

**BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

215 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE, MINOT, ND, 58701

Pastors: Janet Hernes Mathistad & Gerald Roise

Organist: Deacon Kari Files; Intern Pastor: Dave Myers

**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 23, 2020**

\* Standing, for those who are able

**PRELUDE**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** John & Cheryl Nilsen

**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:** “*God Is Here*” Hymn 526 (1,3,4)

\* **GREETING**

\* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**WORD**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6**

**Psalm 138**

**SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8**

\* **GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**SERMON:** Pastor Janet

**HYMN:** “*Built on a Rock*”

Hymn 652 (1,3,5)

\* **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:** “*The Church’s One Foundation*” Hymn 654 (1,4,5)

**POSTLUDE**

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



**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Donna Erickson, Judy Johnson, Dale Lallum, Vicki Amon, Beth Anderson. All Covid 19 Patients, Praying for Peace in our Country, Dental hygienists, Dentists, Oral Surgeons.

**Donations of disinfecting spray and wipes are appreciated. Thank you!**

**CAUSE OF THE MONTH:** Our cause of the month for Aug is mission support for **Men’s Winter Refuge.**

**Bethany protocol remains unchanged for Covid.**

In-person worship 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 in the 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. For outdoor worship, masks are optional.** Only Door #3 will be open. Social distancing will be observed at all times, family groups may sit together. Hand sanitizer will be provided in the worship traffic area. No gathering in Narthex (before or after worship). Maximum sanctuary capacity 50 (based on every other 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. 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.

**MILITARY BIBLESTICK CAMPAIGN**

The Military BibleStick reaches service men and women, deployed in some of the most dangerous areas of the world, with God’s Word in audio. Each service member who receives a MP3 BibleStick also has the option to request a free Audio New Testament or Kids Bible for family back home. Bethany and Deering Lutheran did an outstanding job of supporting this cause, raising just over \$900.00. It would be great if we can reach \$1,000.00 or more. \$25 sponsors one service member and their family. Please make checks payable to the church and write MP3 Bible in the memo block. This campaign ends September 16, 2020.

**IT’S HARVEST TIME IN THE GARDEN!** Your help is needed. Please contact church office for more details, or text/call 701-721-0839, or online <http://bit.ly/pantrygarden2020>. Thank you for all your help!