

# *Lord of Life Lutheran Church*

*A Serving Community*

*God's work, our hands!*

Rev. Rebecca Zielke, Pastor

Tim L. Elder, CAGO, Director of Music

**6th Sunday after Pentecost**

**US Semiquincentennial (250 years)**

Sunday, July 5, 2026

10:15 a.m., 2018



*The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.*

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Canfield, Ohio 44406

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e-mail: [lordoflife550@gmail.com](mailto:lordoflife550@gmail.com)

## GATHERING

~Notes~

### Announcements

#### Prelude

*All items in **bold** are congregational responses.*

*Please stand.*

#### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**  
Let us confess our sin to God.


C Compassionate God,  
**we confess to you all our sins.**  
**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**  
**In your mercy, call us back to you.**  
**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**  
**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**  
**In Christ's name we pray,**  
**Amen.**

P Jesus says, "Come to me,  
All you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."  
In the name of God,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Rest in God's love.

C **Amen.**

Bethel Lutheran Church presents their 20th Annual

# CAR, BIKE, & TRUCK



**July 25, 2026**  
\*Rain Date - August 1

## SHOW

Noon to 4 p.m.

**Registration - 10 a.m. to Noon**  
Day of event \$10.00 • Pre-registration \$8.00 • T-Shirts to the first 50 pre-registrants  
Trophies • Dash Plaques • Goody Bags

**All Cars, Bikes & Trucks Welcome!**

**Fun Activities!**  
TV Raffle • Door prizes • Basket Auction • 50/50 Raffle • Food •  
Crafters • Live DJ • Christmas in July • Visit & Photos with Santa Claus

Name _____	Amount Enclosed _____
Address _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Number _____ E-Mail _____	
____ Car ____ Bike ____ Truck Year/Make/Model _____	
T-Shirt Size: Large ____ X-Large ____ XX-Large ____ XXX-Large ____	
____ Crafter (\$20) Type of Craft _____	
Signature _____ Date _____	

Make checks payable to:  
Bethel Youth Fund

Mail Pre-Registration to:  
Beth Applegate  
425 Crestview Dr.  
Boardman, OH 44512  
(330) 758-5745  
(330) 696-4189 (cell)

Contact Information:  
Mary Ann Wollet  
(330) 559-1162 (cell)  
(330) 533-0253

\*\*Exhibitor releases Bethel Lutheran Church from any and all injury liability, loss or damage that may occur to property, or self while on premises. Your signature on this application is an agreement to this statement.\*\*

## Gathering Hymn How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

ELW 620

### Greeting

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

### Glory to God

*Refrain*

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,  
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

*Refrain*

for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.  
 A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men.  
*Final refrain*  
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's  
 peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -  
 est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

**Prayer of the Day**

P Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

*Please be seated*

**Stories In the Park-Stories of the Stranger**

Join us once again Wednesday evenings in July for Stories in the Park! We will meet for Bible study at Greasel Park Wednesday evenings at 6 pm starting July 1st, and our theme is “Stories of the Stranger.” Bring a chair and a Bible. If it is raining, we will meet at the church.

- July 1 Ruth*
- July 8 Naaman*
- July 15 The Woman at the Well*
- July 22 The Ethiopian Eunuch*
- July 29 Cornelius*



**LUTHERAN NIGHT at the SCRAPPERS**



Our Mahoning County Lutheran Cluster has once again planned a Lutheran Night at the Scrappers! The game will be on Friday, July 31st, and it begins at 7:17pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex/Gathering Space for anyone interested. Tickets are \$10 each



LifeLinks is sponsoring a church picnic on July 12, 2026 right after service. We are providing hot dogs, and buns. This will be a potluck, a sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. We look forward to a great fellowship.

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## Daily Scripture Readings for July 6 through July 11

Mon 07/06	Tues 07/07	Wed 07/08	Thurs 07/09	Fri 07/10	Sat 07/11
Psalm 131	Psalm 131	Psalm 131	Psalm 65: [1-8] 9-13	Psalm 65: [1-8] 9-13	Psalm 65 [1-8] 9-13
Jeremiah 27: 1-11, 16-22	Jeremiah 28: 10-17	Jeremiah 13:1-11	Isaiah 48: 1-5	Isaiah 48: 6-11	Isaiah 52: 1-6
Roman 1: 18-25	Romans 3: 1-8	John 13: 1-17	Romans 2: 12-16	Romans 15: 14-21	John 12: 44-50

## Serving in Worship in July

	07/05	07/12	07/19	07/26	
<b>Greeter/ Usher</b>	Phyllis Ruse	Gabe West	Zack West	Bob Soles	
<b>Lector</b>	Pastor Mark Wil- liams	Norma Thomas	Diana Williams	Larry Cohol	
<b>Counters</b>	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Diana Williams	Diana Williams	Norma Thomas	Norma Thomas	
<b>Crucifer</b>					
<b>Acolyte</b>					

## WORD

### First Reading

**Zechariah 9:9-12**

*The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."*

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
See, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup> He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup> As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup> Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L Word of God, word of life.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 145: 8-14**

The LORD is gra-cious and full of com-pas-sion, the  
LORD is full of com-pas-sion.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup> **LORD, you are good to all,  
and your compassion is over all your works. R**

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup> that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through-  
out all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down. **R**

**Prayer after Communion**

P Let us pray,  
We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the  
very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken  
world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way  
our Savior leads us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**Sending Hymn**

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

ELW 888

**Blessing**

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✚ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and  
always.

