

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope
JULY 13, 2025

Prelude *“Teach Me Thy Way, Lord”*

Welcome and Announcements

THE GATHERING

(Please stand.)

Gathering Song *“God is Here Today”*

*God is here today;
as certain as the air I breathe,
as certain as the morning sun that rises,
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song. (Repeated)*

Greeting

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us 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 O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

THE WORD

The First Reading Deuteronomy 30:9-14

The Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

“Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

- A The Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25

- A To you, O Lord,
I lift up my soul.
- C **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- A Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
- C **Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.**
- A Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

- C Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**
- A Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
- C You are gracious and upright, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
- A You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.
- C All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies**

Second Reading Colossians 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,
To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

- 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 10:25-37

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

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

(Please be seated.)

Sermon Joe Falese

(Please stand.)

Hymn of the Day “When We Are Living”

*When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we’re dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God, we belong to God.*

*’Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love’s embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God, we belong to God.*

*Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind;
and when we help them, or when we feed them,*

we belong to God, we belong to God.

Prayers of the People

A In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

(a moment of silence)

A Saving God, awaken your church to your truth as it follows your path of love. Encourage pastors, deacons, teachers, and seminarians, and lead them as they seek to learn your ways. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Prosper the harvests of fruit-bearing bushes, trees, and plants. Uphold farmers and farm workers as they labor through summer days, and bring relief to lands that are parched with heat. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Instill in leaders of the world a strong love for their neighbors. Compel them to govern with equity and to give aid and protection to people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Draw near to people in need of help, comfort, and healing. Provide protection and aid to the communities devastated by the Texas floods and console all those who mourn. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Go with all who travel, and protect them from harm. Put in their paths people who offer aid. We pray especially for the safety of first responders. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and have made your love known. Help us to follow their witness as we await our share in the inheritance of the saints. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

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 God has blessed us with our selves, our time, and our possessions. We are blessed to be a blessing. 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?*

Special Music *“Write My Name, Upon Thy Heart”*

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 Lord bless us and keep us.
The Lord's face shine on us with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.
C **Amen.**

Sending Song "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Refrain

*Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.*

*Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. Refrain*

*Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are near us and far away. Refrain*

*These are the ones we will serve,
these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. Refrain*

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

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

Prayer of the Day, Prayers of the People, Offertory Prayer, Blessing, Liturgies and Dismissal from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #43914

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America and used by permission. All rights reserved.

Teach Me Thy Way. Lord by Gene Clarke

God is Here Today Text: Javier Gacias Mateo, b. 1956; tr. C. Michael Hawn, b. 1948 Text © 1999 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved.

Shout to the Lord Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965 Text © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in the USA & Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Media

When We Are Living Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942 st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946 © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company

For Such a Time as This Text: Jonathan Rundman, b. 1971 Text © 2015 Jonathan Rundman and Salt Lady Music (ASCAP)

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt. Text © 1969 Hope Publishing Company

Hymns reprinted with permission from OneLicense.net Annual License A-70879 and CCLI License 4049530

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVING TODAY — Glenda Anderson and Joe Falese

MUSICIANS — David Bergmark, Sandy Doebert and Sue Gray

TECH CREW — Gary Gray and Zach Howell

GIVING BACK TO LEMONT CONCERT

Join the community at this annual concert on Saturday, July 26 from 4-9pm on the lawn by Next Mex (319 Front St.) This is a free event that benefits the Lemont food pantries. Please bring non-perishable food or monetary donations. There will be raffles, prizes, and giveaways throughout the event. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic baskets and enjoy a night of music.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES SERVICE PROJECT

Please join us! On Sunday, July 27, following worship, all are welcome to help us assemble approximately 40 kits for local children. Wear your Bethany gear the day of!

DONATIONS TO THE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FUND were given by Theresa Woike, Kelly Jaje and Joe and Kris Falese.

DONATIONS TO THE BUILDING CARE FUND were given by Dave and Mary Staudt and Kelly Jaje.

A DONATION TO THE CEMETERY FUND was given in memory of Rev. Glenn Bergmark by Mrs. MariLynn Bergmark.

A DONATION TO THE CEMETERY FUND was given by Dave and Mary Staudt.

A DONATION TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND was given by Dave and Mary Staudt.

A DONATION TO THE OPEN PANTRY was made in memory of Michael Etchingham by Dave and Mary Staudt.

A DONATION TO THE OPEN PANTRY was given by Sue and Gary Gray.

ELECTRONIC GIVING is available to support Bethany Lutheran 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.