

Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

June 7, 2026 – Second Sunday after Pentecost

Membership Sunday – Communion Sunday

“Blessed to be a Blessing”



Centering Words

(Genesis 12, Matthew 9, Matthew 3:17, Mark 1:11, Luke 3:22b, 2 Peter 1:17b)

You are a blessing simply because you are God's beloved child.

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

536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762

In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at 10am : Facebook, YouTube, Twitch, Twitter

Also available on Vimeo, Roku and Amazon Fire TV

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 – June 7, 2026

Prelude

Music for Gathering

Sandy Gunn

Call to Worship

L: Like Abram and Sarai, God calls us to go into the unknown, trusting that God's promises are true.

P: Whether we are certain or full of doubts, God blesses us that we may be a blessing.

L: God sends us into the world to journey by faith, believing that God's blessings are greater than anything we can imagine.

P: Whether the path is straight or winding, God blesses us that we may be a blessing.

L: God gathers us today with trusted companions, those who also follow God's call, even when it does not make sense to the world around us.

P: Whether we journey with friends or feel all alone, God blesses us that we may be a blessing.

L: As we gather to worship, may we remember that we are God's people, blessed by God to be a blessing to our world that is hurting and desperately in need of good news.

P: God, form us today as a family of faith, that your blessings might flow out of us and into our world, drawing all people into your promise of abundant life and flourishing. Amen.

Unison Opening Prayer

Blessed God, thank you for blessing us
in your myriad ways.

Thank you for trusting us to be your people,
to shine with your love,
and to work for your justice.

In this time of worship, guide and strengthen us,
that we may go forth to bless your world
fully and abundantly.

In your blessed name, we pray. Amen.

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide...

God the still-point of the circle
Round whom all creation turns
Nothing lost but held forever
in God's gracious arms

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide...

Let our hearts touch far horizons
So encompass great and small
Let our loving know no borders
Faithful to God's call

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide...

Let the dreams we dream be larger
Than we've ever dreamed before
Let the dream of Christ be in us
Open every door!

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide...

1. Draw the Circle Wide

Words and music
by Gordon Light

Arrangement by Michael Bloss
Adapted by Jean Strathdee

Capo 3: Play C

♩ = 110

Chords: E^b(C), A^b(F), B^b(G), Cm7(Am7), Fm(Dm), A^b(F), B^b(G)

Chords: E^b(C), A^b(F), B^b(G), E^b(C), A^b(F), B^b(G)

*(wide.) Draw the cir- cle wide. Draw it wid- er still.

Chords: E^b(C), A^b(F), B^b(G), Gm(Em), Cm(Am), A^b(F)

Let this be our song, no one stands a - lone, stand- ing side by

Chords: Fm7(Dm7), B^b(G), E^b(C), A^b(F), 1. E^b(C), E^bsus(Csus), E^b(C) last time

side, draw the cir- cle* wide. (to verses)

* last chorus may be repeated

Draw the Circle Wide p. 2

$E\flat(C)$
 $A\flat(F)$
 $E\flat(C)$
 $B\flat(G)$
 $E\flat(C)$
 $A\flat(F)$

1. God the still - point of the cir - cle, 'Round whom all cre -
 2. Let our hearts touch far hor - i - zons, So en - com - pass -
 3. Let the dreams we dream be larg - er, than we've ev - er

$E\flat(C)$
 $B\flat(G)$
 $Cm(Am)$
 $Fm^7(Dm7)$
 $B\flat(G)$
 $Gm(Em)$
 $Cm(Am)$

a - tion turns; Noth - ing lost, but held for - ev - er,
 great and small; Let our lov - ing know no bor - ders,
 dreamed be - fore; Let the dream of Christ be in us,

$Fm(Dm)$
 $A\flat(F)$
 $Fm^7(Dm7)$
 $B\flat(G)$
 $B\flat^7(G7)$

in God's grac - ious arms. _____
 Faith - ful to God's call. _____
 O - pen ev - ery door. _____