C **Amen.**

**Dismissal**

P Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**



**Lamb of God** *Please be seated*

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

**Communion**

*Follow the usher's direction to come forward to receive the bread from the Pastor and take a glass of wine from the tray. Dispose of the cup in the basket provided on the railing and return to your seat by the side aisle.*

**Communion Distribution**

**This is My Song**

**ELW 887**

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

**Second Reading**

**Romans 7: 15-25a**

*Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.*

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells with-

in me. <sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

- L Word of God, word of life,
- C **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel

Matthew 11: 16-19; 25-30

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.*

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup> “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup> ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

<sup>18</sup> “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup> the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup> yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup> “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and 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.

C **Amen**

## Lord's Prayer

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

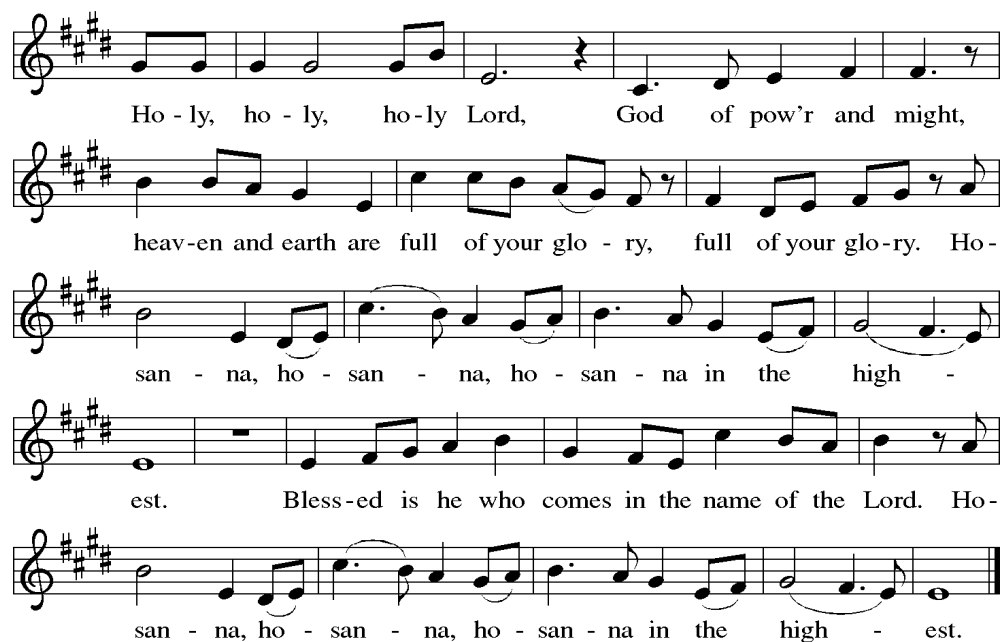
## Invitation to Communion

P Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

*This invitation is extended to all who receive Communion in any Christian denomination. All are welcome!*



## Holy, Holy,



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. 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.

## Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent us to Jesus, you Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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.

*Please be seated.*

## Children's Message

### Sermon

*Please stand.*

### Hymn of the Day

Softly and Tenderly

ELW 608

### Apostles' Creed

**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 life everlasting. Amen**

### Prayers of Intercession

P Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

P God our unity, your church flourishes in different languages, cultures, and movements. Grant us wisdom to discern when our yokes are too heavy, that we may live and serve in the freedom of your rest. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God our life-giver, we grieve the pains placed upon our common home through war and neglect. What you have lovingly crafted, guide us to lovingly tend. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God our freedom, you are no tyrant but bring peace. As this nation marks its declaration of independence, teach us our part in announcing peace for future generations.

*Sean Bandelier, Bonnie Eash, Laurel Froelich, Dr. Ronald Gould, Chris Hunnicutt, Sean Kelly, Devon Kirtley, Todd Kirtley, George Lange, Diane Malloy, Craig Miller, Marge Pancher, Pam Parker, Frank Scott, Staci Thomas, Bob Titus, David Titus, Pearl Torrence, Patty Weiss and the family of Oweda Frederick.*

*(The names on the prayer list are updated every 30 days. If you wish to continue to have someone on the list, please contact the office.)*

C God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

P God our comfort, liberate all in our community who are captive to fear, who have become isolated or ill, or who are in any need, especially those we name out loud or in our hearts.

C God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

P God our guide, we do not always have the strength to do the good we wish to do. Free us from the cycles of violence that bind us, that all know your liberation. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P God our home, you model freedom through the love shared across communities of trust and goodwill. As we remember those now gone to eternal rest, we thank you for the gifts of life together. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

### **Peace**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*The offering plate is located on the table as you enter/exit the worship space.*

## **MEAL**

### **Offering Response**

**Peace Song**  
Janeen Williams - soloist

**Greg Gilpin**

*Please stand.*

### **Offering Prayer**

P Let us pray,  
Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### **Dialogue**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **Preface**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...  
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

