

Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

September 1, 2024

15th Sunday after Pentecost

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.

Forgive often. *Reject racism.*

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

“Authenticity - Being Doers of the Word”

Centering Words

My heart longs to be close to you, O God.

May my life and my deeds honor you.



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 – September 1, 2024

Prelude

Music for Meditation

Musicians

Responsive Call to Worship (*Psalm 15*)

One: O Holy One, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Many: Those who want to journey with you, who may have missed a turn, and who may struggle with rocky patches and rough terrain.

One: O Holy One, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Many. Those who seek and search for you and for community with doubts and hopes, joys and fears, smiles and tears.

One: O Holy One, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Many: Those who try and those who sometimes give up. Those who are beautifully, wonderfully, and imperfectly human—all of us! Thanks be to God!

Unison Prayer of Invocation

Creator God,

You have loved us passionately into being.

We come today seeking your presence

and to know we are your beloved!.

Enter our sanctuary and enter our hearts

that we may look into your loving gaze

and see ourselves reflected there, as you see us.

We have gathered here this day

to hear your healing words of compassion

and to be transformed by your love

Let our love for you reflect and mirror your perfect love

as we gather as your Beloved Community.

Help us to become more faithful servants

in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

It is in Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift of all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

693

Though I May Speak

1 Though I may speak with brav - est fire, and have the
2 Though I may give all I pos - sess, and striv - ing
3 Come, Spirit, come, our hearts con - trol; our spir - its

6 gift to all in - spire, and have not love, my words are
so my love pro - fess, but not be given by love with -
long to be made whole. Let in - ward love guide ev - ery

12 vain, as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
in, the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
deed; by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

Passing the Peace

Announcements/Special Events:

- *Wednesdays – NA meeting 7:30pm. OYS 4-7pm*
- *Thursdays at 10am - Qi-Gong.*
- *Coming Soon (all day) – Relay for Life*
- *Sept 8 – HOMECOMING SUNDAY*
- *CONCERTS: Sept 28 4pm (SWE); OCT 6 4pm (SSO)*

Children's Time

The Good Samaritan

Saddleback Kids

(used with permission)

*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.

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the notes.

System 1: Measures 1-4. Chords: C, G/D, C, G/B, G, C, G/B, Am/C. Lyrics: Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, the Christ the Ho - ly Spi - rit

System 2: Measures 5-8. Chords: G/D, D⁷, G, C, G⁷, G⁷. Lyrics: three in one; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

System 3: Measures 9-12. Chords: C, G, G/F, C/E, C/G, G⁷, C. Lyrics: shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

Psalm 15 (Unison)

O LORD, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right
and speak the truth from their heart;

who do not slander with their tongue
and do no evil to their friends
nor heap shame upon their neighbors;

in whose eyes the wicked are despised
but who honor those who fear the LORD;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

who do not lend money at interest
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

James 1:17-27**Andrea (Dre) Williams**

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave birth to us by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, for human anger does not produce God's righteousness.

Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror;

for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.

But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act--they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.

(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;

and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.)

So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?"

He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

"You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand:

there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly.

All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Prayer of Yearning (Unison) (*James 1, Mark 7*)

Ever-faithful God, you create each of us
to be a presence of healing and love in our world.
You equip us to resist intentions and actions
that hurt ourselves and others.
Forgive us when we forget your desire for us.
Forgive us when we put aside your vision.
Remind us of the love and goodness
that you have planted within us.
Draw our hearts close to you
and bless us as we live in your ways. Amen.

Words of Grace (Pastor) (*James 1*)

God has chosen to give us new life.
This is God's choice, given freely to us,
as is every other good gift God has given.
Rejoice in this good news!

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.bethelucontario.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@bethelucontario.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 (*James 1, Mark 7*)

God of every good gift,
bless the gifts of our resources,
our prayers, and our lives.
Bless these gifts for the good of others
and to the honor of your name. Amen.

***Singing into Mission Lord, I Want to be a Christian**

1 Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2 Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

3 Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian


The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains four lines of lyrics, each corresponding to a different verse. The second staff contains four lines of lyrics, each corresponding to a different verse. The third staff contains four lines of lyrics, each corresponding to a different verse. The lyrics are: 1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart. 2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart. 3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart. 4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart. In my heart, Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart. in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart.
2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart.
3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart.
4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart.

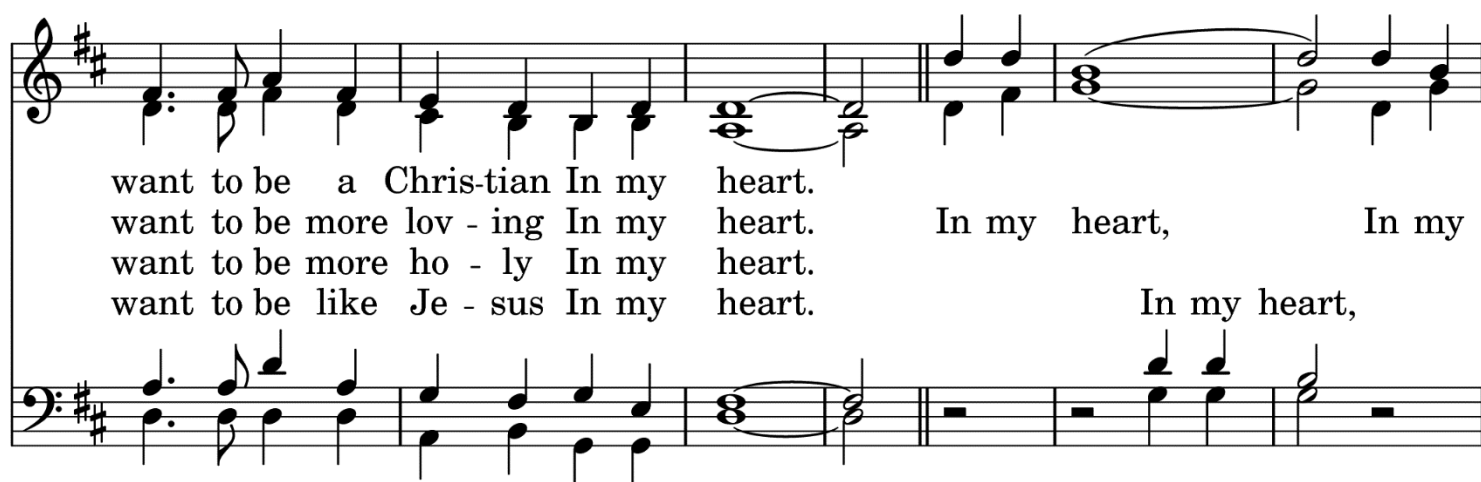
Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart. In my heart,
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian



1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I
2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I
3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I
4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart, in my hear, Lord, I



want to be a Chris-tian In my heart.
want to be more lov - ing In my heart. In my heart, In my
want to be more ho - ly In my heart.
want to be like Je - sus In my heart. In my heart,



heart, Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In my heart.
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart.

In my heart,

Benediction- Responsive

The good gifts of God continue to pour out upon us,
giving us inspiration and energy for every good act.

**May our lives yield a full harvest of goodness
and compassion!**

Go and be doers of God's word of truth!

May our lives honor God!

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.bethelucanario.org
info@bethelucanario.org
(909) 984-9111

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

Live Stream Sundays at 10am on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitch](#) - (Videos remain available for access any time)**All music licensed and used by permission (CCLI, One License, Artist Permission, PD)*

*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.*