

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 6, 2021

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that He is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and

resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are sisters and brothers of the Lord. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

✝ GATHERING ✝

OPENING HYMN *Rise, Shine, You People*



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent his Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion his new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, b. 1934

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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

C. **Amen.**

P. Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P. Loving God,

C. we confess that we have not loved You with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have failed to worship You with our whole being and to share the abundance of grace You give us. We have acted out of selfish ambition rather than the interests of others; we have nursed grudges rather than seeking reconciliation and peace. Forgive us and renew in us the mind of Christ Jesus, that we may live according to Your will. Amen.

P. Since we are justified by faith . . . the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen.**

GREETING

P. The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ You turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in Him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. **Amen.**

† WORD †

FIRST READING: Genesis 3:8-15

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

⁹But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

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

PSALM 130

Wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love.

Out of the depths have I called to You, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice;
let Your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

²If You, Lord, were to note what is done amiss,
O Lord, who could stand?

³For there is forgiveness with You;
therefore You shall be feared.

⁴I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for Him;
in His word is my hope.

⁵My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

⁶O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy;

⁷with Him there is plenteous redemption,
and He shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—“I believed, and so I spoke” —we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one Who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into His presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. ¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

⁵¹For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: St. Mark 3:20-35

In response to charges that He is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, sisters and brothers of Christ.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

The crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat.

²¹When His family heard it, they went out to restrain Him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of His mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons He casts out demons.” ²³And He called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— ³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

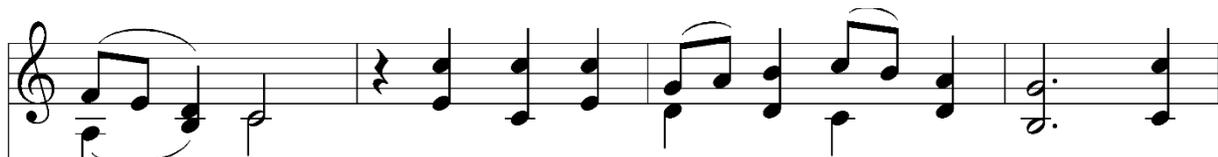
SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

A Mighty Fortress



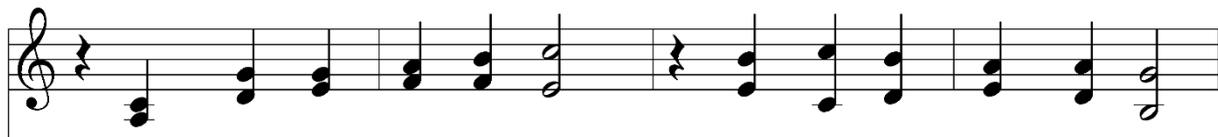
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son,
our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the
Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Trusting the Spirit's power, let us pray for the Church, and the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God of wholeness, we pray for believers all over the globe. Unify us in service of the gospel, that we may work together to share Your love with all. Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

God of the cosmos, we pray for creation; the gardens, waterways and creatures near to us and diverse forms of life that remain unseen. Teach us to treat the natural world with respect, seeking restoration when human divisions have caused harm to Your creation. Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

God of all people, we pray for harmony among the nations. Cast out from us unclean spirits of greed and fear, that we may work in solidarity with one another for the common good. Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

God of abundance, we pray for those who are oppressed or in any need. Encourage those who have begun to lose heart and bring hope to those who are ill. We pray especially for Emily, Angie, Shirlee, Bill & Karen, Bill Ningen, Carol, Sylvia, and Norma. Strengthen and renew us with Your Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

God of righteousness, we pray for this holy house of worship. Set our gaze upon things eternal, that in thanksgiving for Your mercy, we may extend grace to more and more people. Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

God of the ages, You raised Jesus from the dead and promise to raise us with Him and bring us into His presence. We give You thanks for those saints who now rest in Your eternal mercy and we thank You for Your steadfast love and power to redeem. Lord, in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

By the sure guidance of Your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