Welcome, Passing the Peace – Announcements

- **Sundays** – Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am)
- **Wednesdays** – 4:30pm – OYS; 6pm Scouts(basement)
- **Thursdays 10am** - Qi-Gong/Tai Chi
- **Fridays** – evenings SWE Rehearsals (sanctuary/parlor)

Upcoming Events/Concerts: Today – Music Student Recital (FCCO) (evening)

Musicians' Club Sunday June 14 3:30pm

SWE Concert – Sat June 20 4pm

Special Music *Rainbow Connection* by Paul Williams & Kenneth Ascher

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.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). Chords are indicated above the vocal line.

System 1: 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: 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: Chords: C, G, G/F, C/E, C/G, G⁷, C. Lyrics: shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

Genesis 12:1-9

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.

I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.

Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Psalms 33:1-12

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

Praise befits the upright.

Praise the Lord with the lyre;

make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

For the word of the Lord is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.

He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.

He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle; he put the deeps in storehouses.

Let all the earth fear the Lord;

let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.
The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
The counsel of the Lord stands forever,
the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Dr. Mann

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

Sermon

"Blessed to be a Blessing"

Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann

Liturgy for Reception of New Members

We welcome the *Tia (Tinuviel Aries Feiler)* into membership at Bethel

Invitation

Pastor: ... all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ

People: **For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and all were made to drink of one Spirit.**

Pastor: ... the gifts which the Holy Spirit bestows.

Introduction and Questions (*candidate and congregation respond as directed*)

Affirmation of Faith **(stand as you are able)*

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

People: ***I believe in God.***

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: ***I believe in Jesus Christ.***

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: ***I believe in the Holy Spirit.***

(The congregation may be seated.)

Address (*...we celebrate your presence in this household of faith.*)

Welcome and Reception **(stand as you are able)*

Pastor: Let us express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

PEOPLE: **We welcome you with joy in the common life of Bethel. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

Greeting of Christian Love (*Pastor and Church Leaders*)

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Bethel United Church of Christ, we extend to you the hand of Christian love.

Prayer

PASTOR: Let Us Pray

ALL: **O God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the church, the body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered here and rejoice that you have increased our community of faith.**

Together may we live in the Spirit, building one another up in love, sharing in the life and worship of the church, and serving the world for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen

Prayer of Yearning (*Genesis 12, Matthew 9*)

Compassionate Christ, we yearn for that mysterious gift of shalom.
We long for healing and wholeness, for peace and comfort.
But the gift all too often seems elusive, or even absent.
Touch our hearts and heal our weary souls.
Bless our wounds,
that we may bless others in need of your love.
Soothe our fears with courage,
that we may be strong enough to answer your call.
Raise us into new life with your miraculous grace,
that we may be blessings of miraculous grace
in your world. Amen.

Words of Grace (*Matthew 28:20b NRSV*)

When God sends us out, God goes with us. God helps us be kind,
God helps us be brave, And God helps us be loving,
Because we are all a part of God's beloved community. Amen.

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

Holy Communion

Bethel serves an open communion table – all are welcome!

Invitation (Pastor)

Prayer of Blessing and Consecration

Words of Remembrance

Sharing of the Elements - All are invited to partake at God's table

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy Creator, we remember the sacrifice of Jesus, and all who follow to bring
your light and love to the world. 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)

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.



Scan. Pay. Go.

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

Unison Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

God of abundance and love, you bless our lives,
that we might be a blessing to others.

May the offerings we bring before you this day
be a sign of our commitment to bless the world in your name.

We send forth these gifts, that they may be instruments of your circle
of grace and faith. Amen.

*Singing into Mission *Blessed Be The Tie That Binds*

1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the sharing of a common life is like to that above.

