

Bethany Lutheran Church Worship Guide for
August 9, 2020 – 10th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

(Pastor) Please stand

God we confess—we are loose ends.

**You give us the gift of community,
and we weave walls of exclusion and isolation.**

**You give us the gift of a new day,
and we spend more time unraveling justice than sewing seeds of peace and unity.**

**You give us the gift of holy surprises and unimaginable beauty,
and we shut off our hearts and our blindfolded eyes.**

Forgive us for our frayed ends and self-centered hearts.

Unravel the sin in us and replace it with love.

Gratefully we pray,

Amen.

(Pastor) Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy

we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus,
through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

Our sins are forgiven.

Let us live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Please be seated for the Gathering Hymn

GATHERING HYMN: 532 GATHER US IN



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

You may remain seated

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sometimes life takes us where we don't expect.

Sometimes, God takes us where we don't expect.

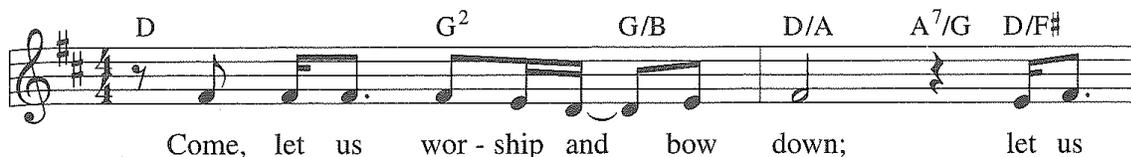
In worship, we gather to get in touch with God's bigger narrative.

In worship, we gather to expand our hearts.

So let us worship the God of unending surprises.

Let us worship the God of love.

HYMN OF PRAISE: W&P 31 – Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down



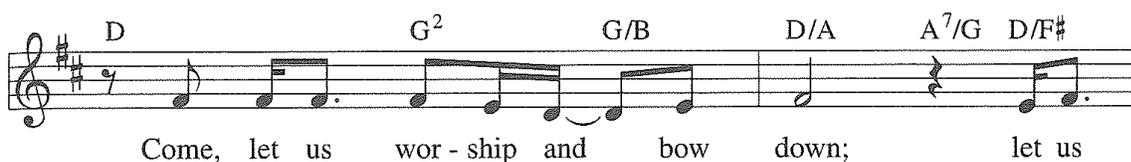
D G² G/B D/A A⁷/G D/F#

Come, let us wor-ship and bow down; let us



G Em⁷ G/B A

kneel be-fore the Lord, our God, our mak-er.



