



**Bethel United Church of Christ  
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 5, 2021**

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**PRELUDE**

*“Hope of the Nations”*

Bethel Praise Team

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(responsive)*

One: “The law of the LORD is perfect,

**All: reviving the soul;**

One: the decrees of the LORD are sure,

**All: making wise the simple;**

One: the precepts of the LORD are right,

**All: rejoicing the heart;**

One: the commandment of the LORD is clear,

**All: enlightening the eyes.”**

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

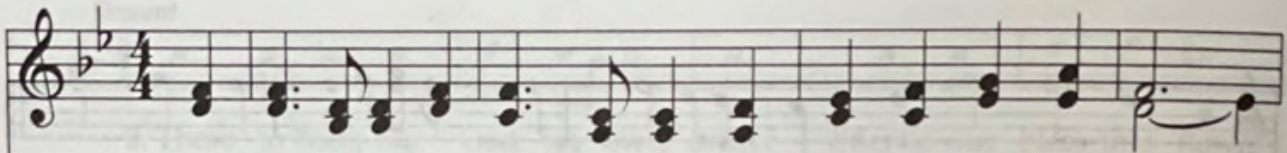
**All: Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION** *(unison)*

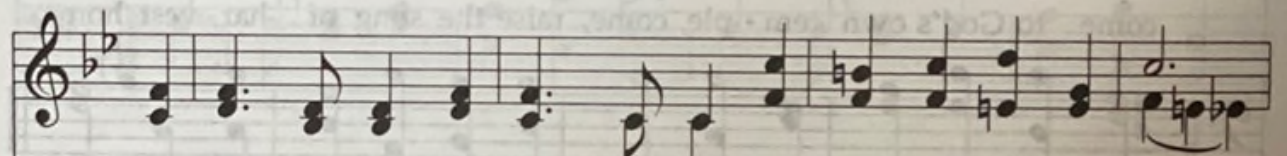
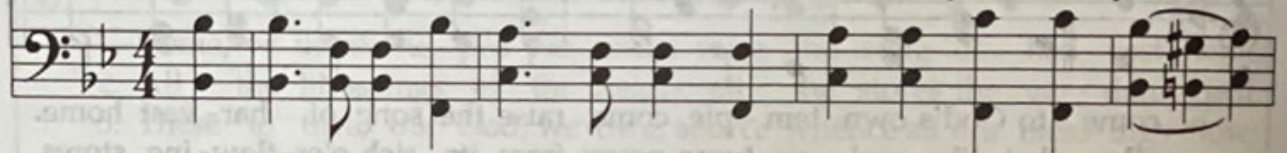
**Glorious God, your teachings are more to be desired than fine gold and precious silver; your blessings are more to be sought than all the jewels of the earth. May the gifts we bring before you today share your blessings with those in need. In Jesus’s name, we pray. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN #720** *“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”*

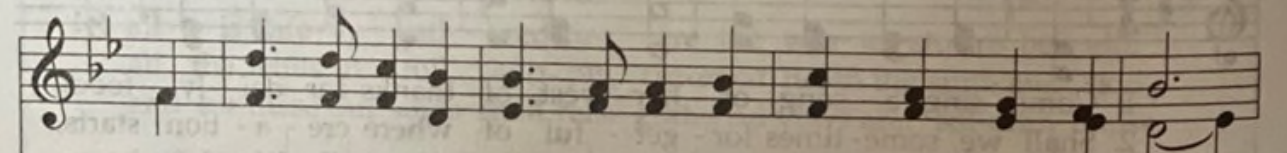
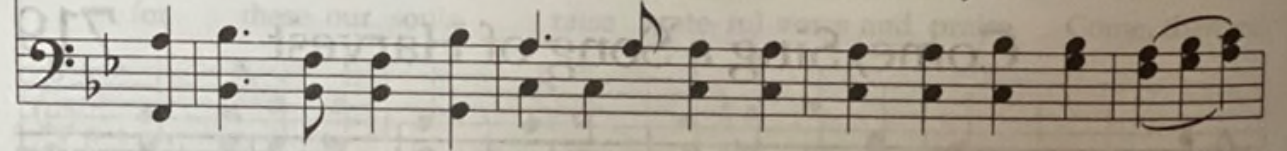
## O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



