

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, our maker and redeemer, you have made us a new company of priests to bear witness to the Gospel. Enable us to be faithful to our calling to make known your promises to all the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

PSALM: Psalm 1

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

²but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10, (11-17)

⁵For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— ³if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 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!

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34

²⁶He also 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.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

<p>Today: June 16th 4th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30-Worship w/Communion 10:30-Coffee Fellowship 3:00-4H Club Meeting 6:00-Bethany Prayer Group Monday: June 17th 7:00-Handbell Rehearsal Tuesday: June 18th 8:30-Prayer Group 9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC Thursday: June 20th 2:00-Circle Group Mtg @ BLC</p>	<p>Sunday: June 23rd 5th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30-Worship 10:30-Coffee Fellowship 4:00-Laurens Care Center Svc 6:00-Bethany Prayer Group</p>
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Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm victims, those suffering any illness, Velma Woodke, Pastor John Mayer, Gina Ehlers, Pete Runneberg, Elizabeth Dunbar, Monica Isom, Don Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Ely Kleszczelski, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Helen Dodge, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

Lector: Shirley Kruse
 Ushers: June 16th - Jean Swanson & Tamy Oxenreider
 June 23rd - Myles & Shirley Pedersen
 Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00

<p>Birthdays: June 16-Seth Hersom; 17-Diana Johnsen; 18-Craig Hudson; 20-Marilyn Pohlman; Anniversaries: June 18-Jed & Ashley Akridge; 21-Jason & Jessica Bauermeister</p>

*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 (for those who are able)*

ORDER OF THE SERVICE
 PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL
 WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS	P.56
*HYMN <i>Oh, Worship the King</i>	LBW 548
*GREETING	P.57
*KYRIE	P.57
*HYMN OF PRAISE	P.60
*PRAYER OF THE DAY	<i>(bulletin-in unison)</i>

MEDITATION ON GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24
PSALM: Psalm 1 *(bulletin – responsively)*

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10, (11-17)

*ALLELUIA VERSE	P.62
* THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34	
*GOSPEL RESPONSES	P.63
CHILDREN’S SERMON-SERMON	Pastor David Klappenbach
HYMN <i>Oh Now What Has Been Sown</i>	LBW 261
NICENE CREED	P.64
*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH	
Leader: “...Lord, in your mercy.”	
Response: “hear our prayer.”	
*THE PEACE	

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

OFFERING / *OFFERTORY	P.66
*OFFERTORY PRAYER	P.67
*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING	P.67
*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
*BENEDICTION	P.76
*HYMN <i>This Is My Fathers World</i>	LBW 554
*DISMISSAL	

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June 16, 2024
Fourth 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. Please come again!

Welcome to our Communion Sunday Service.
All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. 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 Communion/Visitor card in front of you. Please come again!