D G² G/B D/A A⁷/G D/F#

Come, let us wor-ship and bow down; let us



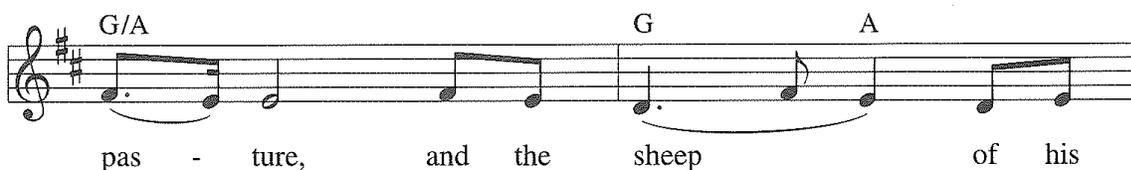
G Em⁷ G/B A

kneel be-fore the Lord, our God, our mak-er. For



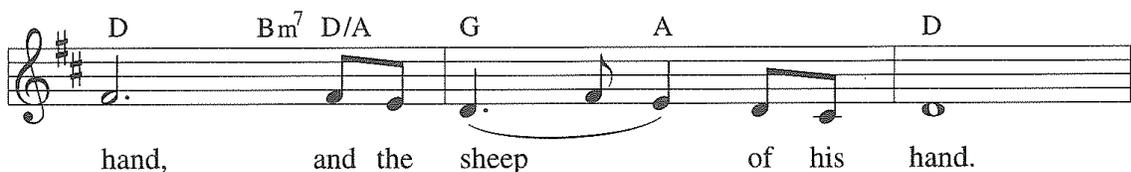
G D/F# Em⁷ D/F# G D/F# G

he is our God, and we are the peo-ple of his



G/A G A

pas-ture, and the sheep of his



D Bm⁷ D/A G A D

hand, and the sheep of his hand.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God,
 Being faithful has never been easy.
 You asked Noah to build a ship.
 You asked the Israelites to plant gardens and build homes while in exile.
 You asked the prophets to speak challenging truths.
 You asked the disciples to drop their nets and follow you.
 And you ask us to love bigger than society wants to.
 Being faithful has never been easy, and as a result, we often miss the mark.
 Forgive us for holding tightly to human-made plans.
 Forgive us for the times we say no to you so that we can say yes to ourselves.
 Unravel the grip we have on our agenda so that we can make room for you.
 Gratefully we pray,
 Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 29:1-7

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. This was after King Jeconiah, and the queen mother, the court officials, the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the artisans, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem. The letter was sent by the hand of Elasah son of Shaphan and Gemariah son of Hilkiyah, whom King Zedekiah of Judah sent to Babylon to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. It said: Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶ Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷ But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

PSALM Refrain: W & P 74—I Will Sing of the Mercies

I will sing of the mer - cies of the Lord for - ev - er, I will
sing, I will sing. I will sing of the mer - cies of the *Fine*
Lord for - ev - er, I will sing of the mer - cies of the Lord.
With my mouth will I make known thy
faith - ful - ness, thy faith - ful - ness. With my mouth will I make
D.C. al fine
known thy faith - ful - ness to all gen - er - a - tions.

Psalm 66:1-2; 5-12 (*assisting minister*)

¹Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
²**sing the glory of his name;**
give to him glorious praise.

⁵Come and see what God has done:
he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

⁶**He turned the sea into dry land;**
they passed through the river on foot.
There we rejoiced in him,

⁷who rules by his might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations —
let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

⁸**Bless our God, O peoples,**
let the sound of his praise be heard,

⁹who has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.

¹⁰**For you, O God, have tested us;**

you have tried us as silver is tried.

¹¹You brought us into the net;
you laid burdens on our backs;

¹²**you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.**

Refrain:

I will sing of the mer - cies of the Lord for - ev - er, I will
sing, I will sing. I will sing of the mer - cies of the *Fine*
Lord for - ev - er, I will sing of the mer - cies of the Lord.
With my mouth will I make known thy
faith - ful - ness, thy faith - ful - ness. With my mouth will I make
D.C. al fine
known thy faith - ful - ness to all gen - er - a - tions.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 172—HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you O Lord

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ANTHEM: Dreams, We All Have Dreams Pote

SERMON:

HYMN OF THE DAY: JEREMIAH SENT A LETTER

Voice

1. Jer - e - mi - ah sent a let - ter to the folks in
 2. Though they want - ed news of freed - om, he told them to
 3. Some - times, Lord, we find our - selves in pla - ces we don't

4
 Ba - by - lon. Long had they been stuck in dark - ness,
 hunk - er down: "Build your hous - es, plant your gard - ens,
 want to be; pla - ces full of pain and an - guish,

7
 wait - ing for to greet the dawn. They had suff - ered
 raise your child - ren in this town." Jer - e - mi - ah
 pla - ces cra - ving ju - bi - lee. May we in the

10
 much in ex - ile, toil - ing hard in angst and fear.
 told the peo - ple, "make the best of your home here.
 times of ex - ile serve our God cour - a - geous - ly.

13
 Young and old were forced to la - bor, kept in place by sword and spear.
 Seek the wel - fare of the ci - ty, through your lives, God's truth en - dear."
 In the mo - ments of our tri - als, may we love all faith - full - y.

BAPTISM (9:00 AM)

LILY MARIE WIETLISPACH

PRESENTATION

(Motion to the families and sponsors of the child being baptized to come forward during the last verse of the Hymn of the Day.)

