



Bethany Lutheran Church

welcomes you to worship!

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Order of Worship

We Gather

Welcome

Gathering Hymn

“You Are Holy”

You are holy, you are whole.
You are always ever more
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.
Blessed are you coming near.
Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy,
you are wholeness,
you are present.
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna
in the highest!
Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to our God!

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

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Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

First Reading

Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

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

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences.

¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

Gospel Reading

Mark 4:26-34

The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the 4th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

Message

John Kurschner

Hymn of the Day

“By Faith”

1. By faith, Abel offered a sacrifice.
By faith, Noah listened to God’s advice.
By faith, Enoch rose to the greatest heights.
There he could give, there he could live forever with You.

Refrain: If I had faith ... faith as great as a mustard seed,
then I could move ... move a mountain of human need.
If I had faith ... faith as great as a loving deed,
then I could give, then I could live forever with You.

2. By faith, Abram entered the promised land.
By faith, Sarah listened to God’s command.
By faith, Isaac trusted his father’s hand.
There he could give, there he could live forever with You. *Refrain*

3. By faith, Joseph rose in the government.
By faith, Moses slept in a desert tent.
By faith, Rahab entered a covenant.
There she could give, there she could live forever with You. *Refrain*

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Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Sharing of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Bethany Text Giving Available: 715-303-3484

What shall I give to you? What shall I give to
 you? Teach us how to give we pray,
 of - fer - ing our work and play. Oh, that we could learn how to
 care, ev - 'ry breath we breathe a prayer.

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Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

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.

We Are Sent

Announcements

Blessing

Sending Song

“As You Go On Your Way”

As you go on your way may Christ go with you.
May he go before you to show you the way;
may he go behind you to encourage you;
beside you to befriend you;
above you to watch over;
within you to give you peace.

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Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Restrooms are available inside the church building.

Weekly Worship Opportunities:

- Tune in every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. to WJMC FM 96.1 & AM 1240
- 8:00 a.m. worship is streamed live on Bethany's website and Facebook page
- Watch on local access cable channels 992 (Charter) & 993 (Mosaic) on Sundays at 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM and Thursdays at 7:00 PM
- In person 10:00 a.m. worship on Sundays under the tent in Bethany's green space!
- If you are fully vaccinated, masks are optional inside Bethany's building. We ask that those who are NOT fully vaccinated to please continue to wear their masks indoors.

Pastoral Care Needs: While Pastor Peter is away with Navy commitments, please call the following people with Pastoral Care emergencies. During business hours, you can call the office at 715-234-3028. Other times, you can call Amy Brekke (715-651-6991), Dawn Paul (715-296-2817) or Council President, Pam Crouse (608-712-2684) and we will coordinate with our on call supply pastors.

Safely Regathering Task Force Update: The Safely Regathering Task Force met this week and for the first time, we are beginning to see that our group and the work we do will likely be coming to an end in the (hopefully near) future! We will continue to meet every other week to review the data and recommendations, but with new numbers report-

ed weekly instead of daily there is less to do. All numbers have been improving slightly or remaining the essentially the same, which is great, with the exception of the vaccination rate. The incidence rate has remained around 3 per 100,000, the infection rate around 0.6% and the percent of positive tests is right around 1.5%. The vaccination rate is very slow to increase, but we are up to 42% of 1st dose and 34.7% who have complete vaccination. The good news is that all people age 12 and up are eligible for vaccine and there is no shortage of supply. Free vaccinations continue to be offered at UWEC-BC on a walk-in basis.

If you have questions, do not hesitate to reach out to one of our members or contact Mark Nymo, chair of the Safely Regathering Task Force, at nymomtn@gmail.com. Also check the COVID-19 page on Bethany's website.

French Fry Booth: Summer is upon us and it is almost time for our Bethany French Fry Booth at the Barron County Fair-July 14-18. This is an awesome fundraiser for our youth activities such as our summer trips and especially the ELCA Youth Gatherings every three years. We rely on our middle school youth, high school youth and Bethany family to help staff our French Fry Booth. Please consider signing up to work a shift. Each shift is three hours and needs four people. One of those four has to be an adult. We also need help the Monday and/or Tuesday before the fair (July 12-13) to clean the booth and get it ready and again after the fair, July

19-20 to clean up the booth for the winter.

This is our biggest youth activity fund-raiser each year bringing in over \$5,000 annually. It helps fund youth activities, ELCA Youth Gatherings and alternating high school mission trips. Please consider helping us out. This is a great way to support Bethany's youth!

