

Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

October 11, 2026 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost

“The Peace of God”



Centering Words

(Psalm 106, Philippians 4)

Rejoice in the Lord always. God is worthy of our hearts' delight.



536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762

In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at 10am

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

*Quienquiera que seas y dondequiera que estés en el camino de la vida,
eres bienvenido aquí.*

Bethel Congregational Church, UCC

Sunday – October 11, 2026

Prelude

Music for Gathering

Responsive Call to Worship (*Philippians 4*)

Rejoice in God always. Again I say, Rejoice!

Take heart; the Lord is near.

Make it known among the people: God reigns.

Proclaim it from the rooftops.

Let gentleness and mirth be your guide.

Rejoice in God always. Again I say, Rejoice!

Take heart; the Lord is near.

Unison Opening Prayer (*Psalms 106, Philippians 4*)

Holy God, we come before you this day

with praise on our lips

and songs of joy in our hearts.

When we abide in your kingdom

and live according to your ways,

good triumphs over evil,

love is stronger than hate,

and truth wins the day.

Focus our hearts and minds

on things that are worthy of praise,

and bless us with a peace

that passes all understanding. Amen

1 Great is your faithfulness, O God, Creator,
with you no shadow of turning we see.
You do not change, your compassions they fail not;
all of your goodness forever will be.

Refrain:

Great is your faithfulness!

Great is your faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed your hand has provided,

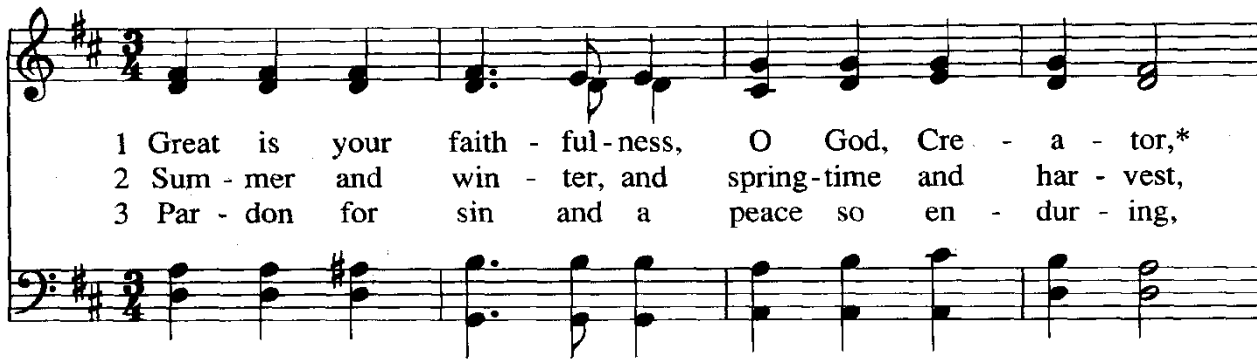
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!

2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

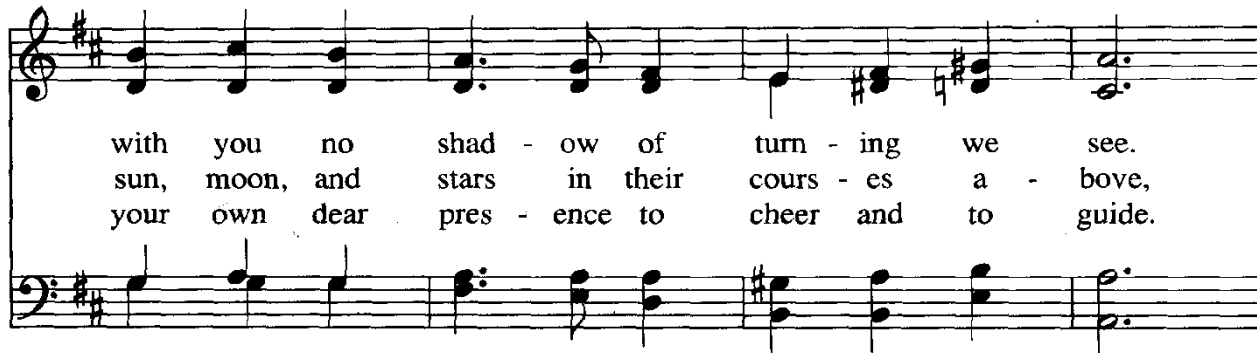
3 Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,
your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside. [Refrain]

