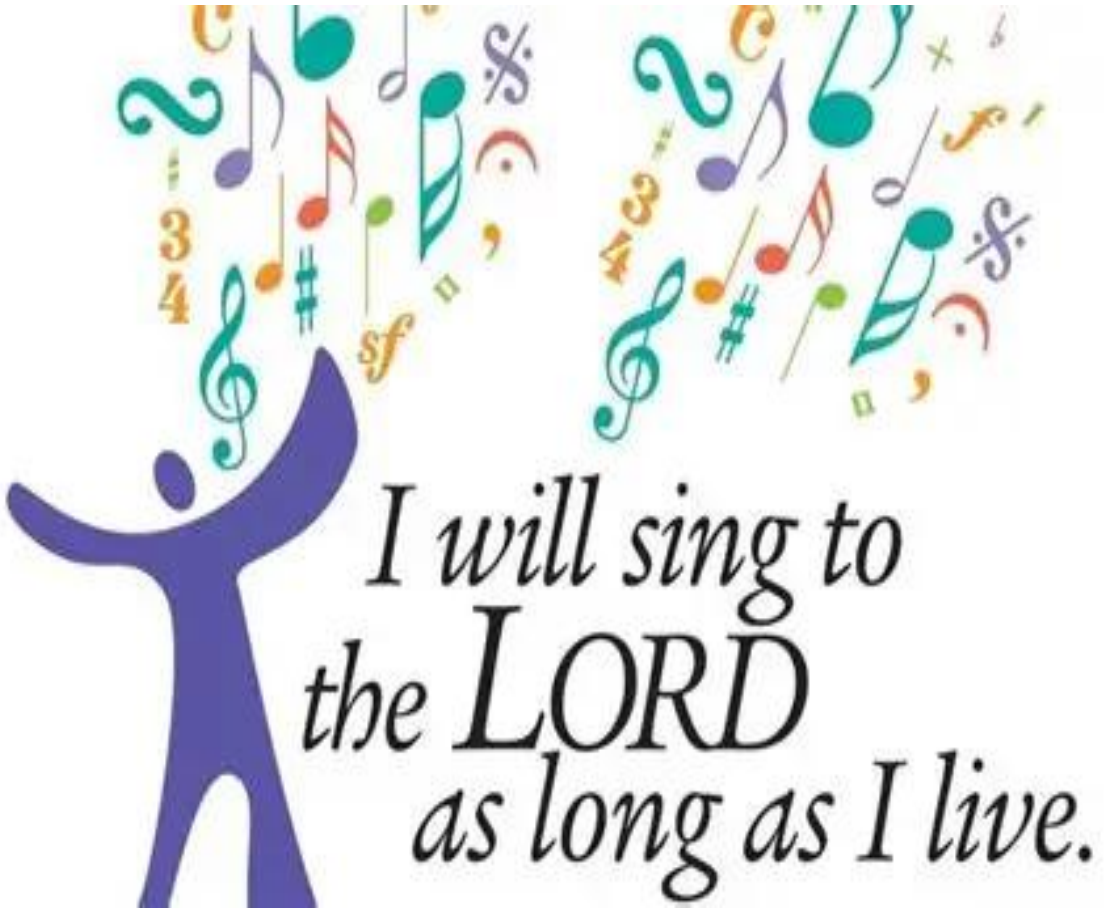Bethel Lutheran Church

Praising and serving God since 1851

September 27, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Adult Sunday School	9:00 a.m.	
	Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
	Lectionary Study	9:30 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:30 a.m.

DR. PEGGY TERHUNE, S.A.M., MINISTER

Cathy Williams, Organist

355 East Ridge Road Salisbury NC 28144

Phone: 704-636-0331

CHURCH WEBSITE **Bethelsalisbury.org**

WIFI Bethel Guest password **Lutheran**

ENTER TO WORSHIP – LEAVE TO SERVE
"Holy Communion Setting Three"

