# Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC July 6, 2025 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Sermon - "Reap and Sow"

Centering Words (Galatians 6, Luke 10)
God works through us when we are generous of spirit and the gentle of heart. Though we may feel like lambs in the midst of wolves, our ministries can change the world.

# 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 – July 6, 2025

#### **Prelude Music**

#### **Responsive Call to Worship**

L: Even in the times of darkness, our God surrounds us with help and hope.

P: Our spirits and voices shall continually praise God!

L: Though our hearts ache and war is abounding in the world, God is with us.

P: Help us, O Lord, to see and feel your presence with us.

L: Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, for God has called us here.

P: Let us offer our praise to God who heals and redeems our lives. AMEN.

### **Unison Opening Prayer**

God of endings and beginnings,

we thank you for always starting anew with us.

When we find ourselves at our wits' end, at the end of our rope, at the end of our patience, or even at the end of our hope, you are there. God with us, you send us into the world as your agents of restoration and change. You speak to us in the stillness of our rest and the chaos of a frenzied world. Mend our brokenness and our sadness You guide us in troubling times. You find us and bring us into your new beginning, again and again. Amen.

## Gathering Hymn Come Share The Lord

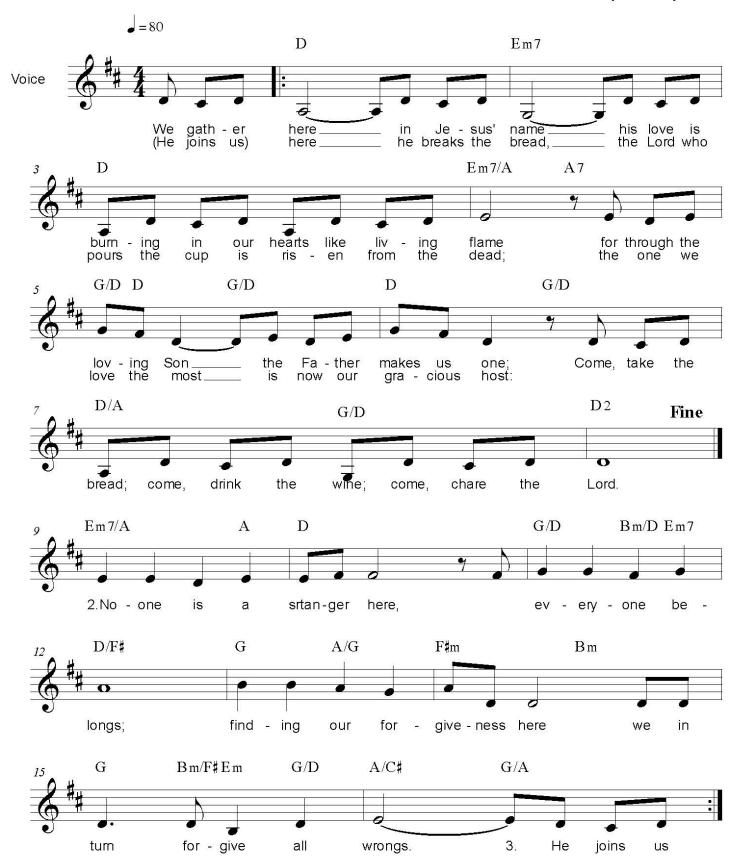
We gather here in Jesus' name
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame
For through His loving Son the Father makes us one
Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord

No one is a stranger here, ev'ryone belongs Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs

He joins us here He breaks the bread
The Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead
The One we love the most is now our gracious host
Come take the bread, come drink the win,e come share the Lord

# Come Share the Lord

Bryan Jeffery Leach



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

- Sundays Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am
- Wednesdays Scouts: 6pm (basement).
  - **OYS:** 5 6:45pm June 4 July 16.
  - o **Spiritual Studies:** 7pm (Parlor) "Resistance"/"How We Learn To Be Brave"
- Thursdays at 10am Qi-Gong
- Fridays evenings Occasional SWE Rehearsals (sanctuary/parlor)
- Saturdays FCCO Korean Fellowship 10-2

**Special Music** Once I Had a Homeland by Barbara Jarrell Pastor Sylvia 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 30

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,

restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."

By your favor, O LORD, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.

To you, O LORD, I cried, and to the LORD I made supplication:

"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit?

Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?

Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me! O LORD, be my helper!"

You have turned my mourning into dancing;

you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

## Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads.

Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher. Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.

#### Gospel: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

#### **Pastor Sylvia**

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

SERMON "Reap and Sow"

Rev. Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann

#### **Unison Prayer of Transformation and New Life**

Spirit of the Living God, temptation surrounds us. Self-preservation lures us to indifference. Fear of confrontation coaxes us to keep silent about things that matter. The desire to be right entices us to ignore the cries of our neighbors. Too often we ignore the call to go and to be in favor of staying stuck in our attitudes and behaviors. Too often, we are the ones who refuse to welcome you into our intimate space, who resist the work of transformation, and who remain unresponsive to the burdens of our siblings in creation. Spirit of Gentleness, redirect us back to the path of life, the way of justice, and the hope of peace. Amen.

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

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

#### **Words of Assurance (Pastor)**

Our Companion and Advocate takes this journey with us. Our invitation to make the kin-dom of God our dwelling place continually renews. The Righteous One opens the door and eases our entry into new life, new mercy, and new grace.

