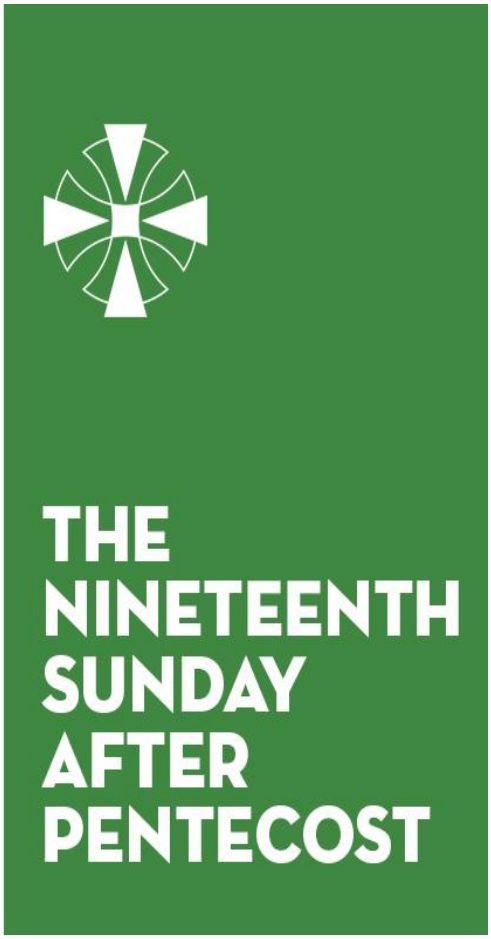
**Bethel Lutheran Church**
**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 4, 2026**



MATTHEW 21:33-46




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

## Tony Lippard, S.A.M., Guest Preacher

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

**"Setting Ten"**

*Congregation Stands
Congregation responses in bold

# WELCOME

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** "Jesus Loves Me!" by Hobby

## *BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.**

Gathering Hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" ELW #803
intro by Hildebrand

# *GREETING

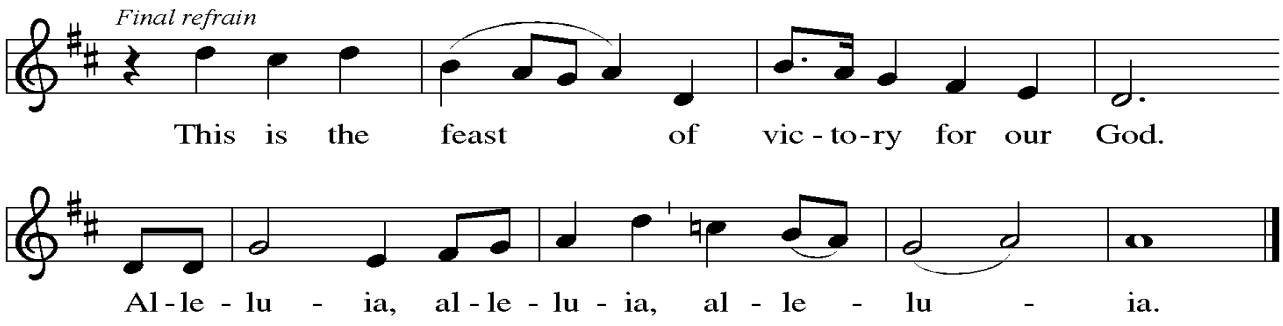
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*Kyrie



*Canticle


Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 2 Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 3 Sing with all the peo-ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,
glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.




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***Prayer of the Day** Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation is seated

.

# THE WORD OF GOD

**First Reading** Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from the fifth chapter of Isaiah

[1] I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. [2] He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

[3] And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. [4] What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

[5] And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. [6] I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people
of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed;
righteousness but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 80:7-15** Congregation will read responsively

7 Restore us, O | God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
8 **You have brought a vine | out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and | planted it.**
9 You cleared the | ground for it; it took root and | filled the land.
10 **The mountains were covered | by its shadow and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.**
11 You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea and its branches | to the river.
12 **Why have you broken | down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?**
13 The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.
14 **Turn now, O | God of hosts, look | down from heaven;**
15 behold and | tend this vine; preserve what your right | hand has planted.

