



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

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost– October 4, 2026 – 9:00 AM

Prelude: *"Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"* by David Kidwell

Tune: HOLY MANNA, Attributed to William Moore

Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

Gathering Hymn: *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"* **ELW #803**

Prayer of the Day

First Reading Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm (read responsively) Psalm 80:7-15

Second Reading Philippians 3:4b-14

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

Gospel Matthew
21:33-46

Sermon Pastor Erma Wolf

Hymn of the Day: *"Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth"* **ELW #727**

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offerings Received: *"A Quiet Faith"* by Benn Logan

Offertory Prayer

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving ELW pg. 144, "Holy, Holy, Holy" ELW pg. 144,
Words of Institution, Lord's Prayer ELW pg. 145, Communion Song -
"Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world" ELW pg. 146,
Distribution

Communion Music: *"Tender Shepherd of the Sheep"*

Arranged by Tracey Craig McKibben

Tunes: BROCKLESURY by Charlotte A. Barnard, and

VESPERI LUX by John Bacchus Dykes

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Sending Hymn: *"All Creatures, Worship God Most High"* ELW #835 vs.1-4

Dismissal

Postlude: *"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"* by Anna Laura Page

Tune: DIADEM by James Ellor

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. The pads also have a space for our record of communion. Please be sure to mark this if you partake in Holy Communion. Thank you for filling out the Fellowship Pad!

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

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection. (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:

Pr. Erma Wolf & Elina Leander Ozolins, pianist-organist

Many thanks to our worship volunteers:

Greeters: Jaci Studer; Reader: Jana Phillips

Communion Servers: Onalee Wright, Jody Vollmer, & Jaci Studer

Ushers: Kent Baker & Francis Hiemstara; Count: Francis Hiemstra;

Fellowship Host: Dale & Sandi Witt

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!

A FAREWELL POTLUCK BRUNCH AND CARD SHOWER has been planned for Pastor Erma Wolf after worship on October 18, her last Sunday with us. Please bring your appetite, your favorite dish to share and a card if you wish.

MARK YOUR CALANDERS The first practice for *Kid's Music* will be Wednesday, Oct 14, 7:30 - 8:15 in the sanctuary. All children, Kindergarten through High School are welcome! Talk with Sue Metcalf if you have any questions.

BFFFF'S (Bethany Fun & Fellowship, Food & Friends) Join us for lunch at Weasy's on Wednesday, October 14th at 11:30 am. Ladies, all are welcome for this relaxing, fun-filled fellowship lunch. We hope to see you there!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES are in the parlor on Wednesday evenings to prepare for Confirmation that will take place during worship on November 8th. Classes are at 6:30 for 8th and 9th grade students. If you have any additional questions speak with Sue Boblit by emailing sdboblit@gmail.com or at 260-2258.

To Our Bethany Family,

Thank you so much for your love, support and prayers during Kirk's illness and now as we love and remember him in our hearts, knowing he is in heaven with our Lord. Thank you to everyone who helped make his celebration so special.

Our love to you,
Sue and family

PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

Liz Vulk, Lee Youde, Donna Jones, Nancy Wick,
Steve Salts, Aaliyah VanAmpting
Carlos Barreda (Rita Storm's grandson-in-law)
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)

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 4 – 19th Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 am Fellowship

Wednesday, October 7

9:30 am Bible Study & Prayer Group

6:30 pm Confirmation Class

Thursday, October 8

9:00 am Fun & Fellowship

Saturday, October 10

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

Sunday, October 11 – 20th Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 am Fellowship

FRANCIS OF ASSISI, RENEWER OF THE CHURCH, DIED 1226

Francis was the son of a wealthy cloth merchant. In a public confrontation with his father, he renounced his wealth and future inheritance and devoted himself to serving the poor. Francis described this act as being “wedded to Lady Poverty.” Under his leadership the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans) was formed and they took literally Jesus’ words to his disciples that they should take nothing on their journey and receive no payment for their work. Their task in preaching was to “use words if necessary.” Francis had a spirit of gladness and gratitude for all of God’s creation. This commemoration has been a traditional time to bless pets and animals, creatures Francis called his brothers and sisters. (Sundays and Seasons v.20240130.1140 Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.)



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)