

WELCOME

to Bethel Lutheran Church!

We are so glad you are here today for worship!

It is our mission at Bethel to Connect, Grow, and Serve God and others.

Throughout scripture, we are reminded that whether we like it or not, we are called to forgive others. This can be a hard thing to do, especially when the one who has wronged us has not apologized or sought reconciliation.

Today, we will learn some ways to forgive even the most unforgiveable.

* You are invited to stand as you are able.

The Prelude: Improvisation on “Detroit” James

The Welcome/Announcements

***The Opening Hymn: “Forgive Our Sin As We Forgive” #605**
(See insert for lyrics)

*The Pastoral Greeting:

Leader: We gather this day, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: We gather in the name of the One who created us, saved us, and dwells within us. Amen.

*Today’s Responsive Reading: Adapted from Lamentations 3:22-24

L: Sometimes we’re tempted to give in to pettiness or fear, when we’re offended.

P: Lord, You are near when we feel brokenhearted.

L: When we’ve given up on others and are bitter...

P: Your love never ceases.

L: When we are bowed down, thinking continually of how we have been wronged...

P: Because of Your great love, we are not consumed.

L: In the moments when it feels like everyone is against us...

P: Your compassions never fail and are new every morning.

L: Even while we feel anger burning, because no one will take up our cause...

P: You give us grace and the strength to heal; great is Your faithfulness!

*The Prayer of the Day:

L: God of All People...

P: We give You thanks for forgiving us our sins, those that we recognize, and those that we are not aware of. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, so that we may forgive others who have wronged us. In the name of the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray. 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 Ladd Sonnenberg

Music Ministry: “Allegro” from Sonata in F, Op. 24 “Spring”
Ludwig Van Beethoven
Max Vitullo, violin; Skip James, piano

The First Lesson: Ephesians 4:31-32

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 103:1-13: Read Responsively

L: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name!

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all of His benefits,

L: Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.

P: Who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

L: Who satisfies you with good, as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

P: The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.

L: He made known His ways to Moses; His acts to the people of Israel.

P: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

L: He will not always accuse, nor will He keep His anger forever.

P: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

L: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love, toward those who fear Him.

P: As far as the east is from the west, so far He removes our transgressions from us.

L: As a Father has compassion for His children,

P: So the LORD has compassion, for those who fear Him.

Gospel Acclamation: “Dearest Jesus, at Your Word” (vs. 1) #520
(See insert for lyrics)

*The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:21-35

The Message: “The “F” Word!” Pastor Ladd Sonnenberg

Special Music: “Forgive” Sara Renner
Tracey Jenkinson, vocals; Skip James, piano

The Offering Prayer:

L: Providing God,

P: We give You thanks for all that You give us, our time, our money, and our abilities. Help us during this time of uncertainty, to not hoard these gifts to ourselves, but instead, to give them away to those in need. Give us the eyes to see and the heart to give to those in need. We pray this, in Christ’s name. Amen!

Giving our First and Best to God through our Offering

*The Great Thanksgiving:

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is good, that no matter where we are, whether at church or at home, that we come together as Christians, to hear once again our redemption story. For it is in the bread and wine that we are reminded that, through Christ’s death and resurrection, that our sins were forgiven. Therefore, as we eat this bread and drink this wine, may we be strengthened, that through the power of the Holy Spirit, to forgive the sins of those who have done us wrong.

*The Words of Institution

*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 Invitation to Communion:

L: The feast of our Lord’s table has been prepared...
Come join in the feast!

The Communion Hymn: “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” #712 (vs. 1 and 2)
(See insert for lyrics)

*The Communion Blessing

*The Prayers of God's People:

L: God of Love...

P: **Hear our prayer.**

*The Closing Blessing:

The Closing Hymn: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" #719

(vss. 1,4,6)

(See insert for lyrics)

*The Sending:

L: May we go living as the forgiven children of God ...