*Congregation Stands
Congregation responses in bold

WELCOME

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" by Kohrs

*BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our hope, our heart, our home. **Amen.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✢ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.
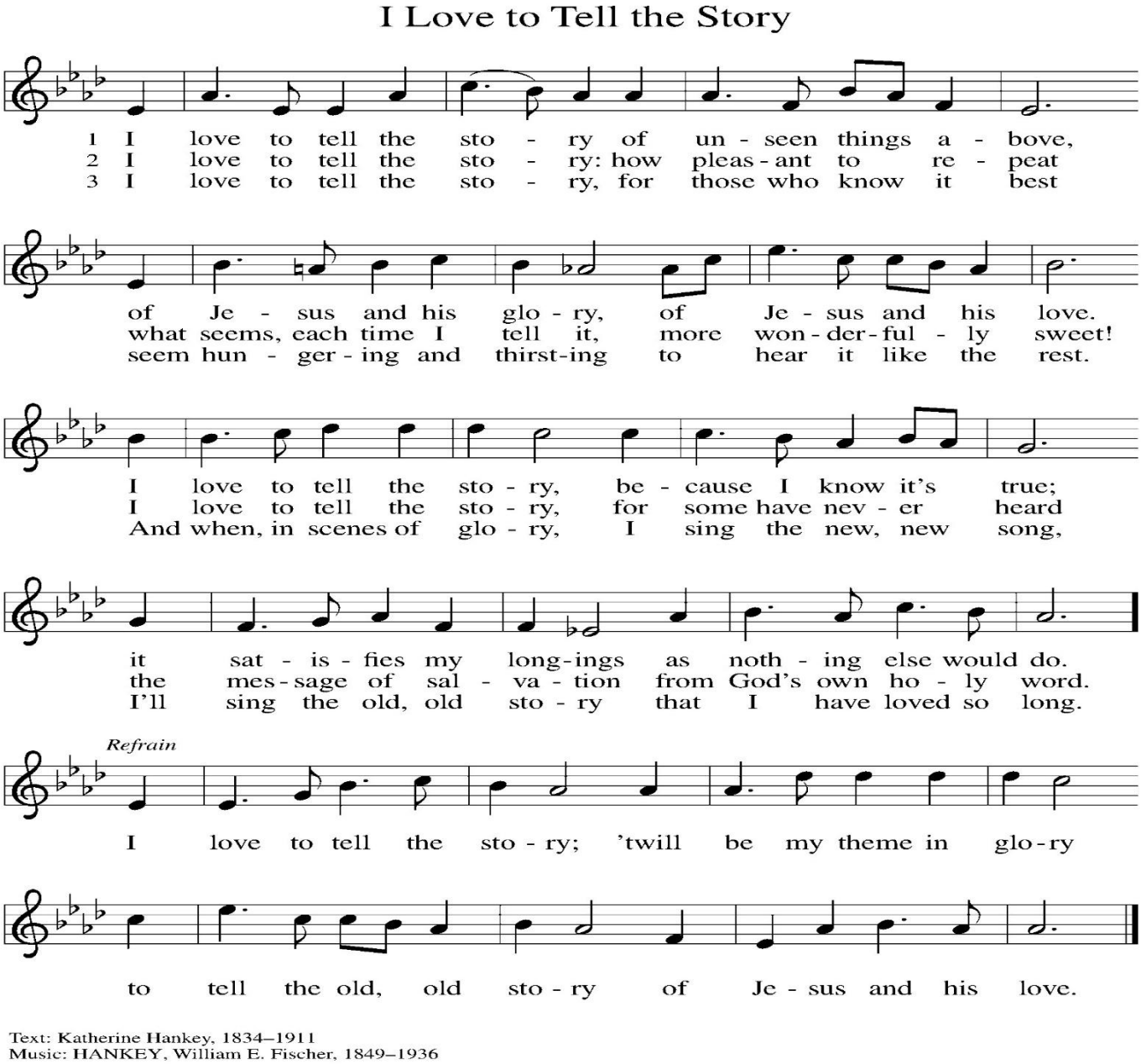
Compassionate God, **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✢ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

***Call to Worship** *(read together)….* **Each week, we gather in this place—just a room with four walls and a few doors and windows. We find rest, we learn, and we encourage one another. You see, it's not the place, it's the people that matter.**

It's not about the words that are spoken or the songs that are sung, it's about the hearts that are shared in the process. Within these walls, we sing, we pray, we listen, and we celebrate God's love and faithfulness together. Come, let us worship God.

