

# Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 14, 2016



BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

[bethanylutherangibsonia.com](http://bethanylutherangibsonia.com)

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HYMN— #281—*God Has Spoken by His Prophets*

STAND

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

*Jeremiah 23:23-29 (NIV)*

<sup>23</sup> "Am I only a God nearby," declares the LORD, "and not a God far away?" <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?" declares the LORD. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" declares the LORD.

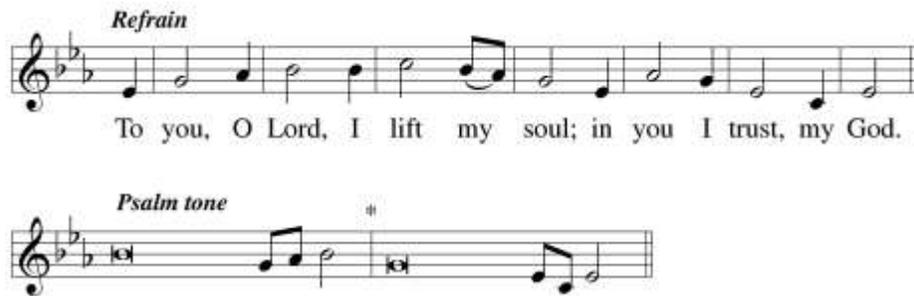
<sup>25</sup> "I have heard what the prophets say who prophesy lies in my name. They say, 'I had a dream! I had a dream!'

<sup>26</sup> How long will this continue in the hearts of these lying prophets, who prophesy the delusions of their own minds?

<sup>27</sup> They think the dreams they tell one another will make my people forget my name, just as their ancestors forgot my name through Baal worship. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream recount the dream, but let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. For what has straw to do with grain?" declares the LORD. <sup>29</sup> "Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"

### PSALM

*Psalms 139a*



### Refrain

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me;\*  
you perceive my thoughts from afar.  
You discern my going out and my lying down;\*  
you are familiar with all my ways.

### Refrain

Where can I go from your Spirit?\*  
Where can I flee from your presence?  
If I go up to the heavens, you are there;\*  
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.  
If I rise on the wings of the dawn,\*  
if I settle on the far side of the sea,  
even there your hand will guide me,\*  
your right hand will hold me fast.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### Refrain

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take **your stand against the devil's schemes.** <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and **always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.** <sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.. Alleluia. (*Hebrews 4:12*)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that  
 Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53 (NIV)

<sup>49</sup> "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup> But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. <sup>52</sup> From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. <sup>53</sup> They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY— #291—*We Have a Sure Prophetic Word*

SERMON (*sermon text Luke 12:49-53*)

*“A Divider, Not a Uniter”*

STAND

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

C: Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.

M: Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.

C: Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.

M: Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.

C: Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.

M: Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.

C: Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we give thanks for personal blessings.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his coming to us in Word and sacraments, for his giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

C: Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

BE SEATED

HYMN #457—*Fight the Good Fight*

STAND

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



HYMN #474—*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

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# News And Notes

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## WELCOME!

Welcome to worship! We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us today. Guests, if there is anything we can do to make your worship more meaningful, please do not hesitate to ask us. Pastor, the ushers, and all members of our Bethany family stand ready to serve you. May the Lord bless your worship!

## THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

A special "thank you" to those who served their Lord by serving us this morning, our violinists, our organist, and our ushers. Thank you for edifying and beautifying our worship with your service.

## CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Today after worship we will be holding our congregational picnic at Bethany. Please stay and join us for food, fellowship and fun! All are welcome to stay — even if you were unaware and had not signed up previously. Come one, come all!

## PASTOR OUT OF TOWN 8/20—8/27

Pastor will be on vacation and out of town from 8/20—8/27 as he travels with Hannah to St. Louis to get her situated in her freshman year at Washington University in St. Louis. During this time, please contact one of Bethany's elders — Mark Hamilton, Steve Bayer, or Harry Jacob — with any urgent needs. On Sunday, 8/21, the elders and congregational President Marty Kurth have agreed to preside over our Sunday worship, which will take place as usual except for the fact that THERE WILL BE NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY prior to worship.

## LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP

In last Sunday's worship, \_\_ people were fed and strengthened by the Word of God and \_\_ took communion.

# Our Walk For God

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	7:00p Bible Study	<b>6:00p Elders' Mtg</b>	7:00p Council Mtg	Happy Birthday Jim Yoest!	Pastor on Vacation	No Adult Bible Study 10:30a Worship  Pastor on Vacation

Serving next Sunday: Altar: Stadler; Greeter: Kurth; Ushers: Team B/F