



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Healing Stories

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 8TH, 2026

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

*+ indicates to stand in body or spirit;
bold print indicates congregational responses*

❖ GATHERING ❖

PRELUDE “*Variations on ‘All Are Welcome’*” arr. Charles L. Lenz
(8:30) “*Fanfare and Alleluia*” arr. Douglas Wagner

WORDS OF WELCOME

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, **☩** one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

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

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

For failing to love others as you have loved us...

God of grace, **forgive us.**

For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods...

God of grace, **forgive us.**

For plundering the earth and abusing the planet...

God of grace, **forgive us.**

For fearing those who are strange to us and ignoring those in need...

God of grace, **forgive us.**

For losing heart and abandoning hope...

God of grace, **forgive us.**

For all the ways we turn from you...

God of grace, **forgive us.**

For the times we have lied to one another and the times we have been lied to,

heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

For the times we have laughed at another's pain and the times we have been laughed at,

heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

For the times we have betrayed a friend and the times we have been betrayed,

heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

For the times we have spoken when we should have remained silent

and the times we have remained silent when we should have spoken,

heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

Siblings in Christ,

the truth is that God loves you deeply and without end.

This forgiveness is a gift; we don't earn it by our own merit.

We are bound to the Holy Spirit,

who accompanies us on this journey of reconciliation in Christ.

Know and believe you are forgiven.

Trust that God is with you as you adjust and make amends,

as knowing better you strive to do better.

You have been made whole in the name of the Creator,

and of the Redeemer,  and of the Sanctifier. **Amen.**

+ KYRIE

In peace, in peace



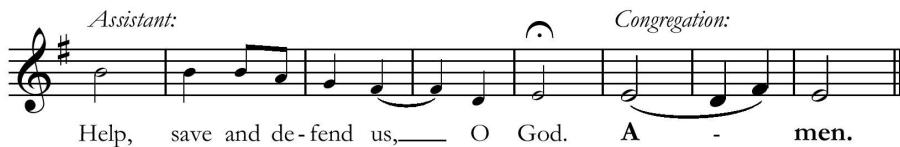
Assistant:

Congregation:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all,.....

For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word,.....



Assistant:

Congregation:

Help, save and defend us, O God. Amen.

+ CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion sings for joy to the

God of life and love and free - dom: praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more! _____

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has
freed and u - ni - ted us to be one great peo - ple of God. _____

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, and
hon - or and glo - ry to Christ for ev - er. _____

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us
peo - ple of God; to make all things new. _____

+ APOSTOLIC 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

God of miracles, sometimes we struggle to believe in your power to heal what is sick and broken. Give us faith to recognize your miracles occurring all around us each and every day. Open our eyes to see you in the faces of one another and our hearts to believe we can be your healing hands in this world. Amen.

*(10:30) At this time, children age 3 to grade 5 are invited to go to Sunday School.
They will return to the sanctuary before communion.*

❖ WORD ❖

PSALM PSALM 40:1-5



¹I waited patiently up- | on the LORD,
who stooped to me and | heard my cry.

²**The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.**

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and they shall | trust the LORD.

⁴**Happy are they who trust | in the LORD!
They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies.**

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O | LORD my God!
In your plans for us, none can be com- | pared with you!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴⁶ Then he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had changed the water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.” ⁴⁹ The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my little boy dies.” ⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way. ⁵¹ As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his child was alive. ⁵² So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him, “Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him.”

⁵³ The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” So he himself believed, along with his whole household. ⁵⁴ Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

¹ After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. ⁴ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁵ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” ⁶ The ill man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me.” ⁷ Jesus said to him, “Stand up, take your mat and walk.” ⁸ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath. ⁹ So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, “It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat.” ¹⁰ But he answered them, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Take up your mat and walk.’” ¹¹ They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take it up and walk?’” ¹² Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there. ¹³ Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you.”

¹⁴ The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

¹⁵ Therefore the Jews started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the Sabbath.

