

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH <i>Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope</i> NOVEMBER 16, 2025 PASTOR ELAINA SALMON

Prelude *“O God You Search Me”*

Welcome and Announcements

(Please stand.)

THE GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
 who forgives all our sin,
 whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
 and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C Faithful God,
 **you have shown us the ways of your heart,
 yet we stray from your paths.
 We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
 and do not embrace the freedom
 of your faithful promises.
 We ignore our neighbors.
 We exploit the earth.
 We reject your abundance,
 trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.
 Repair our relationships,
 restore what we have broken,
 renew our hearts,
 and bring us to new life.
 Amen.**

P Hear the good news:
 God the Faithful One loves you,
 in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
 and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

C **Amen.**

Gathering Song *“Sing a New Song”*

Refrain

*Sing a new song unto the Lord
Let your song be sung from mountains high
Sing a new song unto the Lord
Singing 'alleluia*

*Yahweh's people dance for joy
O' come before the Lord
And play for Him on glad tambourines
And let your trumpet sound Refrain*

*Rise, o' children, from your sleep
Your Savior now has come
He has turned your sorrow to joy
And filled your soul with song Refrain*

*Glad my soul for I have seen
The glory of the Lord
The trumpet sounds, the dead shall be raised
I know my Savior lives Refrain*

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.**

Hymn of Praise *“Soli Deo Gloria”*

*O God of blessings, all praise to you!
Your love surrounds us our whole life through.
You are the freedom of those oppressed;
you are the comfort of all distressed.
Come now, O holy and welcome guest:
Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria!*

*All praise for Jesus, best gift divine
through word and witness, in bread and wine;
incarnate love song of boundless grace,
priest, teacher, prophet in time and space,
your steadfast kindness with human face:
Soli Deo gloria! Soli Deo gloria!*

Prayer of the Day

P O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

THE WORD

The First Reading Malachi 4:1-2a

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

A Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

C **O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

A You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

C **Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

A Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

C **With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.**

A Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

C **Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.**

A The Lord will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

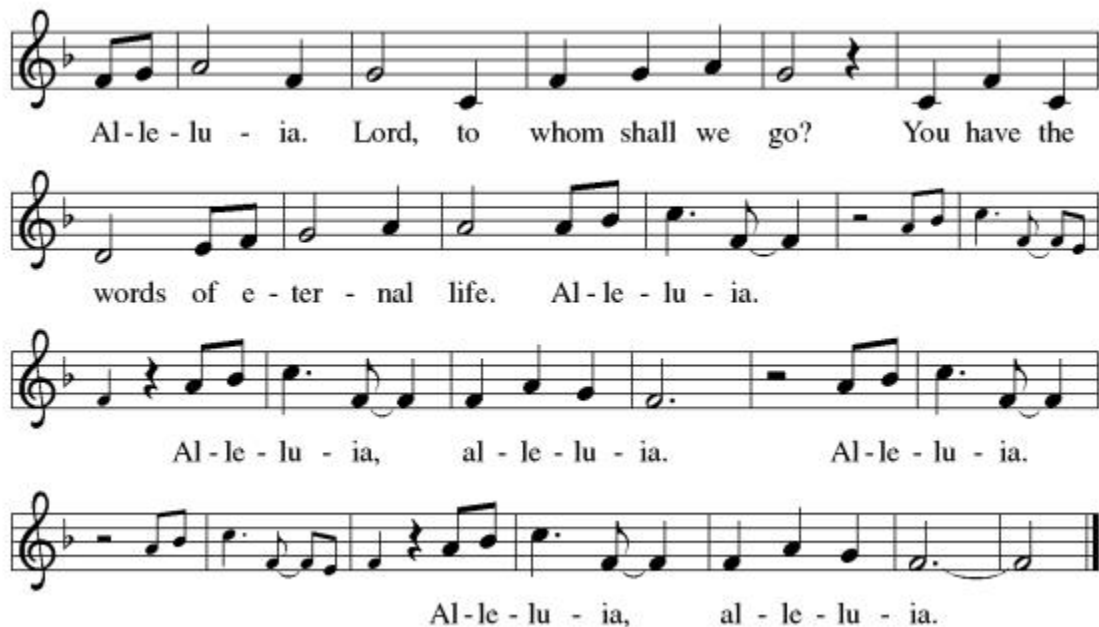
Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand.)

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Luke 21:5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and

say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

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

(Please be seated.)

Sermon Rev. Elaina Salmon

(Please stand.)

Hymn of the Day “Come Now, O God”

*Come now, O God, when our love is forsaken.
Come, when our bedrock of faith has been shaken.
Come, when our deepest of hopes are mistaken.
Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.*

*Come, when we squander the freedom you gave us.
Come, break the systems of sin that enslave us.
Come, though we wonder if you can still save us.
Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.*

*Come, put an end to our self-serving madness.
Come, while the world is enshrouded in sadness.
Come, turn the tears of our mourning to gladness.
Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.*

Prayers of the People

A Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

(a moment of silence)

A God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. We pray for.... Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sharing of Christ's Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(Please be seated.)

