

*Indicates that all who are able are invited to stand.
Bold type invites the people to respond.
 PH by hymns denotes the large hymnal &
 STF is the blue soft sided hymnal

Prelude
Lighting the Candles and Ringing of the Bell
Welcome and Announcements

One: The Lord looks down from heaven to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

All: They have all gone astray,
there is no one who is good, no, not one.

One: Have they no knowledge, those who devour God's people and do not call upon the Lord.

All: O that our deliverer would come!
Lord, restore our lives and make us glad.

*Hymn *My Lord! What a Morning* PH-449

Prayer of Confession

Creator of the universe, we imagine that we are in familiar territory, that we know what to expect of this hour, that we will leave much the way that we came. Do not abandon us in our foolishness.

In judgement, illumine our darkness. In mercy, bear us home – until we recognize your presence wherever evil is confronted, truth is spoken, and life is restored...

(Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and personal confession.)

...through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Words of Peace

Please turn to one another with a wave and a smile as you share God's peace.

*Congregational Response *Glory Be to the Father* PH-579

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm 14

One: Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."
They are corrupt, every deed is vile;
there is no one who does any good.

All: The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all,
to see if there is anyone who is wise, who seeks
after God.

One: They have all proved faithless; all alike have
turned bad;
There is none who does good; no not one.

All: Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers who
eat up my people like bread and do not call upon
the Lord?

One: See how they tremble with fear, because God is
in the company of the righteous.

All: Your aim is to confound the plans of the
afflicted, but the Lord is their refuge.
Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of
Zion!

When the Lord restored the fortunes of the
people, Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

One: God of wisdom and truth, without you our lives
go astray, and we face corruption within and
around us. Show your mighty presence among
us, that we may joyfully proclaim your
deliverance in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Reading ends: This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Luke 15:1-10

Reading ends: This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Reaching Out Beyond the Walls of the Church*

*Hymn *More Love to Thee O Christ* PH-359

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Thank you for your gifts of financial support of Bethel's ministries which may be placed in the offering plate near the main entrance to the sanctuary. Please hold our ministries in your prayers as music is shared during this time.

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

*Hymn *Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak* PH-426

*Charge and Benediction

Song of Hope PH-432

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's worship leaders: Stephen Bartenhagen, Lay Worship Leader; Linda Johansen, Musician

Pastor Kleppe would welcome visiting you in your home or at a coffee shop in town. Her contact information is 563-380-8187 or lori.kleppe@gmail.com

"Sanctuary Sips", a hospitality table, has been placed in the narthex. Please help yourself to a beverage which may be brought into the sanctuary.

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Today, September 14

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship
Fellowship following

Next Sunday, September 21

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship
Fellowship following

There will not be a bible study this month. We will resume in October.

There will be an open house for new faith leaders Pastor Scott McCaw and Dean Reverend Beth McCaw at the Christ United Presbyterian Church in Oelwein Iowa next Sunday, September 21st, from 1 to 3. Please feel welcome to come meet the McCaws.

Members and friends of Bethel who seek healing and wholeness in their lives are kept in prayer during worship. Today we are remembering – Cathy Bemiss, Teri Brockway, Don & Janice Durscher, Sarah Updegraff Murray, Kirk Bruso, baby McCoy and Tex Heyer.

Stoney Brook - Kate Ewing, Kathy Meyer
Good Samaritan Center - Peggi Pape
Eastern Star Decorah – Doyle Gorden
Ossian Care Center – Cindy Barness

Welcome to Worship at Bethel Presbyterian Church!

- The order of service is found in your bulletin and projected on the screen.
- An * shows the time when the congregation stands. If it is more comfortable to remain seated, please do so.
- Restrooms are found on each level of the church. An usher will help you find your way. Fully accessible restrooms are located in the basement.
- A nursery room is available but we welcome hearing the sound of small children.
- Communion is offered on most first Sundays of the month. All are welcome to receive the elements of the meal. An usher will invite you forward or servers may come to you in the pew.
- We are so glad you are worshipping with us this morning. If your schedule allows, please join us for a time of fellowship following the service.

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BETHEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A People and a Place where God is made Known



**Welcome to worship at
Bethel Presbyterian Church,
where everyone is welcome.**

**14th Sunday after Pentecost
September 14th, 2025**