



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

15 W 14th St, Spencer, IA 51301 | www.bethluthspencer.com | 712-262-2327

Sixteen Sunday after Pentecost– September 13, 2026 – 9:00 AM

Prelude: *"All Creatures of Our God and King"*

Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Arranged by Cindy Berry

Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

Gathering Hymn: *"All Creatures Worship God Most High"*

ELW #835

vs. 1,4-6

Prayer of the Day

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalms (read responsively)

Psalms 103:[1-7] 8-13

Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

Gospel Acclamation: *"Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go?"* **ELW pg. 142**

Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon

Deacon Lynn Egesdal

Hymn of the Day: *"10,000 Reasons"*

ACS #1097

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offerings Received: *"Lord, I Want To Be a Christian"* Sandra Eithun

Tune: MCAFEE by Cleland B. McAfee

Offertory Prayer

Blessing

Sending Hymn: *"In Thee is Gladness"*

ELW #867

Dismissal

Postlude: *"God of All Righteousness"* David Paxton

WORSHIP NOTES

Welcome to worship at Bethany Lutheran Church! It is our hope that you experience the love of Christ and His presence during our worship service this morning. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest book in the narthex. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew.

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

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world. (Sundays and Seasons v.20240130.1140 Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)



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.

Each worship service comes together through the help of many people. Please consider being a worship volunteer. Find schedules at the Welcome Center and help fill in the blanks. Thank you for volunteering!

Today's worship leaders are:

Deacon Lynn Egesdal & Elina Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist

Many thanks to our worship volunteers:

Greeters: Rhonda Pettit and Jaci Studer

Reader: Jana Phillips

Ushers: Kent Baker

Count: Francis Hiemstra

Fellowship Host: Jim & Janet Keck

Everyone in the Audio/Visual Booth

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. All are welcome for fellowship and lively conversation! Hope to see you all there!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES will take place in the parlor on Wednesday evenings. Classes are at 6:30 for 8th and 9th grade students. **There will be no class next week on Wednesday, Sept. 16th.** (Fair Week) If you have any additional questions speak with Sue Boblit by emailing sdboblit@gmail.com or calling her at 260-2258.

PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING will be postponed 1 week. It will take place on Tuesday, September 22nd at 4:00 pm.

ROOM AT THE TABLE Bethany has helped raise funds to cover the cost of milk for elementary kids for many years. We make sure that all kids are able to receive milk. During the previous school year we supplied 6,508 cartons of milk at a cost of \$2,928.60. Our balance to start this school year is only \$581 so **your financial support is needed** to keep this program going. There are milk cans in the narthex where you can drop your donations or you can put a designated check in the offering plate. Thank you all for your donations over the years.
Faith in Action Team

AUDIO/VIDEO BOOTH – a sign up has been placed at the welcome center for kids or young adults who would like to learn or help out the team in to Audio Visual Booth. If you are an adult and interested in helping, we are happy to train anyone. Please speak with Randy Phillips or Sandi Schmidt.

CHERISH CENTER NEWSLETTER NOTE - Due to the generosity of many, babies in our communities are staying clean, dry, and healthy! Since beginning in April, our Diaper Bank has been able to impact families from Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, O'Brien, and Palo Alto Counties, and year-to-date we have distributed 177 pkgs of diapers (thru August). Every diaper given represents a little less stress for a parent and one more way we can come alongside families. *Our need for diapers and diaper wipes is ongoing, specifically sizes newborn, 4, 5, and 6 diapers, and 4T/5T and 5T/6T pull-ups.* Thank you for your donations and partnering with us!

PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

Liz Vulk, Lee Youde, Donna Jones, Nancy Wick, Steve Salts

Jeani Plautz (Lee Youde's sister)

DeAnna Bensen (Bill Bensen's mother)

Jerry Faulkner (Tammy Nighswonger's brother)

Tara Nighswonger (Tammy Nighswonger's daughter)

Keith Studer (Matt Studer's uncle)

Those Who Morn

Family of Kirk Andersen

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 13 – 16th Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 am Worship

10:00 am Fellowship

Wednesday, September 16

9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group

Saturday, September 19

7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study (in person & via ZOOM)

Sunday, September 20 – 17th Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 am Fellowship



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.

Worship is rebroadcast on SMU CH #2:

Tuesday-5pm, Wednesday-10am

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