The signup can also be found on the Signups tab of Bethany's website!

grab a drink, a friend, a blanket or lawn chair and meet us under the tent. We think you deserve a mid-week break, so let us treat you to a pizza and some live music on Wednesdays, from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

- June 23: Resurrection String Band
- July 7: Bethany Brass
- August 4: Jake Donze
- August 18: Bethany's PRAISE!

FUN * Games for the Kids * FUN * Free Pepperoni Pizza * FUN * Fellowship

Bethany Summer Fun
3 Events = 3x the fun!

You are invited to a Barn Tour on June 16, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.! Come and watch RO-BOTIC moms feed calves, pet the calves, climb hay bale towers and play in the corn pit. There will be yard games for all ages, music by a DJ, grilled hot dogs & fixin's and ice cream treats.

Would you be willing to volunteer to help at the event? Sign up through the Signups tab on Bethany's website.

Country Fun at Four Mile Creek Calf Barn
835 13th St., Hillsdale, WI
Hosts: Jim & Audrey Kusilek

Other Summer Fun Events Coming Up:

July 14 - Airplane Fun at the Cumberland Municipal Airport

August 11 - Boating & Fishing Fun on Rice Lake

Live Music (x5!) Under the Tent: The Worship and Music Committee invites you to

Mission Jamaica Update! I finally received some news from Jeff Peterson concerning costs, etc. for the Mission Jamaica Team 2022! If you are interested in joining this awesome Team and participating in something like Mission Jamaica, contact Lenae Sovacool at sovacool@chibardun.net or 715-790-0729. At this time, it looks like costs will be a bit higher than last year (No surprise!) but not alarmingly. We are Team B and will be traveling from January 8 - January 15, 2022. A real positive note here: this week has the lowest cost flight of the spring season. God's peace, Lenae & Dave and the Children of West Haven

Lunch Box Update! Thank you, Bethany, for your continuing support for the Lunch-Box project! We appreciate that many of you have stepped in and provided a lunch. When I talk to those of you who have helped, I continue to hear how you feel you have received love!

Now that our kids are home for the summer, I wonder if you might consider including them in sharing with you to give a lunch! They can be your own kids or grandchildren. There is an open Tuesday in July, and three Tuesdays in August. We've been serving about 20 bag lunches which include a sandwich, fruit or raw veggies, chips and/or a cookie. You choose your offerings!

Please consider and volunteer on the Signups page, call Carol Kohlmeyer at 715 651-3344, or Judy Jacobs at 715 832-4522.

New Study Group: A new study group, Courageous Conversations for the Curious (formerly A JUST You), begins the week of July 12. We will read and discuss The Space Between Us – How Jesus Teaches Us to Live Together When Politics and Religion Pulls Us Apart by Sarah Bauer Anderson. Please contact Bea Evans at beaevans2@gmail.com or 262-565-3327 if you are interested in participating. Four study sessions, lasting an hour each, are anticipated. Individuals expressing interest will be asked to complete a survey to determine a meeting time that works for the majority of the group.

Flat Jesus! Summer is here and Flat Jesus is back! Summer is a time for lots of fun and exciting adventures: camping, travel, vacation, going to the beach, spending time with family and more. We want everyone to stay connected with their faith, church family and to remember that Jesus is with you wherever you go!

Take Flat Jesus with you this summer—everywhere you go. Take pictures of Flat Jesus on all of your adventures this summer and send us pictures and stories back to Bethany so that everyone can stay connected and enjoy hearing about one another's adventures. When sharing your Flat Jesus adventures with us include a photo, your name, and a comment about where you are, and send it to abuchli@bethanyricelake.org or share with us on Facebook.

Flat Jesus is available in the Narthex. You can pick up a printed Flat Jesus and paint stick from the church, or you can print one from Bethany's website and attach to your own paint stick (or anything you choose). You can also make your own Flat Jesus.

Prayers of the People: Bethany is seeking those willing to serve as Assisting Ministers primarily to prepare and lead the Prayers of the People (or of "Intercession") for our 8:00 a.m. Sunday worship broadcast services. Please contact the office at 715-234-9028 or lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org OR sign up for a time through the Signups tab on Bethany's website.

Not sure what an Assisting Minister does or the practice of public prayers of the Church? Pastor Peter will be leading a training session for those interested in serving!

Ushers Needed: Will you support Bethany by ushering during worship? You can sign up online to usher. The signup link can also

be found on the Signups tab of the Bethany website. You will be given instructions and training for your role.

