

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope
JUNE 29, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

THE GATHERING

(Please stand.)

Gathering Song *"Spirit, Open My Heart"*

Refrain

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.*

*God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender. Refrain*

*Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory. Refrain*

*May I weep with those who weep;
share the joy of friend and neighbor.
As I live from day to day,
love will be my finest labor. Refrain*

Greeting

L 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.**

Hymn of Praise *“Shout to the Lord”*

*My Jesus, my Savior,
Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
tower of refuge and strength;
let ev'ry breath, all that I am
never cease to worship you.*

*Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.*

Prayer of the Day

L Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

THE WORD

The First Reading 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

Then the Lord said to Elijah, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.”

So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” Then Elijah said to him, “Go back again; for what have I done to you?” He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16

- A Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
- C **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**
- A But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- C **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**
- A O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.
- C **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
- A I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
- C **I have set the Lord always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
- A My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
- C **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**
- A You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures
forevermore.

Second Reading 1 Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity,

faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand.)

Gospel Acclamation “*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*”

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Gospel Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated.)

Sermon Sandy Doeber

(Please stand.)

Hymn of the Day *“Will You Come and Follow Me”*

*"Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"*

*Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.*

Prayers of the People

- A Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

(a moment of silence)

- A Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

- A Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence. Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A Gracious God, we give thanks for this congregation. Help each of us to follow you, using our gifts in service to the world as we nurture with love and serve with hope. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**
- A Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
C **Amen.**

Sharing of Christ's Peace

- L The peace of Christ be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

(Please be seated.)

THANKSGIVING

Invitation to the Offering

- L We give in response to what God has first given us. We worship God with our offerings.

Offering

(Please stand.)

Offertory Song *“For Such a Time as This”*

*Could it be (could it be) that we are called
for such a time as this?
Could it be (could it be) that we are called
for such a time as this?*

Offertory Prayer

- A Creator God,
 in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
 and the harvest is plentiful.
 Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
 and our labor,
 that we may work for the good of all;
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C **Amen.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

- L Let us pray.
- L Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke
 light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your
 Word of life, O God,
- C **we give you thanks and praise.**
- L By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from
 captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with
 you. For your Word of life, O God,
- C **we give you thanks and praise.**
- L Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness
 through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For
 your Word of life, O God,
- C **we give you thanks and praise.**
- L Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase
 our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O
 God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to
 whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
- C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- L 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.**

SENDING

Blessing

L The love of God abound in us;
 the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
 and the life of the Spirit
 bless us and give us peace.
C **Amen.**

Sending Song *"Here I am, Lord"*

*"I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"*

Refrain

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*"I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" Refrain*

*"I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide*

*till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" Refrain*

Dismissal

L Go in peace to nurture with love and serve with hope.
C **Thanks be to God!**

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY

MariLynn Bergmark	Pat Johnson	Ken Rose
Sue Blender	Caty K	Frank Roy
Sharon Bolerjack	Zeplyn Killmer	Ben Sabourin
Hazel Brant	Lenny Kobilca	Pr. Elaina Salmon
Scott Browne	Carrie Koon	George Scheel
Evelyn Cahill	Rev. John Lang	Bernie Schroeder
Tom Casey	Nancy Lang	Tim Schroeder
Gary Cobbett	Sue Lucheon	Virginia Schroeder
Sidney Colburn	Scott Lundgren	Josh Shaw
Jim Connelly	Dede Machowski	Sharon Skopec
Beau Dowling	Ashley Maestre	Gene Sobba
Finley Engnell	Hanna Mau	Gary Sperka
Elwood Faulhaber	Jim McKeever	Burt Swartz
Judy Faulhaber	Ruth Ann Miller	Dom Thielmann
Abby Galvin	Omni Rook Myers	Kayley Koter Taddeo
David Gilchrist	Linda Nelson	Chuck Vlcek
Chriss Hassel	Dave Nommenson	Cindy Vorel
Mike Hoffman	Charlotte Pohlman	Rick Vorel
Bob Hoster	Misty Pounder	Kyle Williams
Monica Johnson	Brilee Robbins	George Woolet

For Sean Acosta, Dustin Johnson, Steve Kleinfelder, Damen McDermott,
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.

Acknowledgements

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVING TODAY — Glenda Anderson and Sandy Doebert

MUSICIANS — Sandy Doebert and Sue Gray

TECH CREW — Gary Gray and Zach Howell

CHURCH OFFICE AND FOOD PANTRY will be closed the week of June 30th and will reopen on Tuesday, July 8th. For pastoral emergencies, please contact Kealy Schroeder at 630-220-1468 or Rev. John Gerike at 630-210-1920.

A DONATION TO THE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FUND was given by Ed and Glenda Anderson.

A DONATION TO THE OPEN PANTRY was given by Lemont Garden Club.

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