



**Bethel**  
CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Born of Love

Shaped by Grace

Transformed for Service

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SSID: Bethel\_Guest - Password: guestpassword

# Order of Worship September 17, 2017

\*Indicates an invitation to stand as you are able.

The congregation is invited to respond with the words printed in BOLD.

Hearing devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

Please turn off the ringtone on your cell phone.

## Gathering Music

## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: It is a privilege to gather together to seek the presence of God.

People: **We gather with humble and hopeful expectations that our worship will open us to God's love for us; and strengthen our love of God.**

Leader: It is a challenge to trust God enough to share all of who we are: what we cherish and what we hide.

People: **We gather with humble and hopeful expectations that our worship will open us to God's love for us; and strengthen our love of God.**

Leader: It is a blessing to seek the face of God in this gathered community, and in the larger communities God calls us to serve.

People: **We gather with humble and hopeful expectations that our worship will open us to God's love for us; and strengthen our love of God.**

ALL: **May our worship draw us closer to God's heart of love and the whole of Creation.**



\*Sing! #16 (Verses 1-4)

Come to the Water

## Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

**Gracious and Powerful God, the Source of Life and the Giver of wisdom and peace, thank you for planting your spirit in us; for making us in your image. At times, we struggle to live into the identity to be your people. We blame others for our own problems. We turn the other way when we see hatred or violence. We ignore our dependence on you and on others and act as if we are in control of our lives and the lives of others. We confess these or other thoughts and acts that are death-dealing rather than life-affirming. (Brief silence for personal reflection). Holy God, we believe that as we speak the truth of our lives, you heal us and prepare us for continued faithfulness and abundant living. May it be so, through the name and spirit of your Son, Jesus, who taught us to pray...Our Father/Mother...**

## The Sacrament of Baptism - Alexandra Jo Gordon

*Parents Nate and Meredith Gordon present their daughter for baptism.*

*Standing with them as Godparents are Rob Zaebst and Sarah Malone. After the baptism, teachers and children/youth are invited to depart to the Education Hall for Sunday School classes. Parents are welcome to accompany their children to help with the transition.*

### Congregational Affirmation:

**We, as partners with you in the community of faith, join in the covenant that you acknowledge this day on behalf of your daughter, Alexandra. We receive her as new person in Christ. We offer our understanding and support to her and her family, as she journeys through life. We enfold you in our love, seeking together to grow in wisdom and stature in favor with God and all people.**

\*Hymn #351

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

Scripture

Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Psalm 96:1, 11-12; John 10:14-16

Sermon

Progressive Christianity: Love of God

Prayer of Unity

\*Hymn #23

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Jesus Loves Me

Chancel Choir



\*Sing! #99

**Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.**

**Like the starry night sky, God is over our head.**

**Like the sun on the horizon, God is ever before.**

**Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God ever more.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn 32

God of the Sparrow God of the Whale

\*Benediction

Postlude

Chapelle de Guillaume Tell

Franz Liszt

# Mission Statement

- While our Christian faith is 2000 years old, our thinking is not.
- We are a people on a faith journey where grace abounds.
- We celebrate God's still speaking voice revealed in our world today.
- We worship God, share the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and practice God's unconditional love for all creation.
- We act on our faith to achieve needed works of service, justice, love and kindness.
- We support one another, celebrating our roots and enthusiastically embracing our evolving future.
- We are an open and affirming congregation welcoming all in God's family wherever each is in life's journey.

## Birthdays This Week

Heather Hagen 09/18

Yvonne Yang 09/22

## Today's Worship Leaders

Reader—Jeanine Elliott

Ushers—John Bentley (Head)

Flowers—Lynne Elbert

Coffee and Food—Lynne Elbert, Carolyn Rundorff, Barbara Hess

Open and Close—Jonathan Schlueter

Sound—Robert Keniston, Jim Keniston

Nursery—Kathryn Fairman, Lauren Hake

Elementary—Jim Butler, Karen Strickland

Youth—Pam Schlueter, Ken Ruse

Prayer chain requests—[prayer-chain@bethelbeaverton.org](mailto:prayer-chain@bethelbeaverton.org) or 503-625-0910