

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Pastor: Mytch Pierre-Noel Dorvilier
Lector: Sheila Lynch
Choir Director: Dillon Walters

Organist: Ann Aakre
Prayers: Sheila Lynch
Guest Choir: John & Minerva Sewell

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 2, 2020

WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP GOD

Welcome and Announcements

CALL TO MISSION

P: We are here

C: **to Receive Christ**

P: We are called

C: **to Proclaim Christ**

P: We are sent

C: **to Show Christ**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

C: **Amen**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit. And renew our lives with your forgiveness,
grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Opening Hymn

“Listen, God is Calling/Neno Lake Mungu”

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WE WORSHIP WITH PRAYER AND PRAISE

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray:

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

Summer Music:

“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”
(Civilla D. Martin and Charles H. Gabriel)

Heartland Harvest

Prayer Concerns- Sheila Lynch

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Lesson- Genesis 32:22-31

Bulletin pg. 6

Psalm 145:89-, 14-21

Bulletin pg. 6

Second Lesson- Romans 9:1-5

Bulletin pg. 7

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel- Matthew 14:13-21

Bulletin pg. 7

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. _____, the _____ chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

After the reading the minister may say: "The Gospel of the Lord."



Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn

"What Wondrous Love Is This?"

Bulletin pg. 8

Sermon **"You Gave Them Something to Eat"**

Pastor Mytch Pierre-Noel Dorvilier

(For a copy of the sermon, please see page 12)

Apostles' Creed

P: Let us profess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried. He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: **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.**

Blessing

P: The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Benediction and Amen

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

Bulletin pg. 9

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

“Listen, God is Calling/Neno Lake Mungu”

Refrain
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

FIRST LESSON. Genesis 32:22-31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.



Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 (Tone 6)

- ⁸ The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
- ⁹ **LORD, you are | good to all,**
and your compassion is over | all your works.
- ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.
- ¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,**
and you give them their food | in due season.
- ¹⁶ You open | wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.
- ¹⁷ **You are righteous in | all your ways**
and loving in | all your works.
- ¹⁸ You are near to all who | call upon you,
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.
- ¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of | those who fear you;**
you hear their | cry and save them.
- ²⁰ You watch over all | those who love you,
but all the wicked you | shall destroy.
- ²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise | of the LORD;**
let all flesh bless God's holy name forev- | er and ever.

SECOND LESSON. Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

GOSPEL. Matthew 14:13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

“What Wondrous Love Is This?”



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

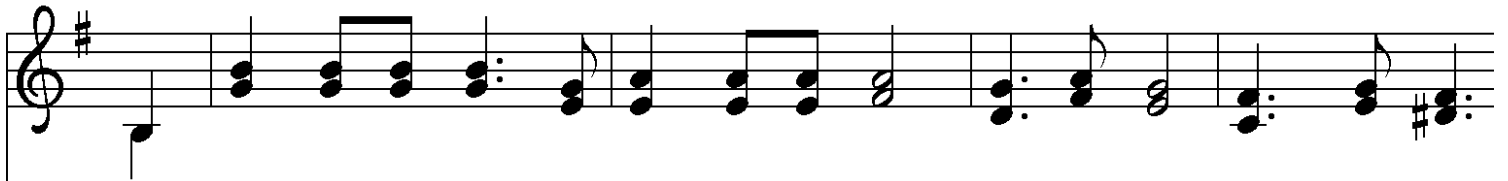


that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

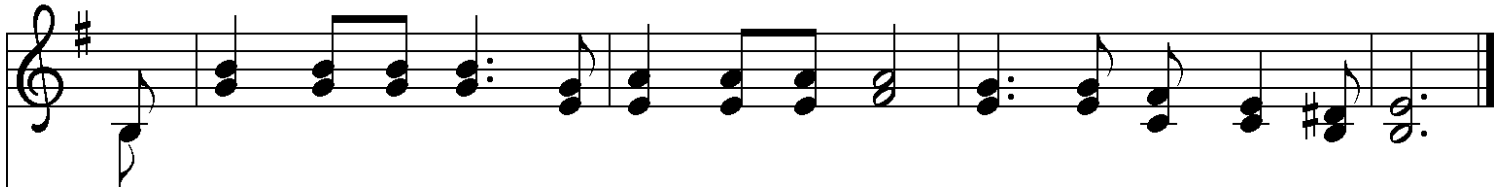


soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

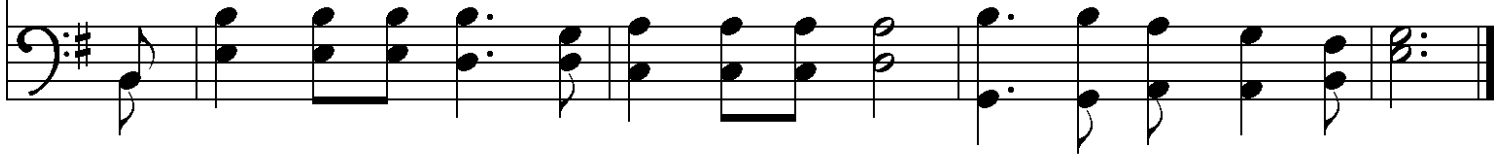
"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.



