

# BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

*You have a place here!*

*"Joyfully we profess our faith through God's unconditional love.  
Here and now God dwells in all of our lives,  
bears our sins on the cross, and forgives us all."*

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## REFORMATION SUNDAY

9:00 am Sunday, October 27, 2024

*Pastor Dave Johnson*



### TODAY'S REFLECTION

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

**ACOLYTE AND GREETER**

**OWEN DUNKES  
WYATT DUNKES**

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*All baptized and confessing believers are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*We hope that your worship experience is spiritually fulfilling  
and your day begins with our Lord's gifts of peace and joy*

▼ **Prelude Reflections for Meditation**

▼ **Welcome Greeting—Prayers and Praises**

▲ **Opening Hymn**

*"Humble Thyself/Awesome God" page 9*

▲ **Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence for Reflection*

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,  
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.  
The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.  
In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.  
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.  
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.  
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,  
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity  
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of, † Jesus Christ,  
the source of eternal healing,  
your sins are forgiven **Amen.**

## ▲ Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, gracious Lord,

**we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## THE WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song*

### ▼ God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)

*The First Reading is from Jeremiah 31:31-34*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

### ▼ God's Word from the Psalms (NRSV)

*Psalm 46*

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

**The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

**Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.**

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.

**“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”**

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

### ▼ God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)

*The Second Reading is from Romans 3:19-28*

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge

of sin. But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

▲ **God's Word from the Gospel (NRSV)**

*The Holy Gospel according to John 8:31-36*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

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

▼ **Confirmand's Faith Statement**

Owen and Wyatt Dunkes

▼ **Hymn of the Day**

*"Children Of The Heavenly Father", page 10*

▼ **Affirmation of Baptism**

I present Owen and Wyatt Dunkes  
who desires to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for brothers, Owen and Wyatt, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit and nourished them in the community of faith.

Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism,  
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

I ask you both to profess your faith in Christ Jesus,  
reject sin and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

***Confirmand response: I renounce them.***

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

***Confirmand response: I renounce them.***

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

***Confirmand response: I renounce them.***

Do you believe in God the Father?

***I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.***

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***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.***

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

***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.***

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

***Confirmand response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.***

People of God, do you promise to support these brothers  
and pray for them in his life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in Owen and Wyatt the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us rejoice with our brothers in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

### ▲ *Prayers of the Church*

Let us intercede before the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the sake of the Church, the world, and one another.

*A brief silence*

Thank you, heavenly Father, for your Holy Spirit. Thank you for his life-giving and purifying fire. Thank you for his gifts of wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge and fear of the Lord, and joy in your presence. Thank you for reforming, renewing, and sustaining your one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church on earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pour out your Spirit upon the Church. Make it your holy habitation. Keep it steadfast in your Word. Strengthen it in the face of temptation and defend it from evil. Reform and purify it from sin and error, and bestow on it your saving peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be the refuge and strength of Christians when they are persecuted for confessing Jesus as Lord. Grant them the strength to endure, even to giving their life, in faithful witness to him. Give us the courage and will to defend their witness, provide for their needs, and boldly confess the faith and the hope we share in Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be to this congregation our help and our redeemer. Gladden our hearts with the joy of your saving love. Empower us to share our joy, and your love, with those who do not know either. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pour out your Spirit upon the teachers and theologians of the Church. Cause them to hand on, as of first importance, the Gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ. Bless church schools, colleges, and seminaries, so that they write your words upon the hearts of many. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Exalt yourself among the nations, and speak your holy word to the leaders of the world. Establish among all peoples that peace which the world cannot give; and teach us to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We long for you to break the bow, shatter the spear, and make war to cease throughout the world. Until that day, direct and strengthen all who take up arms in defense of life and liberty. Be their

very present help in times of trouble and places of danger. Prosper all they do that accomplishes <sup>7</sup> your will. Bring them home safely and soon. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift before you the needs of all whose lives are shaken by suffering. *Especially for those we name before you now (either in silence or out loud).* Be in their midst, and let them not be overthrown. Give them your saving help, and say to them, 'be still, and know that I am God.' Restore them to health and hope, that they may proclaim the awesome things you have done. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Most holy Lord, we give you thanks for the lives of all your faithful people whom you have claimed and redeemed through the precious blood of Jesus. Grant that we may humbly follow in their footsteps; boldly trust in your promises; faithfully proclaim your Word; and cheerfully serve in your Name. Bring us, through the merits of our Savior, into your Kingdom. There, with all the redeemed, we shall glorify you in the power of your Spirit forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayers, gracious Father; and answer them in accordance with your will, for the sake of your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

▲ **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace.*

**THE MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

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▼ **Offering and Presentation of the Gifts**

October—December Mission Designation ~ Adopt-A-Family/Senior

▼ **Offering Prayer**

Blessed are you, O God,  
**source of every gift of your creation.**  
**By these gifts and with our lives,**  
**help us to serve one another and all in need,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

▼ **The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution**

*See Bulletin Insert*

▼ **The Lord's Prayer**

*See Bulletin Insert*

▼ **Invitation and Distribution of Communion**

Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God.

“Let Us Break Bread Together”      *See Bulletin Insert*

▼ **Post Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace until He comes again. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

▼ **Post Communion Prayer**

Holy God,

**you have welcomed us to this meal  
and fed us with dignity at your table.**

**Send us now to welcome others  
and to be at peace with one another,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

▼ **Closing Hymn**

*“I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light” page 11*

▼ **Announcements**

*Anyone is welcome to make announcements at this time.*

▲ **Blessing and Dismissal**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father and the † Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



# Humble Thyself In The Sight Of The Lord – Awesome God Medley 2x

Hum-ble thy-self in the sight of the Lord, Hum-ble thy-self in the sight of the

Lord; And He shall lift you

up high-er and high-er, and He shall lift you up.

Our God is an awe-some God, He —

reigns from heav-en a-bove; With wis-dom, pow'r and love— our

God is an awe-some God. Our God is an awe-some God, He —

reigns from heav-en a-bove; With wis-dom, pow'r and love— our

God is an awe-some God!

Humble Thyself In The Sight Of The Lord

Awesome God

Words and Music by  
Bob Hudson

CCLI Song # 26564

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Words and Music by  
Rich Mullins

CCLI Song # 41099

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## Children of the Heavenly Father

*Truggare kan ingen vara*



*Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,*  
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



*stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.*  
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

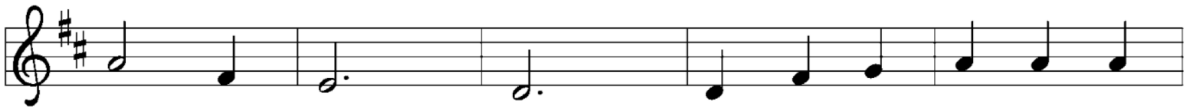
Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

# I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

## *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson

Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

## Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

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## ONLINE BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH OFFERING DONATIONS

are available following these easy steps from our secure Website or Facebook Page

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## MORE SPECIAL WAYS TO GIVE THROUGH YOUR TIME AND TALENTS

Sunday Worship Lectors and Communion Assistants are needed

Service Assistant to advance projected bulletin slides

Maintenance chores around the facility

Christian Education Volunteers

## BETHANY WEEKLY EVENTS CALENDAR

<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am Worship, in the Great Room and Facebook Live-Stream/Video
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00 am Community Coffee in Great Room 9:00 am Cover Girls in Classroom
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 am Women's Bible Study via ZOOM
<b>Thursday</b>	7:00 am Men's Breakfast and Bible Study in Great Room 10:00 am Women's Bible Study in Conference Room

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