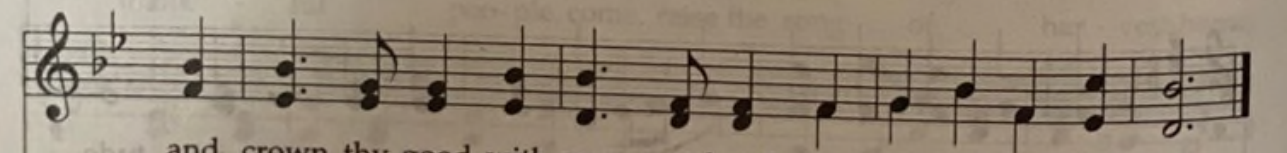
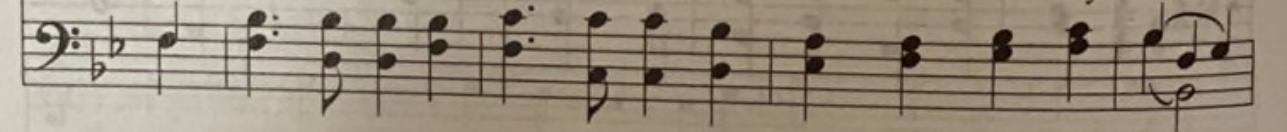
1. O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, for am-ber waves of grain,  
 2. O beau-ti-ful for he-ros proved in lib-er-at-ing strife,  
 3. O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream that sees be-yond the years



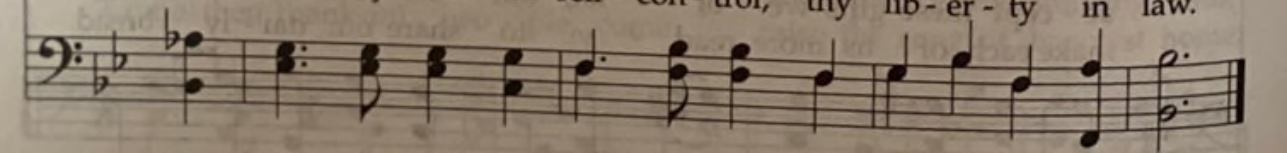
for pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties a-bove the fruit-ed plain!  
 who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer-cy more than life!  
 thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, un-dimmed by hu-man tears!



A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed full grace on thee,  
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine,  
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-ery flaw,



and crown thy good with ser-vant-hood from sea to shin-ing sea.  
 till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness and ev-ery gain di-vine.  
 con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, thy lib-er-ty in law.



## OUR SACRED TEXT

### Psalm 125

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people, from this time on and forevermore.

For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, so that the righteous might not stretch out their hands to do wrong.

Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts.

But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways the LORD will lead away with evildoers. Peace be upon Israel!

### Mark 7:24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*"I Will Sing"*

Bethel Praise Team

### MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Judy Scott, Pastor

### HYMN#635

*"Faith of Our Fathers"*

## Faith of Our Fathers

1. Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun-geon,  
 2. The mar-tyrs bound in pris - on chains were still in heart and  
 3. Faith of our moth - ers, we will love both friend and foe in

fire and sword, oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
 con - science free, and bless'd would be their chil - dren's fate,  
 all our strife, and preach thee, too, as love knows how,

when-e'er we hear that glo - rious word! Faith of our fa - thers,  
 if they, like them, should live for thee! Faith of the mar - tyrs,  
 by sav - ing word and faith - ful life! Faith of our moth - ers,

ho - ly faith, we will be true to thee till death.  
 ho - ly faith, we will be true to thee till death.  
 ho - ly faith, we will be true to thee till death.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER (*forgive us our sins...*)

RESPONSE#304

"Into My Heart"

304                      Into My Heart

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Into My Heart'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'In - to my heart, in - to my heart, come in - to my heart, Lord Je - sus; come in to - day, come in to stay, come in - to my heart, Lord Je - sus.'

**OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

Invitation

Offertory

Response

“”

Chad Willis, piano

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above the heavenly host  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION**

**One:** The Spirit of God moves in and through all time, in every age, in every corner of the earth, calling people to renew their hope and joy. At this table we celebrate Jesus, who touched our brokenness with his life; who gathers us together, inside and out.

**Many:** We give ourselves to that wholeness, moving from hurt to happiness and from darkness to light, filling our lives with love, laughter, and each other and joining with all created things to say: "Holy are you, O God."

**COMMUNION PRAYER** (*unison*)

God of Grace, your spirit calls us now in this place to gather all people into our celebration, to help the lame and blind, to wipe away tears with an outstretched hand. The bread of our being loved, the wine of our joy, stand as reminders that miracles in faith and risk continue to happen. You gather us around this table to pick up our cross and follow you. We give our lives to you. Amen.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **BLESSING** *(unison)*

**O God, in thanksgiving and remembrance, we ask you to bless this bread and wine so that, in sharing them together, we shall be your church. Amen.**

One: Come for all things are ready.