¹⁶ But Jesus answered them, “My Father is still working, and I also am working.” ¹⁷ For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the Sabbath but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY *“Healing River of the Spirit”* VT #642

1. Heal - ing riv - er of the Spir - it, bathe the
 2. Well-spring of the heal - ing Spir - it, stream that
 3. Liv - ing stream that heals the na - - tions, make us

wounds that liv - ing brings. Plunge our pain, our sin, our
 flows to bring re - lease, as we gain our selves, our
 chan - nels of your pow'r. All the world is torn by

sad - ness deep be -neath your sa - cred springs.
 sens - es, may our lives re - flect your peace.
 con - flict; wars are rag - ing at this hour.

Wea - ry from the rest - less search - ing that has
 Grate - ful for the flood that heals us, may your
 Sav - ing Spir - it, move a - mong us; guide our

lured us from your side, we dis - cov - er in your
 church en - act your grace. As we meet both friend and
 wind - ing hu - man course, till we find our way to -

pres - ence peace the world can - not pro - vide.
 stran - ger, may we see our Sav - ior's face.
 geth - er, flow - ing home - ward to our Source.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING



Guests



Members

Generosity is part of who we are as God's people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel's trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated donation. Online giving cards (at the name tag stations), checks, or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.

ANTHEM (8:30) *"There is a Balm in Gilead"* African American Spiritual

ANTHEM (10:30) *"Toccata on King's Weston"* arr. Matthew Compton

+ OFFERTORY

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were
gathered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gathered in - to one in you.
1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
Refrain
may we share the pres - ence of your love.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

MEAL

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who calls us to follow his way of humble service and love, and so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho- ly, ho- ly, ho- ly are you, God of pow-er and might; Heav-en and earth are
 filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
 One who comes in your name.. Ho - san-na in the high- est, ho - san-na in the high- est!

+ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Christ reveals you to be active everywhere and always, in all the spheres of life: from the wedding feast to the temple, in a private conversation at night and at the public well in broad daylight. Sometimes you transform scarcity to abundance; other times you are flipping tables. Sometimes you teach; other times you heal. And in Christ, you are always inviting us to abide with you.

The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución

Pour out upon us the Spirit and truth of your love, O Lord, and fill our hearts with zeal for your kingdom. Make us, your church, a fountain of your living water and a healing balm in places of suffering and sorrow. Unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever. **Amen.**

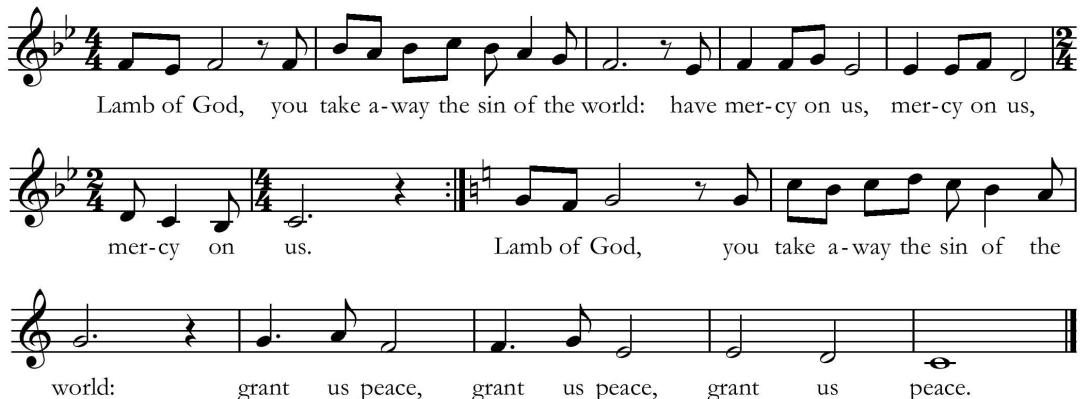
+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

+ EL PADRE NUESTRO

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre;
venga a nos tu reino;
hágase tu voluntad,
así en la tierra como en el cielo;
el pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy;
y perdónanos nuestras deudas
así como nosotros perdonamos
a nuestros deudores;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentación;
mas líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

LAMB OF GOD



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

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION ANTHEM “*Crowded Table*” Hemby, McKenna, Carlile. arr. Whitney Simmonds

