

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith, through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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;

²**but 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.

⁴**The 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;

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

SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something

forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-35

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions. ³⁴“Salt is good; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; they throw it away. Let anyone with ears to hear listen!”

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Sunday: September 7th
13th Sunday after Pentecost
9:15-Adult SS
9:30-Coffee Fellowship
10:30- Worship w/Communion
6:30-Bethany Prayer Group
Tuesday: September 9th
8:30-Prayer Group
9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC
Wednesday: September 10th
7:00-Confirmation Class w/Parents

September 14th
14th Sunday after Pentecost
9:15-Adult SS
9:30-Coffee Fellowship
10:30-Worship
SS Teachers Mtg after Worship
6:30-Bethany Prayer Group
Monday: September 15th
4:00-W/M Meeting

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: Dean Armstrong
Ushers: September 7th -Myles & Shirley Pedersen
September 14th -Tom & Elaine Anderson
Acolytes: Bethany Youth

Weekly Budget Needs: \$2817.00
Faith Promise \$552.50 Worship 30 Adult SS 4

Birthdays: September 9-Myles Pedersen, Preston Klappenbach; 11-Becky Baker; 13-Marilyn Ehlers

***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 *Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways* LBW 480
*GREETING P.57
*KYRIE P.57
*HYMN OF PRAISE P.60
*PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)
FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20
PSALM: Psalm 1 (bulletin -responsively)
SECOND READING: Philemon 1-21
*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62
***THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-35**
*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63
CHILDREN’S SERMON
SERMON Pastor David Klappenbach
HYMN *O Master, Let Me Walk With You* LBW 492
NICENE CREED P.64
*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH
Leader: “...Lord, in your mercy.”
Response: “hear our prayer.”
*THE PEACE
OFFERING / *OFFERTORY P.66
*OFFERTORY PRAYER P.67
*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING P.68
*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 *Lord of All Hopefulness* LBW 469
*DISMISSAL



September 7, 2025
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!*