

# Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## September 1, 2024



**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
2515 Madison Ave., Burlington, IA  
Phone: (319) 752-3621  
[www.bethanyburlington.org](http://www.bethanyburlington.org)

*Bethany's Mission Statement: Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning and Love - we are God's people.*

We are so glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We hope everyone feels welcome as we strive to serve and strengthen each other in faith toward God and in love toward all. Now, as you wait for the service to begin, please relax, enjoy the music, and quiet your heart before God.

# Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*ELW indicates that hymns or liturgy are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship—red hymnal*

## PRELUDE

Welcome, Announcements, Celebration Bank

*(money given to Human Concerns Fund)*

## We Gather to Acknowledge God's Presence

*(Please stand)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

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

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please stand)*

### OPENING HYMN

*"Let Justice Flow Like Streams"*

**ELW Hymn 717**

### 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.**

# Kyrie


*Refrain*




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for  
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
hun - gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam - i - ly; for  
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

# Hymn of Praise

*Refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

*Refrain*



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -  
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.  
A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Final refrain*

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's  
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: **O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
Amen.

## We Listen to God's Word

*(Please be seated)*

### FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

Psalm 34:15-22

L: LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?  
Who may abide upon your holy hill?

C: **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;  
they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.**

L: In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

C: **They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes  
against the innocent.**

**Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.**

## SECOND READING

James 1:17-27

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

## 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.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Gospel according to Mark the 7th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord**



## GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-23

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

<sup>9</sup>Then he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition! <sup>10</sup>For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever speaks evil of father or mother must surely die.' <sup>11</sup>But you say that if anyone tells father or mother, 'Whatever support you might have had from me is Corban' (that is, an offering to God) — <sup>12</sup>then you no longer permit doing anything for a father or mother, <sup>13</sup>thus making void the word of God through your tradition that you have handed on. And you do many things like this."

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

<sup>17</sup>When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. <sup>18</sup>He said to them, "Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, <sup>19</sup>since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) <sup>20</sup>And he said, "It is what comes out of a person that defiles. <sup>21</sup>For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

*Pastor Misha McFarland-Pollock*

*(Please stand)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”*

**ELW Hymn 512**

## **We Respond to God’s Word**

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED** *(unison)*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead. \*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

*(Please Stand)*

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

*(Please be seated)*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

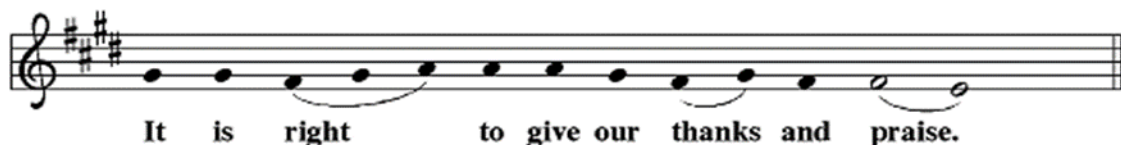
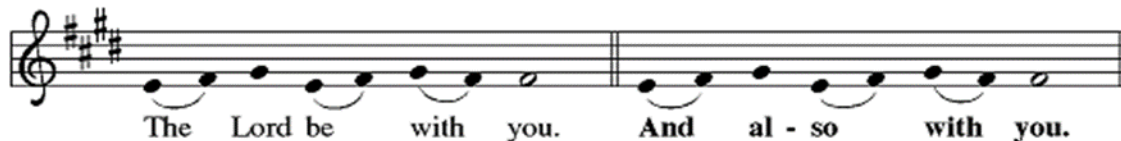
*Each petition concludes:*

**P:** Merciful God,

**C:** Receive our prayer.

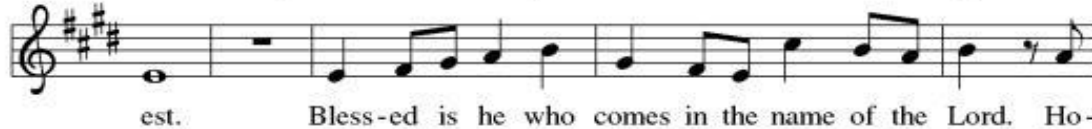
# We Share in the Holy Meal

*(Please stand)*



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



# WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

*(Please be seated)*

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.



## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector: Bill Mundt  
Usher: Susan Swanson  
Communion: Mike Hopp; Julie Wischmeier  
Greeters: Sharon Martindale  
Missionary Support: New dates open and available  
Altar Flowers: Carol Dodge  
Remember in prayer: Dorothy Hopson; Barb West; Eleonore Benninghoven

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A Cry Room for infants is available up the stairs and to the right.  
There are Kids Celebrate children's bulletins available for youngsters  
who'd like to have their own reference to the lessons for this week.  
Ask our usher for help.

Please join us for coffee and donuts in the fellowship  
hall following the worship service. We would like to  
get to know you and offer our friendship.

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## ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Today: **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
**10:15 a.m. Church Outreach**  
10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service  
**1:00pm-4:00 pm Pat & Kelli Reichelt's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary &  
60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration!**

**Monday: Office Closed-Happy Labor Day!**  
**Thursday: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study @ Messiah Lutheran Church**  
Friday: 9:30 a.m. Nurses Mtg.  
Next Sunday: **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Joint Service with Messiah Lutheran Church for Rally Day**  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Education  
10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
11:45 a.m. Potluck Picnic!

## PAT & KELLI'S DOUBLE CELEBRATION!

All are welcome to come and have fun in celebrating Pat and Kelli Reichelt's 40th  
Wedding Anniversary and Kelli's 60th Birthday. The party will be held on Sunday,  
September 1st from 1:00pm-4:00pm in the gathering hall at Bethany. Please RSVP  
to Pat at 319-208-4557.

## OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY

Reminder that the office will be closed on Monday, September 2 in observance of  
Labor Day. Normal hours will resume on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**BIBLE STUDY!**

Bible Study will be starting back up on a new day! Every Thursday, starting this Thursday, September 5th, Bible Study will be held @ Messiah Lutheran Church @ 9:30am in the Conference Room! Please, come and join us!

**“RALLY DAY” JOINT SERVICE AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We will be holding a joint service for Rally Day on Sunday, September 8 at Messiah Lutheran Church! There will be Sunday School and Adult Education at 9:15am for anyone who would like to attend. Worship service will start at 10:30am and there will be a Potluck Picnic following service! Please bring a dish to share with everyone, if you are able!

**UKRAINIAN REFUGEE FAMILY DONATIONS**

We have a couple sheets with a list of items that are needed for the Ukrainian families that have fled their home country and have come to Burlington. Please stop and take a look at what is needed and please donate if you would like. These sheets are on the table to the right of the sanctuary doors. Thank you for your generosity!

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www.bethanyburlington.org*

***Pastor Misha’s contact info: 412-628-6382;  
damisha.mcfarlandpollock@gmail.com***

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**Our Staff**

Rev. Misha McFarland-Pollock  
Cory Byrne  
Kim Engle  
Wendy Bell  
Michelle Huppenbauer  
Pam Crable

Pastor  
Organist/Choir Director  
Stephen Minister Coordinator  
Office Administrator  
Financial Secretary  
Custodian