PRESIDING MINISTER:

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us

to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors, Who presents Lily Marie Wietlispach?

Sponsors: We do.

(The presiding minister addresses parents)

Parents, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Lily baptized into Christ? **Response: We do.**

As you bring Lily to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Parents, Do you promise to help Lily to grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: We do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Lily in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Lily and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

Response: We do.

PRESIDING MINISTER: Congregation, please stand.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

(The presiding minister addresses the parents and sponsors. The assembly may join in the responses.)

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

(Creed)

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(ASSISTING MINISTER Take pitcher and step to font POUR THE WATER DURING THIS PRAYER)

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

(PRESIDING MINISTER: Congregation, please be seated.)

BAPTISM

(The assisting minister moves to hold the worship book for the pastor. The presiding minister pours water over the child.)

Lily Marie Wietlispach, you are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

(Laying both hands on the head of child)

Sustain Lily with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

(The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized.)

Lily Marie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

(BAPTISMAL HOST HANDS A LIGHTED CANDLE TO A SPONSOR and says)

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Join me in saying the response as we welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

PRESIDING MINISTER says "Welcome, Lily Marie Wietlispach

We will continue with the Prayers of Intercession

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God, when our dreams unravel, we look to you, trusting that from the broken pieces of our lives, you are creating something new and beautiful. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your bountiful creation offers sustenance and life for all creatures. Protect this abundance for the well-being of all and reverse the damage we have caused your creation. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You offer your dream of peace and prosperity to all the nations and peoples of the earth. Bring the prophetic vision to fullness, that all nations will run to you and that nations who do not know you will find their joy in you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Hear the anguish of hearts who cry to you in suffering and satisfy their deepest need. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body, heart, soul, and mind (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You offer freely the fullness of salvation. Give our congregation Bethany Lutheran, such a welcoming heart that our words and actions may extend your free and abundant hospitality to all whom we encounter. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You gather your saints as one, united in the body of Jesus. Bring us with all your saints to the heavenly banquet. We remember with love and thanksgiving the saints we have known. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

– Pr. #2 Blessing of Student Gifts

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Remember to take time to reach out and share Christ's peace with friends, family, and neighbors.

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, God of the unraveled world, you offer all you have. In the chaos of life, you give us peace; in the brokenness of the world, you give us wholeness. Teach us your ways that where there is uncertainty, scarcity and fear we may grow in faith, generosity and love towards our neighbor. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;

Who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on Earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: W&P 63—Holy Holy, Holy Lord



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty and merciful Lord,
 In this world unraveled by sin,
 you sent to us Jesus, your son,
 who entered all brokenness and gave himself on the cross.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 Our Lord Jesus took bread,
 And gave thanks; broke it,
 And gave it to his disciples saying: take and eat;
 This is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
 He took the cup, gave thanks,
 And gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Through this meal,
 you stitch us together as one people of God,
 united through this heavenly food,
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord;
 to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory,
 now and forever.
Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION:

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have made us inherently worthy of love and belonging; you stitched our wounds together, held us in the palm of your hand, and invited us into a new journey.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may bring peace, healing and wholeness to an unraveled world.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you,

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen!

for in sanctuary worshipers - Upon completion of service please use the nearest exits to exit the building and feel free to social distance with others outside should you mutually desire to do so.

SENDING SONG: 618—GUIDE ME EVER GREAT REDEEMER



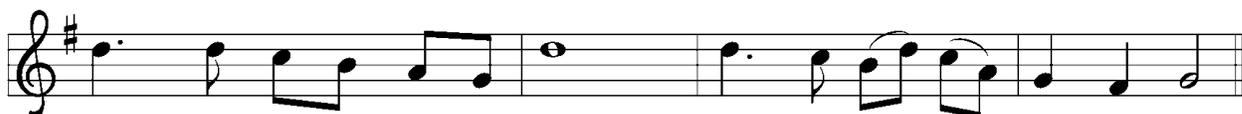
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL –

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

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