P: **All the while, forgiving others.**

Postlude: Improvisation on "Walton" James

WE HOLD IN PRAYER

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

Carol Amdahl, Marlin Amdahl, Marlys Anderson, Joeline Baker, Jason Benson, Jeff Bowers, Wallace Dachel, Teresa Dickman, Paul Engebretson, Sheryl Erickson, Marlys Fiedler, Patrick Gibbons, Jane Hanson, Tyler Hanson, Sharon Haugo, Chuck Hildebrandt, Barb Holt, Jackie Hugdahl, Gary Jensen, Lee Jeska, Joe Kinney, Ruth Lewis, Laura Lindahl, Paul Martinson, The Meade Family, Brent Myster, Allen Newell, Mary Kay Nolan, Donna Offerdahl, Bill Olson, Terri Pomeroy, Betty Seastedt, Daryl Skobba, Sharon & Jon Sippel, Joan Sorensen, Richard Thoemke, Dick Trende, Malcolm Tuve

THOSE SERVING OR DEPLOYED IN THE MILITARY:

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

IN SYMPATHY:

We offer our sympathies and prayers of comfort and strength for the Jeff Otten family, at the death of Jeff's sister, Kristi. God bless and comfort these friends with the promise of Christ: *"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Piano: Skip James

Song Leader: Tracey Jenkinson

Reader: Jeff Maki

Technical Assistants: Bill Jenkinson, Garnett Strack & Ashley Dorr

Bethel's Mission to Connect, Grow, and Serve, Continues . . .

Ways to Give

Give via Text Message:

Text to: 715.803.6333

In the message line type, Bethel, then just follow the prompts!

Give online at:

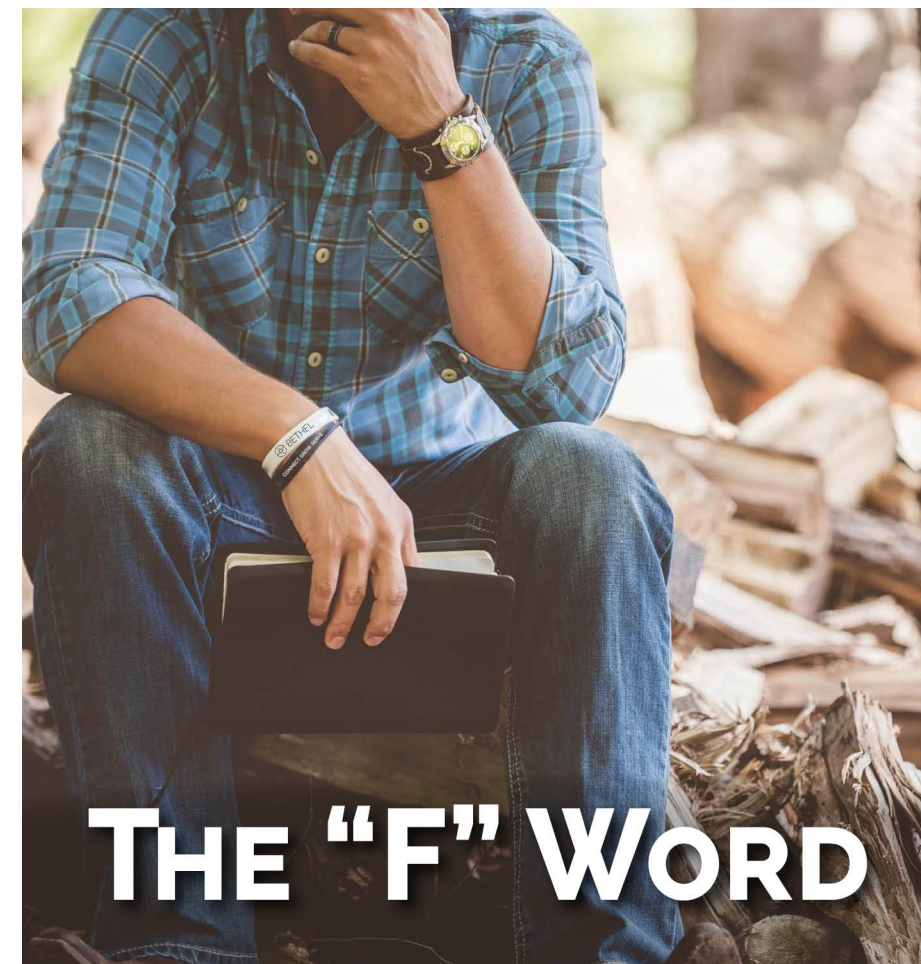
bethelHUDSON.org
click on GIVE NOW

Give via Mail:

Bethel
920 Third St.
Hudson, WI 54016

"To forgive, is to set a prisoner free,
and then to discover that the prisoner was you."

~ Lewis Smedes



SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2020 | 8:00 AM WORSHIP
Downtown Campus

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

Pastor Ladd Sonnenberg, Preacher
Pastor John Lestock, Worship Leader

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