+ TABLE BLESSING

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

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Jesus, our friend and savior, your life, death, and resurrection changed our world.
May this meal of bread and wine bless us and sustain us in the building of a blessed
community which welcomes all people, sees all people, and works for justice for all people.
Amen.**

☒ SENDING ☒

+ BENEDICTION

As we leave this space may God's face shine upon us,
God's love sustain us,
and God's peace inspire us and grant us peace.
May God – [☩] Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer -
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may live in hope of a blessed community
where humanity's diversity is celebrated. **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN “*Signs and Wonders*” ELW #672

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace to seek justice for all people. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE “*VII. Final—Dance, from Variations on ‘All Are Welcome’*” arr. Charles L. Lenz

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Ben Schori

Guest Preacher: Oby Ballinger

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Eric Lundin (10:30) Ellen Haefner

Ushers: (8:30) Harley Foster, Cal Feine, Greg Bussler, Brian Boesche
(10:30) Jeff Kreis, Peder Jothen

Readers: (8:30) Janice Lehmkuhl (10:30) Paula Mathison

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Rose Turna cliff, Yvonne Roesel, Telford Norvold,
Carol Cole, Judy Code (10:30) Patrick Stahly, Yvonne Roesel

Altar Care: (set) Carol Lysne (clean) Carol Lysne (cups) Pat and Jan Stahly

Director of Ring Forth & Brio: Jill Mahr
Rainbow Singers: Catherine Engle, Krista Middlebrooks, Joanna McLees,
Megan Engel, Becky Nystuen, Ellen Haefner, Kristi Larson
Guitar: Bo Aylin Church Choir Director: Peter Schleif
Keyboards: Megan Engel
A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Broughton, Nathan Hoekstra

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our Confession & Forgiveness is from *Voices Together*, #893:
the Presbyterian Church *Book of Common Worship*, 2018, and #891: Anne Macksoud, 1981.

“Healing River of the Spirit” Text: Ruth C. Duck, © 1996 The Pilgrim Press
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844. arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

The Eucharist setting is “*Now the Feast and Celebration*” by Marty Haugen
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The Eucharistic prayer is cobbled by Pastor Inger from the Time After Epiphany texts
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The post-communion prayer, benediction, and dismissal are from the 2026 RIC Sunday Worship Service from
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SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

February 1	in person attendance
8:30	164
10:30	92
Total	256

NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day will be
John 6:1-15 with Psalm 145:10-21.

TODAY!

- **A staffed nursery for little ones is available during and between worship services.**
- **9:40—10:25 am Coffee Fellowship (CLC) and Faith Formation opportunities:**
Kids’ & Youth Fellowship (Center Pod & Youth Room)
Bible Project (Room 61 A&B) **Bethel presents...** **Rev. Oby Ballinger** (East Pod)
- **Sunday School** is offered during the 10:30 am worship service (*children age 3—Grade 5 are invited to go with Kristi after the prayer of the day and will rejoin parents prior to communion.*)

THIS WEEK—FEBRUARY 8 –14

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM - 3 PM

MONDAY

12:00 pm  Bible Study @ the Vault (1520 Clinton Lane) with Pastor Ben
6:30 pm  Resonance Bell Choir (Adults)

TUESDAY

9:00 am  Quilting Group
3:00 pm Lydia Circle Fellowship @ The Manor Dining Room (#910 Cannon Valley)

WEDNESDAY

3:30 pm Limitless
5:30 pm Congregational Life
5:45 pm  Bistro (Pizza & Salad Bar—no separate kids' meal)
6:15 pm Ring Forth Youth Bell Choir
6:30 pm  9th Grade Christikon Backpacking Meeting
7:00 pm Church Choir Rehearsal
6th Grade Connections
 7th—9th grade Confirmation
Hangtime
8:00 pm 8th Grade Christikon Onsite Meeting
8:05 pm  Brio Youth Bell Choir

THURSDAY

8:30 am MoB (Men of Bethel) (Room 54)
9:30 am FaB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)
10:30 am Projects with Purpose
5:45 pm Active Befriender Ministry Support
7:00 pm Finance

FRIDAY

9:30 am  WoW (Women of the Word) via zoom



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