

Welcome to Bethel

The *Field*
is the World,
and the good seed
are the children of the

Kingdom.

Matthew 13:38, NRSV



8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 23 & 24, 2023

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE ON THE USHERS' TABLE

SERVING US

Presiding Minister: Pastor David Van Kley

Organist: Lucas Wickstrom

	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Lector	Julie Luehmann	
Usher	Ron Rantanen	Gary Dolkey
	Margo Rantanen	Wanda Dolkey
Communion Assistant	Kathy Balzarini	
	Julie Luehmann	
9am Coffee Host(s)	Carol Brown	-----
	Connie Kangas	-----
Van Driver	Duane Palomaki	-----

Serving Next Week: July 30 & 31

	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Lector	Mary Poirier	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Usher	Jason Chapman	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
	Ray Chapman	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Communion Assistant	Kathy Balzarini	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
	Joyce Anderson	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
9am Coffee Host(s)	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	-----
	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	-----
Van Driver	Steve Nelson	-----

The sign-up sheet for volunteering is located at the back of the sanctuary on the bulletin board. Or contact the church office by email or phone.

We are in need of radio broadcast sponsors.

The Special Fund for radio is in the negative by \$453.

You can either just make a donation to the Radio Fund, or contact the office to pay for a broadcast in honor of, in memory of, or in celebration of someone/something.

The cost for a broadcast is \$80.00.

*** Please stand, if you are able**

Prelude

Announcements

* Invocation & Confession

pgs 94-96

* Gathering Hymn **“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”**

#693

Greeting – **“And also with you”**

Prayer of the Day (in unison)

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: **Isaiah 44:6-8**

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: **Psalms 86:11-17** (*Chant in unison*)

**¹¹Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk | in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to re- | vere your name.**

**¹²I will thank you, O Lord my God, with | all my heart,
and glorify your name for- | evermore.**

**¹³For great is your | love toward me;
you have delivered me from the | pit of death.**

**¹⁴The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent
people | seeks my life;
they have not set you be- | fore their eyes.**

**¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.**

**¹⁶Turn to me and have mer- | cy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child | of
your handmaid.**

**¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may
see it and be | put to shame;
because you, Lord, have helped me and com- | forted me.**

Second Reading: **Romans 8:12-25**

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will

die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel Acclamation

pg 205

* The Holy Gospel:

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son

of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon **Pastor David Van Kley**

Hymn of the Day **"Build Us Up, Lord"** #670

* Apostles' Creed – *inside back cover of the hymnal*

* Prayers of Intercession – **Your mercy is great**

* Sharing of the Peace – **And also with you**

Offering & Offering Hymn **"Praise and Thanksgiving"** #689

* Offering Prayer

* Liturgy of Holy Communion pgs 206-207

* Lord's Prayer pg 208

Communion Distribution **"Lamb of God"** pg 208

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Children of any age with their hands out will receive Communion. You will receive the host/wafer (regular or gluten free) and wine or juice.

Communion Hymns #491 and #472

Post Communion Blessing

Sending Announcements

* Benediction

* Sending Hymn **"Great is Thy Faithfulness"** #733

* Dismissal – **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Welcome to worship in the name of God the Creator of this beautiful summer day, Jesus our Savior, and the Holy Spirit our Counselor, each and every day. Amen.

Welcome, Pastor Van Kley, thank you for being our guest preacher, and thank you for the bread for Holy Communion!

Financial Report

2023	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
July 16 & 17	\$2,787	\$4,545	61%
YEAR-to-DATE	\$127,266	\$131,805	97%

Attendance: July 16 - 58, July 17 - 34 = 92

Offerings may be given in person, via mail, or see Connie in the office about electronic giving.

We are collecting Email addresses and your Baptism month. Most of you have this information on record already, but if you would provide them again, we can make sure of it. You may write this information on your attendance slip or contact the church office. Thank you!

Please hold in prayer the family and friends of Leona Luke who died on July 15. Services will be at Bjork & Zhulkie on Saturday, August 19. Visitation is from 12:00 to 1:00, the service is at 1:00pm, and a luncheon to follow at Bethel.

Fellow disciples-

As worship team noticed the change in the location of the baptism font they suggested I write a little about baptism and the practice of getting some water from the font to give thanks for baptism. You may have noticed that the baptismal font has moved to the center of the aisle, closer to where most people enter the sanctuary. This is intentional and part of a movement of the larger church to reclaim and celebrate the centrality of baptism in our lives.



Baptism can be confusing and hard to get your mind around with all of the language and different images used to talk about it and the differences in practices between different denominations. The word

baptism means 'washing in water.' A bath. God uses this ordinary thing, water, to bring us grace. Before we can do any great works, when we are still helpless and needy, dependent and unemployed, we baptize infants (and adults too) claiming that God's love is gracious and unconditional. Baptism bathes us in God's love and initiates us into the daily Christian walk of drowning to sin and all that separates us from God and the daily rising in the forgiveness of God. Each and every day of life.

