

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
26418 Mountain Highway E, Spanaway, WA

*"We are a family of believers, gathered in Christ, called to be disciples,
nourished in the Word and sent to serve."*



August 14, 2022
10th Sunday after Pentecost

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The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses.” In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

Welcome to Worship at Bethany!

Please fill out a blue communication card if you are: visiting; have prayer requests; have contact information changes or other information for the office. (Cards are available on the bookcase inside the sanctuary door or ask an usher.) Please place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. If you have no congregational home in this area, we invite you to consider Bethany!

The “Kids’ Korner” is our current alternative to a nursery. This section of the narthex is set up for kids to stay quietly occupied under their parent’s (or another adt’s) supervision. **Order of Service** – The bulletin is all-inclusive. The readings and hymns are included in the order they occur in the service.

Next week’s readings:

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalm 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

WELCOME

ORDER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.
Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.
When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.
Set us again on the path of life.
Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.
Amen.**

Hear the good news!
God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.
In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
You are free to love as God loves.
Amen.

You are invited to stand as you are able.

GATHERING SONG *Faith of Our Fathers*

ELW 812



- 1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,
2 The mar - tyrs, chained in pris - ons dark, were still in heart and
3 Faith of our fa - thers! We will love both friend and foe in



fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
con - science free; and blest would be their chil - dren's fate
all our strife; pro - claim thee too, as love knows how,

Refrain



when - e'er we hear that glo - rious word.
if they, like them, should die for thee. Faith of our fa - thers,
by sav - ing word and faith - ful life.



ho - ly faith, we will be true to thee till death.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: ST. CATHERINE, Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain

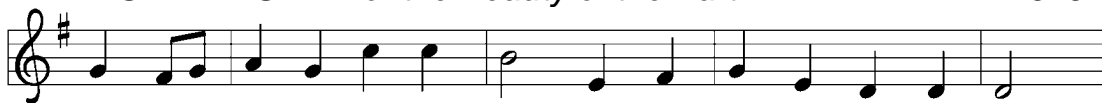
GREETING

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE *For the Beauty of the Earth*

ELW 879



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
- 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
- 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
- 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.

Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

You may be seated.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23:23-29

²³Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" ²⁶How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 82

¹God has taken his place in the divine council;
in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:

**²"How long will you judge unjustly
and show partiality to the wicked?**

³Give justice to the weak and the orphan;
maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.

**⁴Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked."**

⁵They have neither knowledge nor understanding,
they walk around in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**⁶I say, "You are gods,
children of the Most High, all of you;**

⁷nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,
and fall like any prince."

**⁸Rise up, O God, judge the earth;
for all the nations belong to you!**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:29--12:2

²⁹By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1}Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

You are invited to stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

ELW 172



Music: Caribbean traditional

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-56

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹“I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided:

father against son and son against father,
mother against daughter and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

You may be seated.

SERMON

You are invited to stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Thy Strong Word*

ELW 511



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
 tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
 throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 mouths to speak thy holy name.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 May the light which thou dost send
 fill our songs with alleluias,
 alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
 to thee laud and honor be.
 To thee, Light of Light begotten,
 praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 glory, glory be to thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 praise the holy Trinity!

You may be seated.

THE PRAYERS

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

Arise, O God, and sustain your church. We pray for all who dedicate their lives to serving your people. Renew our commitment to our siblings in faith around the globe, and bless the work of our ecumenical and interfaith partners. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Arise, O God, and sustain your creation. We pray for all places affected by natural disasters. Transform the devastation of floods and fires into fertile ground for new life and growth. Fill heaven and earth with your life-giving Spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Arise, O God, and sustain the nations. We pray for all elected officials. Kindle in them a desire to administer your justice. Strengthen their resolve to defend those who are vulnerable and to stand publicly against all forms of oppression. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Arise, O God, and sustain this assembly. We pray for this community, celebrating with those who rejoice and weeping with those who weep, *especially those we name now silently or aloud.* In our joy and in our tears, be near us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, we remember the saints who have gone before us. May we run with perseverance the race set before us until we find our rest in you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our risen Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

We share a sign of peace with those around us.

OFFERING/ANNOUNCEMENTS



The musical score is written on six staves in treble clef. It features a melody with various note values including eighth, quarter, and half notes, as well as rests. Triplet markings (a '3' over a group of notes) are present on the first, third, and sixth staves. The lyrics are printed below the notes, aligned with the corresponding musical phrases.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance:

you have set before us a plentiful harvest.

As we feast on your goodness,

strengthen us to labor in your field,

and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,

in the name of Jesus. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Christ’s presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

COMMUNION

Be seated until ushers direct you to the altar. All are welcome at Holy Communion. The Lord invites us to come. If you would like a gluten-free option, hold up your index finger when the pastor serves the bread. Red wine is available from the outer part of the communion tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the communion tray. Come and be filled with God’s grace!

COMMUNION HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together*

LBW 212

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two vocal parts, labeled 1 and 2. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff is marked 'Refrain' and has a single vocal line. The fourth staff continues the melody. The lyrics are: '1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. Refrain When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.'

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

continued on facing page

3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;

let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.

Refrain

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

COMMUNION HYMN *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

ELW 490

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,

pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
 veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:

Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
 he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
 comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.
 Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

You are invited to stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God,
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds
and fed us with your mercy.
Now send us forth to live for others,
both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.
This we pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

The God of peace,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.
Amen.



SENDING HYMN *The Right Hand of God* ELW 889



1 The right hand of God is writ - ing in our land,
 2 The right hand of God is point - ing in our land,
 3 The right hand of God is strik - ing in our land,
 4 The right hand of God is heal - ing in our land,



writ - ing with pow - er and with love,
 point - ing the way . . . we must go,
 strik - ing out at en - vy, hate, and greed.
 heal - ing bro - ken bod - ies, minds, and souls,



our con - flicts and our fears, our tri - umphs and our tears
 so cloud - ed is the way, so eas - i - ly we stray,
 Our self - ish - ness and lust, our pride and deeds un - just
 so won - drous is its touch with love that means so much,



are re - cord - ed by the right hand of God.
 but we're guid - ed by the right hand of God.
 are de - stroyed by the right hand of God.
 when we're healed by the right hand of God.

Text: Patrick Prescod

Music: LA MANO DE DIOS, Noel Dexter

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

August 14, 2022

10th Sunday after Pentecost

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