

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: A new song awaits us;

All: **God's Spirit is coming.**

One: We can hear the music; we're ready to move!

All: **God's praise will be on our lips!**

One: Neighbors from far and wide will pour out from their doorways.

All: **God's joy will be alive in the streets;**

One: friends and strangers will gather.

All: **All will rejoice;**

One: together, we will breathe a deep sigh of peace

All: **as we turn our hearts toward the justice of the Lord.**

*Morning Prayer

*Hymn *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Ph-267

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Beautiful Savior, you have made your law clear: Love. Love one another. Owe one another nothing but love. Do no wrong to a neighbor. But we have not mastered what it is to love. We have fallen short, causing harm to others through careless action and thoughtless lack of action. Forgive us. Teach us how to love more fully, more perfectly, as generously as you love, following your law and fulfilling your will. *(Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and personal confession.)* ...through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Christ does not judge us harshly, but forgives all our sin and leads us into new life. **We will not take this forgiveness for granted, but will let it transform how we live and love.**

Words of Peace

Since we have received the peace of Christ, let us share that peace with one another. The peace Christ be with you all! And also with you.

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

We Listen For God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Exodus 12:1-14

Reading ends: Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 149

One: Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song, God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.

All: **Let Israel rejoice in their maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler.**

One: Let them praise their maker's name with dancing; let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.

All: **For the LORD takes pleasure in the people and adorns the poor with victory.**

One: Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them sing for joy on their beds.

All: **Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand,**

One: to wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

All: **to bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron,**

One: to inflict on them the judgment decreed; this is glory for all God's faithful ones.

Second Lesson

Romans 13:8-14

Reading ends: Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 18:15-20

Reading ends: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn

Spirit of the Living God

PH-322

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right...

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.

Words of Institution

We Share the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

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 either before or following worship.

*Congregational Response

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell, the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father

Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn *Joy to the World* PH-40

 We Leave to Serve God

*Benediction
*Congregational Response *Song of Hope* PH-432

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today’s worship leaders: Pastor Lori Kleppe;
Stephen Bartenhagen, Lay Leader; and Sue Updegraff,
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

Beverages are available in the narthex and may be
enjoyed during worship. You are invited to help
yourself. Children’s “Busy Bags” are also found in the
narthex.

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. If helpful, 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.

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Today, September 6

10:00 a.m. – Morning Worship w/the Lord’s Supper
Fellowship following
Session Meeting

Wednesday, September 9

12:00 p.m. Lunch with Lori

Thursday, September 10

9:30 a.m. Sewing Circle

Next Sunday, September 13

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

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 Durscher, Sarah Updegraff Murray, Kirk Bruso, Rose Marie Knight (Julie Larson’s mom), and Ken Popenhagen.

Stoney Brook – Kate Ewing (now on Hospice)

The Highlands – Kathy Meyer

Good Samaritan Center – Peggi Pape

Eastern Star Decorah – Doyle Gorden

Maple Crest – Tex Heyer

Copper Creek – Sandy Schnor

“Looking ahead”

Sarah Updegraff Murray will be speaking October 4th.
Please join us for her inspirational testimony.

JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FALL WORKSHOP

Saturday, September 19, 2026 at Grace Presbyterian
Church, 222 E Broadway St., Winona, MN

More information on the bulletin board in the fellowship
hall.

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

**15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026**