil, for the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping.**

A The LORD has heard my supplication; the LORD accepts my prayer.

C **All my enemies shall be ashamed and struck with terror; they shall turn back, and in a moment be put to shame.**

The Second Reading Romans 8: 35-39

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel John 14:15-20, 25-27

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father

will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day “Healer of Our Every Ill” #612

*Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.*

*You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.
Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.*

*In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love.
Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.*

*Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.
Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.*

Prayers of the People

P Like the first disciples before the coming of God’s power at Pentecost, we wait in faith and pray.

(a moment of silence)

P Be with us, Holy Spirit;

C **Nothing can separate us from your love.**

P Be with us as of old, fill us with your power,

C **direct all our thoughts to your goodness.**

P Be present, Holy Spirit;

C **bring faith and healing and peace.**

(a moment of silence)

Song *“God of Mercy, Hold us in Love”*

A O Lord, hear our prayer and answer us when we call. We pray for those who need your healing power.... We call to mind others who need your healing touch.

(a moment of silence). God of mercy,

C hold us in love.

A Be a refuge for all those who grieve the death of loved ones.

God of mercy,

C hold us in love.

A Quiet the fears of those living with anxiety, depression, or suicidal thoughts.

God of mercy,

C hold us in love.

A Give your angels charge over those who have been traumatized or abused.

God of mercy,

C hold us in love.

A Do not leave us orphaned, especially those alone or lost.

God of mercy,

C hold us in love.

A Grant forgiveness and freedom to those who feel burdened by guilt and shame.

God of mercy,

C hold us in love.

A Show your salvation to those who are dying and give the assurance of your presence to those who watch and wait.

God of mercy,

C hold us in love.

P God our healer,
keep us aware of your presence,
support us with your power,
comfort us with your protection,
give us strength and establish us in your peace.

trusting in your mercy, we offer these prayers to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

C 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

P God be your comfort, your strength;
God be your hope and support;
God be your light and your way;
and the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life,
remain with you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

Song *“Still”*

Dismissal

P Go in peace, strengthened by the Spirit, to nurture with love and serve with hope.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Sign of Peace

Offering

Your offering supports the ministry of this church as we seek to *Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope*. You may submit your offering online at bethanylemont.org or by mailing in your gift (500 Lemont St.) As you are able, and if your employment has been unaffected, please continue to give.

All are welcome to come by Bethany Lutheran Church for a Drive-up Prayer and Blessing between Noon-1:30pm. Pr. Elaina and Sandy Doebert will be stationed near the east entrance steps along Lemont St.

Acknowledgements

Let My Prayer Rise Up Text: *Holden Evening Prayer*, Marty Haugen, Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

Thanksgiving for Baptism adapted from Pr. Jessica Harren and Pr. Michael Coffey, <http://pastorjess.com/congregational-renewal-stories-and-resources/thanksgiving-for-baptism>

Healer of Our Every Ill Text & Music by Marty Haugen © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

Final Blessing from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, © The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia, Harper One.

Hymn reprinted with permission from OneLicense.net Annual License A-708792

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Joanne Bauer	Frank Iwan	Omni Rook Myers
Rev. Glenn Bergmark	Nancy Iwan	Leona Nelson
Sharon Bolerjack	Janice Johnson	Frank Roy
Yvonne Borkhuis	Jerry Johnson	Ranada Rymkus
Evelyn Cahill	Monica Johnson	Ben Sabourin
Sean Clark	Norma Johnson	Rani Sachi
John Michael Clatto	Peyton Kirk	Bernie Schroeder
Gary Cobbett	Lenny Kobilca	Kerri Schroeder
Ginny Connelly	Dana Koll	Tim Schroeder
Rudy Cozzi	Virgie Kwasneski	Virginia Schroeder
Beau Dowling	Sue Lucheon	John Shea
Jim Driscoll	Scott Lundgren	Stella Slowik
Finley Engnell	Dede Machowski	Gene Sobba
Brianna Freehauf	Liz Martinez	Vivian Tiemeier
The Halama Family	Glenn McAdam	Sherri Vick
Julie Hayes	Paula McCoy	Kyle Williams
Marie Heeren	Jim McKeever	Kelli Wilson
Dan Herzing	Frank Miller	Justin Wormsley
Mike Hoffman	Dennis Murphy	Stephanie Wormsley

For Sean Acosta, Dustin Johnson, Steve Kleinfelder, Patrick Naughton, Chad Peters, Mitch Pohlman and all others serving our country and their families.

