

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope

JULY 19, 2026

PASTOR ELA/NA SALMON

Prelude *“O God You Search me and You Know Me”*

Welcome and Announcements

THE GATHERING

Call to Worship

P Let us remember that we are always in the holy presence of God.

(a moment of silence)

(Please stand.)

Centering Song *“Let There Be Rest”* vs. 1-3

*Let there be rest; there is rest for you.
Claim back your breath; there is breath for you.
Free from the pressure, the pushing, the pain –
yes, take your rest, yes, take your rest,
yes, take your rest, there is rest for you.*

*Let there be peace; there is peace for you.
Trust in your breath; there is breath for you.
After the struggle, release and receive-
yes, find your peace, yes, find your peace,
yes, find your peace, there is peace for you.*

*Let there be joy; there is joy for you.
Deepen your breath; there is breath for you.
Now in the stillness, remember your song;
yes, feel your joy, yes, feel your joy,
yes, feel your joy, there is joy for you.*

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

C **we confess to you all our sins.**

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.

C **Amen.**

Gathering Song "Come to Me"

Refrain

Come to me, come to me

and I will give you rest.

Come to me, come to me

and I will give you rest, give you rest.

We come to offer you our burdens.

We come to worship you with faith.

We come to ask you for forgiveness.

We come to you for your embrace. Refrain

We come to you to tell our story.

We've come to give ourselves to grace.

We've come with all our faults and failings.

We come because you call our name. Refrain

Greeting

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

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

THE WORD

The First Reading Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:
I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 86 from Psalms for Praying by Nan C. Merrill

Teach me your ways, Mighty Counselor,
that I may walk in truth; write my name upon your Heart.
I give You thanks, O Beloved,
with my whole being;
O, that I might radiate your Light forever!
Great is your steadfast Love toward those who call upon You;
You deliver their souls from the depths of despair.
O Beloved, numerous fears rise up within me;
like an army they seek to overwhelm me, and
they would keep me in darkness.
Yet You are merciful and gracious,
ready to forgive and ever abounding in steadfast Love and faithfulness.
Be present to me and receive my prayer;
imbue me with strength, and help me to release each fear.
Pour forth your Light into my soul,

that all that is hidden in darkness may come forth into awareness.
For You, O Beloved, are my Redeemer and my Comforter.

Second Reading Romans 8:12-25

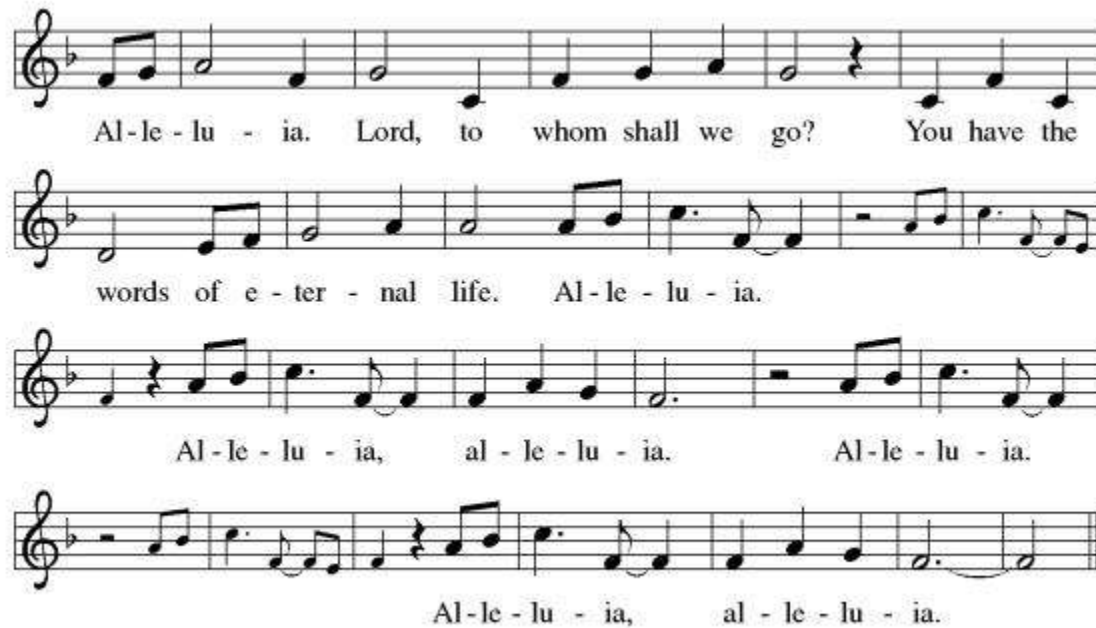
So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

(Please stand.)

