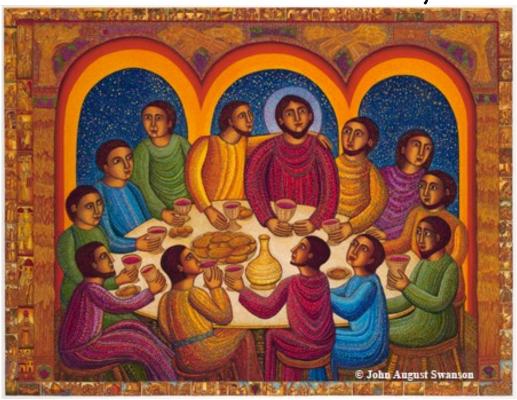
Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

October 5, 2025 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost World Communion Sunday



"Restoration & Reignition"

4 Centering Words

Christians around the world gather this day to share holy communion as one body—a body united in the love and mercy of Christ. We gather with them, rejoicing in our unity in Christ.

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 – October 5, 2025

Prelude Music

Responsive Call to Worship

One: In a world that remains divided and in conflict, God is inviting us, to make us one.

Many: Today we gather around one table, in answer to God's will.

One: What do we find at today's table?

Many: God's love, which endures all things and connects all things.

One: What is not at today's table?

Many: The many powers of the world, which seek to stand over others.

One: Let us repent, and give thanks to God's power to bring salvation to all who believe.

Many: Thanks be to God! Make us witnesses of Your love.

All: Let us worship together the true God, who makes us one.

Unison Opening Prayer

O Source of Justice, we are Your One Body, called to follow Jesus to create beauty and justice on Your One Body, Your planet.

As we experience your Word, may we be awakened to see how suffering hurts the entire body and how beauty enlivens us all. Strengthen us.

Draw us in to witness your vision, to the resilience and resistance of the timeless faithful in the work for justice. AMEN

Gathering Hymn Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees

Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

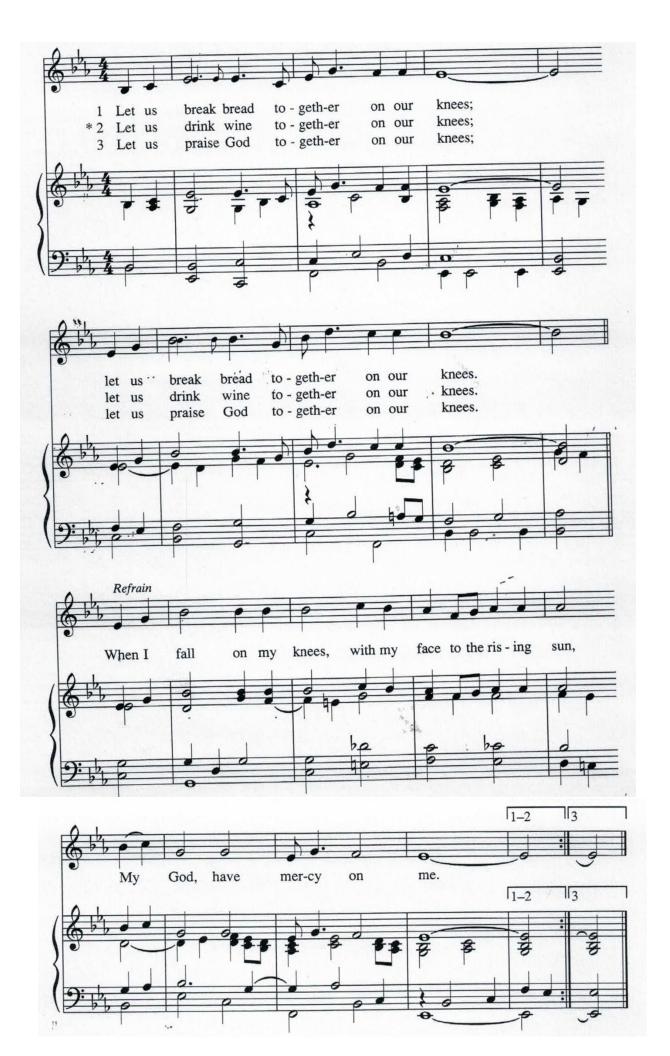
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, My God, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]

3 Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]



Text: 10 10 with refrain; Spiritual. Music: LET US BREAK BREAD.



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

- Sundays Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am
- Wednesdays 5 6:30pm OYS. 6pm Scouts(basement).
- Thursdays at 10am Qi-Gong
- Fridays evenings SWE Rehearsals (sanctuary/parlor)
- Saturdays –SSO Rehearsals (mornings); FCCO Korean Fellowship 10-2
- Today at 4pm SSO Season Opening Musical Mosaic

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.

