

Artist Sarah Are writes, "For generations people have abused this story, trying to imply that women are less than men because Eve came second, but that is not the point of this story. The power of this story is not in the order. The power of this story is in a God that saw how humans need one another, and in Adam's first testimony of belonging. Before Eve, Adam was alone—truly alone—and you and I both know that we as humans need one another. It's the way we're wired! God sees Adam's isolation and responds. God transforms that deep human loneliness into deep human belonging through new creation."

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Gathering Music	"Prelude in F Major"	organ
Welcome & Announcements		
Confession and Forgiveness		
Gathering Song	"Earth and All Stars!" (verses 1,2,5)	ELW 731
Greeting		
Prayer of the Day		

WORD

First Reading	Genesis 2:4b-25	
Second Reading	Romans 5:12-19	
Children's Hymn	"This is the Day"	on screen
Children's Word	Made for Life Together	
Gospel	John 1:1-18	
Sermon	Faces of Our Faith: Adam and Eve	
Hymn of the Day	"Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom"	on screen
Apostles' Creed		
Prayers of Intercession		

MEAL

Gathering of Gifts		
Offering Prayer		
Sacrament of Holy Communion		
Words of Institution		
The Lord's Prayer		ELW p. 154
Distribution		
Post-Communion Blessing		

SENDING

Blessing		
Sending Song	"All Creatures, Worship God Most High" (verses 1,2,3,6)	ELW 835
Dismissal		
Sending Music	"Ye Nations Praise the Lord"	organ



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Worship Participants

Preacher:

Rev. Michael Mandsager

Lector: Lin Gentling

Organist: Jim Bahler

Minister of Music & Worship:

Brock A. Besse



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'Prayground' for Children

Our worship services offer a 'Prayground' towards the back of the Sanctuary as the perfect place for families with small children to grow together in faith, with the freedom to move, explore, and worship in a supportive environment.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Gathering Music	"Prelude in F Major"	organ
Welcome & Announcements		
Confession and Forgiveness		
Gathering Song	"Earth and All Stars!" (verses 1,2,5)	ELW 731
Greeting		
Kyrie		ELW p. 203
Canticle of Praise	"Glory be to God"	ELW p. 204
Prayer of the Day		

WORD

Musical Offering	"Morning Praise"	piano
First Reading	Genesis 2:4b-25	
Second Reading	Romans 5:12-19	
Children's Hymn	"This is the Day"	on screen
Children's Word	Made for Life Together	
Gospel Acclamation	"Alleluia"	ELW p. 205
Gospel	John 1:1-18	
Sermon	Faces of Our Faith: Adam and Eve	
Hymn of the Day	"Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom"	on screen
Apostles' Creed		
Prayers of Intercession		
Gathering of Gifts		
Offering Prayer		
The Lord's Prayer		

SENDING

Blessing		
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Worship Participants

Preacher:

Rev. Michael Mandsager

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Anjanette Bandel

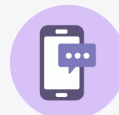
Rev. Lisa Hawe

Lector: Alyssa Wittmer

Organist: Jim Bahler

Sign Language Interpreter:

Melissa Almer



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Welcome to Our Contemporary Service!

Gate of Life is a service that will impact you musically, visually, and with the power of God's Word and Jesus' salvation as its backbone. **The name "Gate of Life" comes from the scripture John 10:9-10**, where Jesus says: *"I am the gate ... I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."* Expect worship to be highly engaging through the use of images, music that moves the body and soul, a message that encourages all to participate, and a community focused atmosphere with Christ at the center.

the
gate
of Life



Sunday, August 23rd, 2026
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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WORSHIP INFORMATION

First Reading	Genesis 2:4b-25
Children's Sermon	Made for Life Together
Gospel	John 1:1-18
Sermon Title	Faces of Our Faith: Adam and Even

Worship Participants:

Preacher: Rev. Michael Mandsager

The Gate of Life Worship Leader: Michele Nyman

Do you enjoy The Gate of Life?

WE INVITE YOU TO VOLUNTEER!

If you would like to **be a part of the Gate of Life service** in a musical way, helping with visuals, or behind the scenes work, please contact Michele Nyman at nyman@bethellutheran.com.

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- We will only send occasional texts about important news, events, or cancellations.
- Opt-out at any time by replying STOP

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eNews and/or activate your
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INFORMATION

ARE YOU NEW AT BETHEL? We're glad you're here! Please stop by the Welcome Desk for more information about our vibrant Bethel church family.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- **Saturdays:** 6 pm (Traditional worship—spoken liturgy | Holy Communion)
- **Sundays:** 9 am* (Traditional worship—sung liturgy)
10:10 am Gate of Life (Contemporary service | Holy Communion)
*9 am in-person worship offers an ASL interpreter and is Live-streamed through our YouTube channel: youtube.com/user/RochBethelLutheran
- **Videos of our services** are posted on our website to be viewed at any time: www.bethellutheran.com/worshiponline

HOLY COMMUNION

All the baptized believing that Jesus is truly present in the bread & wine are welcome to take communion (including visitors). Holy Communion is offered during our Saturday worship at 6 pm and Gate of Life Contemporary service on Sunday at 10:10 am each week. Our 9 am Sunday services offer Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

- A looping system is installed for those with compatible hearing aids.
- Assisted listening devices are available, please ask one of the ushers.
- Parenting room at the back left of the sanctuary; nursery staffed during the 9 am worship and open for parents and children during other services.

3 OF THE MANY THINGS HAPPENING AT BETHEL

1. **Fall Adult Learning Opportunities are coming!** Sunday morning Adult Education begins September 20th at 10:30 am. We will have a diversity of speakers and topics throughout the year. For our first session, Pastor Mandsager will lead a discussion of "Living in God's Shalom," an introduction to the ELCA's Social Statement on Civic Life. We will explore questions of how we can participate lovingly and faithfully in the civic arena. We will have evening study at 6:40 pm on Wednesdays in September and October beginning September 16th. Finally, we have weekly Bible study year-round at 10 am on Wednesdays, where we gather to reflect on the scriptures for worship in the upcoming week. All of these classes meet in Room 115.
2. Children, Youth, and Family Ministry is hosting the **Rally Day Carnival on September 13th** along with a special Meet the Leaders event! Join us as we kick off a new school year at Bethel. Families should plan to attend a worship service and allow time for Meet the Leaders from 10 – 10:30 am. We will have bounce houses, kids activities, a photo booth, and more fun activities starting at 10:30 am in the courtyard! New families are encouraged to attend an orientation meeting in 213/214 to learn more about all of the opportunities for kids and families at Bethel.
3. **Youth (7th-12th grade) Fall Kick-off Farm Jamboree** at Lutzi Farms - yard games, basketball, bonfire, and possibly cows, kittens, and tractors. Fall-themed snacks, hot cocoa, and apple cider. **We are looking for a few parent volunteers to help out** Register here: bit.ly/farmjamboree2026. Does your Youth need a ride? Let us know in your registration and we'll get them there! Address will be provided after registration.

To learn about more events subscribe to our weekly eNews by emailing us to info@bethellutheran.com or pick up a printed version through our **"Bethel Connection Box"** located by the entrance of our building.



CHILDREN'S NOISY OFFERING

Our children offerings will be directed to support
Food for Kidz

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