## 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

#### **Holy Communion**

Invitation

Prayer of Blessing and Consecration
Words of Remembrance

**Sharing of the Elements** - All are invited to partake at God's table **Prayer of Thanksgiving:** 

We give thanks, loving God, that you have refreshed us at your table. Strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another. May this bread and drink nourish us as they are the symbol of Christ's essence in all of us. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

#### **Holy Communion - FULL**

Bethel serves an open communion table – all are welcome!

Invitation (Pastor) Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger, and all who believe in me shall not thirst".

With Christians around the world and throughout the centuries, we gather around these symbols of bread and wine—simple elements that speak of nourishment and transformation.

### Prayer of Blessing and Consecration - Let us pray.

Loving God, we thank you that you are as close to us as breath, that your love is constant and unfailing.

We thank you for all that sustains life, and especially for Jesus Christ, who teaches us how to live out an ethic of justice and peace, and for the promise of transformation made manifest in his life, death and resurrection.

We ask you to bless this bread and this cup.

Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, that we may join with you in promoting the well-being of all creation. **Amen.** 

#### **Words of Remembrance**

We remember on the night when Jesus and the disciples had their last meal together,

Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, and gave it to the disciples, saying "This is my body, which is broken for you.

Take and eat it, and as often as you do, remember me."

In the symbol of the broken bread, we participate in the life of Christ and dedicate ourselves to being his disciples.

In the same way he took the cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to the disciples, saying:

"Drink this, all of you. This cup is the new covenant, poured out for you and for many. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

In the symbol of the cup, we participate in the new life

## **Sharing of the Elements**

The gifts of God for you - All are invited to partake at God's table.. come – the table is ready. Let us receive these gifts knowing that we are called to freedom. (you may come forward as you wish to receive communion) (all eat and drink)

#### **Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give thanks, loving God, that you have refreshed us at your table. Strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another. May this bread and drink nourish us as they are the symbol of Christ's essence in all of us. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

#### Offering - Invitation to Generosity (Pastor)

**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







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

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**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** (Luke 10)

Bountiful God, the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

May the offerings we bring before you this day be a sign of our commitment to labor in your vineyard.

May the gifts we share with the world reflect our commitment to bring your kingdom here on earth, as it is in heaven. Amen.

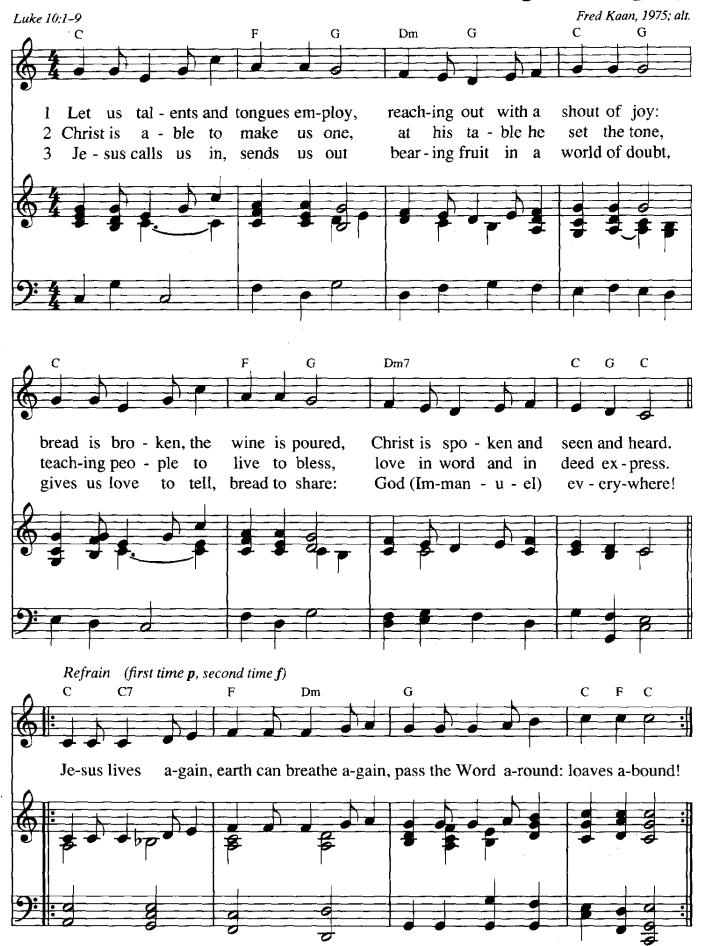
1 Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy; bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard. Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

2 Christ is able to make us one, at his table he sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

# Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

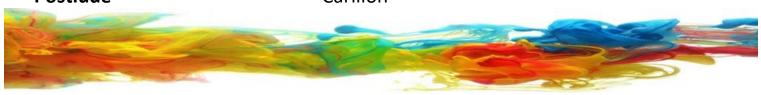


### **Benediction (Blessing)** - Unison(Galatians 6, Luke 10)

In the spirit of Christ, bear one another's burdens; correct one another with gentleness; and heal one another with signs of peace. Rejoice as you leave this place, for if you persevere in doing what is right, you will reap a harvest of joy, hope, and love.

Go with the Peace of God AMEN

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>
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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.