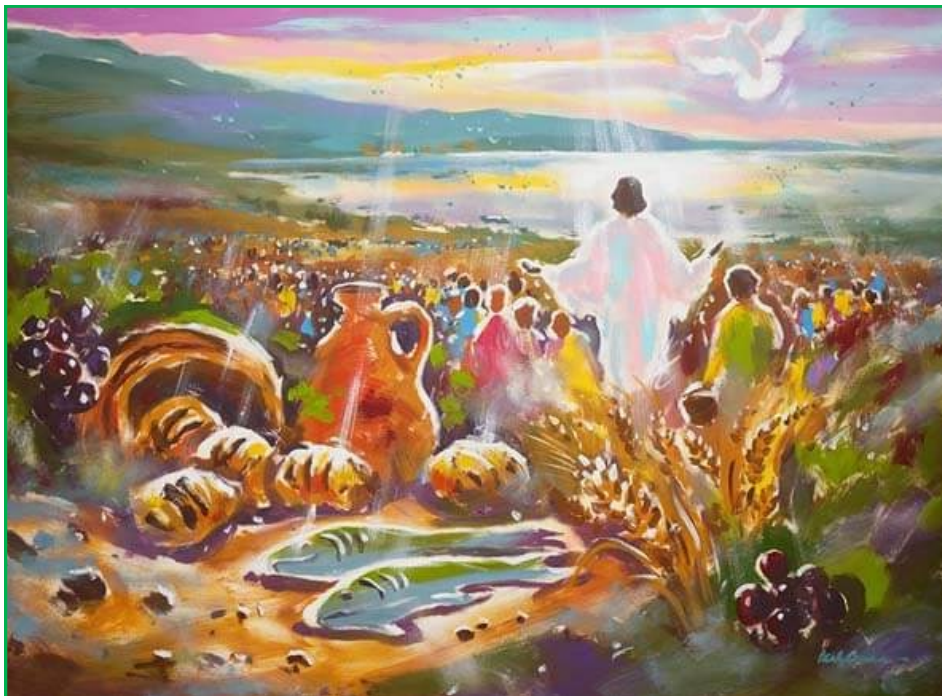




Bethel Lutheran Church

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North East, MD 21901

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Pastor Zach: 301-395-3753

Email: pastorzach.blcne@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF CHRIST ~ ALL OF OUR PEOPLE

The Rev. Zachary Wright ~ *Pastor*

Mike Beiter (410-808-1074) ~ *Congregation President*

Sylke Bargsten (254-394-0582) ~ *Director of Music*

Ruth Ferretti (410-398-4062) ~ *Flower Coordinator*

The Rev. Bill Gohl ~ *Delaware-Maryland Synod Bishop*

***We celebrate the promise that all people are loved
and enough in Jesus Christ as we worship, learn,
and serve together.***

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2026

*In our Lutheran Tradition, liturgy reminds us that we are one in Christ, so we do it together! You are invited to respond in community with the **bold print** and stand in body or spirit when indicated by the asterisks (*).*

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

~time of silent confession~

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." As a called an ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN: *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly* (ELW 461)

*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.



*KYRIE & CANTICLE OF PRAISE (*Setting Eight, see insert*)

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (*in unison*)

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: *Isaiah 55:1-5 (page 531)*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL READING: *Psalms 145:8-9, 14-21*

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

⁹ **LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶ You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ **You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;
you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰ You watch over all those who love you,
but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

SECOND LESSON: *Romans 9:1-5 (page 121)*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, Lord, To Whom Shall We Go?*
(*Setting Eight, see insert*)

*GOSPEL LESSON: *Matthew 14:13-21 (page 12)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

~Gospel is read~

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON



*HYMN OF THE DAY: *Break Now the Bread of Life (ELW 515)*

*THE 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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

THE PEACE OF THE CHRIST

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Offerings can be placed in the offering plate on the small table as you walk in to the sanctuary.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Setting Eight, see insert*)

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.



***SANCTUS** (*Setting Eight, see insert*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

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

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN:** *Come, Let Us Eat (ELW 491)*

***SENDING**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**



FLOWERS

The flowers are dedicated to the glory of God, by the Lavery family in celebration of Rayanne's birthday on the 3rd! Happy birthday!