OFFERING / Offertory



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

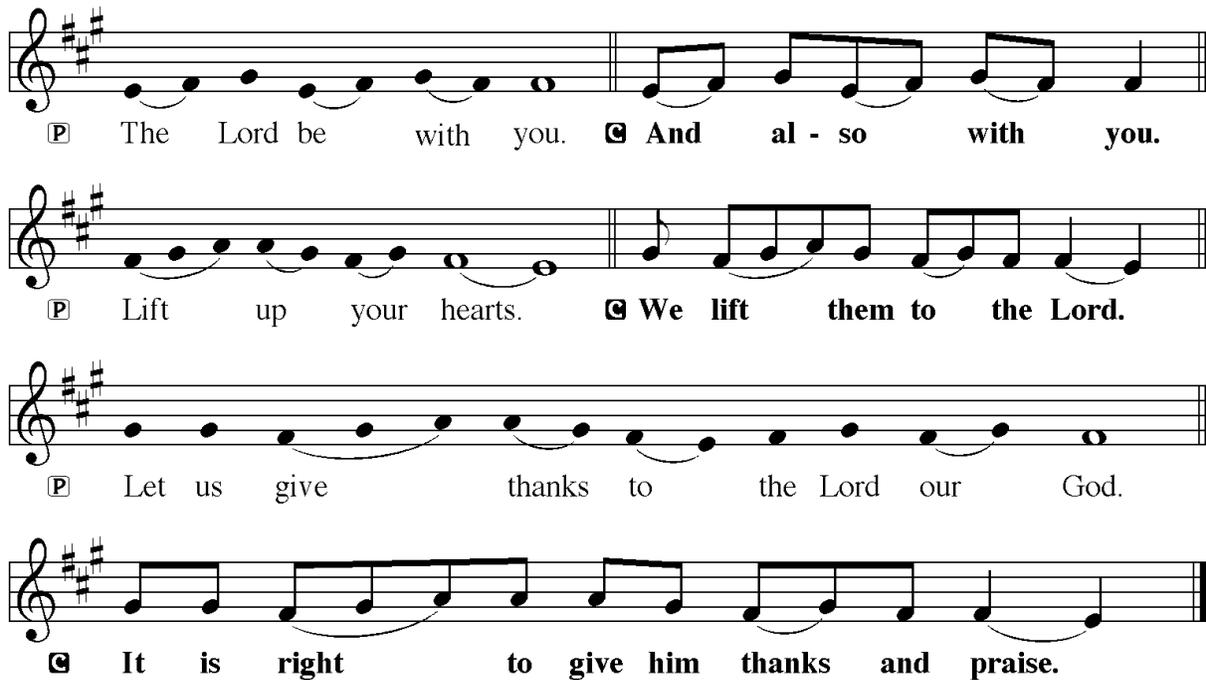
OFFERTORY PRAYER

P. Blessed are you,

C. O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him Who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✦ MEAL ✦

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. Holy, mighty ... accomplished our salvation.

C. Amen.

P. In the night in ... the Lord's death until He comes.

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P. Send now Your Holy Spirit ... both now and forever.

C. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father Who art in heaven,

hallowed be 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 trespasses

as we forgive those

who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P. The Body and Blood . . . keep you in His grace.

C. Amen

POST-COMMUNION SONG



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P. Jesus Christ, You have given . . . Lord forevermore.

C. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

BLESSING

P. Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. May you be rooted and grounded in His love.

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry



and tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

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 **President:** Pastor Ellen Munter
Musician: Terry Dybsetter **Reader:** Linda Bruns
Camera: Josh Sumption **Projection:** James Kamrath/Kendon Knutson
Sound Room: Ken Jeremiason and Jerome Bruns

How to reach us:

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May 30, 2021

General: \$1,147.75 (\$777.74 received through eGiving)

	Year:	2021	
	Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$ 125,474.84	*Includes all Bethel and Parish related expenses
	Monthly revenue required to meet budget:	\$ 10,456.24	

Year to Date Actual Revenue and Budgeted Expenses Comparison-

This report is based on budgeted expenses divided evenly for each month of the calendar year. Actual expenses per month vary greatly. This analysis is to be used as a guideline, and not a full representation of the full financial health of Bethel Lutheran Church.

This report now includes revenues received from Hemne Luterhan Church as they are applied to all expenses related to the Bethel-Hemnes Joint Parish.

	Total Revenue for Month	Year to Date Revenue	Year to Date Budgeted Expense	Year to Date Difference: shortfalls shown as negative numbers	Cash Reserves Expended	Cash Reserves Repaid	Reserves Repaid Notes
January	\$7,250.77	\$7,250.77	\$10,456.24	-\$3,205.47			
February	\$8,238.97	\$15,489.74	\$20,912.47	-\$5,422.73	-\$2,000.00		
March	\$32,501.42	\$32,501.42	\$31,368.71	\$1,132.71			
April	\$8,264.64	\$40,766.06	\$41,824.95	-\$1,058.89			
May	\$11,343.73	\$52,109.79	\$52,281.18	-\$171.39			



Emily Morton, Angie Denelsbeck Anderson
 Shirlee Gabbert, Bill and Karen Pohlen
 Bill Ningen, Carol Moon, Sylvia Pridal
 Norma Dovre

Protective Detail?

The crowd gathering around Jesus today is not entirely friendly. Some are attacking Him as having “gone out of His mind” (Mark 3:21). The scribes accuse Him of being demonic. His family tries to restrain Him. They see the hostility, perhaps feel the danger. They love Jesus and do not want to see Him harmed.

As is His habit, Jesus responds with wit and wisdom. The passage ends with Jesus surrounded by a crowd that seems safer. His family approaches again, and they hear a tough, dismissive word: those who do the will of God are My family. Scripture is consistent in its witness that the will of God is the path to life. Jesus does not need to be protected; He is working to bring the gift of life into the world in a new way.

How often do we find ourselves trying to protect Jesus? Maybe you have had a fight about faith with a family member. Maybe you avoid an acquaintance because of challenging conversations about beliefs. Maybe you have “agreed to disagree” because politics and faith have proved too divisive. Maybe you have experienced the split of a congregation or a church because of differences of opinion about how the gospel calls us to live.

From the book of Acts to present-day denominational struggles, church debates have often been about two sides claiming to be right about Jesus. We stand our ground and resist or demand change. In this we find a mixture of protecting ourselves, protecting our faith, protecting our understanding of Jesus, protecting Jesus.

In today’s story Jesus reminds us He does not need protection. He is not going to get it on the cross. Instead, He wishes life for us, dies to make life for us, lives to make life for us. All of this so we can live to help make life for others.

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