**Second Reading** Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from the third chapter of Philippians.

[Paul writes:] 4b If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have
more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the
tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to
zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of
Christ. 8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing
value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of
all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be
found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law

but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. [10] I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, [11] if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

[12] Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. [13] Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, [14] I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**




***Holy Gospel** Matthew 21:33-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] [33] "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. [34] When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. [35] But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. [36] Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. [37] Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' [38] But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his

inheritance.’ [39] So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.
[40] Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”
[41] They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”
[42] Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? [43] “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. [44] The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”
[45] When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. [46] They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children's Sermon** Jerry Trier

**Sermon** Tony Lippard, S.A.M.

***Hymn of the Day** *“*Jesus Loves Me*”* ELW #595

## *Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets**
**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**
**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**
**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**
**Amen.**

## *Prayers of Intercession

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

*A brief silence.*

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering (*especially*).
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith . Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you (*especially*).
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Peace**
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say* "Peace be with you" *or similar words.*

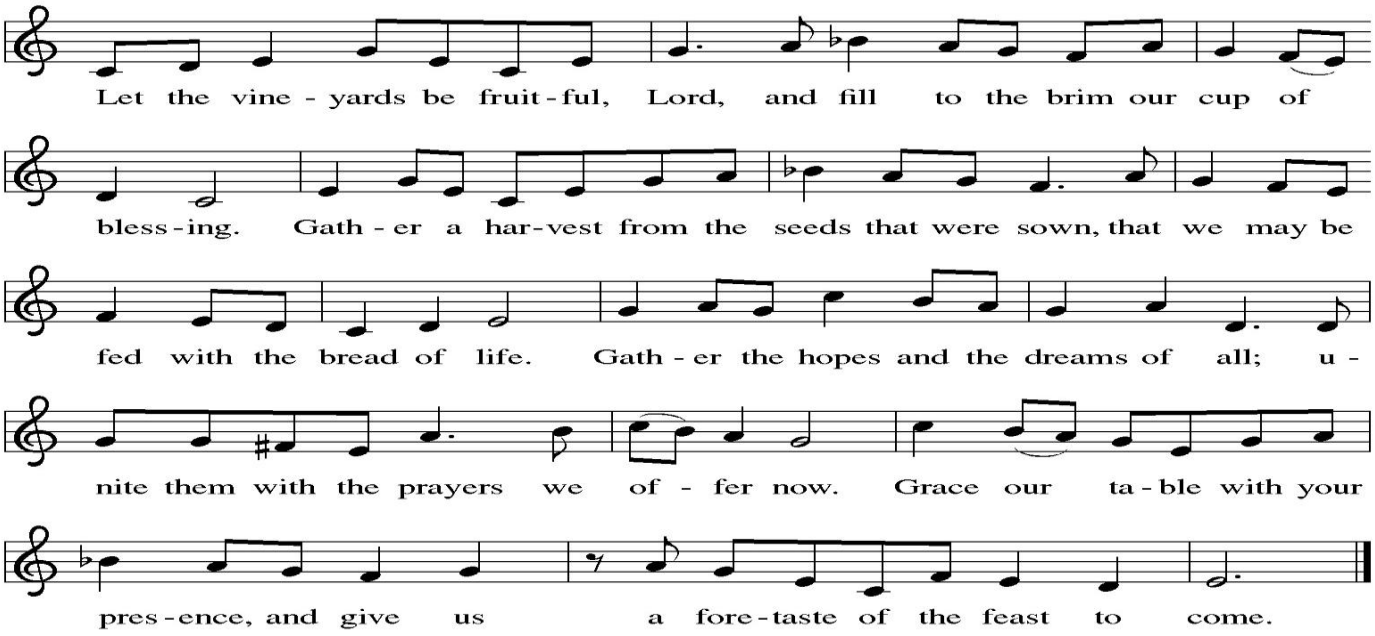
*The congregation is seated.*

**Offering**

**Anthem** *"*There is God's Garden*"* by Scott

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

*Offering Song*



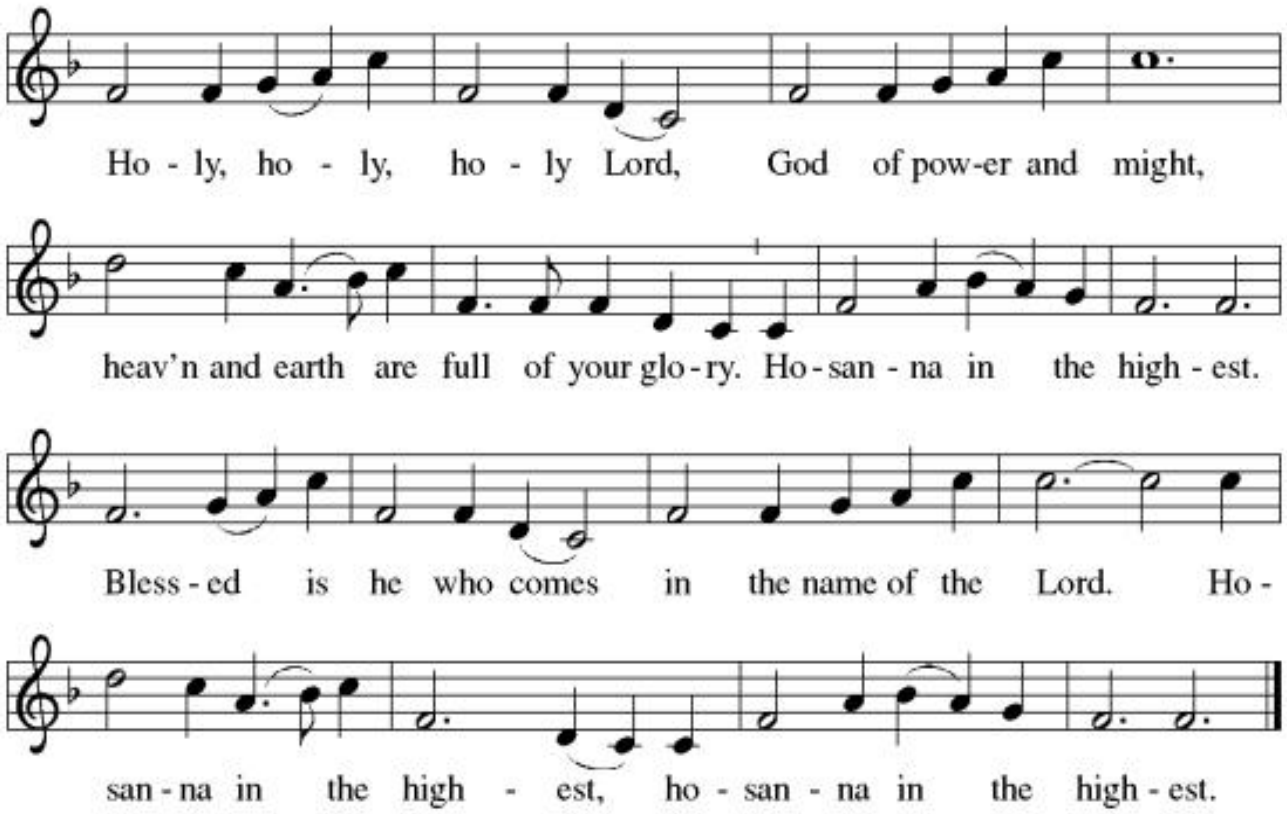

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
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***Offertory Prayer** God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:




***Words of Institution**
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

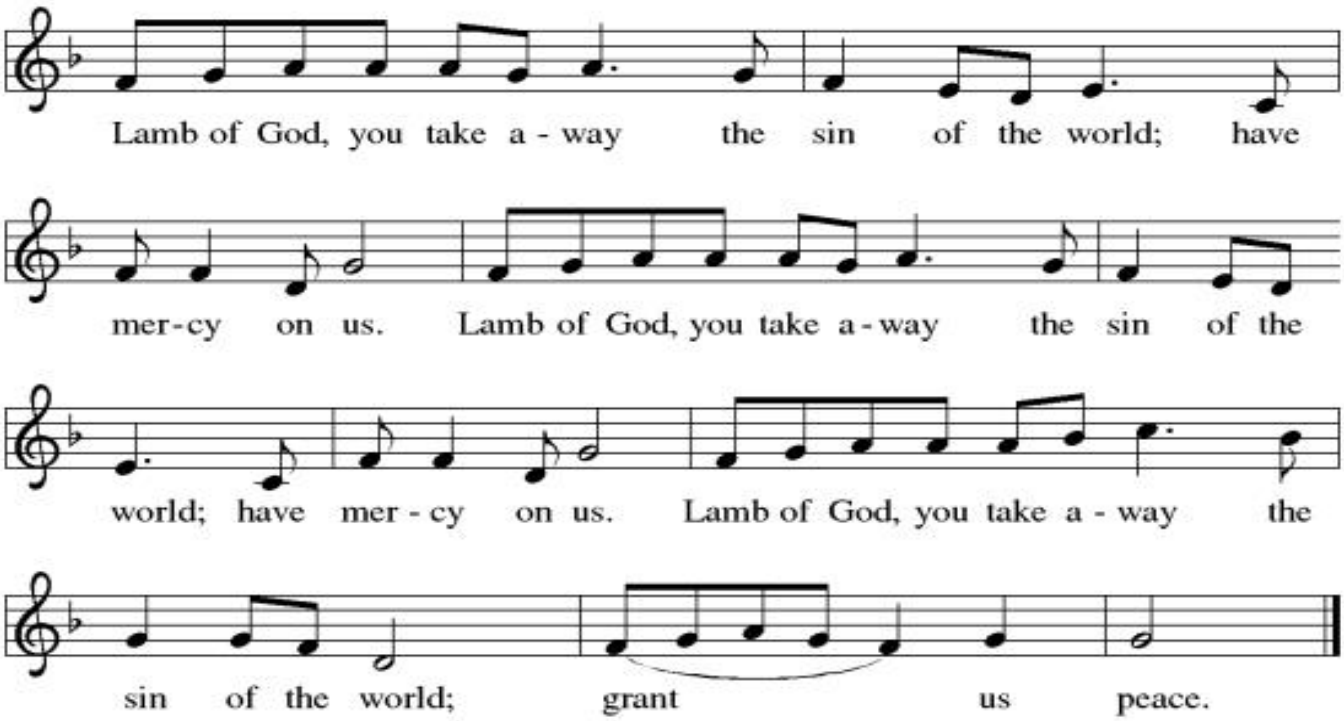
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, Christ's execution at the hands of a ruthless regime, Christ's resurrection that buries death, Christ's ascension to rule with love forever, we declare the revolutionary mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