Pastor Daniel Erlander says that Martin Luther celebrated and adored baptism. Whenever he was in doubt or despair, tormented by the devil, Luther would cry out: I AM BAPTIZED!

Living as a baptized child of God is a daily thing. One way you can engage baptism daily is through water. At worship too, you are invited to come past the font, take some water, and put it on your forehead. Maybe in the same sign of the cross you received in baptism.

You and I are embodied beings- we live in bodies. So often in worship we are asked to engage with our thinking minds but our bodies aren't doing much. We sit and stand in some sort of odd Lutheran exercise program but really we don't do much with our hands and feet and senses. Our bodies remember and know things in different ways when we engage using other senses or physical movements. So give it a try. Come by the font and get some water and give thanks for God's daily love that revives you and sends you with the great message that all are precious and beloved in God's eyes!

By the way, some have asked about making the sign of the cross. Isn't that a Roman Catholic thing? Nope, Lutherans can do it too. Again, as a different mode of engaging God and walking in faith. It is simple- you touch your hand to your forehead, lower sternum, then left then right shoulder. I had to look up that left and right shoulder part. I do it differently every time. I don't think that is the point. The point is to let our bodies trust in Jesus in physical embodied ways. Not your thing? No problem. We are made wonderfully different and unique: you too live in the daily new life that comes from God.

Blessings to you in these wonderful days of summer,

Pastor Tim

August Meetings

Tuesday, August 8 – 6:30pm – Church Council
Tuesday, August 15 – 1:00pm – Worship & Music Committee
Tuesday, August 22 – 1:00pm – Rachel Circle

Daily Devotion Readings: July 24 – July 29

Monday – Psalm 119:121-128; 1 Kings 3:16-28; James 3:13-18

Tuesday – Psalm 119:121-128; 1 Kings 4:29-34; Ephesians 6:10-18

Wednesday – Psalm 119:121-128; Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33; Mark 4:30-34

Thursday – Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Proverbs 10:1-5; Philippians 4:10-15

Friday – Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Isaiah 51:17-23; Romans 9:6-13

Saturday – Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Isaiah 44:1-5; Matthew 7:7-11

Summer Choir will sing at the Sunday worship service on July 30.
A short rehearsal will be held in the choir room at 9:30am.
COME AND JOIN US!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF - SCHOOL KITS

Each kit contains:

- 4 70-sheet notebooks, wide- or college-ruled, approximately 8" X 10½".
- 1 30-cm ruler, or ruler with cms on one side and inches on the other
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 1 2½" eraser

One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks can be used). There is a pattern in the office if you would like to make some using heavy fabric (no Christian or nationality logos).

Made in God's Image (Imago Dei)

A rite for middle school students- Join us in worship on August 20 & 21 as we celebrate with our middle school students that they, and all of us, are made in the image of God.



Middle School Event

In the midst of life, and especially the rapidly changing times of middle school, we need a daily reminder that God loves us and calls us very good. We will have a short blessing and then send our students with a locker mirror to use at home or at school. On the mirror will be a sticker which reads: "God created YOU and called you very good!" Please join us.

Welcome Visitors!

Thomas & Luanne Skrenes
Eli Neu – Cottage Grove, MN
Dean Warlin – Socus, MI
Rev. Robert Dobson
Beth Mary Pynnanen
Winifred Hay – Colorado Springs, CO
Lana (Warlin) Goodling – Albertville, AL
Nancy & Chuck Johnson – Brooklyn Park, MN
Sharon & Dan Picard – Crystal Lake, IL

Mike Mariuzza
Bruce Rantanen – Ironwood, MI
Ron Kulju – Albuquerque, NM
Peggy Argall – Kansas City, MO

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Jane Maki from:

Al & Kathy Balzarini
Ruth Heidemann

Mary & Bud Poirier
John & Mavis Wiitanen

In Memory of Roger Matson from Marilyn Matson

In Memory of Martha & Slater Hawes, Elma & Wm Graham, George Kauppinen, William Kauppinen, Aili & Woodrow Farm, Lempi & Adolph Felt, and Elsie & Roy Peterson from Slater & Kirsten Hawes

DEATH

July 15 – Leona Luke; service will be held August 19.

Serving in August



Offering Tellers: Dean Maki & Carol Holmgren

SUNDAY VAN DRIVERS

August 6 – Earl Eliason
August 13 – Gary Thibeault
August 20 – Duane Palomaki
August 27 – Steve Nelson

MAINTENANCE: Steve Laitinen



The van is available in Ishpeming for the 10:00am Sunday worship service. Call the office by noon on Fridays to sign-up. Voicemails will not be heard until Monday morning.



9 am Sunday Coffee Fellowship

There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary.

Grass Cutting Schedule



August 6	Dean Maki – 475-5197
August 13	Steve Nelson – 201-1625
August 20	John Solomon – 486-9462
August 27	John Wiitanen – 485-1993

Van Maintenance: Steve Laitinen

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEER!

