

# WELCOME

## to Bethel Lutheran Church!

Thanks for being with us for worship today! We're so glad you're here!

This morning, we'll focus our attention on one of our greatest human flaws...our unwillingness to take personal responsibility for our mistakes, failures, and poor choices.

And yet, once we are willing to swallow our pride, our Gracious God is always willing and ready to extend the hand of forgiveness.

May we all come to know, and accept, this heavenly and healing touch!

\* You are invited to stand as you are able.

The Prelude: "Schönster Herr Jesu" James

The Welcome/Announcements

### \* Confession & Forgiveness

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

L: 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.

**P: Amen.**

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (silence for reflection)

L: Most Merciful God...

**P: We confess that we are in bondage 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.**

L: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for us, and, for His sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and 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.

**P: Amen.**

**\*The Opening Hymn:** "Beautiful Savior" #838  
(see insert for lyrics)

\* The Pastoral Greeting:

L: Let us begin our worship in the Name and the Spirit of the Author of all Life, Hope, and Love...

**P: We worship in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit! We ask Their power and presence with us again today. Amen!**

\* Today's Responsive Verses:

L: Lord, when we have difficulty in admitting that we have erred and failed in some way...

**P: Give us the humility to see our mistakes and to take responsibility for them.**

L: When we become entrenched in a position and are unwilling to even listen to other viewpoints...

**P: Give us the grace, to admit that we don't have all the answers to life, and we don't know it all!**

L: When we are more concerned with "being right" than doing right...

**P: Lead us beyond our own egos to see the greater good.**

L: When pride swells our eyes shut to the truth...

**P: Help us to not stand in the way of justice and righteousness.**

L: And when words of confession stick in our throats and apologies are difficult for us...

**P: Bring us to articulate the words and the posture that can lead to forgiveness, breakthroughs, and healing!**

\* The Prayer of the Day:

L: Our Patient and Merciful Savior...

**P: Continue to help us to see who we are, and who we are not, and when we are in the right, and when we are in the wrong. Mold us, shape us, and heal us with Your patience, grace, and unconditional love. Amen!**

\*Sharing God's Peace:

L: The peace of the Lord be with you, always.

**P: And also with you!**

The Children's Message: Pastor John Lestock

Music Ministry: "Andante" from Sonata Op. 1, No. 10  
George Fredrick Handel (1685-1759)  
Scott Rust, violin; Skip James, piano

The Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 32:3-6

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

The New Testament Lesson: 1 John 1:6-10

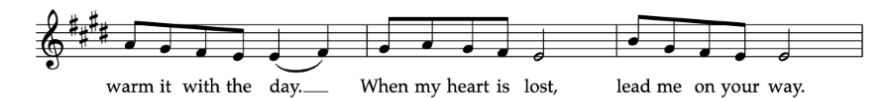
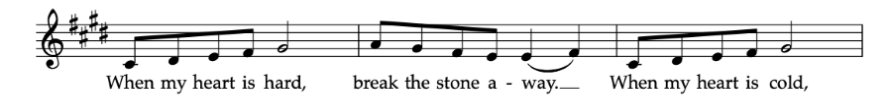
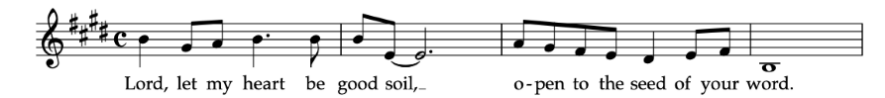
L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

## Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Handt Hanson

"Good Soil" Handt Hanson, b. 1950



\*The Gospel Lesson: Luke 18:9-14

The Message: "The Most Difficult Words in Any Language"  
Pastor John Lestock

The Solo: "Jesus, I Just Wanna Say I'm Sorry" The Nelons  
Calla Jenkinson, vocals, Tracey Jenkinson, vocals and piano

\*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.**

**He will come again 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.**

**\*The Offering Prayer:**

L: Lord of All Goodness and Generosity...  
P: **As You have so well blessed our lives,  
help us to bless others through our gifts today.  
Open our hearts, our minds, and our hands,  
to the needs of others around us, both near and far.  
In Your Spirit and example, we pray. Amen!**

Giving our First and Best to God through our Offering

The Offering Music: "Gigue" from Sonata Op. 1, No. 10 Handel  
Scott Rust, violin; Skip James, piano

**\*The Prayers of God's People:**

L: We call to You, Lord...

P: **Hear our prayer!**

**\*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 Closing Blessing**

**\*The Closing Hymn:** "O God of Every Nation" #713  
(See insert for lyrics)

**\*The Sending:**

L: Go now, to be grace givers...