Lam. 3:22-23

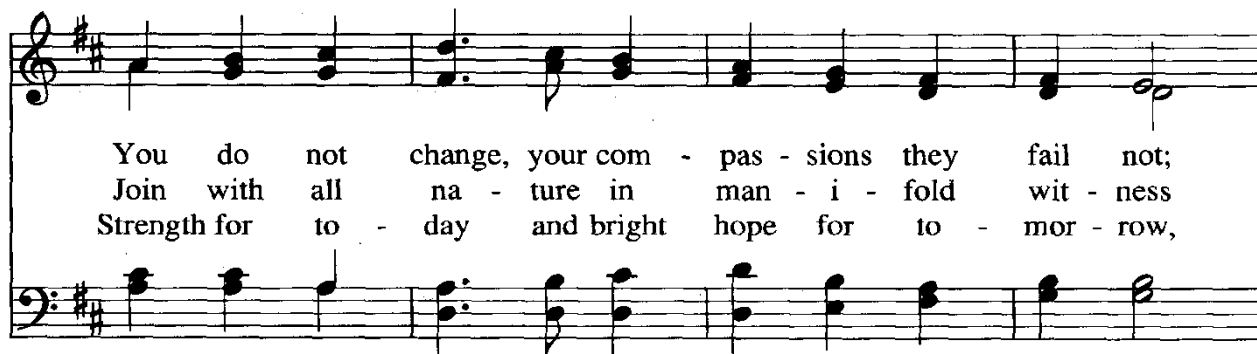
Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt.



1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,*
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,



with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
 your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.



You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.
 to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

*originally "my Father"

This hymn was one of a number sent by poet Thomas O. Chisholm to composer William M. Runyan for musical settings. It became a favorite of Will Houghton, president of Moody Bible Institute, whose enthusiasm helped establish its popularity.

Tune: FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10. with refrain
 William M. Runyan, 1923

Refrain

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have need-ed your

hand has pro-vid-ed, Great is your faith-ful-ness, God, un-to me!

Welcome, Passing the Peace – Announcements

- **Sundays** – Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am)
- **Sunday October 18** – Blessing of the Animals – Special Joint service with FCCO
- **Sundays 9:15am** – Pop-Up Choir practice!
- **Thursdays 10am** - Qi-Gong/Tai Chi
- **Sign up to join Bethel's Relay Team!**
- <https://secure.acsevents.org/goto/BethelOntario>
- **Sunday October 11 at 4pm** – **SOUTHLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SEASON OPENER: "An American Journey"**. *Music includes Copland's "Lincoln Portrait" (Terry Weatherby, narrating); Boyer's "ELLIS ISLAND: The Dream of America" – a multimedia presentation, including our own Virginia Shannon as one of the characters portrayed in the work.; and a World Premiere new arrangement of "America the Beautiful" by Pastor Sylvia.*



Special Music

Pop-Up Choir

Children's Time

"The Parable of The Great Banquet"

Kids' Video

* Gloria

Glory to the Creator,
The Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be
World without end, Amen, Amen.

Sheet music for the Gloria, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics and chord symbols.

Chord symbols: C, G/D, C, G/B, G, C, G/B, Am/C, G/D, D⁷, G, C, G⁷, G⁷, C, G, G/F, C/E, C/G, G⁷, C.

Lyrics: Glo-ry to the Cre-a-tor, the Christ the Ho-ly Spi-rit three in one; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men. A-men.

Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Matthew 22:1-14

Pastor Sylvia

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying:

“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Sermon

“The Peace of God”

Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann

Prayer of Yearning (*Unison*) (Psalm 106, Philippians 4)

We seek your goodness, O God,
for we search our hearts and find them wanting.
We seek your joy, source of mirth and laughter,
for our limbs are weary and our hearts are heavy.
Set our minds on things that are excellent, admirable,
and worthy of praise.
Shine the light of your love far and wide,
that the world might strive after things
that are just, righteous, and true. Amen.

Words Assurance and Grace (Pastor) (Philippians 4)

Siblings in Christ, the Holy One is near and responds to your prayer.
Remember, “Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.”

Prayers of the People (Joys and Concerns to share)

Silent Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer (*Unison*)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
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

Offering

Invitation to Generosity

Please remember to send your offerings in so that we can continue our ministries. (If you want a portion of your offering to be designated as something specific, just write that in the message area.) If you forget to write a note with the offering – just email us (info@BethelUCCOntario.org) or message us through Facebook.

Giving Options: In person –We are not yet “passing the plate”. You may leave your offering in one of the offering plates (front of the sanctuary, or usher’s table in the rear).

Give online at www.betheluccontario.org,



To use a credit or debit card, use the yellow “Donate” button (processed by PayPal – no PP account required), or green Tithe.ly button (Processed by



Give via Tithe.ly

Tithe.ly)



Use **ZELLE** (through your bank website or via the stand alone app) to transfer your offering to us directly from your bank. When you use Zelle, we are “Bethel Congregational Church” Our verified Zelle email is info@betheluccontario.org



MAIL - Just mail your check to Bethel Congregational Church 536 N Euclid Ave, Ontario CA 91762.



QR Code – Scan the code to send your offering to us through PayPal

Blessing of the Gifts (*Unison*) (*Psalm 106, Philippians 4*)

Generous God, receive our offerings as acceptance to your invitation to. May they be used to spread abundance, generate hope, and meet needs. Bless us as we give to grow in generosity, gratitude, and grace. We give thanks for this opportunity to participate in your blessed community and your will be done in our communities and world. Amen.

1. Here in this place new light is streaming,
Now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in' the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in' the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young' our lives are a myst'ry,
We are the old' who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in' the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in' the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
Give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away,
But here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us for ever,
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in' all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Gather us in

Marty Haugen



1. Here in this place new light is stream-ing, Now is the dark - ness
 2. We are the young-our lives are a mys-t'ry, We are the old- who
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, Here we will take the
 4. Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, Not in some heav - en,



van-ished a - way, See in this space our fears and our dream-ings,
 yearn for your face, We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light-years a - way, But here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



Brought here to you in the light of this day.
 Called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 Call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 Now is the King-dom, now is the day.



Gath-er us in- the lost and for - sak - en, Gath-er us in- the
 Gath-er us in- the rich and the haugh-ty, Gath-er us in- the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas-sion, Give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for ev - er, Gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; Nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; Gath-er us in- all peo - ples to- geth - er,



We shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 Give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
 Lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Unison Benediction (*Philippians 4*)

**May the peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus,
from this day forward and forevermore.
Go in Peace, Go in Love, Go in Joy. Amen.**

Postlude

Carillon



Bethel Congregational Church, UCC
526 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762
www.betheluccontario.org
info@betheluccontario.org
(909) 984-9111

Rev. Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann
Pastor & Minister of Music
drmann@betheluccontario.org
(626) 393-5507

Live Stream Worship Sundays at 10 am on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitch](#)

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God sends us to serve, but God does not send us alone.

The Spirit is with us in the world, guiding our steps and protecting our paths.

*Christ yearns for us to be one in ministry and service,
and one in community and faith—a unity that we discover
through the Spirit's miraculous power in our lives.*

*Sent to serve, we are sent not only with the power of the Spirit,
but also with the power of unity with one another.*

*Embracing this unity with both the Holy Spirit and one another
opens a path to the “complete joy” that Christ prays we may one day know.*

www.betheluccontario.org