

# Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

August 24, 2025

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



## Sermon – “Refuge and Call”

*Centering Words* (Jeremiah 1, Psalm 71, Luke 13)

*Just when we're about to dismiss ourselves or someone else, Jesus dignifies our lives with a touch, with healing power, and with the assurance that God is very near.*

[www.betheluccontario.org](http://www.betheluccontario.org)

536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762

In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at 10am

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# **Bethel Congregational Church, UCC**

**Sunday – August 24, 2025**

## **Prelude Music**

### **Responsive Call to Worship**

One: Our God knows us intimately.

**Many: God, you knew us before we knew us before we knew ourselves.**

One: Our God is holy. Let us worship the Holy One, our refuge, hope and trust.

Our praise is continually of our God!

**Many: Holy God, you consecrate us. God's righteousness redeems.**

**God is our shelter!**

One: Our God will reassure.

**Many: Holy God, you will give us words to speak.**

One: Find rest and delight in the Holy One. Our praise is continually of our God!

**Many: We lean upon the Holy One. God is our sure foundation!**

### **Unison Opening Prayer**

Mothering God, we rejoice that you placed us in the womb  
and called us forth. You called us forth to build and to plant.  
Give us the blueprint as we build and bless our hands as we plant.  
We rejoice in knowing that our steps are guided by you,  
and you are reliable. We delight ourselves in your presence  
and give thanks as you deliver us from fear and let your love  
have its way in us. Embolden us to speak your truth to power  
and let the power of your truth always be evident in us.  
Amen.

When injustice harms our friends

Stand for what is right

When the violence never ends

Stand for what is right

*Chorus*

*Yes stand and speak work and pray*

*And keep your courage strong*

*The Spirit of God will be leading us*

*Through our whole life long*

When the children have no voice

Speak for what is right

When the mothers have no choice

Speak for what is right *Chorus*

When we hurt our mother earth

Work for what is right

When we deny each other's worth

Work for what is right *Chorus*

When the world seems most unfair

Pray for what is right

When we're lost in deep despair

Pray for what is right *Chorus*

CCLI Song # 7068587

Jim Strathdee

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# 8. Stand for What Is Right

Words and music  
by Jim Strathee

Capo 3: Play D

$\text{♩} = 105$

F(D) B $\flat$ (G) F(D) B $\flat$ (G) C(A) F(D) B $\flat$ (G) G $^7$ m(Em7) B $\flat$ (G) C(A)

1. When in - jus - tice harms our friends, stand for what is  
2. When the chil - dren have no voice, speak for what is  
3. When we hurt our moth - er earth, work for what is  
4. When the world seems most un - fair, pray for what is

F(D) B $\flat$ (G) C(A) F(D) B $\flat$ (G) Gm $^7$ (Em7) Csus $^4$ (A) C(A)

right. When the vio - lence nev - er ends, stand for what is right. Yes,  
right. When the moth - ers have no choice, speak for what is right. Yes,  
right. When we de - ny each oth - er's worth, work for what is right. Yes,  
right. When we're lost in deep de - spair, pray for what is right. Yes,

B $\flat$ (G) C(A) F(D) Dm $^7$ (Bm7) G $^7$ m(Em7) F(D) B $\flat$ (G) C(A)

stand and speak, work and pray and keep your cour - age strong. The

B $\flat$ (G) C(A) F(D) B $\flat$ (G) Gm $^7$ (Em7) B $\flat$ (G) C(A) F(D) B $\flat$ (G) F(D)

Spir - it of God will be lead - ing us through our whole life long.

## Passing the Peace - Announcements/Regular and Special Events - Summer

- **Sundays** – Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am)
- **Wednesdays** – Scouts: 6pm (basement).
- **Thursdays at 10am** - Qi-Gong
- **Fridays** – evenings Occasional SWE Rehearsals (sanctuary/parlor)
- **Saturdays** –FCCO Korean Fellowship 10-2

### Children's Time

### Kids Video

(used by 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.

