

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
215 3rd Ave SE, MINOT, ND, 58701

Pastors: Janet Hernes Mathistad & Gerald Roise
Organist: Deacon Kari Files; Intern Pastor: Dave Myers

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

* Standing, for those who are able

PRELUDE

SPECIAL MUSIC: Boyd Hanson

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **C: Amen**

P: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence for Reflection

P: Reconciling God, **C: we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen**

P: 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**

GATHERING

* **HYMN:** "*Chief of Sinners Though I..*" Hymn 609(1-3,5)

* **GREETING**

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Psalm 119:129-136

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MORNING MESSAGE: Intern Pastor Dave (8:30)

Pastor Janet (10:30)

HYMN: "*The Word of God Is.....*"

Hymn 506

* **APOSTLES' CREED**

p. 105

* **PRAYERS**

* **PEACE**

OFFERING MOMENT

Special Music

PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, **all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread, these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen**

MEAL

* **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

* **LORD'S PRAYER**

* **BENEDICTION**

P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you and keep you in eternal love. **C: Amen**

* **DISMISSAL & COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

* **HYMN:** "*Neither Death nor Life*"

Hymn 622

(1,2,5)

POSTLUDE

Alternate Worship Texts from *Sundays and Seasons*, copyright © 2019
Augsburg Fortress.



PRAYER CONCERNS: Lenhart Mindt, Betty Niemann, Arnie Semchenko, Vicki Amon, Val Swenson, Donna Erickson, Amber Mills, Shirley Harmon, Richard Gleason, Judy Johnson, Dale Lallum, Melvin Boger, Family of Janet Preskey. All Covid 19 Patients, Prayers for Peace in our Country, Chefs, Waiters/Waitresses, Bartenders, Hospitality Workers, Fast-Food Workers.

CAUSE OF THE MONTH: Our cause of the month for July is mission support for **Lutheran Social Services.**

Bethany protocol for below remains unchanged due to the uptick of numbers of positive Covid in the state.

In-person worship has started, **at 8:30 AM.** For those who would like to gather but are not comfortable indoors, or if we run out of space inside, we will also offer a Bring-your-own-Lawn-chair worship outside on the north parking lot at 10:30 AM. If you have underlying health conditions such as heart or lung disease, asthma, diabetes, etc. If you have a fever, cough, or are not feeling well, stay home.

For indoor worship, cloth masks worn at all times. We have a few extra to distribute if you come without a mask. A mask is not to protect ourselves, but to protect our neighbor. **For outdoor worship, masks are optional.**

Only Door #3 will be open. The rest of the church will be roped off from use. Social distancing will be observed at all times, family groups may sit together. Hand sanitizer will be provided in the worship traffic area. **Worship:** No gathering in Narthex (before or after worship). Maximum sanctuary capacity 50 (based on every other pew – or 13 pews, and seating on the outside end of each pew). Seating will be in a specific order – starting with the front pews first. To exit, the back rows will be dismissed first. Congregation singing is not allowed, hymns will be sung by designated song-leader. We will avoid all physical contact during Sharing of the Peace, no shaking hands. We will not hand out bulletins for inside service. Offering can be placed in a basket at the entrance to the sanctuary; online giving is encouraged. A new method of distributing communion will be introduced. No coffee hour or fellowship. Hold outdoor worship as possible, weather permitting. Continue online live worship once a week throughout summer, 8:30 AM and available anytime afterwards.

We are still interested in receiving your summertime pictures! Please email to bethanylutheran@srt.com or text to 701-721-2016! Thank you! ☺