### **SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

*Wafer and grape juice is offered.*

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *(unison)*

**We give thanks, O God, because in your own free gift of love you have reached out to us. You have refreshed us at your table, touched our deepest needs, and called us to a life sharing in memory and hope. Send us forth with courage and joy in the name of Jesus Christ, that we, too, may become bread and peace for one another and the world. Amen.**

*(Communion liturgy from Flames of the Spirit, edited by Ruth C. Duck, 1985)*

### **CLOSING HYMN#725**

*“God of Ages, Whose Mighty Hand”*

# God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand 725

Trumpets, before each stanza (optional)

1. God of the a - ges, whose al-might-y hand
2. Thy love di-vine hath led us in the past;
3. From war's a-larms, from dead-ly pes-ti-lence,
4. Re - fresh thy peo-ple on our toil-some way;

leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
 in this free land with thee our lot is cast;  
 be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;  
 lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen-dor through the skies,  
 be thou our rul - er, guard-ian, guide, and stay,  
 thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease;  
 fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate-ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.  
 thy Word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.  
 thy boun-teous good - ness nour-ish us in peace.  
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

## COMMISSION/BENEDICTION POSTLUDE

Chad Willis, piano

### PRAYER LIST UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

**Prayers:** Vicki Thompson's mother, Velma Farrar; **Stephanie Dodd's** friend Mary Simmons; **Kathy & Fulvio Hayes'** friend, Janna Portfield; **Pat Armstrong's** friend, Donna Thornton; **Linda Jackson; Jim Derry**, assisted living Linden Woods Village; **Lauri Buck's** brother, Paul Wobus and April Gibbs; **Gerry McGuire;** Sandy Price, friend of **Pat Armstrong; Jane Bohlmeier;** the Hershman family, relatives of **AnnaLee Kaap; Bob Atkinson's** brother, David; **Cathy Leslie; Gerry Hendrix's** friend Janice Mathew; Sandy Price; **Debbie Robinett's** daughter, Michelle Proudfit-Glunt; **Gerry Hendrix's** sister Donna Cobb; **Jim Burr; Bobbi Wendle; Marilyn Helmich's** brother & sister-in-law, Don & Margie Havener & daughter, Carolyn McNeal; Nancy Niederhauser, **Stan Niederhauser's** mother; Jean Andrews & Charlene Schillie, friends of Adele Jones; **Lauri Buck's** friend John & Shelly Boone; **Randy Pace's** friends, Marvin Jackson; Bonnie & Bill Kuhn, friends of **Mary Fleener;** Caleb Shonkwiler, **Jamie Elder's** grandson; **Jamie Elder; Marty Pace's** sister & brother-in-law, Michelle & Dan Schadt; **Vicki Thompson's** brother working at NKC Hospital and all health care providers; **Alice Inman; Vern Bohlmeier; Joe Germer; Alice Terrill; Jim Inman; Gerry McGuire; Doug Berka; Kathy Corn's** friend, Judy Lighthead; Crittenton Center staff and residents, prayers for all medical staff and first responders; **Mollie Geitz; Jeanene Easley;** Karen Lind-Olson, sister of **Doug Berka;** Pat Conrad, **Shellie Willis'** cousin; Aiden Liesveld, neighbor of **Bob & Lauri Buck; Jody Meyer's** niece Delores Starr and great niece, Diane Shoemaker . Please keep us informed of any additions or corrections to the Prayer List.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

A great opportunity if you like one of the following.

- Do you like to have fun
- Do you like to laugh
- Do you like kids
- Do you like to read
- Do you like to listen
- Do you like to talk
- Do you like to feel appreciated
- Do you like to color
- Do you like crafts
- Do you like to paint
- Do you like to make stick men
- Do you like snacks
- Do you like to make a difference

If you said yes to any one of these, you can be a Bethel Sunday School Teacher, Bethel's children are counting on. Without your help we can't do Sunday School. Contact Susan Schindler or Dale Rickert if interested.

### MEETING WITH PASTOR JUDY AND ADMINISTRATION

Very short meeting of Administration after church Sunday morning with Pastor Judy in North Room.

**GRIEF RETREAT "FREE" – Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> - 9 – Noon.** Kathy Corn is hosting a Free Grief Retreat at Bethel September 18<sup>th</sup> in the North Room for women and friends. Call Kathy at 816-436-0662 to reserve a spot for you and a friend.

### FREE BOOKS FOR KIDS

A delightful selection of children's books has been donated to Bethel! Choose what you like to keep or to share. See the table in the Narthex!

### LUNCH WITH PASTOR JUDY

Pastor Judy is available to meet with whomever wants to between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. Tuesday this week, and on Mondays and Tuesdays non-holiday weeks.

### BACKPACK SHEPHERDS NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER

They need anything canned, especially green beans, corn, tomatoes, things kids like.

**Sunday—September 12—Rally Day—**Be watching for special music on this day of celebration!

**Saturday—October 9 CROP Walk** will be in person this year. Jan Rickert is our coordinator.

**Saturday—October 23<sup>rd</sup> 10 am—3 pm Western Association Business meeting.** The meeting will be held via Zoom.

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY LIST

9/2	Evy Kluender	9/11	Eddy Villanueva	9/28	Jim Burr
9/4	Ty Hendrix	9/18	Kevin Hendrix	9/29	Bailey Fleener, Marilyn Helmich
9/9	Traci Pierson	9/19	Pat Armstrong	9/30	Patrick Gavisk
9/10	Isaac Faust, David Yeager	9/24	Jody Meyer		