

Bethany Lutheran Church

Long Beach, California

(562) 421-4711

7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST + + + JULY 19, 2020

+ *God Gathers Us In His Presence* +

WELCOME

INVOCATION:

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father,
 from the Lord Jesus Christ
 and from the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from both. (*Romans 1:7*)

People: **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Jesus Christ, through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power
 to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead. (*Romans 1:4*)

People: **We are among those who have been called to belong to Him.**
 (*Romans 1:6*)

Leader: Who has taught us to pray:

People: **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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Leader: When Adam sinned, sin entered the entire human race.

People: Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned, including me. (Romans 5:12)

Leader: The Law of God is good. The trouble is with me!

**People: I am bound in sin.
I don't even fully understand myself.
There are times in which I really want to do what is good and right,
but I don't do it.
Instead, I do the very thing I despise.
I am a hypocrite.
I know perfectly well that what I do is at times wrong,
and my guilty conscience shows that I agree that the law is good,
but I can't help myself.
So far as my sinful nature is concerned I am rotten to the core.
No matter which way I turn, I can't make myself do right.
So many have been the times that I have wanted to do right,
but I couldn't.
I wanted to do good, but didn't.
So often when I have tried not to do wrong, I have done so anyway.
What a miserable person I am!
Lord, free me from the life that is dominated by sin,
and rescue me from death,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen. (Romans 7:18-19 & 25)**

Leader: I am here to announce
that there is no condemnation for you who are Christ's own people.
God didn't deal with the problem of sin
as something remote or unimportant.
In His Son, Jesus, He personally took on the human condition
and set it right once and for all.
Now, God has taken up residence in your life.
Go in peace and serve the Lord.

1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, And in our hearts
 2 Give to Your Word im - pres - sive pow'r, That in our hearts
 3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word,
 Your work be - gin, Your dwell - ing place now make us.
 from this good hour As fire it may be glow - ing,
 in doubt and strife, In us be strong - ly burn - ing
 Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, A - round and in
 That in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty We faith - ful wit -
 That we be faith - ful un - to death And live in love
 us bright - ly shine, To joy and glad - ness wake us
 ness - es may be, Your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.
 and ho - ly faith, From You true wis - dom learn - ing.
 That we may be Tru - ly liv - ing, To You giv - ing
 Hear us, cheer us By Your teach - ing; Let our preach - ing
 Your grace and peace On us show - er; By Your pow - er
 Prayer un - ceas - ing And in love be still in - creas - ing.
 And our la - bor Praise You, Lord, and serve our neigh - bor.
 Christ con - fess - ing, Let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

+ *God Gives Us the Gift of His Word* +

FIRST SCRIPTURE: *Romans 8:18-27*

I consider our present sufferings insignificant compared to the glory that will soon be revealed to us. All creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal who his children are.

Creation was subjected to frustration but not by its own choice. The one who subjected it to frustration did so in the hope that it would also be set free from slavery to decay in order to share the glorious freedom that the children of God will have. We know that all creation has been groaning with the pains of childbirth up to the present time.

However, not only creation groans. We, who have the Spirit as the first of God's gifts, also groan inwardly. We groan as we eagerly wait for our adoption, the freeing of our bodies from sin. We were saved with this hope in mind. If we hope for something we already see, it's not really hope. Who hopes for what can be seen? But if we hope for what we don't see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

At the same time the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we don't know how to pray for what we need. But the Spirit intercedes along with our groans that cannot be expressed in words. The one who searches our hearts knows what the Spirit has in mind. The Spirit intercedes for God's people the way God wants him to. – GW®

SECOND SCRIPTURE: *Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

Jesus used another illustration. He said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who planted good seed in his field. But while people were asleep, his enemy planted weeds in the wheat field and went away. When the wheat came up and formed kernels, weeds appeared.

"The owner's workers came to him and asked, 'Sir, didn't you plant good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?'

