

Bethany Free Lutheran Church

"TO KNOW AND PROCLAIM SALVATION THROUGH JESUS"

17th Sunday after Pentecost, Sept 20, 2026

THE Worship SERVICE

Call to Worship

John 4:23-24

Hymn:

"Love Divine, All Love Excelling" #226 (A)

Silent Confession & Confession of Sins

Almighty and everlasting God, we bow before You in repentance for our sins. We have sinned against You in many ways, most of which are unknown even to us. Forgive us for bad attitudes that offend You, for remarks that hurt You and others, for not following your word and Spirit as they try to lead us. Forgive us for those times when we have forgotten to call upon You and Help us to live our lives in the way that will please You. This we pray, thanking You for Your great love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Colossians 1:13-14

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed p. 105 (A)

Offering

Announcements & Prayers

Hymn

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #416 (A)

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 55:6-9 (p. 525)

Psalm 27:1-14 (p. 393)

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30 (p. 830)

Reader: Eric Andreassen

Children's Message

"...In All Circumstances" 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Message

"THE COUNTER-INTUITIVE GENEROSITY OF GOD"

Matthew 20:1-16 (p. 697)

Pastor Tom Reagan

Hymn:

"My Faith Has Found a Resting Place" #565 (A)

Lords Prayer

(The online service ends after the Lord's Prayer) p. 5 (A)

Prayers: Praises & Requests

Benediction & Doxology

p. 24 (A)

Deacons: | Eric Andreassen 701-793-4212 | Austin Hermunsle 701-640-8714 | Jordon Riel 701-795-3091 Trustees: Earl Myhre 701-640-2952 | Jonathon Myhre 414-550-5895 | Kent Ringdahl 701-367-6952 Pianist: Barb Strand Live stream: Today: Deena Andreassen

Pastor: Tom Reagan Cell: 701-892-4351 | email: alert4u2@hotmail.com

Church Website: www.bethanyfreelutheran.com September Janitors: Eric & Deena Andreassen

A – Ambassador Hymnal / Scripture page numbers are in () for the pew Bibles.



Sun. Sept 20	9:30 am.....	Worship service
Mon. Sept 21	7:00 pm.....	Deacon Meeting at Parsonage
Tues. Sept 22	7:00 pm.....	Women's Missionary Federation at Vicki's
Wed. Sept 23	40 Days for Life begins	Pray for the protection of babies in the womb
	3:45 pm.....	Confirmation at Austin & Becky Hermunsle's home
	7:30 pm.....	Bible Study at Bethany
Sun. Sept 27	9:30 am.....	Worship service
	10:45 am.....	Sunday School Rally Sunday/1 st Day of Sunday School

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Good morning! Hear what King David wrote: "One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple." (Psalm 27:4 NIV1984) May our heavenly Father help us to seek His beauty and long to be in His presence.

GETTING CLOSE!

Here's one more shopping suggestion for you since Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection time is nearly here: games and puzzles. Fun to share with friends and family. Boxes are available for you to take, fill, and return for our Collection Sunday, November 15. A sheet of suggested items for boys and girls is available next to the boxes for your convenience. Pack a shoebox, change a life!

SEPTEMBER 20 LIFE QUOTE

"I firmly believe that the sanctity of human life is the most important issue of our day and that by means of informing and educating the public, as well as by applying Christian love and compassion to those directly affected by the trauma of abortion, physician-assisted suicide, and euthanasia, the pro-life position will prevail, and our nation will again uphold the dignity and sanctity of human life." Rev. Paul Clark, *Lutherans For Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

THREE MINISTRY EVENTS

Mon. Oct 12 7 pm Dessert Fundraiser for the Perry Center, Hilton Garden Inn Fargo
Sat. Oct 24: 9 am -12:30 pm, "Getting Others to Ask You to Tell Them about Jesus" Seminar at Bethany Free Lutheran Church. Pastor Tom Parrish from Minneapolis will be our presenter.
Sun. Oct 25, 4:30 pm "Rebuilding the Walls to Protect Life", Guest Speaker: Col John Eidsmoe, F-M Lutherans for Life invites you to our 37th Pro-Life Dessert Banquet. Triumph Lutheran Brethren Church, West Campus, 3745 Sheyenne Street, West Fargo, ND.

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPT 27:

Live stream: Sandy Reagan

Scriptures: Eighteenth S. after Pentecost, Ezek. 18:1-4, 25-32, Psalm 25:1-10, Phil. 2:1-4 (5-13) 14-18, Matt. 21:23-27 (28-32); Reader: Ron Strand

“THE COUNTER-INTUITIVE GENEROSITY OF GOD”

Sept. 20, 2026

Bethany Free Lutheran Church, rural Abercrombie, ND

Today, I thank God for:

Holy Spirit, please help me worship today.

Key Bible Verses mentioned in worship and the sermon:

Main points in the message:

What was Jesus saying to the people back then?

1. The _____ is very important and timely:

“Israel was often referred to as the “vine” or “vineyard” of God (e.g., Isa. 5:1-7; Jer. 2:21; Hos. 10:1cf. Matt. 21:28-46). “Vineyard” represents the activity of the kingdom on this world (cf. Matt. 21:28-46)” (ESV Study Bible , p. 1862)

2. _____ are so needed!

(Luke 10:2) (1 Tim 5:11 ESV see also 1 Tim 5:13 & 2 Thess. 3:7-8)

3. The landowner is very _____!

_____ is: “the feeling or belief that you deserve to be given something (such as special privileges).” Meriam-Wesbster

4. What is God’s grace?

Grace is _____.

Grace doesn’t seem _____.

Grace is not _____.

Grace is _____ in heaven, but rarely on earth.

Grace is _____ when it is shown to me.

Grace is _____ when it is shown to others.

Grace is _____.

(Isaiah 55:8-9)

Grace is best understood by those who know they _____
it.

5. Be _____, not envious

(2 Corinthians 6:2) “The ‘evil eye’ (cf. Deut. 15:9; 1 Sam. 18:9).”

What is the law (command of God) and have we kept it?

What is the gospel (good news) here?

What is God saying to me through the message?

If God were challenging me to do something, what might it be?

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