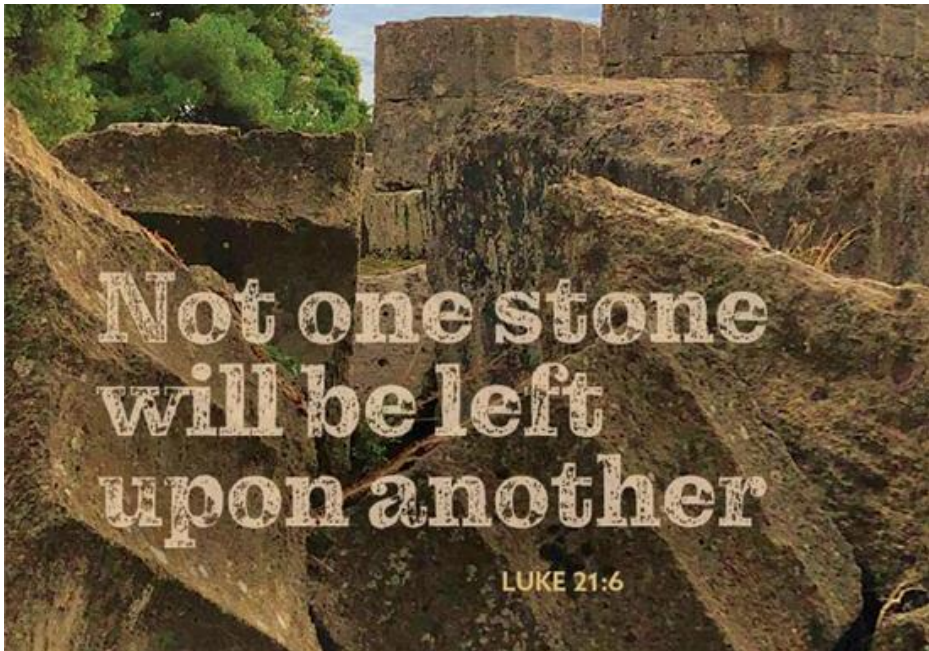




SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025



Introduction

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MUSIC

"SHOUT TO THE LORD"

Music and lyrics Darlene Zschech

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

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.

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.

Amen.

APOSTOLIC 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.**

KYRIE

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.
Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALM 98

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory. ² O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations. ³ 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.

⁴ Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. ⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song. ⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD. ⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein. ⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth. ⁹ The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ “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.”

⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸ 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.

⁹ “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.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² “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. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON**FAITH BETWEEN THE STONES****VICAR LYNETTE MCSPADDEN**

- 1. WHEN HAVE YOU SEEN GOD’S FAITHFULNESS IN A SEASON OF CHANGE OR LOSS?**
- 2. WHAT DOES “ENDURANCE” MEAN IN YOUR WALK OF FAITH? IS IT WAITING, WORKING, TRUSTING... OR SOMETHING ELSE?**

HYMN OF THE DAY**“ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, WALK HUMBLY”**

Music and lyrics: Christ Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Pat Barrett
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Vamos Publishing; J Ingram Tunes; So Essential Tunes Admin Capitol CMG Publishing,
Essential Music Publishing LLC

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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

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 to the dead. 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.

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition will end with "Hear us, O God" and the response will be **"Your mercy is great."**

BLESSING OF VICAR LYNETTE

Lynette, on August 11, 2025, we welcomed you to be an intern / vicar in this place: to observe, participate in, and lead in the ministry of the Gospel among us. With the Gospel of God you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you have been important in our life together as the church, in service to the community in which we live and work, and in God's mission to the whole world. As you leave this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.

People of God, members and friends do you release Lynette from service as your intern / vicar?

Assembly: **We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.**

Lynette, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry?