"He told them, 'An enemy did this.'

"His workers asked him, 'Do you want us to pull out the weeds?'

"He replied, 'No. If you pull out the weeds, you may pull out the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. When the grain is cut, I will tell the workers to gather the weeds first and tie them in bundles to be burned. But I'll have them bring the wheat into my barn.'"

When Jesus had sent the people away, he went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain what the illustration of the weeds in the field means."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Leader: Oh, the depth of the riches of Your wisdom and knowledge, O God.

People: **From You and through You and to You are all things.
To You be the glory forever!**
(Romans 11:33 & 36)

APOSTLE'S CREED:

(catholic means the universal Christian Church)*

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.**

HYMN:

“The Lord Will Not Forsake His Own”



1. The Lord will not for - sake His own, nor turn His ear a - way
 2. He hears our voice be - fore we speak, our deep - est thoughts with - in
 3. He hears the pound - ing of our hearts, the most per - sis - tent plea
 4. He hears our si - lent tears of pain, when life has been un - kind
 5. He hears each heart then bids us go, where mer - cies ne - ver cease:
 6. Lord Je - sus give us faith to pray, where - ev - er we may be



But lis - tens with a ten - der heart, when we His chil - dren pray.
 He hears our con - stant "Ky - ri - e" and frees our soul from sin.
 He hears our an - ger, knows our pain, when grief is all we see.
He hears the yearn - ing of our years, when words es - cape the mind.
 To cross and ta - ble, font and Word, where Je - sus gives His peace.
 Un - til the day we see Your face and live e - ter - nal - ly.

MESSAGE: *“Grown as We Groan”*

Text: Romans 8:18-27

+ *God Sends Us Forth for Lives of Love and Service* +

THE BLESSING:

Leader: Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.
 So let us be clothed with Christ
 and forget about satisfying the sinful self. (*Romans 13:11 & 14*)

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ARE YOU RECEIVING THE BETHANY BULLET?

If you would like to receive the *Bethany Bullet* please email Aimee Coleman (acoleman@bethanylutheran.org) with your name and email address. The *Bethany Bullet* is a weekly capsule of worship highlights and big information that your brain may or may not have 'downloaded' from the prior Sunday. The purpose is to bolster you in faith, build you up in the key Biblical themes shared the previous Sunday in worship, to bring to mind the important issues on Bethany's plate and to broaden your awareness of opportunities of service to your Lord, your church, and your community. Tell a friend about the *Bethany Bullet!*

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“O Holy Spirit, Enter In” LSB 913

Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606-73, adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, sts. 1,3 alt.;
tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941, st. 2, alt.

Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608;

setting: *Choralbuch zum Evangelischen Kirchengesangbuch*, Berlin, 1955

Text and music: Public Domain

Setting: © 1955 Verlag Merseburger

“Press On” Duet

by *Dan Burgess*

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“The Lord Will Not Forsake His Own”

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SUMMER CHIMES



S'mores Stories This Wednesday, July 15th at 7:00 PM!
on Facebook Live to sing some songs, hear a story, spend time in prayer
and get s'more Jesus at the end of the day.
This event is for all ages but kids are going to love it.

Follow the Bethany Lutheran Page at –
<https://www.facebook.com/Bethany.Long.Beach/>

STAYCATION WITH JESUS: I'm sure you've been on a vacation and with our current situation it looks like most people will make it a staycation this year. Getting away from it all to rest is important whether you go on a trip or stay home. We invite you to rest in Jesus from **July 19th to August 2nd** and take a **Staycation with Jesus** and take Him with you on lots of fun adventures. We are planning a fun two weeks filled with shenanigans like a scavenger hunt, a movie night, fort/tent night at home and a whole lot more. We will also be daily devotions for you to dig into God's Word and find rest. Check out episode 2 of the Staycation News right here- <https://vimeo.com/435344465> or go to our dedicated website www.staycationwithjesus.com for more details.