P: **We go, to offer God's unconditional love and grace,  
to a world greatly in need!**

Postlude: Improvisation on "Llangloffan" James

# WE HOLD IN PRAYER

## THOSE WHO ARE SICK, INJURED AND IN NEED OF HEALING

Carol Amdahl, Marlin Amdahl, Joeline Baker, Jason Benson, Jeff Bowers, Wallace Dachel, Teresa Dickman, Paul Engebretson, Marlys Fiedler, Patrick Gibbons, Jane Hanson, Joy Hanson, Tyler Hanson, Sharon Haugo, Chuck Hildebrandt, Barb Holt, Jackie Hugdahl, Gary Jensen, Micheal Jensen, Lee Jeska, Joe Kinney, Pat Larson, Ruth Lewis, Laura Lindahl, Brent Myster, Allen Newell, Mary Kay Nolan, Donna Offerdahl, Bill Olson, Terri Pomeroy, Betty Seastedt, Joan Sorenson, Richard Thoenke, Dick Trende, Jim Webber

## THOSE SERVING OR DEPLOYED IN THE MILITARY

Scotty Krause, Charlie Richards, Peyton Massie, Cheyanne Massie, Charles Kemper, Maija Agee

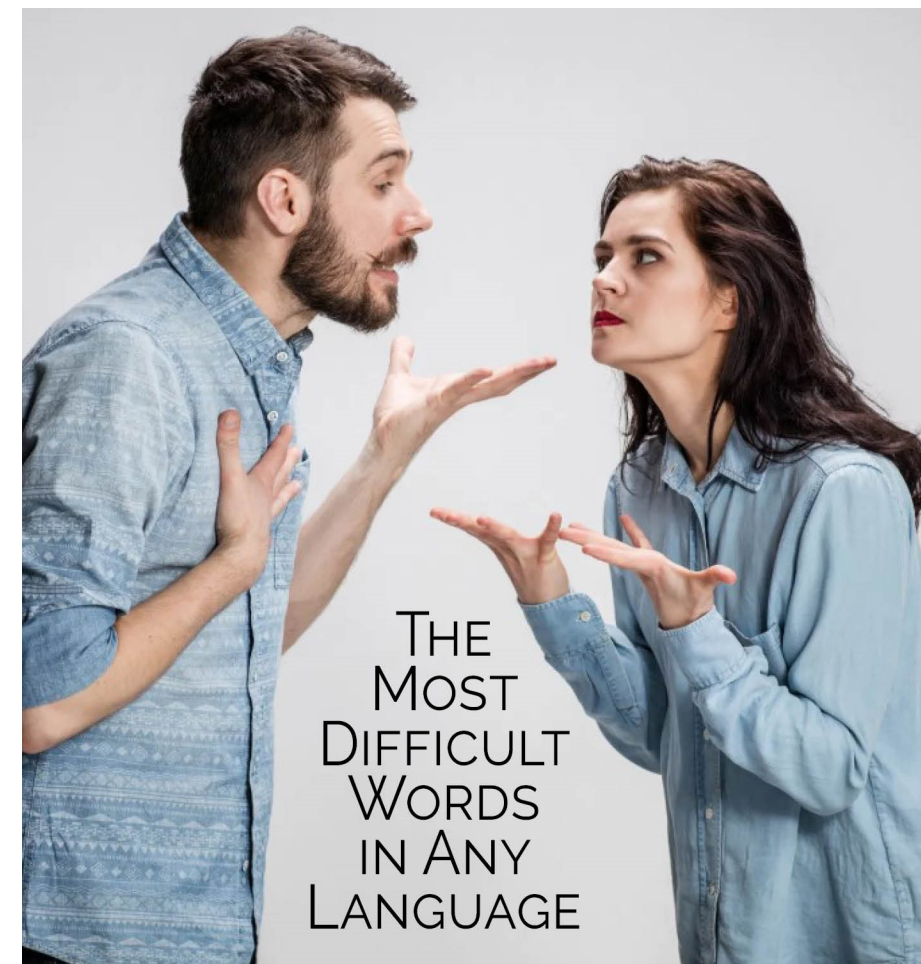
## TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**Piano:** Skip James

**Song Leader:** Tracey Jenkinson

**Reader:** Linda James

**Technical Assistants:** Bill Jenkinson & Garnett Strack



**SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2020 | 8:00 AM WORSHIP**  
Downtown Campus

**Radio: WEVR (1550 AM/106.3 FM)**  
Bethel's Facebook page ([facebook.com/blchudson/](https://facebook.com/blchudson/))

**Pastor John Lestock, Preacher**  
**Pastor Kris Kurzejeski,**  
**Pastor Ladd Sonnenberg,**  
**Worship Leaders**

"Never be ashamed to own that you have been in the wrong;  
it is but saying that you are wiser today,  
than you were yesterday."

— Jonathan Swift

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