SERVER SCHEDULE

	Greeter	Reader	Usher	Acolyte
8/2	Kelly Campana	Mitchell Brown	Bill Matthews	Nathan Pelino
8/9	Ruth Ferretti	Mari McNinch	Paul Markkula	Alex Pelino

If you would like to help serve on a Sunday morning, let Pastor Zach know (pastorzach.blcne@gmail.com).

SERVICE NOTES

A **special and warm welcome** to everyone here this morning – seekers, members, and guests. We are glad you are here to join our church family for worship!

For worship, you'll need the bulletin and the cranberry-colored hymnal in the pew back in front of you. The liturgy is indicated by page number and can be found in the front half of the hymnal. The hymns are indicated by hymn number and found in the back half of the hymnal.

If you find yourself needing to leave the worship space for any reason (cough, noisy child, overstimulated, etc.), the service is being livestreamed to the television in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to worship in there and come back into the sanctuary when you're ready.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

The communion table is God's table. Jesus invites all who desire to partake of His body and blood to come forward and receive God's amazing grace in the promises of forgiveness and eternal life. At **communion distribution**, please come forward to the altar rail, filling in the space from right-to-left. Pastor Zach will hand you a wafer to eat. You may then take wine from the tray (center ring is grape juice), drink it, and dispose of your cup in the basket as you return to your seat. If you want a blessing instead, please indicate this by folding your arms across your chest.

All hymns are under Bethel's CCLI license (#11313912) and streaming license (#20849338). All rights reserved, unless otherwise indicated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Make sure to mark your calendars for August 9th. We will be celebrating Bethel's 75th Anniversary. Bishop Bill Gohl will be with us to share in the celebration. Do you have any old Bethel memorabilia that we could display? Make sure to bring it in. Also, we're asking everyone to bring in their favorite side dish or dessert to share. Sign-up in the back.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered, prayed for, donated, and supported our Vacation Bible School efforts this year. It was a great week!

You can bring any broken crayons you might have from the end of school. Put them in the Crayon Initiative Box on the back table, so they can be melted down into new crayons and given to children's hospitals.

There is a sign-up sheet in the back for anyone who would be interested to assist with the nursery throughout the summer. If you have any questions, talk to Kelly Campana.

Our next Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up is August 15. We'll gather and head out in crews at 8:45AM to our portion of 272 and be done around 10:15AM. Sign-up in the back.

Do you have any new or gently used Bibles? We are collecting for patients at Union Hospital who are expressing a desire for a Bible to provide hope, encouragement, and spiritual guidance during this important time in their lives. Please place the Bibles in the basket in the back.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

July 19	Worship—42	Offering—\$1,755
July 26	Worship—43	Offering—\$2,389

Please fill the food donation bin in the back for the St. Mary Anne's food pantry. Specific needs: **shelf-stable milk, add-water-only pancake mix, canned meat (tuna, chicken, Vienna sausages), peanut butter & jelly, and cereal** *Make sure to check those expiration dates.



If you would like to give online, you can use the QR code, which will redirect you to our giving platform.

Thank you for you for your faithfulness and generosity.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mike Beiter	Linda Stoflet	Cathy Heaps	Rayanne Lavery
Steve Bird	Terry Fuss	Stacy Igo	Lori Scott
Pastor Zach			

If you have a question, concern, or a new idea,
make sure to tell someone!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Blue print indicates a church event.

Regular print indicates an outside community event.

Sunday, August 2nd—Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service
- 11:45am Celebration Sunday Fellowship & VBS Un-Decorating

Monday, August 3rd

- 7:00pm Sisters of Serenity NA Meeting

Tuesday, August 4th

- 6:30pm North East AA Meeting

Wednesday, August 5th

- 7:00pm AA Meeting
- 7:00pm Al-Anon Meeting

Thursday, August 6th

- 8:30am Men's Bible Study (meet at JoJo's in Elkton)
- 12:00pm Children's Sermon (via Facebook, YouTube, and Beacon)
- 2:00pm Choir Rehearsal
- 4:00pm Nicanor Feeding Ministry
- 6:30pm Women's AA Meeting

Friday, August 7th

- 8:00pm AA Meeting

Saturday, August 8th

- 5:30pm Pastor Tom Bible Study

Sunday, August 9th—Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service
- 11:45am 75th Anniversary Celebration Fellowship