JULY 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2021 CHURCH OFFICERS AND BOARDS

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JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Text and Theme at Bethany</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 19	Romans 8:18-27 <i>"Grown as We Groan"</i>	Bethany Field
July 26	Romans 8:28-39 <i>"The Savior Brings Victory"</i>	Bethany Field

WE GIVE HIM BUT HIS OWN



At Bethany we know that "our stuff is not our stuff!" All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from Him. We also know that giving is a spirit-given compulsion. For Jesus Christ, in whose likeness we are being transformed daily, is the ultimate giver. Your gifts fund ministry that give people Jesus. His words, His promises, His presence, His gifts, His comfort, His strength are given through the gifts you are now giving Him. We thank and honor you for these gifts, because they thank and honor Him!

There are multiple ways to give to Bethany Lutheran Church including:

- Giving Online
- Text to Give
- Online Bill-Pay, US Mail, Offering Basket

Please see the GIVING link on Bethany's website for more information on how to make your offering. Click [HERE](#) to go to the GIVING webpage.

If you need further assistance contact Maraley Shaeffer, Financial Administrator at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org.

SCRIP NEWS

Just wanted to remind everyone that Scrip is still available for sale in the school office Monday through Friday from 9am - 3pm. It will also be available for sale on Sundays in the school office now that we are worshipping on campus. There are a few new vendors available for on-hand purchases - Gelson's (\$100), Dunkin' Donuts (\$10) and Total Wine and More (\$25). These will be in limited supply as we decide if there is a big enough response! The easiest way to purchase Scrip is online - just set up an account and start making purchases for the things you buy every day - groceries, gas, restaurants, etc. (shopwithscrip.com). Happy Scriping!

NOTE FROM BETHANY'S BOARD OF FINANCE:

We recognize the economic impact of the Corona virus will be devastating and potentially long lasting on individuals and families in Bethany's community. Therefore, members of Bethany Lutheran Church, out of a desire to connect deeply and support financially those with actual need, have created the Covid Care Relief Fund. This fund is managed by the Board of Finance working in partnership with the ministerial staff of Bethany Lutheran Church. Families demonstrating substantial need, and requesting assistance over \$1,000, will go through an application process which the board will review, make careful decisions, and allocate distributions. For those needs of less than \$1,000, staff members of Bethany, working with a three member sub-committee of the Board of Finance, will make the decisions and appropriate distributions.

THE BOARD OF SCHOOLS will be recognizing and thanking retiring teachers Chris Boerrigter and Diana Orr at the church services on July 26. These faithful servants have touched the lives of hundreds of Bethany students and families and will be deeply missed. If you would like to give your own words of congratulations and thanks, we will have COVID-friendly card collection boxes available at the services or you may mail them to the school office and we will make sure Chris and Diana receive them.

Bethany Lutheran School in Long Beach is seeking a school counselor for the 2020-2021 school year. This is a part-time, hourly, non-benefitted position. The counselor will work 20 hours per week throughout the school year in collaboration with the school administration and faculty.

The school counselor works to promote the social, emotional and behavioral well-being of students, and intervenes to support students' social-emotional challenges, either individually or as a group. The counselor is also knowledgeable about Social-Emotional Learning curriculum (SEL) and works in collaboration with teachers to help students create positive peer relationships and a healthy school culture.

Qualifications:

- A master's degree in school counseling, school psychology, psychology, human services, or social work required. Licensure/certification preferred
- School experience preferred
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate effectively and appropriately with colleagues and parents
- Ability to work independently and as part of a collaborative school environment
- Commitment to the ministry of Lutheran schools

Please contact Dr. Mary Fink, Principal: mfink@bethanylutheran.org

Church Office Hours:

Our Church Office Hours have changed, as of March 16, 2020 the office will be open:
Monday – Thursday from 7:30AM – 12:00PM noon. Closed Fridays.