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## Glory to the Creator

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Glory to the Creator

C G/D C G/B G C G/B Am/C

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, the Christ the Ho - ly Spi - rit

5 G/D D<sup>7</sup> G C G<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup>

three in one; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

10 C G G/F C/E C/G G<sup>7</sup> C

shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system (measures 1-4) has a treble and bass staff. The second system (measures 5-8) also has a treble and bass staff. The third system (measures 9-12) has a treble and bass staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff. The lyrics are written below the staves. The piece ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign in the bass staff of the third system.

## **Jeremiah 1:4–10**

**Terry Weatherby**

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,  
“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;  
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,  
and you shall speak whatever I command you.  
Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you,  
says the LORD.”

Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth.  
See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,  
to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant.”

## **Psalms 71:1–6**

**Pamela Weatherby**

In you, O LORD, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;  
incline your ear to me and save me.  
Be to me a rock of refuge,  
a strong fortress, to save me,  
for you are my rock and my fortress.  
Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,  
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.  
For you, O Lord, are my hope,  
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.  
Upon you I have leaned from my birth;  
it was you who took me from my mother’s womb.  
My praise is continually of you.

**Luke 13:10–17****Pastor Sylvia**

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?” When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

**SERMON****“Refuge and Call”***Rev. Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann*

## **Prayer of Yearning (Unison) *(Jeremiah 1)***

Eternal God, you knew us before we were conceived.  
You called us as your own  
while we were still in our mothers' wombs.  
Keep watch over us, we pray,  
for we long to return to your ways.  
Restore our confidence in times of doubt,  
for we yearn to be the people you would have us be.  
Grant us the confidence to go forth unafraid,  
that we might bless the world  
through your presence in our lives. Amen.

## **Words of Assurance - Responsive**

ONE: Touch our mouths to speak your truths.  
**MANY: Touch our lives to make your ways known to the world.**  
ONE: In this we are free. In this we are made whole.  
**MANY: In this we shine as your beloved children,  
strengthened for the journey.**

## **Prayers of the People – *Sharing our Joys and Concerns***

**Silent Prayer – *bring your personal prayers to God***

## **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

The Divine source is the one from whom all blessings flow. We have an eternal invitation to bring our resources to God's house to use for the building of kingdom and as seed that there might be a continual harvest. These acts reflect the God who knows us and the God who calls us.

**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).*



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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)



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

## Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Fount of Every Blessing, receive these gifts in the joy in which we bring them. May they bless your church universally, our community and our world. May none suffer lack and may we always give from generous hearts. May we always take joy in being blessed to give and to share with you and each other.

Amen.

**\*Singing into Mission      I'm Gonna Sing**

1 I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says sing,  
I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says sing;  
I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says sing  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

2 I'm gonna shout when the Spirit says shout,  
I'm gonna shout when the Spirit says shout;  
I'm gonna shout when the Spirit says shout  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

3 I'm gonna preach when the Spirit says preach,  
I'm gonna preach when the Spirit says preach;  
I'm gonna preach when the Spirit says preach  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

4 I'm gonna pray when the Spirit says pray,  
I'm gonna pray when the Spirit says pray;  
I'm gonna pray when the Spirit says pray  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

5 I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says sing,  
I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says sing;  
I'm gonna sing when the Spirit says sing  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

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# I'm Gonna Sing

*O come, let us sing unto the Lord — Psalm 95:1 KJV*

I'm gon-na sing when the Spir-it says sing, I'm gon-na

sing when the Spir-it says sing; I'm gon-na sing when the Spir-it says

sing And o-bey the Spir-it of the Lord.

2. shout 3. preach 4. pray 5. sing

WORDS: African-American spiritual

MUSIC: African-American spiritual

I'M GONNA SING

## **Benediction – Unison**

On the sabbath,  
Make God's Name known  
Love our neighbors  
Spread the good news  
Do justice  
Seek Righteousness  
And live in hope  
**Amen.**  
**Go in Peace**

## **Postlude**

## **Carillon**



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Live Stream Sundays at 10am 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.*