***Gathering Hymn** "I Love to Tell the Story" ELW #661



Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911
Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

*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 “Give to Our God Immortal Praise! verse 1 ELW #848



***Prayer of the Day** God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation is seated.

READING: We were made to praise. Created in God's image, formed by his hand, unique works of art reflecting his glory, his creativity, his love into the world. And so, with all that is within us, we lift our voices in praise:

"Creation sings the Father's song;
He calls the sun to wake the dawn
and run the course of day
Till evening falls in crimson rays.
Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing, "Hallelujah!"
Fill the earth with songs of worship;
Tell the wonders of creation's King."

- Keith & Kristyn Getty, "Creation Sings the Father's Song"

First Reading: Psalm 150

[1]Hallelujah! Praise God in the | holy temple; praise God in the mighty | firmament.
[2]Praise God for | mighty acts; praise God for ex- | ceeding greatness.
[3]Praise God with | trumpet sound; praise God with | lyre and harp.
[4]Praise God with tambou- | rine and dance; praise God with | strings and pipe.
[5]Praise God with re- | sounding cymbals; praise God with loud | clanging cymbals.
[6]Let everything | that has breath praise the LORD. | Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Psalm 100 Congregation Read Responsively

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all you lands!
[2]Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence | with a song.
[3]Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom | we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep | of God's pasture.

[4]Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the | courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God's | holy name.
[5]Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is | everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from | age to age.

Third Reading: Psalm 96:1-6

[1]Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all you lands!
[2]Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence | with a song.
[3]Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom | we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep | of God's pasture.
[4]Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the | courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God's | holy name.
[5]Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is | everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from | age to ag

CHILDREN'S Sermon: Caroline Monroe

"Jesus Loves Me" Sing verse 1 as children come up ELW #595

"Jesus Loves Me" Sing verse 1 as children return to seat



READING: Music…That thing which engages us, inspires us, connects us, empowers us, soothes us, and fills our spirits to the very brim, music lies within us and surrounds us in our everyday culture. The songs of the earth echo in our souls–we carry them in our hearts. In this way, music becomes a part of us. It's a form of expression, a language that knows no bounds. *When words fail, music speaks.* We cannot keep silent. So, we sing. We sing about faith and love and experiences. We sing about spring and the change in seasons. We sing about singing. How can we not?
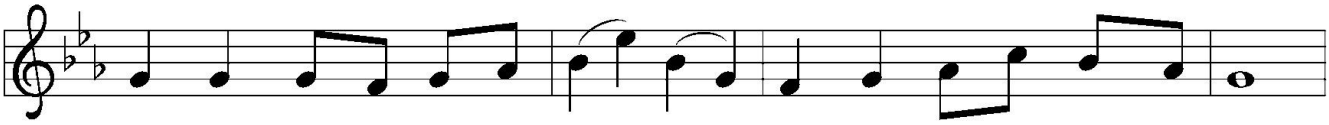
Histories and Hymns…*(*The History will be read and followed by singing the hymn.)

1 "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us" intro by Callahan ELW – 789
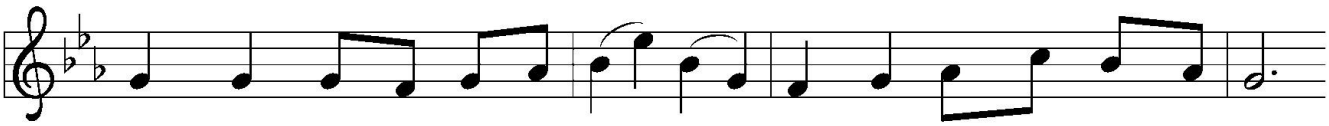
2 " Just As I Am, Without One Plea" intro by Callahan ELW - 592
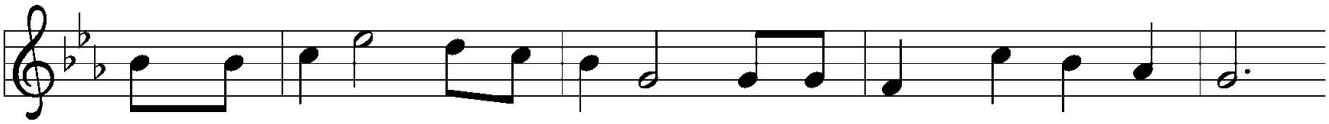


Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us
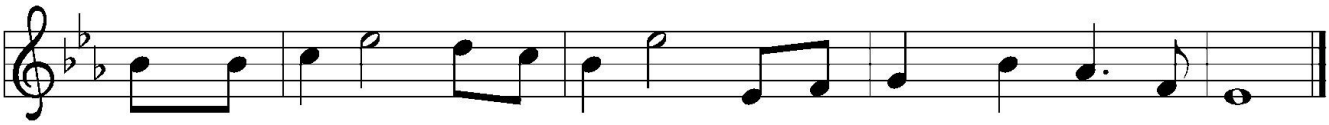


1 Sav - ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



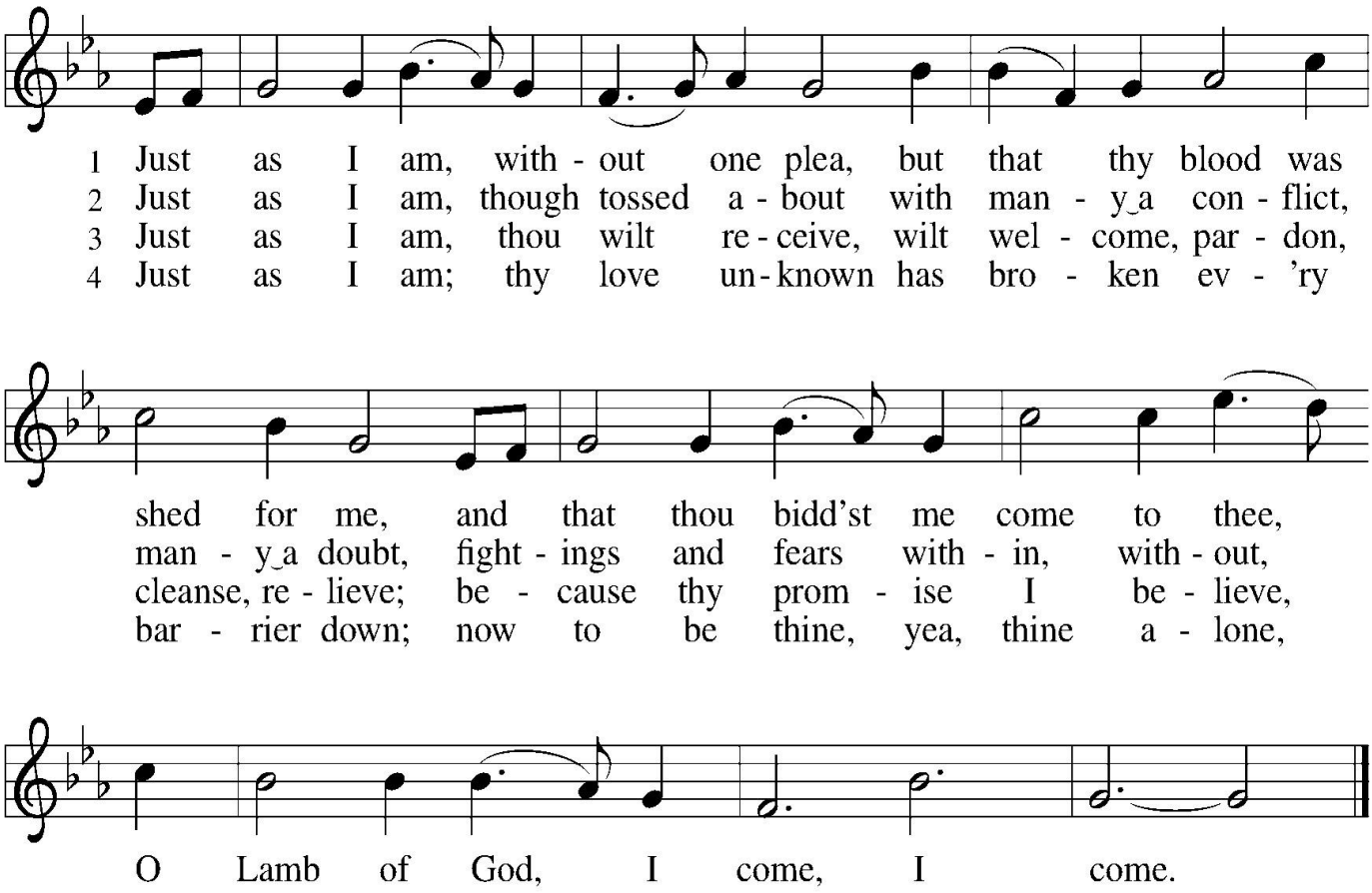
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
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Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847
Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Just As I Am, without One Plea
