Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC July 14, 2024 8th Sunday after Pentecost



"Which Dance?"

Centering Words (2 Samuel 6, Ephesians 1)

Dance before the Lord with instruments of praise.

Know that you are adopted into the family of God.



www.betheluccontario.org

536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762
In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at 10am
Facebook, YouTube, Twitch; Also available On Demand on
Vimeo, Roku and Amazon Fire TV

Bethel Congregational Church, UCC Sunday – July 14, 2024

Prelude Music for Meditation Musicians

Responsive Call to Worship (2 Samuel 6, Psalm 24)

All are welcome in the house of the Lord.

Find here the hospitality of radical fellowship.

Worship with clean hands and pure hearts.

We are lifted up by the King of glory.

We are adopted into the family of Christ.

We will leap with joy before our God!

Unison Prayer of Invocation

God Among Us, your ways are perfect and your laws are just.

We gather today in your name and for your kin-dom.

May it come wherever and whenever two or more gather in your name.

May our hearts open and our understanding expand

with the vision of righteousness.

May our worship please you, transform us, and bear witness to your love.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn There's a Wideness in God's mercy

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God's heaven; there's no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgment given.

2 For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word, and our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.

Frederick William Faber, 1854; alt.



Passing the Peace

Announcements/Special Events:

- Thursdays at 10am Qi-Gong.
- Wednesdays 5-6:45pm Ontario Youth Symphony Rehearsals.
- Wednesdays 7-9pm 12-step meeting (NA) in Parlor.
- Wed July 24 Ontario Youth Symphony Summer Mini Concert 6:30pm Parlor.
- Sept 7 (all day) Relay for Life (Ontario Soccer Complex)!

Special Music

"God's Not Dead" (Newsboys) Hope and Nevaeh

(you are invited to sing along – words are on the screen!)

Children's Time

*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.



Donna Saxton

David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand.

David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim.

They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

They brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the LORD.

When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts, and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

Ephesians 1:3-14 The Message (MSG)

Dalton Thomas

How blessed is God! And what a blessing he is! He's the Father of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing in him. Long before he laid down earth's foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love, to be made whole and holy by his love. Long, long ago he decided to adopt us into his family through Jesus Christ. (What pleasure he took in planning this!) He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son.

Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the Cross, we're a free people—free of penalties and punishments chalked up by all our misdeeds. And not just barely free, either. Abundantly free! He thought of everything, provided for everything we could possibly need, letting us in on the plans he took such delight in making. He set it all out before us in Christ, a long-range plan in which everything would be brought together and summed up in him, everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth.

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. This signet from God is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life.

Mark 6:14-29 Pastor Sylvia

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.

But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it."

And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer."

Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.

When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

Unison Prayer of Yearning (2 Samuel 6, Ephesians 1, Mark 6)

Lord, we come before you with open eyes and willing hands.

Guide us as we listen for your word, with shouts of praise and dances of joy.

As we strive to grasp the depth of your love,

your compassion continues to surprise and uplift us.

We yearn to be your voice in this world.

Help us discern what is right, as we set our hope in Christ. Amen.

Words Assurance and Grace (Ephesians 1, Psalm 24) (Pastor)

Know that you are cherished

by the good pleasure of God's love.

You are chosen by God

and given the inheritance of Christ.

Live in truth and peace,

and be strong in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

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 (Pastor)

Having heard God's call to generosity, let us listen and respond with open hearts.

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 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

Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (Psalm 24, Ephesians 1, 2 Samuel 6)
The earth is yours, O Lord, and all that is in it.

All we have comes from the richness of your grace.

As you have blessed us,

so may we bless others.

May these offerings bind us to your love for us and to your love for all the world's people. Amen.

*Singing into Mission When the Spirit of the Lord Moves Upon My Heart

1 When the Spirit of the Lord moves upon my heart I will dance as David danced.

When the Spirit of the Lord moves upon my heart I will dance as David danced.

I will dance, I will dance, I will dance as David danced. I will dance, I will dance as David danced.

2. When the Spirit of the Lord moves upon my heart I will sing as David sang.

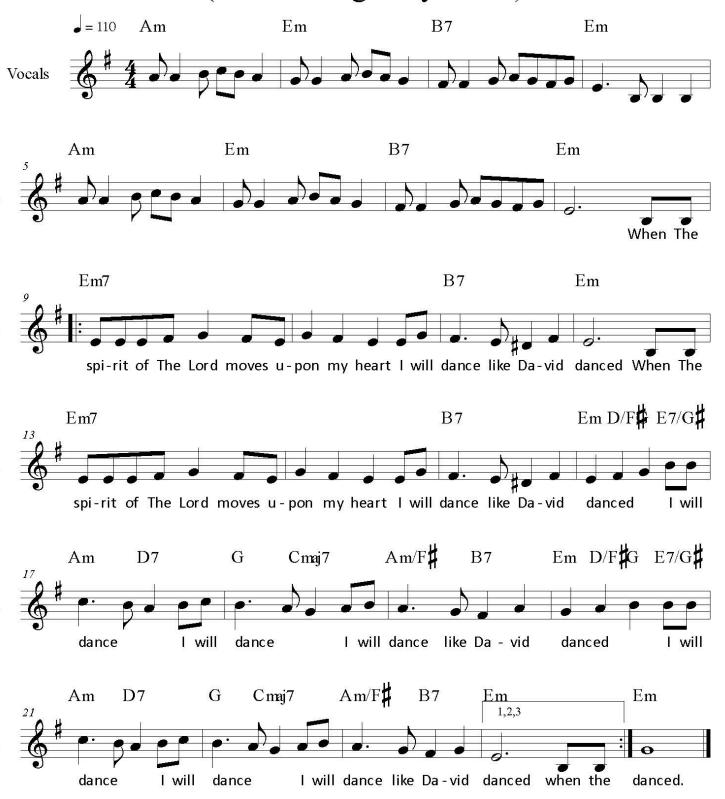
When the Spirit of the Lord moves upon my heart I will sing as David sang.

I will sing, I will sing, I will sing as David sang. I will sing, I will sing as David sang.

3 When the Spirit of the Lord moves upon my heart I will pray as David prayed When the Spirit of the Lord moves upon my heart I will pray as David prayed I will pray, I will pray, I will pray as David prayed I will pray, I will pray, I will pray as David prayed

4 When the Spirit of the Lord moves upon my heart I will love as David loved When the Spirit of the Lord moves upon my heart I will love as David loved I will love, I will love, I will love as David loved I will love, I will love, I will love as David loved

When the Spirit of the Lord (Dance/Sing/Pray/Love)



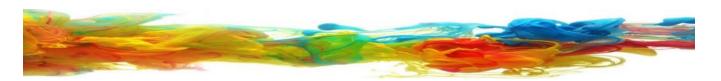
- 2. Sing/Sang
- 3. Pray/Prayed
- 4. Love/Loved

Benediction-Unison

Dance before the Lord.
Go to share God's blessings with others.
As you journey forth,
express Christ's love with the world.
Go and claim the inheritance of Christ.
Go in Peace, Go in Joy, Go in Love
AMEN

Postlude

Carillon



Bethel Ontario Online
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 (mobile)

Live Stream Worship Sundays at 10am on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Twitch</u> - (Videos remain available for access any time)
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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.