

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us the perfect faith which overcomes all doubts, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

²⁴Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. ¹⁴“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” ¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

PSALM: Psalm 34:12-22

¹²Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?

¹³Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.

¹⁶The face of the LORD is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

¹⁷When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.

¹⁸The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.

¹⁹Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD rescues them from them all.

²⁰He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.

²¹Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

²²The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:6-21

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷Therefore do not be associated with them. ⁸For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” ¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for

that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

GOSPEL: John 6:51-69

⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” ⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. ⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.” ⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

<p>Today: August 18th 13th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30-Worship w/Communion 10:30-Coffee Fellowship 4:00-Laurens Care Center 6:00-Bethany Prayer Group Monday: August 19th 7:00-Handbell Rehearsal Tuesday: August 13th 8:30-Prayer Group 9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC</p>	<p>Sunday: August 25th 14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30-Worship 10:30-Coffee Fellowship 6:00-Bethany Prayer Group</p>
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Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm/flood victims, those suffering any illness, Janelle Mason, Linda Galbraith, Tim Burton, 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 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: August 18th -Shirley Kruse & Julie Dawson
 August 25th -Linda Galbraith & Michelle Gordon
 Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00
 Faith Promise \$1033.51 Worship 28

<p>Birthdays: 8-19-Lars Hersom;20-Krystal Yeckley; 23-Peter Runneberg Anniversaries: 8-18-Jerry & Mary Runneberg</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 *Father, We Praise You* **LBW 267**
 *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: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
PSALM: Psalm 34:12-22 (bulletin – responsively)
SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:6-21
 *ALLELUIA VERSE P.62
***THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:51-69**
 *GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63
 CHILDREN’S SERMON-
 SERMON **Pastor David Klappenbach**
 HYMN *We Who Were Once Dead* **LBW 207**
 NICENE CREED P.64
 BLESSING SCHOOL SUPPLIES/BACKPACKS STUDENT&
 SCHOOL PERSONEL
 *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 *Now thank We All Our God* **LBW 534**
 *DISMISSAL



August 18, 2024
Thirteenth 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!