

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience and give us strength to follow his commands, through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:2-10**

<sup>2</sup>It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. <sup>3</sup>Like the heavens for height, like the earth for depth, so the mind of kings is unsearchable. <sup>4</sup>Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; <sup>5</sup>take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness. <sup>6</sup>Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; <sup>7</sup>for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen <sup>8</sup>do not hastily bring into court; for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? <sup>9</sup>Argue your case with your neighbor directly, and do not disclose another's secret; <sup>10</sup>or else someone who hears you will bring shame upon you, and your ill repute will have no end.

**PSALM: Psalm 131**

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.

<sup>2</sup>**But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.**

<sup>3</sup>O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time on and forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-17**

<sup>13</sup>Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" <sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>9</sup>Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings; for it is well for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by regulations about food, which have not benefited those who observe them. <sup>10</sup>We have an altar from which those who officiate in the tent have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup>For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. <sup>12</sup>Therefore Jesus also suffered outside the city gate in order to sanctify the people by his own blood. <sup>13</sup>Let us then go to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. <sup>14</sup>For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. <sup>17</sup>Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls and will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with sighing—for that would be harmful to you.

**GOSPEL: Luke 14:1-14**

<sup>14</sup>On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. <sup>2</sup>Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup>And Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, "Is it lawful to cure people on the sabbath, or not?" <sup>4</sup>But they were silent. So Jesus took him and healed him, and sent him away. <sup>5</sup>Then he said to them, "If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?" <sup>6</sup>And they could not reply to this. <sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." <sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Sunday: August 31st  
12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
8:30-Adult SS  
9:30-Worship w/Communion  
10:30-Coffee Fellowship  
4:00-Laurens Care Center Service  
6:30-Bethany Prayer Group  
Monday: September 1<sup>st</sup> **LABOR DAY**  
7:00-Hand Bell Rehearsal  
Tuesday: September 2<sup>nd</sup>  
8:30-Prayer Group  
9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC  
Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup>  
8:00-Mens Group

Prayer Concerns: : Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, storm/flood/fire victims, those suffering any illness, Jerry Runneberg, 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: Pat Boughey  
Ushers: August 31<sup>st</sup> -Jim & Denise Hodgell  
September 7<sup>th</sup>-Myles & Shirley Pedersen

Acolytes: Bethany Youth  
Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00  
Faith Promise \$5786.50 Worship 33 Adult SS 4

Birthdays: August 31 – Mary Runneberg; September 3 – James Hodgell; 4 – Tom Anderson, Mark Hersom, Keegan Jamison, Harlan Jr. Johnsen; Shirley Kruse; 5 -Dawn Gordon; 6 – Marcy Rasmussen  
Anniversary: September 1 – John & Michelle Hersom; 6 – Ken & Pat Boughey

\*\*\*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  
\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56  
\*HYMN *Earth and All Stars* LBW 558  
\*GREETING P.57  
\*KYRIE P.57  
\*HYMN OF PRAISE P.59  
\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)  
FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:2-10  
PSALM: Psalm 131 (bulletin – responsively)  
SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-17  
\*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62  
\*THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 14:1-14  
\*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63  
CHILDREN’S SERMON  
SERMON Pastor David Klappenbach  
HYMN *Bind Us Together* CH 425  
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 P.71  
\*BENEDICTION P.76  
\*HYMN *I Want to Wals as a Child of the Light* insert  
\*DISMISSAL



August 31, 2025  
Twelfth 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