

Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

October 25, 2026 – 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

“The Greatest Law”



Centering Words

(Matthew 22)

Love God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength. Love your neighbor as you love yourself. Sounds so simple, but turns out to be kind of complex.



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 25, 2026

Prelude

Music for Gathering

Responsive Call to Worship (*Deuteronomy 34, Psalm 90, Matthew 22*)

ONE: Come to us, O God.

**MANY: Breathe through our worship
with your Holy Spirit.**

ONE: Fill us with your faithful love.

MANY: Guide us with your ancient teachings.

ONE: Come to us, O God.

MANY: Be in our prayer and praise.

Unison Opening Prayer (*Deuteronomy 34, Psalm 90, Matthew 22*)

God of ages past and days to come,
help us embrace both your ancient wisdom
and your ongoing guidance.

Help us hear anew
your words from years gone by.

Open our hearts and minds
to fully embrace what it means to love you,
to love ourselves,
and to love our neighbors
as you have loved us.

In love and gratitude, we pray.

Amen.

It only takes a spark
To get a fire going
And soon all those around
Can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love
Once you've experienced it
You spread His love to ev'ryone
You want to pass it on

What a wondrous time is spring
When all the trees are budding
The birds begin to sing
The flowers start their blooming
That's how it is with God's love
Once you've experienced it
You want to sing it's fresh like spring
You want to pass it on

I wish for you my friend
This happiness that I've found
You can depend on Him
It matters not where you're bound
I'll shout it from the mountain top
I want my world to know
The Lord of love has come to me
I want to pass it on

Pass It On

Words and Music by
Kurt Kaiser

♩ = 100

VERSE

D

F#m

G



1. It _____ on - ly takes a spark to get a fi - re
2. What a won - drous time is spring when all the trees are
3. I _____ wish for you, my friend, this hap - pi - ness that

4

A

D

F#m



go - ing, _____ and soon all those a - round can
bud - ding. _____ The birds be - gin to sing, the
I've _____ found. _____ You can de - pend on Him, it

8

G

A

D

G



warm up to its glow - ing; _____ That's how it is with
flow - ers start their bloom - ing. _____ That's how it is with
mat - ters not where you're - bound; _____ I'll shout it from the

12

D/F#

Em⁷

A⁷

F#m

Bm



God's _____ love, once you've ex - per - i - enced it: _____ You
God's _____ love, once you've ex - per - i - enced it: _____ You
moun - tain - top, I want my world _ to know: _ The

15

Em⁷

D/F#

G

A⁷

D



spread His love to ev - 'ry - one, you want to pass it on.
want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.
Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

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>

Special Music

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.

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 D⁷ G C G⁷ G⁷

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 G⁷ C

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

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

"Speak to all the congregation of the Israelites and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

"You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor.

You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand idly by when the blood of your neighbor is at stake: I am the LORD.

"You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself.

You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Matthew 22:34-46

Pastor Sylvia

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet" '?

"If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Sermon

"The Greatest Law"

Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann

Prayer of Yearning (*Unison*) (*Psalm 90*)

O God, our help and hope, you have been with us
from the first moment of creation,
forming and teaching us to be your people,
to walk in your ways, and to live in your love.
Come back quickly to us when we turn away.
Give us your compassion and mercy when we feel lost and forsaken.
Fill us with your faithful love and your generous kindness,
that our lives may be full and fulfilling,
and that the work of our hands may be your work in the world.
In your loving name, we pray. Amen.

Words Assurance and Grace (*Pastor*) (*Psalm 90*)

God has been our help and our hope
from generation to generation.
God continues to be our help and our hope,
both now and forevermore.

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.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

Blessing of the Gifts (*Unison*)

Holy Love, we dedicate these gifts to you in hope and trust that, through you, our generosity makes a difference in the world. We give you thanks in advance for the fruit nurtured by this offering. As you bless these gifts, also bless the giver and those entrusted with the stewardship of these resources in your name and for your church and world. Amen.

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.

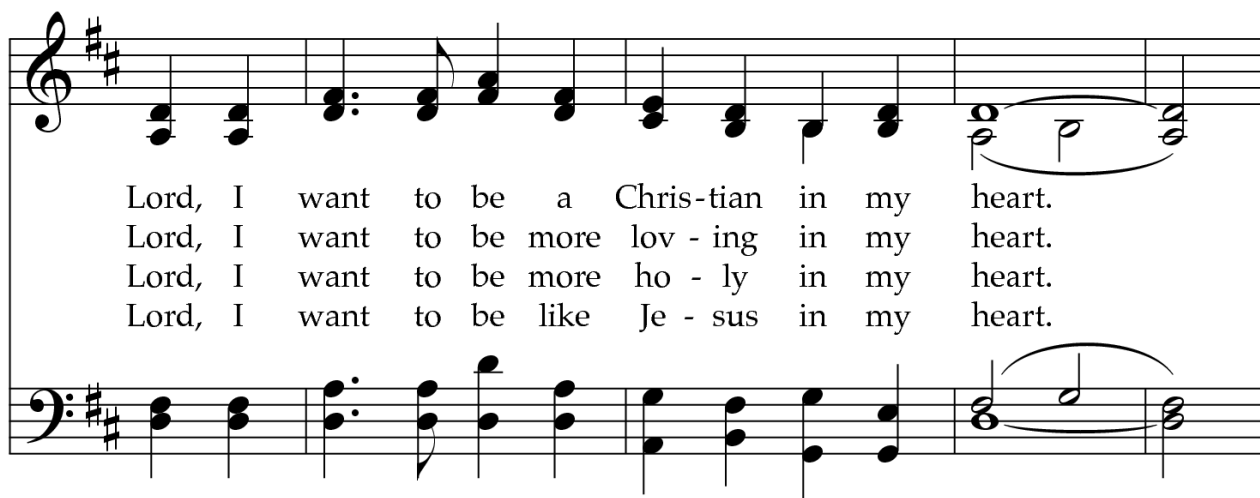
3 Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

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 like Jesus in my heart..

729 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian



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.
 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, in my heart,
 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.

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



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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