

Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

July 19, 2026 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

“Promises”



CENTERING WORDS

Breathe in and consider what God has done throughout the generations. Breathe out and know that God abides with us in our sufferings and frustrations. Breathe in and dream of what God can do. Breathe out in hope and gratitude for what God will do in worship today.



536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762

In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at

***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.

*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.bethelucontario.org

Bethel Congregational Church, UCC

Sunday – July 19, 2026

Prelude

Music for Gathering

Sandy Gunn

Call to Worship

L: God knows us better than we know ourselves.

P: Even in the darkest places, the light of God's love is there.

L: There is nowhere we can flee from God's presence.

P: In the heavens and in the depths, the Holy One abides with us.

L: We are God's children, serving the Lord from generation to generation.

P: God is the one who keeps promises and who provides for us wherever we go.

L: How awesome is this place!

P: This is God's house and the gateway to the heavens.

Unison Opening Prayer

God of grace and love, We rely on Your love extended to us in all ways and at all times, extravagantly and with generosity.

We live day by day knowing that Your care and concern is poured out for us in Your provision for our needs and beyond our imagining.

You entrust us with the gift of the good news of the Gospel and invite us to be partners in the sharing of the message of grace.

Day by day, we realize the many gifts lavished upon us. We come to You to acknowledge and praise You for all Your goodness to us. Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on let me stand,
I am tired I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, Hold my hand lest I fall,
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone, At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand 500

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2 When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 when my life is al - most gone;
 and the day is past and gone,

through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
 take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
 take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

Welcome, Passing the Peace – Announcements

- **Sundays** – Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am)
- **Sundays 9:15am** – **Pop-Up Choir practice!**
- **Wednesdays** – **4:30pm** – OYS; **6pm** Scouts(basement)
- **Thursdays 10am** - Qi-Gong/Tai Chi

Special Music

Journey in Peace

Pop-Up Choir

Children's Time

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.

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Glory to the Creator

Sheet music for the hymn "Glory to the Creator" in 4/4 time. The score is written for voice and piano. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is divided into three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. Chord symbols are written above the notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.

Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran.

He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.

And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.

Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place--and I did not know it!" And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.

He called that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away.

So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.

And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?'

He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?'

But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.

Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field."

He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.

Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.

The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Prayer of Yearning (*Romans 8, Matthew 13*)

Abba God, as our heavenly parent,
you have given us your words of direction
to teach us how to live by eternal truths.
Still, we struggle with the fleshly desires
that slow our living into our most abundant lives.
We ache for the breath of your compassion to restore us to spiritual health.
Assist us to live in freedom instead of fear.
Imbue our minds with deep compassion,
that we may find fulfillment in caring for the world around us.
Help us deal with the weeds of distrust, greed,
anger, lust, isolation, jealousy, and egoism
that manifest as abuses and the denigration of others.
May we be increasingly strengthened as your children
and shine like the sun in our hurting world. Amen.

Words of Assurance (*Genesis 28, Psalm 139, Romans 8*)

God searches and knows you.
God is familiar with all your ways.
God loves you as a precious child, making you co-heirs of glory
and the multi-generational promises
that free us from frustration and fill us with hope.
Peace and hope are yours in the name of Christ. Amen

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)

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
N Euclid Ave, Ontario CA 91762.



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

Unison Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

Lord, we present these tokens of the many blessings you have poured into our lives.
Make us people who are unafraid to proclaim your healing mercies.

Help these gifts to bring hope and comfort to all those in need.

In Jesus’ Name, we pray.

AMEN.

***Singing into Mission**

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

"I was there to hear your borne cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

"When you heard the wonder of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk 'till rising sun."

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in,
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise."

"I was there to hear your borne cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold."

I Was There to Hear Your Born-ing Cry

John Ylvisaker, 1985; alt

Unison D7 G D G D G D

1 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 2 When you found the won - der of the Word, I was
 3 In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 4 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

G D G D7 G' D

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
 there when you are. old. I re - joiced the day you

G D G C D7 G

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold. *St. 4, end*

G/B⁷ C G

I was there when you were but a child, with a
 Should you find some-one to share your time and you
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you

Am D G G/B C

faith to suit you well; I'll be there in case you
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
 shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have

G A7 D *to beginning*

wan - der off and find where de - mons dwell.
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

Unison Benediction

In God, promises are not contained. They overflow.
 Therefore, as you go from this time of communal worship
 Return as participants in the communal witness
 To spread the overwhelming love of God
 To spread the overarching peace of God
 And to spread the overcoming hope of God
 Like good seeds, sowing and planting a future
 That will shine like the sun in the kingdom of God

Postlude

Carillon



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