2 Before our God we come and pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

3 We share each other's woes, Each other's burdens bear.
And often for each other flows a sympathizing tear.

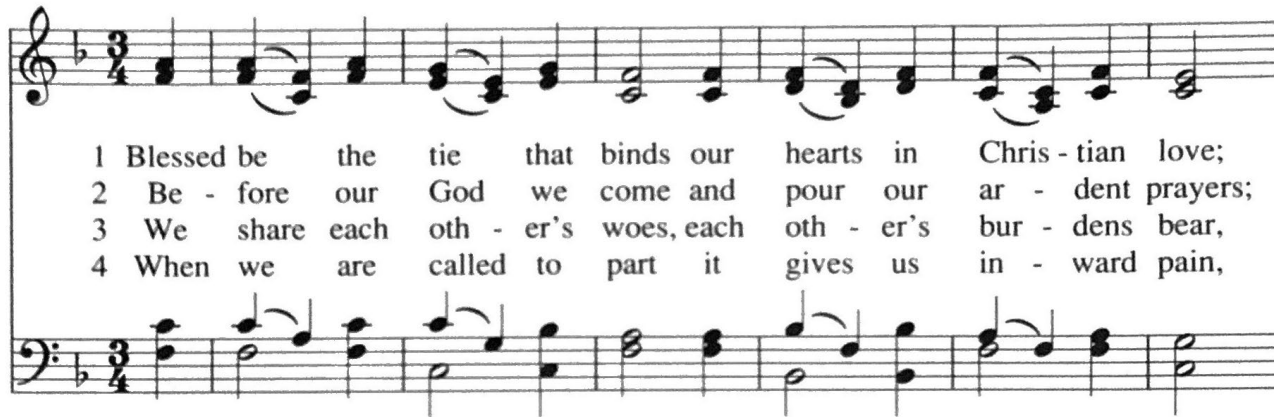
4 When we are called to part it gives us inward pain,
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

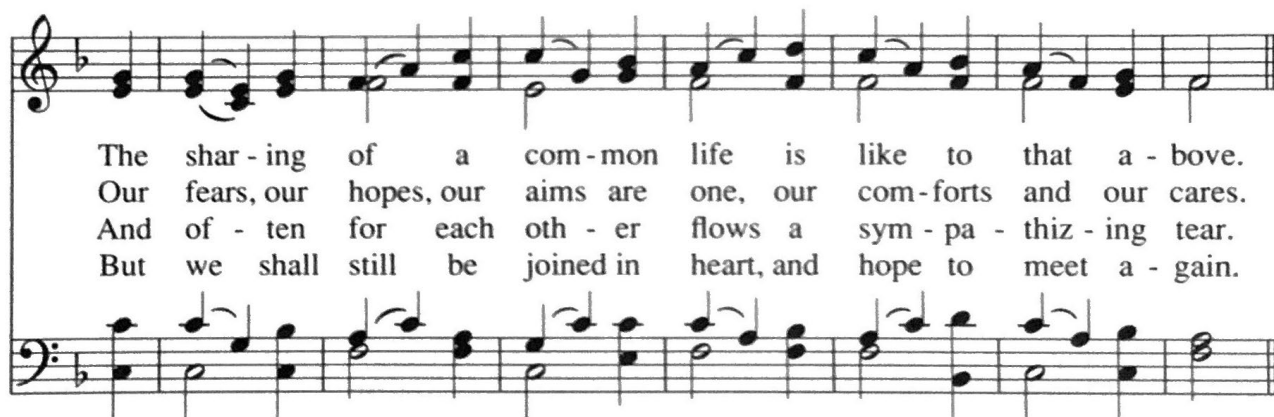
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John Fawcett, 1782; alt.

Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15



1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,
4 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,



The shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

Unison Benediction

God has blessed us beyond measure.
We will be blessings for God and God's
world.
Holy Spirit, show us the way.
For we will go where you lead us,
and love as you love us.

AMEN

Postlude

Carillon



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Live Stream Worship Sundays at 10 am on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitch](#)

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