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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 “The Reign of God, like Farmer’s Field”

*The reign of God, like farmer's field,
bears weeds along with wheat;
the good and bad are intertwined
till harvest is complete.*

*Though hidden now, the reign of God
may, yet unnoticed, grow;
from deep within it rises up,
like yeast in swelling dough.*

*The reign of God is come in Christ;
the reign of God is near.
Ablaze among us, kindling hearts,
the reign of God is here!*

(Please be seated.)

Holy Baptism of Emma Claire Santillo

P God who is rich in mercy and love gives us a new birth through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors We present Emma Claire Santillo for baptism.

P Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Emma baptized into Christ?

Parents We do.

P As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:
to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that Emma may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

P Do you promise to help Emma grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents We do.

P Sponsors, do you promise to support Emma and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

Sponsors We do.

P People of God, do you promise to pray for Emma in her new life in Christ?

C We do.

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Parents/Sponsors I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Parents/Sponsors I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Parents/Sponsors I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

P We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

P Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever

C **Amen.**

P Emma, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Emma with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Emma, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

P Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P Let us welcome Emma.

C **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God. Together let us bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

We Welcome You Dear Child of God

First time: choir

Second time: congregation



Written for Bethany Lutheran Church by R. Steiger (1996)

(Please stand.)

Prayers of the People

- A Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

"For the Troubles and the Sufferings"

*For the troubles and the sufferings of the world,
God, we call upon your mercy:
the whole creation's laboring in pain!
Lend an ear to the rising cry for help
from oppressed and hopeless people:
Come! Hasten your salvation, healing love!
We pray for peace, the blessed peace that comes from making justice,
to cover and embrace us. Have mercy, Lord!
We pray for pow'r, the pow'r that will sustain your people's witness:
until your kingdom comes. Kyrie eleison!*

- A God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

- A God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

- A God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

- A God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, or illness or injury. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

- A God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace,
C **hear our prayer.**

- A God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

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 God scatters seeds of grace with abandon and abundance. God is generous to us. Let us respond with grateful hearts.

Offering

Special Music *“Gift of Finest Wheat”*

(Please stand.)

Offertory Song *“We Eat the Bread of Teaching”*

Refrain

*We eat the bread of teaching,
drink wine of wisdom,
are given here a taste of the kingdom.
Together joined, the greatest and the least,
we all are one at Wisdom's holy feast.*

*Wisdom calls throughout the city,
knows our hunger, and in pity
gives her loving invitation
to the banquet of salvation. Refrain*

Offertory Prayer

- A Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us 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 – A Celtic Version

**P Holy One beyond all names
 Eternal Wellspring**
**C May love rise again in us today
 With food for every table
 Shelter for every family
 And reverence for every life.
 Forgive us our failing in love
 And free us from all falseness
 That the light of our souls may shine
 And the strength of our spirits endure
 For earth and all its people
 This day, tonight, and forever.
 Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

**P Heaven has come near.
 Come, share in the feast!**

(Please be seated.)

Communion Distribution

Communion Songs

"Lamb of God"



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the

ca - do del mun - do; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the

ca - do del mun - do; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the

ca - do del mun - do; ten pie - dad de no -
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up -

so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - stros.
on us, have . . . mer - cy up - on us.

Da - nos tu paz. A - mén.
Grant us your peace. A - men.

