



Welcome to Bethesda Lutheran Church

A place of healing and reconciliation in Christ



SEASON OF CREATION IN CHRIST FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WITH HOLY COMMUNION

✝ September 13, 2026 | 9:30 a.m. ✝

✠ GATHERING ✠

**THE ASTERISK INDICATES WHEN THE ASSEMBLY RISES THROUGHOUT THE WORSHIP SERVICE.*

PRELUDE

TYLER PYLE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BIGGEST STORY TIME (FORMERLY KNOWN AS WOW)

"A VERY BAD DAY ..." (GENESIS 3)

*GATHERING HYMN

EARTH AND ALL STARS

ELW 731

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

One Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
our hope, our heart, our home.:

Many Amen.

One Everlasting God, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end,
**Many we confess that we participate in systems that perpetuate
oppression and injustice. We are often numb to the pain of the world
around us, resistant to change that costs us something, and reluctant
to love our neighbors as ourselves. We sin against your good
creation, failing to be faithful stewards of the land, the sea, and all
their creatures. Make your home among us once more, O God.
naming us beloved and opening our hearts to do your will. Amen.**

One All you saints and sinners, this good news is for you: God knows you,
forgives you by the self-giving of ✠ Jesus Christ, and frees you to love the
world as you have been loved. Creation's story will not end until
mourning, crying, and pain are no more. When everything else changes,
God's love is steadfast and sure. Nothing can ever separate you from the
love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Many Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

GOOD CREATION

LIVING VOICE OF CREATION 19

GREETING

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

Many And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ONE O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Many Amen.

✠ **WORD** ✠

(Readings on screen)

NEW TESTAMENT READING ROMANS 14:1-12

One Word of God, Word of Life

Many Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LET ALL CREATION SING

LIVING VOICE OF CREATION 28

One The holy Gospel according to Matthew

Many Glory to you, O Lord.

*GOSPEL | Matthew 18:21-35

One The Gospel of our Lord.

Many Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"UNLESS"

DR. JANE JOHNSON

HYMN OF THE DAY

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

ACS 1000 -BACK PAGE OF BULLETIN

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One Let us confess our faith together.

**Many 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.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

SUNG RESPONSE:



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***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

One The peace of Christ be with you and all creation!!

Many And also with you.

✠ MEAL ✠

NOISY OFFERING

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. You may place your offering in the plates as they are passed by the ushers. You may also scan the QR code to the right for online giving.



MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS BY ALLEN POTE

BETHESDA CHOIR

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

WE PRAISE YOU, MAKER GOD

LIVING VOICE OF CREATION 37

OFFERTORY PRAYER

One O God, maker of heaven and earth, We ask this in Jesus' name.

Many Amen.

*** THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

DIALOG

One From the fragments and fissures.
Many God calls us together.

One Our hearts are bruised and broken.
Many We lift them to God who mends.

One Come repair and be restored.
Many Many pieces become one body.

*PREFACE:

ONE It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,... the table rejoicing as one creation, one body in holy communion now and forever as we sing:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SANCTUS

LIVING VOICE OF CREATION 40

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

One: Blessed are you, O God, our parent and provider.
We give you thanks for your tender keeping and expansive love.
Many We honor you, Creator God.

One: Blessed are you, O God, our resurrection and life.
We give you thanks for showing us your glory.
Many We worship you, Loving God.

One: Blessed are you, O God, advocate and comforter.
We give you thanks for your Spirit moving.
Many We praise you, Abiding God.

One: On the night in which he was betrayed.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Many Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

One: Come to remember and be re-membered.
Many Many voices raised to the Voice of Creation, one God, parent of us all:
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

LIVING VOICE OF CREATION

LIVING VOICE OF CREATION 34

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

ELW 715

CREATING GOD, YOUR FINGERS TRACE

ELW 684

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

One God of plenty, you have nourished our bodies with the fruits of the earth,
 for the sake of the world you love.

Many Amen.

BLESSING

One Creator God bless you and keep you. Creating Christ shine through you
 with grace and mercy. Creative Spirit nourish you and give you peace.

Many Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

SENDING HYMN

GOD IS DOING A NEW THING

LIVING VOICE OF CREATION 37

*DISMISSAL

One Go in peace. Flourish with creation.

Many Thanks be to God!

*POSTLUDE

TYLE PYLE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, SOURCES, & PERMISSIONS

*Liturgical texts and prayers from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and Sundays and Seasons, © Augsburg Fortress.
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 #2895205.*

	SERVING TODAY SEPT 13, 2026	SERVING NEXT SUNDAY SEPT 20, 2026
SUNDAY	14 th Sunday after Pentecost	15 th Sunday after Pentecost
PRESIDING MINISTER	Pr. Grant Vanderford	Pr. Grant Vanderford
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Tyler Pyle	Tyler Pyle

CHOIR DIRECTOR	Jillian Jaros	Jillian Jaros
ASSISTING MINISTER	Jane Johnson	Pr. Mary Wallum
READER	Daniel Westphal	Alex Brings
ALTAR GUILD	Shannon Vanderford	Paulette Knutson
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Tammy Costin Daniel Westphal	Help needed
CLICKER	Rick Vanderford	Theo Baspaly
CAMERA	Kristin Ohren	Becky Erickson
USHERS		Wenaas Family
CPOD	Drew Robinson	Matthew Benson-Tuff
ACOLYTES	Dante Thorn Nolan Wenaas	Dante Thorn Nolan Wenaas