THE MEAL

Invitation to the Offering

P With gratitude for God's blessings through the power at work in Christ Jesus, we gather now the gifts of the church for the sake of the gospel.

Offering

Special Music "You Are Near"

(Please stand.)

Offertory Song "Give Thanks"

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!*

Offertory Prayer

A God of healing and hope,
you bless those who are hungry,
promising to fill them with good things.
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P Blessed are you, O God,
creator of heaven and earth.
You rescued your covenant people,
led them on all their journeys,
and taught them by the prophets.
You so loved the world
that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
may not perish but may have eternal life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup
is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

As often as we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.

C **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

P Pour out your Holy Spirit
in this meal,
and make us one
in this community of faith
and with your people
throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God,
Author of life,
Word made flesh,
Power of the Most High,
now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P 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.**

Invitation to Communion

P There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

(Please be seated.)

Communion Distribution

Communion Songs

"Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

“Abide With Me”

*Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.*

*I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me!*

*Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes,
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heav'n's morning breaks,
and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

(Please stand.)

Communion Blessing

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his
 grace.
C **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
 you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
 that gives life to the world.
 Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
 send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
 hunger and thirst,
 and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.
C **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

P The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
 God the Son save you,
 and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.
 The holy Trinity bless you
 and grant you a faithful and courageous heart
 now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sending Song *“May the God of Hope Go With Us”*

*May the God of hope go with us ev'ry day,
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to ev'ry land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

Dismissal

P Go in peace to nurture with love and serve with hope.

C **Thanks be to God!**

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY

MariLynn Bergmark	Caty K	Ken Rose
Sue Blender	Zepplyn Killmer	Frank Roy
Sharon Bolerjack	Lenny Kobilca	Ben Sabourin
Hazel Brant	Carrie Koon	Pr. Elaina Salmon
Scott Browne	Rev. John Lang	George Scheel
Evelyn Cahill	Nancy Lang	Bernie Schroeder
Tom Casey	Sue Lucheon	Tim Schroeder
Gary Cobbett	Scott Lundgren	Virginia Schroeder
Sidney Colburn	Dede Machowski	Josh Shaw
Jim Connelly	Ashley Maestre	Sharon Skopec
Beau Dowling	Hanna Mau	Gene Sobba
Finley Engnell	Jim McKeever	Gary Sperka
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
Mike Hoffman	Charlotte Pohlman	Rick Vorel
Monica Johnson	Misty Pounder	Kyle Williams
Pat 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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O God You Search Me by Bernadette Farrell

Sing a New Song by Dan Schutte

Soli Deo Gloria Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text © 1999 GIA Publications, Inc.

Come Now, O God Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984 Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc.

You Are Near by Dan Schutte

Give Thanks Text & music: Henry Smith, Text & music © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Lamb of God Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948

Abide With Me Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847

May the God of Hope Go With Us Text: Alvin Schutmaat, 1921-1988, alt.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVING TODAY — Pam Laasch

ACOLYTES — Madelyn Dixon and Mark Murphy

MUSICIAN — Sandy Doeberst and Sue Gray

TECH CREW — Gary Gray, Sue Gray and Zach Howell

A GIFT TO GIVE HOLIDAY SHOP

This Christmas, our church is hosting *A Gift to Give Holiday Shop* on **December 6 and 7** — a special event where children from our pantry families can experience the joy of giving by choosing, wrapping, and sharing gifts for their loved ones. We invite you to help make this event possible! Donations of ***new items (\$5–\$10) for men or women*** are greatly appreciated. You may also donate ***unused items from home*** to be “re-gifted,” or contribute ***wrapping supplies*** (paper, tape, bows, ribbons). A ***donation bin*** is located at the back of the church. If you’d prefer to ***give financially***, envelopes are available on the back table — simply place your gift in the offering. If you know a family with children who could benefit from this program, please contact Pastor Elaina or Stephanie Guglielmucci (773-255-5023). Thank you for helping us share the true spirit of Christmas — the joy of giving!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please join us on Sunday, November 23 following worship for our Annual Congregational Meeting. We will elect positions of leadership, approve an annual budget, and review and celebrate Bethany's ministry. Voting members are constitutionally defined as confirmed members, who during the preceding calendar year, have communed in this congregation and have given a contribution of record to this congregation. Voting members have the privilege of voice and vote. Ten percent of voting members shall constitute a quorum.

DONATIONS TO THE OPEN PANTRY were given by Lions Club, Sara Ward, Scott, Carol & Robin Main, Jan Silwa, Bev Wesolowski, Joseph Zuzich, Lemont Canal Girls, Steven & Linda Barton, Lemont Township, Elsie Schultz, Barb Osborne, Theresa Woike, Carol Cullinan, Gisela Rittenhouse, Cynthia Galarza, Gloria Abboud, Dennis & Lois Popish, Angela Piekosz, Gil & Bobbe Fash, Jane & Patrick Woytek, Emmanuel Church, Rusty Steiger, Judy Wilson, and Michelle Shortt.

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.