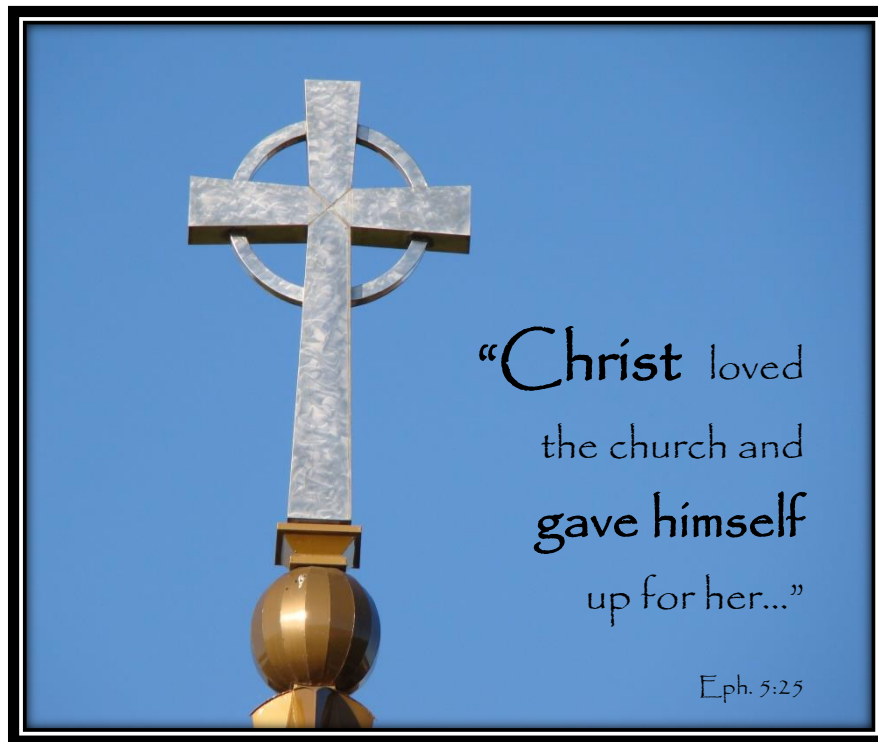




Twentieth Sunday
After Pentecost
October 10, 2021



Focus on God's Gift of Family

Bethel Lutheran exists to serve all people with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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1 Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, Protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us; His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished And darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

2 His law he enforces; The stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine.
The hills and the mountains, The rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We, too, should be voicing Our love and rejoicing.
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living Unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

Invocation

P: We worship in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: (spoken) **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

P: **Let us pray...** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed. For this reason, we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: **O most merciful God, who has given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your Word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those that believe on his name he gives power to become the children of God and has promised them his Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

ALL: **Lord, grant this to us all. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

379 Amazing Grace-How Sweet the Sound

- 1 Amazing grace-how sweet the sound-That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see.
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
- 4 When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (spoken) **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 2: 7, 18, 21-25

Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

21 So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Devotion

Family is the Gift God Created

Hymn

505

Love Is the Gracious Gift

- 1 Love is the gracious gift of your goodness;
Love is the patient fruit of your care;
Love is the gentle work of your Spirit,
Who is the source of love ev'rywhere.

2 You loved me first, Lord, sending me Jesus.
Then I responded, trusting your Son.
Now you invite me to love my neighbor,
Showing your true love to ev'ryone.

3 Love means forgiveness, patience, and kindness;
Love is not jealous, boastful, or rude.
Love endures all things, bearing, believing;
Love hopes forever, rejoices in truth.

4 Love in a marriage, love freely given,
Love of a husband, love of a wife-
Made to continue, blossom, and flourish,
Grow ever deeper throughout this life.

5 Love among Christians, love in the fam'ly,
Love for the Savior, whose blood was shed,
Love and submission one to another
As unto Christ, who reigns as our head.

Gospel Lesson Mark 10: 1-16

Jesus then left that place and went into the region of Judea and across the Jordan. Again crowds of people came to him, and as was his custom, he taught them.

2 Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

3 "What did Moses command you?" he replied.

4 They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

5 "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. 6 "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' 7 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, 8 and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

10 When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. 11 He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. 12 And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

13 People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. 14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little

child will never enter it.” 16 And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Devotion Family is the Gift the Lord Protects

Hymn 356 You Are the Way; through You Alone

1 You are the way; through you alone Can we the Father find;
In you, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.

2 You are the truth; your Word alone True wisdom can impart.
You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.

3 You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims your conqu’ring arm,
And those who put their trust in you Not death nor hell shall harm.

4 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 5:21 – 6:4

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

22 Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— 30 for we are members of his body. 31 “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” 32 This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. 33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 “Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise— 3 “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Devotion Family is the Gift Christians Preserve

The Prayer of the Church

CW: 604 – spoken in unison

O love that casts out fear, O love that casts out sin, Oh, stay no more without But come and dwell within. True sunlight of the soul, Surround us as we go; So shall our way be safe, Our feet no straying know.

Great love of God, come in! O spring of lasting peace, O living water, come, Spring up and never cease. Love of the living God, Of Father and of Son, Love of the Holy Ghost, Make now our hearts as one. Amen.

The 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.

The Blessing

P: May the Sovereign Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C: (spoken) **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

462

Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do his will!

2 Order my footsteps by your Word, And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.

3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget your way, Restore your wand'ring sheep.

4 Make me to walk in your commands- 'Tis a delightful road-
Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.