



A Christ-centered family who serves by sharing God’s love and hope with all.

15 West 14th Street, Spencer, IA 51301 www.bethluthspencer.com

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025 – 9:00 A.M.

A Service Celebrating Companion Synod & Congregation Relationships

We recite in the Nicene Creed – “We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church ...”. We know eyes, feet, and ears need one another in the body of Christ with which we gather each Lord’s Day. This service celebrates the relationships that bind the universal church as well – relationships that are flourishing between ELCA synods (such as the Western Iowa Synod) and churches and companion dioceses and parishes around the world, especially in Tanzania and Chile. We celebrate and give thanks for these relationships and our work together in answering God’s call to serve one another!

PRELUDE: “Great is Thy Faithfulness” - arranged by Sandra Eithun, ©;

Tune: FAITHFULNESS by Wm. M. Runyan © Hope Publishing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

KARIBU! MUNGU NI MWEMA! MUNGU NI PENDO!

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From the north and south, the east and west, we come:

Many: people called to worship the Lord.

One: From every nation, every race, every tongue; from every walk of life and status:

Many: God's people are called to community.

One: We come from different places, but we are one in the Body of Christ.

Many: As we gather, let us find unity and grace in the love of God.

One: Let us worship together, and be nourished by God's Word, ready to share that peace with all the world.

All: Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

One: . . . In the mighty and precious name of Jesus, we pray.

All: AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: “In Christ There is No East or West”

ELW #650

- 1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.**
- 3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.**
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.**

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

Music: African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949. Tune: McKEE

Text and Music: Public Domain

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GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself. We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. AMEN.

FIRST PSALM READING: Psalm 136:1-9 (NRSVUE) - *read responsively*

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

² O give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

³ O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁴ who alone does great wonders,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁵ who by understanding made the heavens,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁶ who spread out the earth on the waters,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁷ who made the great lights,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁸ the sun to rule over the day,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

⁹ the moon and stars to rule over the night,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Second Psalm Reading: Psalm 100 (NRSVUE)

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

² Serve the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

³ Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him; bless his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever
and his faithfulness to all generations.

KIDS MESSAGE

HYMN: “*Asante Sana Yesu*”

ASANTE SANA YESU,
ASANTE SANA YESU.
ASANTE SANA YESU MOYONI.
ASANTE SANA YESU,
ASANTE SANA YESU.
ASANTE SANA YESU MOYONI.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - “*Listen, God is Calling*”

v. 1, ELW # 513

[A leader sings the words in parentheses]

(Listen,)
listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.
(Listen,)
listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.

(Jesus gave his mandate:)
share the good news
(that he came to save us)
and set us free.

(Listen,) listen, God is calling,
through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.
(Listen,) listen, God is calling,
through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922-2010. Text © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress
Music: Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1919-2010. Tune: NENO LAKE MUNGU. Arr. © 1968 Austin C. Lovelace, admin. Augsburg Fortress
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GOSPEL READING: Luke 17:11-19

The Gospel according to Luke ...

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” ¹⁴ When he saw them, Jesus said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus’s feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine?” ¹⁸ Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then Jesus said to the man healed, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ!

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: “*Now Thank We All Our God*” (Public Domain) **ELW # 840**

Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms,
has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us all in grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest,
who reign in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878. Public Domain.
Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662 Tune: Nun danket alle Gott. Public Domain.
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, **hear our prayers.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

OFFERTORY HYMN: “*Send Me, Jesus*”

ELW # 809

**(Send me, Lord.)
Send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus,
send me, Jesus, send me, Lord.

(Lead me, Lord.)
Lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus,
lead me, Jesus, lead me, Lord.

(Fill me, Lord.)
Fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus,
fill me, Jesus, fill me, Lord.**

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

One: Loving God, you give us so much, and we are grateful. Help us to share our gifts through offerings and ministries that improve the lives of your precious children. In your name, we pray.
All: AMEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Even when we are faithless, Christ remains faithful.
Trusting in grace, let us confess our sins.

**All: Jesus, Master,
Have mercy on us.
We keep our distance from you,
For we are broken and sick with sin.
Yet you see us, and cleanse us, and make us whole.
Forgive us when we forget to return to you –
Have mercy when we fail to praise your name,
And help us to radiate faith in you. Amen.**

PARDON/FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the good news:
Christ has healed you,
And forgives your sin.
With glad hearts, return praise to God.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
All: And also with you.

Let us share a sign of the Lord’s peace with one another -
Tanzania style ... with a friendly smile and wave both hands in air.

SENDING HYMN: “*We Are Marching in the Light*”

ELW # 866

**We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.**

**We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching),
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, (marching, we are marching, marching),
we are marching in the light of God.**

Additional stanzas ad lib:

We are dancing . . .

We are praying . . .

We are singing . . .

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BLESSING

One: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: “*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*”

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP will be after worship in the parlor. This gathering time is a great time to chat over a cup of coffee and sweet treat; to meet new friends or catch up with old ones. All are welcome for fellowship and lively conversation! May this time of sharing in Christ’s love be a blessing to us all. Hope to see you there!