For those we name in our hearts, and for those who have not yet found Jesus.

Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope

When we are at our best you will see us:

- *Building relationships that connect people in meaningful ways*
- *Growing spiritually through the adventure of the Gospel, then and now*
- *Engaging our community with a servant's heart*
- *Welcoming and offering acceptance to all those we meet*
- *Giving generously out of the abundance of God*

Pastor Elaina Salmon
prelainsalmon@gmail.com
Church Office
Susan J. Gray, Organist

Office 630-257-0719
Cell 312-218-7215
630-257-7953

www.bethanylemont.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVING TODAY — Don Garling and The Gotlund Family

MUSICIANS — Sue Gray, Sandy Doebert and Carol Rhoades; music videos put together by Sue Gray

BETHANY TEXTS — Would you like to receive a word of encouragement via text as a midweek faith lift? Or how about a reminder about Bethany happenings? Sign-up to receive Bethany Texts by texting the word "LOVESERVE" to 84576. You will have an option to join different text groups: Faith Lift (scripture/prayer), Children & Family, Study Group.

BONFIRE WORSHIP

Join us on Wednesday, October 21 at 7pm for Worship around the Bonfire. This will be a very casual service and time to connect with one another. Please bring a chair and wear a mask.

BOOK CLUB will meet on Wednesday, October 21st at 1PM on Bethany's lawn (or in the Community Room if inclement weather). Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout is the selected book. Bring your chair and lunch if you like and wear a mask.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

We are collecting pictures of our dearly departed for a video to be shared at our All Saints Service on Sunday, November 1. Please send one picture per deceased person so you may need to coordinate with your family. Multiple generations are welcome, but in that case, group pictures will be helpful. Please email to prelainsalmon@gmail.com. Pictures are due by Sunday, October 25. As we

look towards this special celebration, we will also have a brief outdoor service at Bethany's Cemetery following worship. More specific details to come.

Please join us for the **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** of Bethany Lutheran Church (via Zoom) on Sunday, November 22nd following our 10:30 worship service. According to our constitution, voting members are confirmed members who have communed in this congregation and have made a contribution of record over the past year. Ten percent of voting members shall constitute a quorum. Illinois State Law allows for virtual meetings for all organizations. Since our constitution does not expressly forbid a virtual meeting, we can legally proceed with a meeting on Zoom.

RACISM STUDY — Our study group learned so much that we decided to continue with once a month meetings to further our understanding and to continue to practice talking about challenging topics. You are welcome to join us. Our next study group will meet on Wednesday, October 28 at 7:30pm via Zoom. Our assignment for the day is the Frontline Episode called "Policing the Police 2020."

CHRIST IN OUR HOME daily devotionals are available in the Church office. Just stop in during regular office hours (T-TH 8:30-12:30) if you would like one.

ELECTRONIC GIVING is available to support Bethany Church. It is fast, easy and secure. You can schedule a weekly or monthly contribution that is automatically debited from your savings or checking account. Make a one-time donation to a special fund; even direct the gift in honor or in memory of someone. Visit our website: bethanylemont.org and click the Donate button on the homepage.

DONATIONS TO THE OPEN PANTRY were received from Kris & Joe Falese, John & Jennifer Davis, Don & Patty Krengiel, Lois Miller, Tom Richardson, Don & Bernadette Turner, Church of the Transfiguration, Lemont Environmental Advisory Commission, Matthew & Elizabeth Clarage and The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park.