

THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 24, 2021

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who's number one, which leads Jesus to say something about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "Your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service

✝ GATHERING ✝

OPENING HYMN

Rise, Shine, You People!

#393 (grn)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as we begin.

P. We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen.**

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P. Gracious God,

C. **we confess that we have sinned and fallen short of Your glory. We have turned away from You. We have not kept Your commandments. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have neglected the poor, and we have not welcomed all people in Your name. Forgive our sin, increase our faith, strengthen us in service, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P. God, Who is rich in mercy . . . of the Holy Spirit. Amen

GREETING

P. Holy people of God, called through the gospel of Christ, enlightened by the Spirit: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C. **And also with you**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Eternal God, shine in our hearts and scatter the darkness of our ignorance. In Your compassion, have mercy on us, turn us to seek Your face, and enable us to reflect Your goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-9

This passage speaks not only of the southern kingdom, Judah, and its homecoming from exile in Babylon, but also of the northern kingdom (“Israel” or “Ephraim”) and its restoration. The northern tribes of Israel had been lost in exile to Assyria more than a century before Jeremiah prophesied.

⁷Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O LORD, Your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

L. The Word of the Lord. C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126



¹When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.

²Then was our mouth | filled with laughter,
and our tongue with | shouts of joy.

³Then they said a- | mong the nations,
“The LORD has done great | things for them.”

⁴The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.

⁵Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses | of the Negev.

⁶Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.

⁷Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 7:23-28

Human priests of old offered sacrifice for their own sins and served only until their death. In contrast, Jesus is God's Son, the holy, sinless, resurrected high priest. Death did not terminate His priestly service, but through His death He has interceded for our sins.

²³The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; ²⁴but He holds his priesthood permanently, because He continues forever. ²⁵Consequently He is able for all time to save those who approach God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, He has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this He did once for all when He offered Himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

L. The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

page 83

HOLY GOSPEL: St. Mark 10:46-52

Bartimaeus comes to Jesus with faith, asking that he might see again. Recognizing Jesus' identity, Bartimaeus is the first person to call Him "Son of David" in the Gospel of Mark.

C. Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁶As [Jesus] and His disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, He is calling you." ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to Him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵²Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed Him on the way.

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
 so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
 that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
 whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
 We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
 come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
 and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
 that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
 whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

page 85

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ PRAYER ✠

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

C. Remember and rejoice, renewed by floods of grace
 We bear the sign of Jesus Christ, that time cannot erase.
 God, bless us by Your grace; remind us of Your care
 Renewing Spirit, fill us now, inspire our work, our prayer.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

page 87

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P. ... Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

page 97

✠ SENDING ✠

BENEDICTION

P. God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angel accompany you; and the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.
C. Amen

CLOSING HYMN *God, Whose Almighty Word* #400 (grn)

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
C. Thanks be to God.

THOSE WHO SERVE:

Ministers: All the People of God	Presider: Pastor Ellen Munter
Musician: Terry Dybsetter	Reader: Deacon
Camera: Josh Sumption	Projection: Sara Wollum
Acolytes: Haley Noyes & Izzy Kamrath	Sound Room: Ken Jeremiason & Jerome Bruns

How to reach us:

Church Office: 507-296-4658	Pastor’s House: 507-296-4558
Pastor’s Cell: 507-828-1000(call or text)	Pastor’s email: pastormunter@gmail.com
Bethel email: bethel@bethelofporter.com	Bethel web page: www.bethelofporter.com

October 17, 2021

General: \$879.50 (\$429.50 received through eGiving)



The attached QR Code can be used to directly access the online giving form for Bethel Lutheran.

Just one way of our continuing to modernize so you can give conveniently to Bethel.



Emily Morton, Angie Denelsbeck Anderson, Bill and Karen Pohlen, Barb Hurt

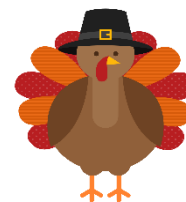
What's with the "display" in the narthex ?

We are currently collecting any "spare change" you might have to benefit local community projects.



In October we're "spreading" our coins for the Canby Food Shelf.

Beginning October 31st through November 14th our spare change will be "gobbled up" to support the community take out Thanksgiving dinner prepared by the Presbyterian Church in Canby.



The display and the community projects supported by this effort will change frequently. If you have a community project that you would like Bethel to support, suggest the project to one of the Deacons.

Coming Soon: The Thanksgiving Tree providing gifts for area children at Christmas time

Hope Cannot Be Silenced

Have you ever had to take a break from the news or shut the TV off because the story was just too much to take in? All the reminders of pain, injustice, and misfortune in the world around us can be overwhelming at times. Sometimes the problems feel so insurmountable that we become frustrated, even angry at the constant reminders of our powerlessness. At our worst, we may block out not only the problems but our compassion for the people who are suffering and crying out for help.

In today's gospel, a man who suffers cries out again and again for mercy as Jesus passes by. Yet his cries are too much for others gathered around, who are annoyed by the man and want him to be quiet. In his cries they hear only hopelessness, pain, and misfortune with no remedy; they hear their own powerlessness. But Jesus hears something different: rather than the problem, pain, misfortune, and human weakness, He hears a person in need, hope, and divine strength. Jesus hears the man's faith that his cries will not be in vain, and his trust in God's mercy and power. When Jesus hears the suffering one crying out in hope, it is the beginning of healing.

In Christian assembly, we gather to lift up our own cries and to hear those of others. The peace that comes when the body of Christ gathers is not achieved by shutting out the sounds of a world in pain, but through the hope that wherever they ring forth, God is already present and listening and ready to heal. As you listen in your own life and among those gathered today, what do you hear? And how is God calling you to respond?

Upcoming Commemorations

Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676;
hymnwriters

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

These great hymnwriters all worked in seventeenth-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying." Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

Simon and Jude, Apostles

Thursday, October 28, 2021

We know little about these apostles. Simon is listed as "the zealot" or Cananean in New Testament lists. Jude, also called Thaddeus, asked Jesus at the last supper why he had revealed himself to the disciples but not to the world.