9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST + + + AUGUST 2, 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.
As a Christian, I’m telling you the truth. I’m not lying. The Holy Spirit, along with my own thoughts, supports me in this. I have deep sorrow and endless heartache. I wish I could be condemned and cut off from Christ for the sake of others who, like me, are Jewish by birth. They are Israelites, God’s adopted children. They have the Lord’s glory, the pledges, Moses’ Teachings, the true worship, and the promises. The Messiah is descended from their ancestors according to His human nature. The Messiah is God over everything, forever blessed. Amen.
Now it is not as though God’s word has failed. Clearly, not everyone descended from Israel is part of Israel or a descendant of Abraham. However, as Scripture says, “Through Isaac your descendants will carry on your name.” This means that children born by natural descent from Abraham are not necessarily God’s children. Instead, children born by the promise are considered Abraham’s descendants.

For example, this is what the promise said, “I will come back at the right time, and Sarah will have a son.” The same thing happened to Rebekah. Rebekah became pregnant by our ancestor Isaac. Before the children had been born or had done anything good or bad, Rebekah was told that the older child would serve the younger one. This was said to Rebekah so that God’s plan would remain a matter of His choice, a choice based on God’s call and not on anything people do. — GW®

SECOND SCRIPTURE: Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus heard about John, He left in a boat and went to a place where He could be alone. The crowds heard about this and followed Him on foot from the cities. When Jesus got out of the boat, He saw a large crowd. He felt sorry for them and cured their sick people.

In the evening the disciples came to Him. They said, “No one lives around here, and it’s already late. Send the crowds to the villages to buy food for themselves.”

Jesus said to them, “They don’t need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

They told Him, “All we have here are five loaves of bread and two fish.”

Jesus said, “Bring them to me.”

Then He ordered the people to sit down on the grass. After He took the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven and blessed the food. He broke the loaves apart, gave them to the disciples, and they gave them to the people. All of them ate as much as they wanted. When they picked up the leftover pieces, they filled twelve baskets.

About five thousand men had eaten. (This number does not include the women and children who had eaten.) — GW®

+ We Give Thanks for God’s Word +
OFFERING: If you so desire, Text Giving is now available. Text GIVE to 562-210-0463. Thank you!

VOLUNTARY: “Let Me Count the Ways”

1. How many times Lord Have I been cared for Ev-er-y step You've been with me
2. All of my short-falls all of my bad calls all of my wrongs met with merc-y

So many mo-ments I have been bro-ken On-ly to find You could fix me Let me count the
I don't de-serve it, You say I'm worth it a-gain and again you for-give me

ways Let me count the days that You have been faith-ful Let me count the

ways. Let me count the days that You have been fai-th-ful th ful. Let me count the ways

_ Let me count the days Let me count the ways that you have been faith-ful Let me count the ways

Let me count the days. Let me count the ways that You have been faith-ful_

There is no end to the times you will re-scue one of Your own from de-spair

And Lord I know this cau-se I am a wit-ness to all of the times You've been there! Let me count the
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.
SONG: “Sing”

1. We are broken people, Not worthy of Your grace.
   Humbly we will enter, The temple of Your praise.

2. Fall to our knees, Lay at Your scarred feet.
   Lamb who took our place upon the mercy seat.
   And You sing over us
   You sing over us
   And we'll sing of Your great mercy,
   sing of Your great grace.
   Because of Your great love,
   We'll sing aloud Your praise.

3. You are the one who's made us holy and set apart.
Claimed as Your people. We worship You the One True God. And You sing

_ over us_ You sing_ over us_ And we'll

sing of Your great mercy, sing of Your great grace_. Because of Your great love, We'll sing aloud: Your praise.

As You sing,

As we sing

As You sing

_ over us_ You sing_ over us_

sing of Your great mercy, sing of Your great grace_. Because of Your great love, We'll sing aloud: Your praise._ And we'll
MESSAGE:
Text: Romans 9:1-13

+ 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)

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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Liturgy (or the appropriate portion thereof) from Lutheran Service Book

“Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee” LSB 573
Text: Josiah Conder, 1789-1855, alt. Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, Basel, 1745;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941. Text and Music: Public Domain

“Let Me Count the Ways”
Words & Music by Kip Fox. CCLI# 7039415. For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI License # 396555

“Sing”
Music and lyrics by Blake Flattley. CCLI Song# 7064066. For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI License # 396555
S'mores Stories This Wednesday, July 29th 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.

***PLEASE NOTE: S'mores Stories will be on hiatus for a couple weeks. Look for us to return on Wednesday, August 19, 2020.***

Follow the Bethany Lutheran Page at –
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.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Text and Theme at Bethany</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 2</td>
<td>Romans 9:1-13 &quot;Aching for All&quot;</td>
<td>Bethany Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 9</td>
<td>Romans 10:5-17 &quot;Believe &amp; Speak &amp; Vice Versa&quot;</td>
<td>Bethany Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 23</td>
<td>Romans 11:33-12:8 &quot;A Living Sacrifice&quot;</td>
<td>Bethany Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 30</td>
<td>Romans 12:9-21 &quot;GOT LOVE&quot;</td>
<td>Bethany Field</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“NOW AVAILABLE”: We now have a “drive-in church” option during our outdoor “BYOBWWW” worship services. If it is easier and/or safer for you to remain in your car instead of coming out onto the field, you can now use your car radio, or bring your portable radio, or even your personal headset-radio (“Walkman”) to listen to the service broadcast from anywhere in the parking lot surrounding the field. After finding your parking space, simply tune in 87.9 FM to listen to the worship service and participate with your Bethany family from your car. Please still print out the bulletin at home to follow along.

BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE:

The American Red Cross blood drive that was previously scheduled for August 2\textsuperscript{nd} in Bethany’s gym has been CANCELLED. Those interested in making a lifesaving blood donation can find opportunities in your local area by logging on to www.redcrossblood.org, or via the American Red Cross Blood Donor smartphone app, or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

I, Mark Hansen, have been running the blood drive ministry at Bethany since 2012 and am now looking to pass the torch to someone with a heart for this lifesaving activity. Experience with the use of social media would be a plus. If you would like to know more about what is entailed in running Bethany’s blood drive ministry, please call me at (562) 400-6787 to discuss, or send me an e-mail at beechmark@dslextreme.com.
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 mshaef@bethanynlutheran.org.

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.

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 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM noon. Closed Fridays.