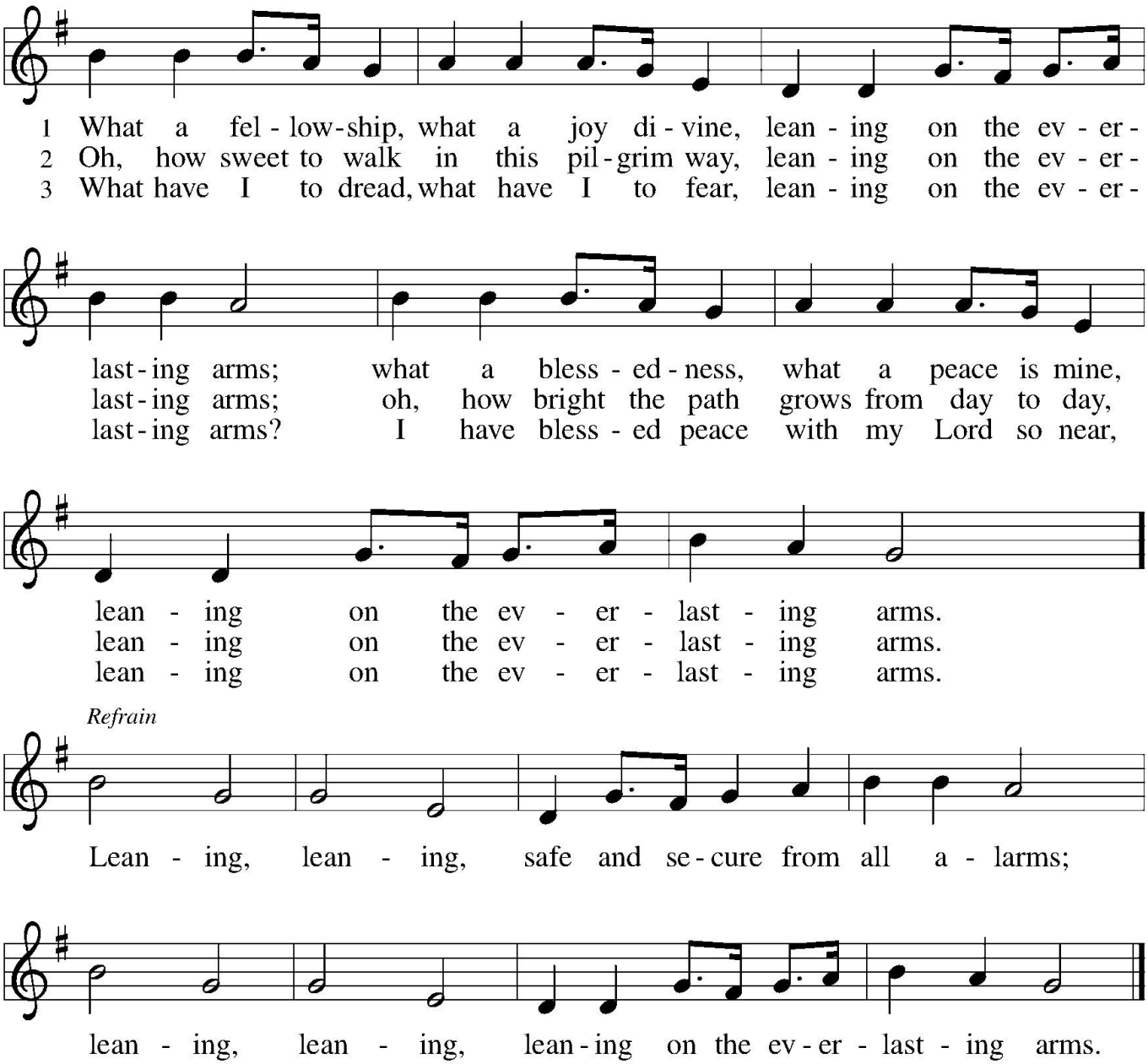


Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

READING: Be assured friends, that God knows you and calls you by name. You are loved. God rejoices over you with singing. You are never alone; you will never be forsaken or forgotten. When you pass through the waters, God will be there. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul.

