

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."*

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:00 am Sunday, August 2, 2026

Pastor David Johnson

TODAYS REFLECTION



In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

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**

“For the Fruit of all Creation” page 9

▲ **Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence for Reflection

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.” In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

Amen.

▲ **Prayer of the Day**

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. Amen**

▼ God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)

The First Reading is from Isaiah 55:1-5

Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

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

▼ God's Word from the Psalms (NRSV)

Psalms 145:8-9, 14-21

The Lord is gracious and merciful, **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**
 The Lord is good to all, **and his compassion is over all that he has made.**
 The Lord upholds all who are falling, **and raises up all who are bowed down.**
 The eyes of all look to you, **and you give them their food in due season.**
 You open your hand, **satisfying the desire of every living thing.**
 The Lord is just in all his ways **and kind in all his doings.**
 The Lord is near to all who call on him, **to all who call on him in truth.**
 He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; **he also hears their cry and saves them.**
 The Lord watches over all who love him, **but all the wicked he will destroy.**
 My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, **and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.**

▼ God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)

The Second Reading is from 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 brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. 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

4 patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

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

▼ **Children's Sermon**

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

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 14:13-21

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

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

▼ **Sermon—God's Word Applied to Life**

▼ **Hymn of the Day**

"Come to Jesus" page 10

▲ **The Apostles' Creed**

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 into⁵ 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.

▲ Prayers of the Church

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence

For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders, and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers, those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit (*especially those we name before you*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For this congregation, that it bears faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. By their example, may we trust your promises in life and in death. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

▼ **Offering and Presentation of the Gifts**

Mission Designation July-September—**Feed America-Good Samaritan**

▼ **Offering Prayer**

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

▼ **The Great Thanksgiving and 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, 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.

▼ **The 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.

▼ **Invitation and Distribution of Communion**

Heaven has come near.
 Come, share in the feast!

Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

▼ 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**

Compassionate God,
 through the gifts of bread and wine
 our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
 Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
 may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus,
 through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

▼ **Closing Hymn**

“Create in Me a Clean Heart” 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.

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

For the Fruit of All Creation



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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Come To Jesus (Untitled Hymn)

Words and Music
by Chris Rice



1. Weak and wound - ed sin - ner, _____ lost and left _____ to die; O
 2. Now your bur - den's lift - ed and car - ried far _____ a - way; And
 3. Like a new - born ba - by, don't be a - fraid _____ to crawl; Re -
 4. times the way is lone - ly, and steep and filled _____ with pain; So
 5. when the love spills o - ver, and mu - sic fills _____ the night, and
 6. with your fin - nal heart - beat _____ kiss the world _____ good - bye; then



raise your head, _____ for Love is pass - ing by. _____ Come to
 pre - cious blood _____ has washed a - way the stain. _____ Sing to
 mem - ber when _____ you walk, some - times you fall. _____ Fall on
 if your sky _____ is dark and pours the rain, then cry to
 when you can't _____ con - tain your joy in - side, then dance for
 5 go in peace, _____ and laugh on Glo - ry's side. And fly to



Je - sus, come to Je - sus, come to
 Je - sus, sing to Je - sus, sing to
 Je - sus, fall on Je - sus, fall on
 Je - sus, cry to Je - sus, cry to
 Je - sus, dance for Je - sus, dance for
 7 Je - sus, fly to Je - sus, fly to



Je - sus and live!
 Je - sus and live!
 Je - sus and live! _____ Some -
 Je - sus and live! _____ And
 Je - sus and live! _____ And
 Je - sus and live!

Create In Me

Words and Music by
Mary Rice Hopkins

♩=74

D A/C# A/B Bm Bm/A
 Cre - ate in me a clean heart, oh God, that

3 G Em A^{7sus} A⁷ D A/C#
 I might serve You; Cre - ate in me a clean

6 A/B Bm Bm/A Em D/F# A D
 heart, oh God, that I might be re - newed. So

9 F#m⁷ Bm⁷ F#m⁷ Bm⁷ Em⁷ Em/B
 fill me and heal me, and bring me back to

12 A^{7sus} A⁷ D A/C#
 You. Cre - ate in me a clean

14 A/B Bm Bm/A Em D/F# A D
 heart, oh God, that I might serve You.

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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facebook.com/BethanyLutheranChurchElca: Click the "Shop Now" button on the upper right corner to directly access Bethany's secure PayPal Account.

MORE SPECIAL WAYS TO GIVE THROUGH YOUR TIME AND TALENTS

Sunday Worship Lectors and Communion Assistants are needed

Maintenance chores around the facility

Christian Education Volunteers

BETHANY WEEKLY EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday	9:00 am Worship, in the Great Room and Facebook Live-Stream/Video
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Tuesday	9:00 am Community Coffee in Great Room
	9:00 am Cover Girls in Classroom

Wednesday	10:30 am Women's Bible Study via ZOOM
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Thursday	7:00 am Men's Breakfast and Bible Study in Great Room
	11:00 am Women's Bible Study in Conference Room
	6:30 Pub Theology

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