

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merit of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

15After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”²But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.”⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.”⁵He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

PSALM: Psalm 33:12-22

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

¹³**The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.**

¹⁴From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth—

¹⁵**he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds.**

¹⁶A king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

¹⁷**The war horse is a vain hope for victory, and by its great might it cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,

¹⁹**to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.**

²⁰Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield.

²¹**Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.**

²²Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.⁴By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain’s. Through this he received approval as righteous, God himself giving approval to his gifts; he died, but through his faith he still speaks. ⁵By faith Enoch was taken so that he did not experience death; and “he was not found, because God had taken him.” For it was attested before he was taken away that “he had pleased God.” ⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ⁷By faith Noah, warned by God about events as yet unseen, respected the warning and built an ark to save his household; by this he condemned the world and became an heir to the righteousness that is in accordance with faith. ⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” ¹³All of these died

in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

G OSPEL: Luke 12:22-40

²²He said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. ³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Today: August 7, 2022	Sunday: August 14th
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30-Worship	9:30-Worship
10:30-Coffee Fellowship	10:30-Coffee Fellowship
10:45-Adult SS	10:45-Adult SS
Tuesday: August 9th	4:00-Youth Board Mtg @ UMC
8:30-Prayer Group	
9:30-Morning Coffee @ BLC	
Wednesday: August 10th	
7:00 Joint Mtg with Laurens Library Board @ BLC Council Mtg to follow	

Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm victims, those battling COVID-19, Dorothy Smith, Gail Olson, Nick Zurek, Eli Honer, Mary Dodge-Roat, Dan Stahl, Christine Gordon, Susan Olson, Pat Murray, Dorothy Sandvig, Jennifer Edge, Helen Dodge, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries. The Family of Jeff Rasmussen.

Lectors: Rich Ehlers
Ushers: August 7th Rich Ehlers
 August 21st-Tom Anderson
Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2600.00
 Faith Promise 7/24- \$1117.00 Worship 28
 7/31- \$322.00 Worship 25

<u>Birthdays:</u> 8-10-Jean Swanson
<u>Anniversaries:</u> 8-10 John & Di Hawley

***Please note that the blue CH (Celebration Hymnal) is located under the pew in front of you.

Altar Flowers:

An asterisk () indicates when to stand (as able)*

ORDER OF THE SERVICE

PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL
 WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION

*CONFESSION P.56
 *HYMN “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” LBW 229
 *GREETING P.57
 *KYRIE P.57
 *HYMN OF PRAISE P.60
 *PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)

MEDITATION ON GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm: Psalm 33:12-22 (bulletin – responsively)

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-16
 *ALLELUIA VERSE P.62

***THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 12:22-40**
 *GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63

CHILDREN’S SERMON
 SERMON Pastor David Klappenbach
 HYMN “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” LBW 479
 Nicene Creed P.64

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERING “You Are My All in All” CH 583
 *THE GREAT THANKSGIVING P.68

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION P.69
 *THE LORD’S PRAYER P.71

*LAMB OF GOD P.72
 DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*BLESSING P.72
 *POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE P.72

OUR SENDING

*BENEDICTION P.76
 *HYMN “Great is Thy Faithfulness” CH 139

*DISMISSAL



August 7, 2022
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

**WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT
 TOGETHER IN CHRIST’S NAME**

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To our visitors! Welcome to our Sunday Service. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the visitor card in front of you and give to an usher. Please come again!

***We are a
 Christ-Centered
 Mission-Driven
 Traditionally-Grounded
 Congregationally-Focused
 Church.***