“As the Grains of Wheat”

Refrain

*As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.*

*As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. Refrain*

*Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. Refrain*

(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 Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
C **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

- P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
C **Amen.**

Sending Song *“Beauty for Brokenness”*

*Beauty for brokenness
Hope for despair
Lord in Your suff'ring world
This is our prayer
Bread for the children
Justice, joy, peace
Sunrise to sunset
Your kingdom increase*

*Shelter for fragile lives
Cures for their ills
Work for the craftsmen
Trade for their skills
Land for the dispossessed
Rights for the weak
Voices to plead the cause
Of those who can't speak*

*Refrain
God of the poor
Friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts
Let tears fall like rain
Come change our love
From a spark to a flame*

*Refuge from cruel wars
Havens from fear
Cities for sanctu'ry
Freedoms to share
Peace to the killing fields
Scorched earth to green
Christ for the bitterness
His cross for the pain Refrain*

*Rest for the ravaged earth
Oceans and streams
Plundered and poisoned
Our future our dreams
Lord, end our madness
Carelessness, greed;
Make us content with
The things that we need Refrain*

*Lighten our darkness
Breathe on this flame
Until Your justice*

*Burns brightly again
Until the nations
Learn of Your ways
Seek Your salvation
And bring You their praise Refrain*

Dismissal

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

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Ed Anderson	Emma Jean Howell	Dave Nommenson
MariLynn Bergmark	Monica Johnson	Charlotte Pohlman
Sue Blender	Pat Johnson	Misty Pounder
Sharon Bolerjack	Jessica Kean	Brilee Robbins
Hazel Brant	Zepplyn Killmer	Ken Rose
Scott Browne	Lenny Kobilca	Frank Roy
Evelyn Cahill	Carrie Koon	Ben Sabourin
Tom Casey	Rev. John Lang	Bernie Schroeder
Gary Cobbett	Nancy Lang	Tim Schroeder
Jim Connelly	Sue Lucheon	Virginia Schroeder
Vicki Dieska	Scott Lundgren	Josh Shaw
Beau Dowling	Dede Machowski	Sharon Skopec
Finley Engnell	Ashley Maestre	Gene Sobba
Elwood Faulhaber	Hanna Mau	Gary Sperka
Abby Galvin	Jim McKeever	Dom Thielmann
David Gilchrist	Ruth Ann Miller	Rick Vorel
Terri Hacker	Devin Mulcahy	Kyle Williams
Charlie Hagedorn	Omni Rook Myers	George Woolet
Mike Hoffman	Linda Nelson	

For Sean Acosta, Dustin Johnson, Steve Kleinfelder, Damen McDermott,
Chad Peters 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

MUSICIANS — Sue Gray and Shawn Salmon

TECH CREW — Gary Gray and Zach Howell

BAPTIZED TODAY — We welcome through holy baptism Emma Claire Santillo. Emma is the daughter of Rachel and Andrew Santillo. Emma is the granddaughter of Scott & Debbie Krueger, Vince & Lauren Santillo. Emma is the great-granddaughter of Nick & Michelle Santillo. Emma is sponsored today by Emma McCarter, Daniel Krueger and Matt Santillo.

SOUTH AFRICA

There is an opportunity for two Bethany members to travel with Pr. Elaina to meet our companion church in South Africa. Tentative dates are early November. Please let her know if you're interested in this opportunity. There is Losey grant money available to support travel costs.

HOLY CONVERSATION

Join us at Athens Park (20 Stephen St.) on Tuesday, July 21 from 6:30-8:00pm for Holy Conversations. We'll gather to reflect on our life of faith in light of Sunday's scripture readings. We will be in the pavilion right next to the playground so this is definitely family friendly!

REQUESTING PICTURES!

As our congregation grows, it's helpful to have pictures so that we can put names to faces. To complete a Bethany picture directory, we are requesting that you email a picture of you/your family to bethanylmt@aol.com.

A DONATION TO THE WINDOW PRESERVATION FUND was given in memory of Linda Naus by Pam Laasch.

DONATIONS TO THE OPEN PANTRY were given by St. Alphonsus and St. Patrick Parishes, Lynda Eberhart, Lois Miller and Rafael and Cathie Munoz.

MUSIC AVAILABLE

If a hymn number is listed with a song, you can find the music in the red hymnal in your pew. We have packets available at the back table that include the songs for the day.

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.