Intern: **I do, and I give thanks to God for our ministry together.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them into various forms of service. We give you thanks for the ministry of Lynette among your people in this place. You who watch over our going out and our coming in, bless this time of ending and new beginning. You who surround your people in every time and place, keep us close in your love. You who accompany your people in times of joy and in times of grief, bless all that has been done in your name during this time together. Heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us. Help Lynette and all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future that you have given to us. As she has been a blessing to us, so now send her forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: **Amen.**

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting the ongoing ministry of Bethel Lutheran Church! In-person gifts may be placed in the offering plates, mailed to Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church (2077 N. Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603), given online at www.bethelwinchester.com or using the adjacent QR code.



MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

BLESSED ASSURANCE (ELW #638)



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT (ELW #465)

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God,

Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you . We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be the signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the lord our god. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

JESUS' WORDS ABOUT COMMUNION



LORD'S PRAYER



Our God _____ in heav-en, _____ ho - ly is your name, _____ your
reign come, _____ your will done, _____ on earth as in heav-en _____
Give us today our dai-ly bread, and help us forgive as we have been for - giv-en _____
In the time of tri - al _____ lead us in - to light, _____ for yours is _____ the
king-dom, _____ and the power, _____ and the glo-ry, _____ for - ev - er. Our
God, _____ in heav-en, _____ ho-ly is your name, ho-ly is your name. _____

Words: Matthew 6:9-13; adapt by Mark A Miller and Laurie Zelman Music: Mark A Miller Adapt and music ©2008 Abingdon Press admin by the Copyright Company

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the Table.

For the Lord Jesus is with us, and all are welcome!

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome to the Lord's Table!

Everyone, regardless of age and denomination, is invited to join us for Holy Communion. If you prefer a blessing, simply inform the communion distributors. The ushers will direct your row when it is time to come forward.

You will receive the bread from the first Holy Communion distributor. You will pick up the cup of wine or juice from the tray held by the second distributor. For those who need gluten free a pre-packaged **gluten-free** wafer and a cup of **grape juice** is also available.

Once you have communed, you are invited to return to your seat for silent reflection or singing

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: Congregation or Assistant:

Lamb of God, you

Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a-way the sin of the world:
break the chains of ha-tred and fear:
are the way of jus-tice and peace:
are the way of mer-cy and love:

have mer - cy on us,

take a-way the sin of the world:
break the chains of ha-tred and fear:
are the way of jus-tice and peace:
are the way of mer-cy and love:

have mer - cy on us,

mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us.

mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us.

Final time

Congregation or Assistant:

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

“CHANGE MY HEART OH GOD”

Music and lyrics Eddie Espinosa © 1982 Heart And Harp Worship Admin: Music Services Inc.

COMMUNION BLESSING

———— SENDING ————

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

“GRAVES INTO GARDENS”

Music and Lyrics Brandon Lake, Chris Brown et al
© 2019 Brandon Lake Music; Maverick City Publishing Worldwide;
Music by Elevation Worship Publishing; Bethel Music Publishing
Admin: Bethel Music Publishing, Essential Music Publishing LLC

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

We hope every person felt welcomed here, especially our guests. We trust that our time together has filled you with a sense of joy and peace, and we invite you to return soon.

Advent and Christmas 2025 at Bethel

Sunday, November 30th - 1st Sunday in Advent 9:30am Worship

10:45am Advent Wreath Making & Christmon Tree in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 3rd - 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer

Sunday, December 7th - 2nd Sunday in Advent 9:30am Worship

10:45am Sanctuary Decorating with Liturgical Arts Team

Wednesday, December 10th - 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer

Sunday, December 14th - 3rd Sunday in Advent 9:30am Christmas Cantata during Worship

Wednesday, December 17th - 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer

Sunday, December 21st - 4th Sunday in Advent 9:30am Worship, 6:30pm Blue Christmas Worship (TVOR)

Wednesday, December 24th Christmas Eve

3:00pm Christmas in a Barn Worship (Cloverdale Barn)

7:00pm Candlelight Communion Worship (Bethel Sanctuary)

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