

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, your ears are open always to the prayers of your servants. Open our hearts and minds to you, that we may live in harmony with your will and receive the gifts of your Spirit, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: Genesis: 18:17-33

¹⁷The LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, ¹⁸seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice; so that the LORD may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.” ²⁰Then the LORD said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.” ²²So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD.²³Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” ²⁶And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” ²⁷Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” ²⁹Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” ³⁰Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” ³¹He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” ³²Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” ³³And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

PSALM: Psalm 138

¹I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

²I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

³On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

⁴All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁵They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

⁸The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-19

⁶As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh,

God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.¹⁶Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. ¹⁷These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, ¹⁹and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

¹He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” ²He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.” ⁵And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ ⁷And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. ⁹“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Sunday: July 27th 7th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30-Adult SS 9:30-Worship 10:30-Coffee Fellowship 6:00-Bethany Prayer Group Tuesday: July 29th 8:30-Prayer Group 9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC Saturday: August 2nd 8:00-Mens Group Pastor and Family gone July 28-August 10	Sunday: August 3rd 9th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30-Adult SS 9:30-Worship 10:30-Coffee Fellowship 6:00-Bethany Prayer Group August 3-8-Nalc Luther Week Convocation at Pittsburg, PA
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Prayer Concerns: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, storm/flood/fire victims, those suffering any illness, Myles Pedersen, Myra Reese, Janelle Mason, Desiree Welty, Pastor John Mayer, Monica Isom, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Gloria Bell, Helen Dodge, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries

Lectors: Shirley Kruse
Ushers: July 27th – Jean Swanson & Tammy Oxenreider
August 3rd -Rich & Marilyn Ehlers
Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00
Faith Promise \$588.00 Worship 27 Adult SS 4

<u>Birthdays:</u> 7-27-Michael Hawley, Jamison Shimon; 29-Raaelyn Johnsen, Elli Cazares, Rhonda Shewell 7-31-Jan Hersom <u>Anniversaries:</u>
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***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)*

<u>ORDER OF THE SERVICE</u>	
PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL	
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS	P.56
*HYMN <i>We Praise You, O God</i>	LBW 241
*GREETING	P.57
*KYRIE	P.57
*HYMN OF PRAISE	P.59
*PRAYER OF THE DAY	<i>(bulletin-in unison)</i>
FIRST READING: Genesis: 18:17-33	
PSALM: Psalm 138	<i>(bulletin – responsively)</i>
SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-19	
*ALLELUIA VERSE	P.62
*THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13	
*GOSPEL RESPONSES	P.63
CHILDREN’S SERMON	
SERMON	Pastor David Klappenbach
HYMN <i>What a Friend We Jesus</i>	LBW 439
APOSTLES CREED	P.65
OFFERING	P.75
*OFFERTORY HYMN	P.75
*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH	
*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH	
Leader: ...Lord in your mercy	
Response: Hear our prayer.	
*THE LORD’S PRAYER	CH 631
*BENEDICTION	P.76
*HYMN <i>Let All Things Now Living</i>	LBW 557
*DISMISSAL	
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July 27, 2025
Seventh 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