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Prayer Requests

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Star
Renee
Bob
Neil & Linda
Al
Michaela
Sadie
Sophia
Gabe
Ken
Virginia
Don
Art
Ilene
Ken
Jacque
Cecelia
Martha
Richard & Vicki
Tina & Marty
Ethel
Liam
Doris
Megan
Whitney
Myrtle
Maria

PRAYER REQUESTED BY:

Janet Baker
Janet Baker
David Aus
Janet Baker and Debi Ruud
Janet Baker
Kathy Knee
Bruce & Jill Bienemann
Debi Ruud
Wayne & Peggy Richardson
Janet Baker
Jason Knee
Stephen & Crystal Rosendale
Janet Baker
Rowena Shaterian
Janet Baker
Mike Lucero
Mike & Jacque Lucero
Steve & Sue Carlson
Ken & Jennifer Kearns
Janet Baker
Stephen & Crystal Rosendale
Claudette Niewohner
Janet Baker
Bruce & Jill Bienemann
Janet Baker
Bethel congregation
Bethel congregation

Prayers continued on the next page

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Paul
Karen
Don
Tyler
Doris
Elouise
Charles
Steve
Tom
Carol
Chris
Ellen
Jill
Dolly

PRAYER REQUESTED BY:

Bethel congregation
LaNell McKay
Jennifer Parker
Brad & Lori Davis
Bethel congregation
Bethel congregation
Shirley Jacobsen
The Carlson family
Brad & Lori Davis and Judy Taylor
The Kearns family
Linda Guerrero
Bethel congregation
The Bienemann Family
Maria Donate

COVID-19: Hope, comfort, help, and healing to all whose lives have been affected by the disease, whether it's physically, emotionally, financially, spiritually, or in any other way; we remember especially those who are most vulnerable: the elderly, medical care providers, and our siblings from the community of color.

Medical personnel, first responders, and those in the military: The men, women, and families of those who serve to protect and help us.

Our society: That there may be an end to violence, suspicion, and hatred and that God's peace may envelop us and help us to see each other through God's eyes of love.

Our seminary graduate: Sara Gorman, who is waiting for her first call.

Our benevolence of the month: Fresno Rescue Mission

Our church: Pastor Mytch Pierre-Noel Dorvilier, the Church Council, the church staff members, the Sierra-Pacific Synod, Bishop Mark Holmerud, and the people of Bethel.

A man is visiting his compadre's house one afternoon. *Compadre* is a traditional term of reverence and friendship for a man. In Spanish, it means co-father, that is, a child's father and godfather are, to each other, "compadres." As the two compadres are having a conversation, one compadre says to the other:

"Compadre, I don't understand, it has been twelve moons since you and I both slaughtered a cow. I salted mine like you did. I put it in the barrel in the attic like you did. I am on my third cow, and now you are telling me you still have meat left from that first cow. How is that?"

The other compadre answers. "Yes, compadre you are right, it has been twelve moons since you and I slaughtered and salted a cow, but the difference between the two of us is after I salted mine, I shared with my neighbors, and when they slaughtered theirs, they shared with me. So I am still eating the meat of that cow a year later."

This story is one of my childhood. It takes a community.

The role of Jesus as a teacher in Matthew 13 shifts to Jesus' role as a miracle worker in chapter 14. As described earlier in the Gospel, "Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people." As a result of Jesus' ministry, large crowds follow him. Jesus once again leaves the crowd and takes refuge in a boat, and once again, the crowds follow him. One of Jesus' most recognized miracles is found in this text, but it occurs only after he spends time healing the sick people.

As the day grows long, the disciples come to Jesus with a reasonable concern: It's time to close up shop for the day so people can go buy their dinner before the food vendors shut down for the night.

And Jesus said to them, "They need not to go away; you give them something to eat." Give them something to eat, how, Lord?

This is a story that brings awareness to our faith—a faith that surpasses all our understanding—the God of the Exodus, who divided waters and provided manna from heaven, is at work in history again.

The disciples look around them at the little bit of food they have, which wouldn't even feed half of the disciples, let alone this huge crowd of people. All they see is their scarcity. All they see is what they don't have. The disciples only see the huge gap between the vast need at hand and the limitations of their own resources. "We have nothing but a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish."

The disciples' request is not malicious. They simply are aware of their location (a deserted place) and the time (the day has turned into evening).

In this time of uncertainty, we may perhaps identify with the disciples. We see what we don't have or what we cannot do. Don't get me wrong; many people have lost their jobs in the COVID-19 pandemic. Income is not what it has been. Health insurance is lost for some. Especially in California, we are back to staying home again. We cannot hang out with families as we used to. Churches continue to remain closed. We miss gathering with our friends and neighbors.

Jesus seems perplexed by the disciples' request to send the people away. Why would they leave when the disciples had food? And he said to them, "Bring them to me." He doesn't argue with the disciples, and he doesn't argue with us. He simply invites them – and us – to bring everything to him and surrender it all into his hands.

We feel empty now, but we know what happened next. Jesus made more than enough out of what seemed like nothing. He did not call down bread from heaven like manna in the wilderness. He made more out of what was already available. Jesus knows the lives of those in the crowd matter to him, so they needed to be fed even when the disciples think otherwise. He fed more than five thousand people with the little that he had, and there were leftovers.

Did you notice how the actions of taking, blessing, breaking, and giving are a lot like what Jesus did in the upper room on the last night he was with his disciples? Those actions are the ones we repeat every time we come to Christ's table.

On the second Sunday of every month, starting next Sunday, you are invited to partake with us of Christ's table. Before worship starts, set the table with your favorite plate and cup. Set out a small portion of bread and your favorite juice or wine. Make sure there is enough for everyone in your household who will participate. It's good to share the sacrament with others in person when at all possible. If you have only one of the elements, that's fine. Our Lutheran Church teaches that the full benefit of Christ's presence is received through each element.

So, my friends, I invite you to bring yourself to Jesus. Bring all of yourself to Jesus, whatever little you think you have. Let him take you, and break you, and bless you, and give you away. And watch as everyone has enough. Everyone is satisfied. Everyone is fed out of Christ's abundance, and there is plenty. The God of the Exodus, who divided waters and provided manna from heaven, is at work here and now.