Volunteer Opportunity: Did you know that Bethany did a big upgrade on their worship technology? Would you like to know how to run it? We are in need of people who are willing to serve as projectionists and streaming/audio operators; don't worry, we provide excellent training! To learn more, or to volunteer for this ministry, please contact the office at 715-234-9028 or lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org.

Bug Safari VBS
July 19-22, 2021

5:00-5:30 p.m.
Supper available
5:30-7:15 p.m.
VBS Program



VBS for ages 4 years old - 5th grade.
Volunteers needed ages 6th grade - adult.
Register online beginning June 1, 2021.

Good NewsBreak: During Covid, Bethany has been bulk mailing the newsletter to our member's homes. In order to be better stewards of our resources (paper and monetary), we request you let us know if you would like to receive the online version only. If you find that you are not reading your paper copy and would like to opt out of the mailing in favor of the online version, please contact Leah in the office at 715-234-9028 or lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org.

Worship Assistants

Ushers: Con Eastwold

Song Leader: Anakah Denison

Assisting Minister: Carol Hakala

Reader: Wendy Denison

Audio: Dave Wilson

Liturgical Acknowledgments: From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006893.

The Bethany WeekAhead • June 13 - 19, 2021

Sunday
13
8:00 AM Worship/Streamed
Online & Radio
10:00 AM In-Person Worship/GS
12:30 PM Aquafest Parade/
Fair Grounds

Monday
14
Good NewsBreak Deadline
12:00 PM Green Team/CR
1:00-4:00 PM Quilting/QR
6:00 PM Property/Zoom

Tuesday
15
8:45 AM Staff Meeting/Zoom
12:00 PM Lunch Box/Parking Lot
5:30 PM Welcome Team/Zoom
6:30 PM Library Committee/Zoom

Wednesday
16
6:00 PM Summer Fun at the Calf Barn
7:00 PM RCS Board Meeting/CR

Thursday
17
5:30 PM Stewardship Committee/Zoom
7:00 PM AA/3F

Friday
18

Saturday
19

CR-Conference Room GR-Gathering Room LI-Library NA-Narthex SA-Sanctuary NS-Nursery
BR-Bell Room LL-Luther Lecture FH-Fellowship Hall QR-Quilting Room YR-Youth Room 3F-3rd Floor
PL-Parking Lot GS-Green Space

35 W. Messenger Street • Rice Lake, WI 54868 • Church Office: 715-234-9028

Email: lhullinger@bethanyricelake.org **Worship:** Sundays 8:00 a.m. (Online); 10:00 a.m. (In Person)
Website: www.bethanyricelake.org **Live Streaming:** Sundays 8:00 a.m. on
Facebook: Bethany Lutheran - Rice Lake, WI Bethany's website and Facebook page
Live Radio Broadcast: Sundays 8:00 a.m. **Cable Broadcast:** Channels 992 (Charter) & 993 (Mosaic)
WJMC 96.1 FM & 1240 AM Sundays 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM; Thursdays 7:00 PM

Prayer Ministry

New Prayers for Members: Bonnie Dahl • Kendra Fritz

Ongoing Prayers for Members: Marie Anderson • Sandie Anderson • Ray Arnevik • Red Axtell • Cady Buchli • Ron Debner • Bob Gerber • Jim Hagen • Lee Haight • Kevin Jacobson • Doug Karis • Carolyn Kochel • Maci Lundequam • Alyssa McCullough • Dick Moe • Regina Mueller • Leon Mundt • Kaylee Musil • Randy Read • Shirley Stokes • Virginia Tronstad • Ray Vaughn

New Prayers for Family & Friends of Members: Felecia Keleven

Ongoing Prayers for Family & Friends of Members: Bob (Roxie) Berg • Matt Dahl • Vanessa Gagner (Coe) • John Jaros • Clara Kern • Paul Klancher • Marianne Koser • Charlie Lawton • Mark Loehlein • Gloria Mattakat • Colin McCann • Bruce Olson • Kaye Olson • Nolan Passint • Paul Rindsig • Mary Simma • Nick Sovacool • Holly Thompson • Ingvold Tronstad • Kelly White (Anderson) • Paul Wilker

Active Military Duty: Tanner Ely • Alex Kusilek • Jonathan Marsh • Ethan Nieman • Alain Pierre • Jason Randall • Abby Ring

Radio Broadcast: In memory of Ben Jacobson by friends of family

You may make requests for the Prayer Ministry by calling the church office at 715-234-9028. You can also email bethany@bethanyricelake.org or fill out a request form on Bethany's website.

Bethany Text Giving Available: 715-303-3484