1-Cooper Guidebeck, Keith Matson

**2-Shirley Aho, Gregory Asgaard,
Janet Hendriksen, Karen Marietti,
Blake Roberts**

3-Denise (Thibeault) Perry

4-Bradley Perry

6-Lee Mattson, Glenn Smith, Levi Wallace

7-Marcus Annala, Jeffrey Giroux, Lucille Heliste

8-Shannon Carlson, Carter Guidebeck, Sharon Nicholas

9-Tina Helsten, A.J. LaCosse, Tina Vanderploeg

10-Jeffrey Korpi

11-Aaron Adriano, Debra Davis, Darlene Rice

12-Donald Denofre, Timothy Rundman, Kelsey Stanek, Allen Uuro

13-Ashley Jarvi, Wendy Roberts

14- Amber Emanuelson

15-Cathy Davey, Reynold Kulju

16-Bailee Brewer, Jayna Burke, Kara Cox, Bill Stream, Julie Walimaa

17-Nicole O'Brien

18-Mikayla Hakala, Dylan Solomon

19-Gloria Maki

**20-Cadence Besola, Clare Champion, Rylee Crevier, Marv Kantola, Alexander
Niemi, Chad Raisinen Jr, Sue Wickstrom**

21-Robert Asgaard, Hannah Mongiat

**22-Jessica Hooper, Jennifer Juntunen, Maddalen Koch, Miranda Nelson,
Loretta Niemi, Kurt O'Brien, Diane J Poirier**

24-Ariel Koski, Amber Kollmar, Jeremy Roberts

25-David Borg, Allen DeVold, Brian Nurmela, Kristopher Prahm

26-Ryan Anttila, Michael Williams

**27-Emmi Barron, Eric Hooper, Sara Johnston, Hayden Mann,
Ralph Roberts**

28-Gail Mattson

29-Michael Beito, Jason Perrault

30-Willow Lake, Layla Parkinen, Emerson Williams

31-Joyce Larson



August

BIRTHDAYS

Calendar for the Week

Sunday, July 23

9am – Coffee Fellowship
10am – Worship

Monday, July 24

5:30pm - Worship

Tuesday, July 25

1pm – Rachel Circle

Sunday, July 30

9am – Coffee Fellowship
9:30am – Summer Choir rehearsal
10am – Worship

Pastor Tim will be away at Family Camp for a week of vacation July 23-28. If you are in need of immediate pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Andrew Plocher at 906-373-6036.

Thank you for supporting balance and renewal for your pastor.



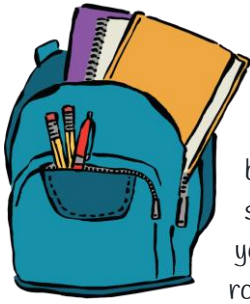
Bethel Womens' Retreat at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp September 6-8

The cost is \$125–Bethel's WELCA will pay \$40 of that cost.

Registration forms are available in the church office on the counter (the deadline is Monday, August 7). For more information call Mary Poirier (906-485-5944)

Last year's retreat was wonderful with fellowship, good food, nature, and of course, God!

Office Administrator: This full-time, in-office position is the primary administrative support for the Executive Staff of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America located in Marquette. Applicants should have strong organizational skills, ability with both digital and written communication tools, and experience in general office management. Compensation is commensurate with experience. For a full position description, go to www.nglsynod.org. Send resume and cover letter to ngls@nglsynod.org or 1029 N. Third Street, Suite A, Marquette, MI 49855.



Blessing of backpacks, briefcases, and bags

Join us for worship on August 27 or 28 for a blessing of backpacks, briefcases, and bags that will occur during this service. No matter what your age, don't forget to bring your backpack, briefcase, bag, or other item of your daily routine!

Lifelong Faith Formation 2023 Fall Classes

Join the fellowship and fun with others in the Northern Great Lakes Synod as you explore the Bible, church traditions, and issues central to daily life.

Registration opens in August on the synod website (nglsynod.org). Online classes begin in September and October.

For more info or to receive the registration link, contact Deacon Lori Ward at 615-519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynod.org.



CHRIST'S KALEIDOSCOPE: A focus on resources that educate and deepen cultural competency regarding racial equity, our indigenous neighbors, and the LGPTQIA+ community.

EMBRACING GOD'S FUTURE WITHOUT FORGETTING THE PAST: A Conversation about Loss, Grief, and Nostalgia in Congregational Life.

THE GOSPEL OF MARK: It's Story and Meaning

STEWARDS OF CHILDREN: The movement to make your faith community a safe space

STEWARDSHIP OF ANIMALS

TAKE AND EAT: A study of food and spirituality from Holy Communion to potlucks

THAT'S NOT IN MY BIBLE: A Survey of the Apocrypha

WHO ARE THE EVANGELICALS?: A former evangelical pastor turns whistleblower (without being mean)