Glory to the Creator



Psalm 37:1–9 Responsive

1 Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,

2 for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.

3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

4 Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

5 Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

6 He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

7 Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.

8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.

Do not fret—it leads only to evil.

9 For the wicked shall be cut off,

but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

Luke 17:5-10 Pastor Sylvia

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Spirit of Encouragement,

You thrive in our times of doubt. Your work takes root even if the drought of fear destroys our fertile soil. Yet we allow our mistrust of you and our neighbors to disturb our growth. We ask you to increase our faith when we are refusing to cultivate it. Motivate us to seek new ways of exploring our faith. Embolden us to trust even when fear creeps into our minds. Amen.

Words of Assurance

In seasons of drought and rains, God is still giving us the encouragement to grow in faith. Know that through the grace of God, we will continue to find the strength to stretch ourselves and expand our faith.

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

Communion Liturgy

Today, we join Christians around the world who gather at Christ's table in many languages, cultures, and traditions. On this World Communion Sunday, we remember that though we come from many places, we are one body, sharing one bread and one cup in Christ.

Invitation

One: Like a sower, God scatters, and God will give growth.

Many: God scatters life across the earth.

One: God scatters people in every land and nation.

Many: God scatters disciples far and wide.

One: Like a shepherd, God gathers.

Many: God gathers people into families of faith.

One: God gathers people into communities of love.

Many: God gathers people into the body of Christ.

One: Today, on this World Communion Sunday, God gathers us at one table with disciples of every language, culture, and tradition. From cathedrals and chapels, from huts and houses, from fields and cities, God gathers us in many places and makes us one in Christ. At this table, we remember the cost of discipleship and rejoice in the richness of Christ's gifts poured out for the whole world.

Communion Prayer (Together)

Creator of the Universe, Maker of mountains and rivers, deserts and seas, vineyards and wheat fields, we praise you for the life you have given us and for all living things around us! From the seeds you scattered, you gathered the people of Israel, giving them your covenant and your promise. In the fullness of time, you came to us in Jesus of Nazareth, child of Mary and the Promised One of Israel. We honor his teachings, we weep at his suffering, and we rejoice in his risen life.

With angels and archangels, with our ancestors in faith, and with our brothers and sisters who gather at your table across every continent and island, we ask your blessing on this bread and this cup. May these gifts of Christ's body and blood strengthen us to be the gathered and scattered Church in the world—many in culture and expression, yet one in Spirit, one in truth, one in faith, one in love. Gather your scattered seeds into your home of grace and peace, where all creation is renewed in you.

Sharing the Meal - Come, the Table is Ready

Prayer of Thanksgiving (together)

We thank you, generous God, for the nourishment of this table and the living presence of Christ among us. We thank you for the gift of growth and grace in this life-renewing feast. We thank you for the company of your great cloud of witnesses, here in this place, in every land, and throughout the generations. Take your gathered people and scatter us again into the world—renewed, invigorated, and committed—that, so nourished, we may take root and bear life-giving fruit to feed, heal, clothe, and comfort, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Offering - Invitation to Generosity

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

Offering Music

Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Fount of blessing, you pour upon us the abundance of your grace.

We give thanks for the planet we share with all of God's creation and for imagining a world-made-new.

Bless us and these gifts, that they may be a source of blessing to others, in the name Jesus Christ. Amen.

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.
[Refrain]: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in the land.
Refrain...

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

Refrain...

All Praise to our Creator from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit who makes us all one:

Refrain...

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Words and Music by Peter Scholtes



Charge (Responsive)

One: Holy God, we give you thanks for reminding us we are one broken and holy Body in your love.

Many: Thank you for uniting us with other Christians to be your hands and feet in the world as one bread, one Body.

One: Throughout your life, you showed us how to live in community across differences, love in community across differences, worship in community across differences, and in your final days, you gave us a new way to live in the example of giving your whole self in the Last Supper. You gathered with friends as well as those who wished you harm. You broke bread and said this bread, this body, this community is for everyone.

Many: Let this story of love for all people be written on our hearts. Remind us to give our whole selves, as we remember all those who are gathered at this shared table and all tables throughout all time and all places.

Benediction – Unison

May the blessing of our Creator who gathers, our Redeemer who invites, and our Sustainer who breathes new life into our broken Body, be with all of us and at every table we prepare this day and always. Amen. Go in Peace

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 <u>drmann@betheluccontario.org</u> (626) 393-5507 (mobile)

Live Stream Sundays at 10am on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Twitch</u>
*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.