***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; 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.**

**Invitation to Communion** Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast! **Amen.**




**Communion Music** "If You but Trust in God to Guide You" by Hildebrand

***Post-Communion Prayer**, Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

***Blessing** The Lord Bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

***Sending Song** "The Church of Christ, in Every Age" ELW #729
intro by Wigal

***Dismissal** Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
**Thanks be to God.**

***Postlude**

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

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## HOMEBOUND/HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome everyone to Bethel Lutheran Church.** We are glad you have joined us for worship and bid a special welcome to guests in our midst. May you find peace, comfort, strength, and hope as our Lord comes to us in his word. Please take a moment to register your attendance by signing your name to the fellowship pad as it is passed on each pew.

**The Eternal Flame for the month of October is Given to the Glory of God by Linda Beck in honor and blessings to Emma Carter and Casey Rowell for their upcoming nuptials on October 5th.**

**This morning we want to welcome Tony Lippard, S.A.M., in the absence of Pastor Peggy who is with the Women at retreat.** Thank you, Tony, for bringing our message this morning.

**Laura's Children's Closet will be open for children to select needed 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.

**NEXT SUNDAY October 11th Outdoor Service (weather permitting); bring your own chair if possible; hymns will be printed in the bulletin.**

**October 17th – Blessing of the Animals (drive thru); brief outdoor service will follow(weather permitting).**

**October is Pet Food Month.** Please bring any pet food donations to the table setup in the entry way of the fellowship hall.

**October 18th – Presentation of Bibles for 3-5th graders.** Parent and students will meet at 9:30, with Pastor Peggy.



**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 on **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!

**On Saturday, October 31, Bethel is planning a great way to celebrate Halloween together!** Join us for a fun-filled **Trunk-or-Treat at 5 pm,** followed by a **Fall Festival** with games, food, fellowship, and plenty of fun for everyone. Come dressed in your favorite costume and bring your family and friends. Whether you are young or young at heart, there will be something for everyone to enjoy! We hope you'll come out, enjoy the evening, and make some wonderful memories with your Bethel family. **Spend Halloween at Bethel and have a blast!**

**This QR code is created to be a quick link the bethelsalisbury.org website**

**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** **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 4**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 9:00 a.m. | Adult Sunday School |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Lectionary Study |
| | 9:45 a.m. | NO Choir Practice |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service/Holy Communion |
| TUES. | 6:30 p.m. | LMIM dinner mtg. **(**Carroll's shop**)** |
| THURS: | 10:00 a.m. | JOY Ringers Practice |

**NEXT SUNDAY:** **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 11**
**OUTDOOR Service (bring lawn chair)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 8:30 a.m. | Church Council meeting |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Adult Sunday School |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Lectionary Study |
| | 9:45 a.m. | Choir Practice |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service |
| TUES: | 1.00 p.m. | Bible Study...JONAH fellowship hall |
| WED: | 7:00 p.m. | Bible Study… JONAH virtual |
| THURS: | 9:30 a.m. | JOY Ringers Practice |
| SAT: | 11:00 a.m. | Blessing of he Animals (drive thru); weather permitting, brief outdoor service will follow |

**Attendance/Contribution Information for 9/27/2026**

Worship Service 50

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## BETHEL'S MINISTERS

| | |
|---|---|
| PASTOR: | Dr. Peggy Terhune, Synodical Authorized Minister |
| CONTACT INFO | Phone - 704 305-0752 |
| | Email - peggy.terhune@gmail.com |
| MINISTERS: | 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 |
| Like Us on Facebook | |

## ASSISTING MINISTERS

| | |
|---|---|
| LECTOR: | Mike Raney |
| ACOLYTE: | Samuel Thurston |
| CRUCIFER: | Devin Copley |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANT | TBD |
| COUNCIL HOST: | Monica Raney |
| ALTAR GUILD: | Jennifer Spry, Jo Simmons, Crystal Shock |
| USHERS: | Dave Hibbard, Capt.; Julia Hibbard, Krista Monroe, Cody McDowell |




**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Praising and serving God since 1851*


God's mercy
& Grace
are new
every morning
Lamentations 3:23