Sermon Hymn What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine ELW #774

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929
Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

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 power of 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

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need (*especially*). Grant us your salvation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We want to praise you in all circumstances. When we come before You, we ask that You always put a song in our hearts. Please teach us how to sing praises to You in the good times and the bad. You are our joy and our salvation.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

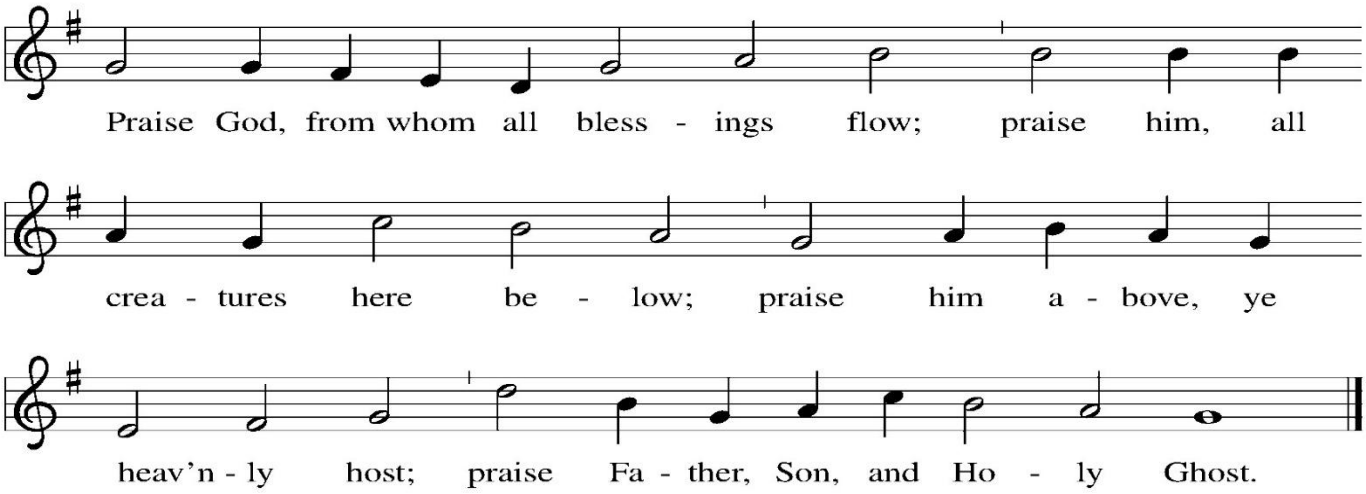
Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Offering

Anthem "Amazing Grace" by Johns

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERING PRAYER God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

*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.

***POEM:** "Rekindle the Gift"

You have a treasure in you, a seed of glory planted from stars,
a song written for only you to sing.
You have gifts to give.

The treasure is buried, and it may take some digging to recover.
The song is forgotten, but still hidden in your bones.
Nothing that happens to you can remove it,
no fear or shame destroy it, no failure ruin it.
It is who you are. Rekindle the gift.

Listen for the quiet voice, the Spirit of Life singing in you.
Listen... and sing. Tune your life to its melody.
Let it sing in you, let it sing you into life.
Rekindle the gift that is God within you.

