

15th Sunday after Pentecost

*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

We Gather to Worship God

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

*Call to Worship:
One: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
All: Help us, O God of our salvation,
for the glory of your name;
deliver us, and forgive our sins,
for your name’s sake.

*Morning Prayer
*Hymn Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty PH-482

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession
Creator of the universe, casualty of our sin, breath of
life, we come trembling before you for we have hoarded
and bartered what has never been ours in the hope of
securing our future. We have yearned for wealth more
than we have yearned for you. We have squandered
your trust and grieved your heart with our betrayal.
Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your
name...
(Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and
personal confession.)
...deliver us, and forgive us our sin, for your name’s
sake. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness
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

We Listen For God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination
Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 8:18-9:1
Reading ends: This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm and Psalm Prayer Psalm 95:1-9
One: Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
All: Let us come before God’s presence with
thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.
One: For you, Lord, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
All: In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.
One: The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
All: Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel
before the Lord our maker.
One: For the Lord is our God, and we are the people
of God’s pasture and the sheep of God’s hand.
Oh, that today you would hear God’s voice!
All: Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on
that day at Massah in the desert.
There your ancestors tested me, they put me to
the test, though they had seen my works.
One: God our maker, you guide us as the sheep of
your fold. When we stray into rebellion and
unbelief, bring us back and restore us, that we
may follow your ways and listen to the voice of
our shepherd who gives us eternal life, Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

New Testament Lesson 1 Timothy 2:1-7
Reading ends: This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson Luke 16:1-13
Reading ends: This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

We Respond to God’s Word

*Hymn Take My Life (vs. 1,2,3,6) PH-391

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer
(Silence after each partition)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy
kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as
we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.

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.

*Congregational Response Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

*Affirmation of Faith
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.

We Leave to Serve God

*Hymn Jesus Shall Reign Where’re the Sun PH-423

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response Song of Hope PH-432

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's worship leaders: Rev. Lori Kleppe; LeAnn Popenhagen, 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 21

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

Fellowship following

Thursday, September 25

9:30 a.m. – Sewing Circle

Next Sunday, September 28

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship w/Noisy Bucket offering

Fellowship following

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 today, September 21st, from 1 to 3. Please feel welcome to come meet the McCaws.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Richfield Annual Fall Dinner today at the Hawkeye Community Hall 11 to 1. Potato bar, salads, pie, and ice cream. Free will donation.

"Hope Is A Strategy"

Sarah Updegraff Murray speaking October 19th

Light luncheon from 11-11:30

Sarah speaking at 11:30

Dessert will follow.

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.



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

**15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 21st, 2025**

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