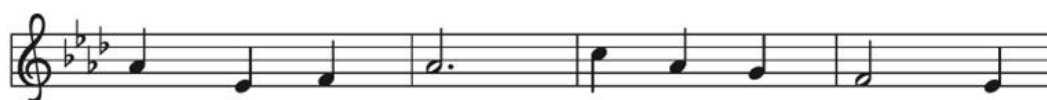
If you want help signing up or desire training - call 218-236-1420 or email janej@bethesdamhd.org.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH*

✠ SEPT 13 TO SEPT 19, 2026 ✠

TIME	DAY	Event
	SUNDAY	
9:30 A.M.		Worship/followed by fellowship
11:00 A.M.		God's Work our Hands
	MONDAY	
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.		Office Hours
10:00 A.M.		Lectionary Study - Lounge
	TUESDAY:	
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.		Office Hours
	WEDNESDAY	
9:00 A.M.		Quilting
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.		Office Hours
6:00 PM/ 6:30 - 7:30 P.M.		Bell set-up/rehearsal 6:30
6:30 P.M.		Confirmation
7:30 - 8:30 P.M.		Choir Rehearsal
	THURSDAY	
10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.		Office Hours
3:45 P.M..		BAS Chapel-Sanctuary
6:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.		Scouts - Fellowship Hall
	FRIDAY	
ALL DAY		Office Closed
9:00 P.M.		NA Meeting

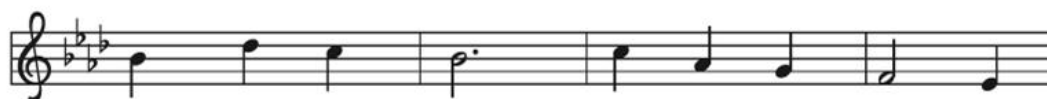
God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

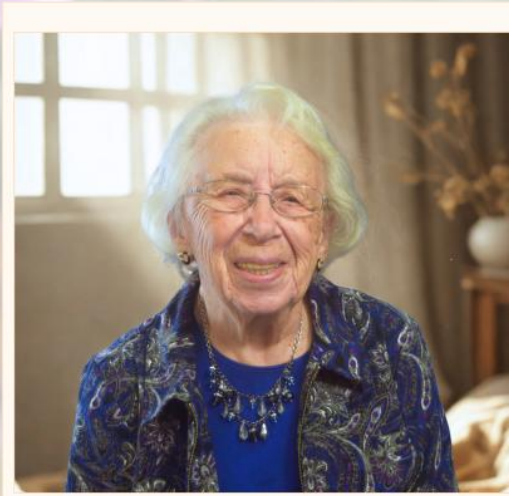
Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF

*Gwen
Erickson*

MAY 8, 1924 -
SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

OUTREACH & YOUTHWORKS DOROTHY DAY

The need at local missions is constant.
Please continue to **bring non-perishable
food items** to support these programs.
(i.e. canned vegetables, soup, beans,
boxed cereal, pasta, etc.)

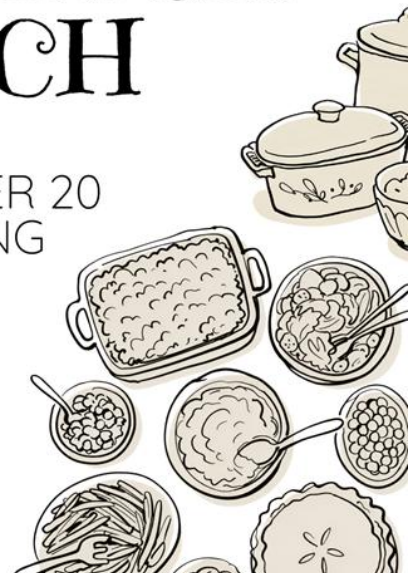
CHURCHES UNITED MICAH'S MISSION

Volunteers **set up
& serve the evening
meal** on the fourth Monday
of every month
from 5-7 p.m.
Contact the
office or talk to
Sandy Retzlaff or
Joel Westby
for more info!

POTLUCK LUNCH

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20
FOLLOWING
WORSHIP

**BRING
A DISH
TO SHARE!
CAKE
PROVIDED**



JOIN US FOLLOWING
WORSHIP FOR
**"GOD'S WORK.
OUR HANDS."**
...THERE ARE PROJECTS
THAT NEED YOUR HANDS!



ASSEMBLY OF SCHOOL
SUPPLY KITS (INDOORS)



& PAINTING ROCKS
FOR GWEN'S GARDEN +
EVERGREEN CEMETERY
(OUTDOORS)

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

**NOISY
OFFERING**

NEXT DATE: SEPTEMBER 13

Fargo-Moorhead Area Walk

OUT OF THE DARKNESS

Presented by the American
Foundation for Suicide Prevention



**Walk with the
Bethesda team!**

Sunday,
September 20
at 2 p.m.
SCHEELS Arena

Contact Mary Wenaas
with questions

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

SECOND ANNUAL ITALIAN MEAL
& RAFFLE - PROCEEDS SUPPORT
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2 • 5:00-7:00 PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
BETHESDAMHD.ORG BY CALLING
218.236.1420 OR AT THE DOOR
\$20/ADULT AND \$10/CHILD

TO-GO ORDERS AVAILABLE
\$5 RAFFLE TICKETS AT THE EVENT

LEARN MORE ABOUT CUB SCOUTS! INFO & SIGN-UP NIGHT



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

6:00 TO 7:30 PM

Bethesda Lutheran Church

401 40th Ave S, Moorhead, MN 56560

Join us for Legos and fun for the kids while adults learn about the Cub Scout programs in Moorhead!