**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

**O God, you see how busy we are with many things. Turn us to listen to your teachings, and lead us to choose the one thing which will not be taken from us, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6**

23Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. 2Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. 3Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. 4I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. 5The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 6In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

**Psalm: Psalm 23**

1The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**2He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

3he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

**4Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.**

5You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22**

11So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision” —a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— 12remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.14For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. 17So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. 21In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

**Gospel: Mark 6:30-44**

30The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. 31He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. 32And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. 33Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. 34As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. 35When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; 36send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.” 37But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” They said to him, “Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?” 38And he said to them, “How many loaves have you? Go and see.” When they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” 39Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. 40So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. 41Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. 42And all ate and were filled; 43and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. 44Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

**THIS WEEK AT BETHANY**

Today: July 21st  Sunday: July 28th

9th Sunday after Pentecost 10th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30-Worshipw 9:30-Worship

10:30-Coffee Fellowship 10:30-Coffee Fellowship

6:00-Bethany Prayer Group 6:00-Bethany Prayer Group

**Tuesday: July 23rd**

8:30-Prayer Group

9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC

6:30-Growth & Sharing

**Prayer Concerns:** Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa Flood victims, those suffering any illness, Desiree Welty, Roberta Baker, Velma Woodke,Pastor John Mayer, Pete Runneberg, Elizabeth Dunbar, Monica Isom, Don Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Ely Kleszczelski, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Dorothy Zarzoso, Helen Dodge, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

**Lectors:** Tom Anderson

**Ushers:** July 21st – Dean & Eloise Armstrong

July 28th -Jean Swanson & Tammy Oxenreider

**Acolytes:** Bethany Youth

**Weekly Budget Needs: $2817.00**

Faith Promise $2403.00 Worship 23

***Birthdays:*** July 21-Brayden Hudson; 27-Michael Hawley, Janison Shion

***Anniversary:***

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

***Altar Flowers:***

*Text

Description automatically generatedAn asterisk (\*) indicates when to stand (as able)*

**ORDER OF THE SERVICE**

PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL /

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION**

\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56

\*HYMN ***The Church’s One Foundation LBW 369***

\*GREETING P.57

\*KYRIE P.57

\*HYMN OF PRAISE P.59

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY *(bulletin-in unison)*

**MEDITATION ON GOD’S WORD**

FIRST READING: **Jeremiah 23:1-6**

Psalm: **Psalm 23** *(bulletin – responsively)*

SECOND READING: **Ephesians 2:11-22**

\*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62

\*THE HOLY GOSPEL: **Mark 6:30-44**

\*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON **Patricia Bentsen**

HYMN ***Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us CH 688***

APOSTLES’ CREED P65

**OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD**

OFFERING / Processional **“Offertory Psalm”** P.75

\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: …Lord in your mercy

**Response: Hear our prayer.**

*\*THE LORD’S PRAYER* P.76

**OUR SENDING**

\*BENEDICTION \*HYMN ***Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing LBW 259***

\*DISMISSAL

**July 21, 2024**

**Nineth 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.***