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL - the weekly Kidz Time - continues today after worship! We are excited that the ministry team from Lutheran Lakeside will again be leading Kidz Time. Bethany looks forward to welcoming them back!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES are Wednesday evenings at 6 pm. Confirmation class is a time for students to learn more about the Bible, Small Catechism, and about their own faith life.

BETHANY YOUTH GROUP will be at 7 pm on the first and third Wednesdays of each month following Confirmation class. Join in the fun at Youth Group on October 15th! A special thank you to Deacon Lynn Egesdal who is leading Confirmation and youth group this year.

ONLINE DISCUSSION GROUP This fall you can participate or listen in on seven online discussion sessions based on Krista Tippet’s “Hope Portal” series. Tippet is the award-winning NPR host of the OnBeing podcast who interviews authors, artists, scientists, poets, etc. on the spirituality of being human together. Deb Mechler is facilitating the sessions on Sunday nights beginning tonight, October 5-November 16, 6-7:30 p.m. Please contact her with any questions at dsmechler@gmail.com.

“**CHRISTMAS AT BETHANY—YESTERDAY & TODAY**” is set to take place on Saturday, December 13th from 11 am to 2 pm. Join the Faith in Action team to find out how you can help at the next planning meeting on Tuesday, October 14th at 6 pm in the church parlor or contact Sue Boblit (262-8244) or email: sdboblit@gmail.com.

OCTOBER’S ST LUKE RESIDENT BIRTHDAY PARTY will take place on Monday, October 20th. It is Bethany Lutheran Church’s turn to help out with this event. We will be providing napkins and plates as well as birthday cake or cupcakes for the residents. Volunteers are needed to present a short program of music, special entertainment, devotional readings or anything you think the residents would enjoy. Sign-up to help at the Welcome Center!

WISWO FALL RETREAT will take place on Saturday, October 25 from 10 am to 2 pm at Lutheran Lakeside Camp in Spirit Lake. The theme this year is - *You are beautiful for you are fearfully and wonderfully made*. This fun day of fellowship and conversation will include Bible study, a camp tour, fall craft and assembling Personal Care Kits for LWR. Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

Registration begins at 9:30 am and lunch is provided. October 13th is the registration deadline. Forms are located at the Welcome Center.

ROOM AT THE TABLE Bethany has helped raise funds to cover the cost of milk for elementary kids for many years making sure all kids get milk. There are milk cans on the table in the narthex where you can drop your donations to help with this. Thank you all for your donations over the years. - Faith in Action Team

THE SPENCER MESSIAH BOARD, made up of your friends and neighbors of local congregations, will be presenting "Selections from Handel's Messiah" with chorus, soloists and orchestra on Sunday, Dec. 7th at 7:00 pm at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Spencer.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Welcome to worship! Thank you for coming to our worship service today! It is our hope that you experience the love of Christ this morning and His presence during our worship service! A special welcome to our visitors and families. Thank you for coming this morning!

Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew. These can help you get to know the others in your pew and they can help us to keep in touch with you! Thank you!

Large-print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you benefit from either of these, please speak with an usher.

Please take this bulletin home with you as a reference for this week’s calendar of events, as a reminder of Bethany family and friends to keep in your prayers, and for other useful information.

Worship leaders today are:

Denise Kramer Tolzmann and Elina Leander Ozolins

Many thanks to our worship volunteers:

Greeters: Danny & Candy Huber; Reader: Brecken Johnson (also, acolyte)

Ushers: Kent Baker; Fellowship Hosts: Bethany Schiefelbein Burns & Family

Count: Connie Heien; Everyone in the Audio/Visual Booth

Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:

Tuesday-5pm, Wednesday-10am

or can be found on YouTube® (Search Bethany Lutheran Church, Spencer IA)

PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

Health Concerns

Kirk Andersen, Cindy Heiter, Donna Jones, Jill Meyer, Steve McAllister, Sylvia Moore, Don Moore, Jaci Schrier, Liz Vulk, Lee Youde, Deb Albert (Cheri Klemme’s sister), DeAnna Bensen (Bill Bensen’s mother), LuAnn Becker (Bob Becker’s sister), Bill Boblit (brother of Tom Boblit), Kiki Marske (Doug and Mary Marske’s sister-in-law), Sue Burg (Liz Essick’s cousin), Bibi Sangho (Deb Mechler’s friend), Shannon VanDaalen (Lois Becker’s sister-in-law), and Rebecca Wolf (daughter of Revs. Erma & John Wolf)

Other Prayer Requests

Bethany Lutheran’s Call Process

New ELCA Bishops - Rev. Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, and Rev. Scott Dalen, Bishop of the Western Iowa Synod ELCA

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 5th Pentecost 17

7:50 am KICD “Christian Women Speaks” Broadcast featuring Denise Kramer Tolzmann

9:00 am Worship followed by Fellowship Time

10:15 am Sunday Kidz

6:00 pm “Hope Portal” Online Discussion Group Series

Wednesday, October 8th

9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group

6:00 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday, October 9th

9:00 am Fun & Fellowship

Saturday, October 11th

7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study

Sunday, October 12th

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion followed by Fellowship

10:15 am Sunday Kidz



ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

If you would like to give online to support the ministries of Bethany Lutheran Church, scan this code for giving page on our website.