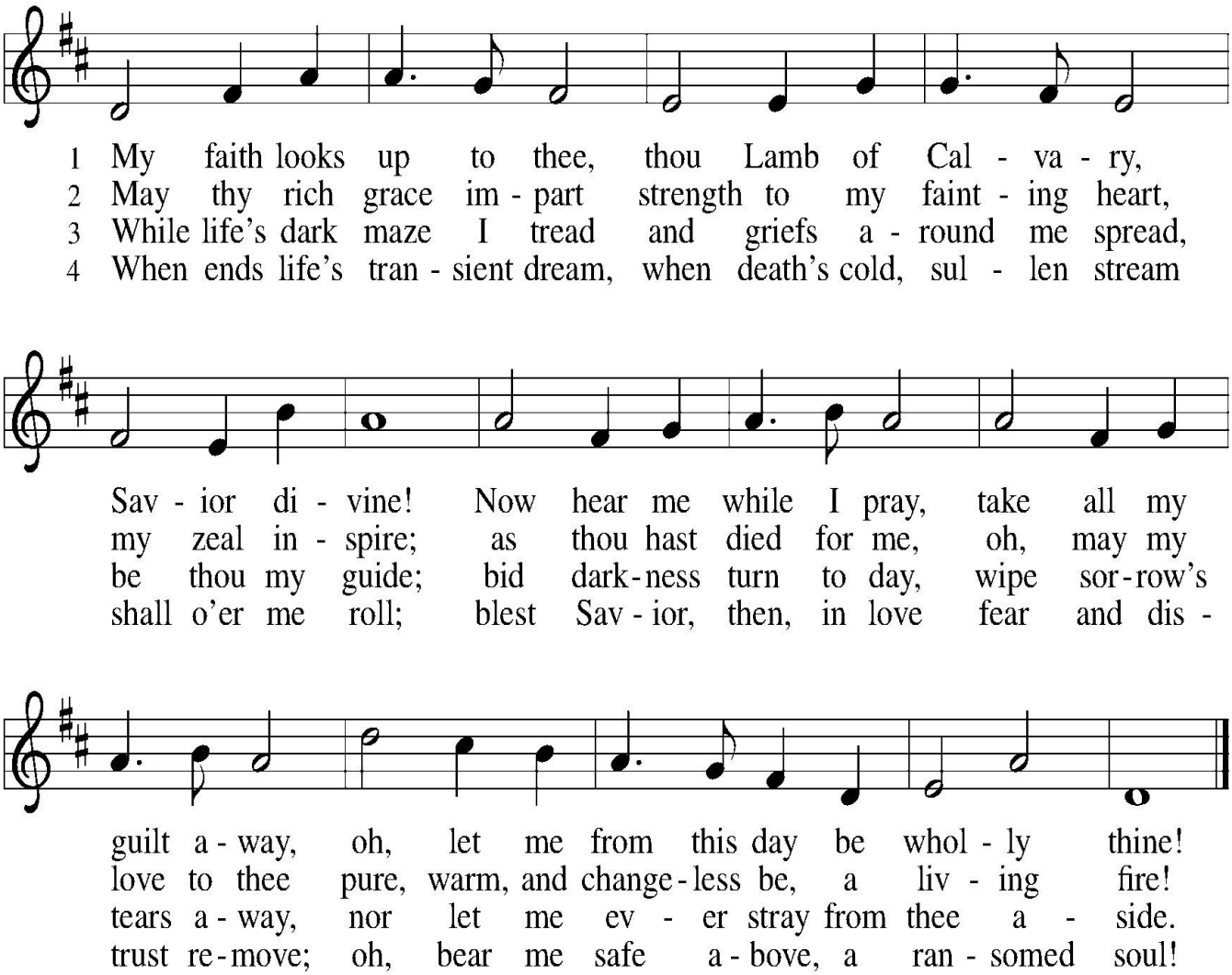
Give God this joy— for it is God who is singing.

(Steve Garnaas-Holmes)

Benediction **"Go Out and Serve Him"** by Price and Besig Anthem by Choir

CLOSING "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" intro by Callahan ELW #759

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Sending/Dismissal*Postlude

Our worship service has ended.
Our worship through service begins.

Hymn Histories were taken from Then Sings My Soul Books 1 & 2 by Robert J Morgan

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HOMEBOUND/HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME

Betty Shuping	Home of Daughter, 336-513-4035
Katrina Kurfees	Home of Daughter,
Linda Plummer	Trinity Oaks Health & Rehab., Memory Unit
Robert & Gathel Meachem	Brookdale, Room 34, 2201 Statesville Blvd.
Marcia Miller	Continue prayers
Eric & Dawn Leach	Continue prayers
Danny Norman	Continue prayers (brother of Ellen Webb)
Judy Kennerly	Continue prayers
Cecil Hutchinson	Continue prayers
Cody McDowell	Continue prayers
Kathy Trexler	Continue prayers
Kelly Smith	Recovering at her home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Eternal Flame for the month of September is given to the Glory of God by Dave Hincemon in Celebration of the 175th Anniversary year of Bethel Church. A huge thank you and much appreciation to everyone for all the time and thought that have gone into all aspects of our Celebratory Year!

Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Dave Hincemon.

We want to thank Kara Thurston for serving as Liturgist and Kathy Pifforetti for serving as reader at the sermon time. We hope that a few of these hymns bring back warm memories.

From October 2–5, many of our ladies will be attending our annual Women's Beach Retreat. This is a special time for fellowship, laughter, worship, and prayer as our women take time to enjoy one another's company and grow together in faith. Please **keep them in your prayers** as they travel, worship, play, and pray together. Pray that this will be a time of renewal, encouragement, and strengthening for each of them. We pray they return home refreshed and filled with wonderful memories!



Our next Bible study will be a four-week study of the book of Jonah. We will begin the week of October 13 and continue through the week of November 4. We will meet **Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. face-to-face at the church** and **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.**, virtually for our evening session. This will be a very interactive study designed not only to help us understand the story of Jonah, but also to make us **think, question, and reflect on what God may be saying to us through this familiar story**. Jonah is much more than a story about a man and a great fish. It is a story about God's call, our willingness (or unwillingness) to follow, mercy, forgiveness, and God's love for people we may not expect Him to love. I hope you will join us! Come ready to participate, share your thoughts, and perhaps see Jonah in a whole new way. **Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.** I look forward to studying Jonah together!

Laura's Children's Closet will be open for children to select clothes on Saturday, October 10th from 10am until 12pm. Please share this opportunity with your friends and neighbors who have children. This is an outreach for our church to share with community.

October is Pet Food Month. Please bring any pet food donations to the table setup in the entry way of the fellowship hall. Don't forget, there will be a Drive through Blessing of the Animals on Saturday October 17th, weather permitting.

Your Voice Matters in the North Carolina Synod! After listening to 37 focus groups across the synod, the North Carolina Synod Strategic Planning Team continues the listening process with a synod-wide survey. With your help, we are discerning how the Holy Spirit is calling us into the future and what it will take to follow that call.

QR Code for our Website: Bethelsalisbury.org

Online Offertory Donations - If you would prefer to make offertory donations online please visit the church website (bethelsalisbury.org), or scan the QR code below that will take you directly to our online giving page. (There is a small fee associated with this service).

Check Your Mailbox

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

TODAY	**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**	**September 27th**
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:45 a.m.	Choir Practice
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service/Hymn Sing
THURS:	9:30 a.m.	NO JOY Ringers Practice
FRI. – MON:	WOMEN'S BEACH RETREAT	
NEXT SUNDAY:	**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**	**October 4th**
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:45 a.m.	Choir Practice
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service / Holy Communion
TUES:	6:30 p.m.	LMIM dinner mtg. (Pastor Carroll's shop)
THURS:	9:30 a.m.	JOY Ringers Practice
SAT:	**10:00 – 12:00**	**Laura's Children's closet is OPEN**

BETHEL'S MINISTERS

PASTOR:	Dr. Peggy Terhune, Synodical Authorized Minister
CONTACT INFO	Phone - 704 305-0752
	Email - peggy.terhune@gmail.com
MINISTERS:	All Members of Bethel Lutheran Church
ORGANIST:	Cathy Williams
CHOIR DIRECTOR:	Kara Thurston
CHURCH SECRETARY:	Martha Graham 704 202-3962
2026 COUNCIL CHAIRMAN	Todd Corriher 704 433-6729
ONE CHURCH/ONE CHILD COORD:	Dave Hincemon and Lora Owen
CHURCH PHONE:	704-636-0331
CHURCH E-MAIL:	parishadmin@bethellutheranofSalisbury.com
WEBSITE	bethelsalisbury.org
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ASSISTING MINISTERS

LECTOR:	Tina Kluttz
ACOLYTE:	Maddie Shock
CRUCIFER:	Todd Smith
COUNCIL HOST:	Todd Corriher
ALTAR GUILD:	Judy & Perry VonCanon, Diane & Al Brandon, Julia & Dave Hibbard
USHERS:	Perry VonCanon, Capt.; Judy VonCanon, Al & Diane Brandon; Anita Vinson

