Today, retired United Methodist pastor and chaplain, Rev. James Ellis Griffeth, will speak at Bethel at 4 pm in the sanctuary. Rev. Griffieth will be speaking about a more progressive understanding of scripture. On August 27 at 6 pm, Rev. Michael Turner will offer his thoughts on the traditional understanding of scripture. Rev. Turner is the newly announced Executive Pastor at Mt. Horeb Church.

Epworth is our ministry! Epworth is currently serving over 350 children and families through their Residential and Independent Living programs, statewide foster care program, the Epworth Center for Counseling, the Early Intervention Center, and prevention services. We will participate in the annual Work Day Offering on Sunday, September 10th, to benefit the children who are served by Epworth. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit epworthchildrenshome.org or find them on social media.

Prayer REQUESTS

Arthur Cumming
Mary Cummings
Libby Davenport
HJ Fleming
Mary Hall
Cathy Hanks
Art Hartzog
David Holder
Toni Holder
Jerry Holland
Carolyn O'Dell
Jerry Reitzel
Maxine Reynolds
Terry Trnavsky

Scan to visit our website

Church Office Hours
Monday – Thursday: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Friday: 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Brad Gray
Executive Pastor

Dale Fischer
Director of Music

Megan Gray
Pastor of Discipleship & Belonging

Jana Mathis
Director of Children's Ministries

Dr. Kristine Lee
Organist

Chad Deetz
Youth Minister

Jennifer Bartless
Children's Ministry Assistant

BETHEL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Invite. Grow. Send.

To all who are weary and need rest; To all who are burdened and need relief; To all who are lonely and need friends; To all who are looking for something that only God can provide; To all who sin and need a Savior; To whosoever will come, Bethel UMC, the House of God, opens her doors, and in the name of Jesus Christ says, "Welcome!"

August 20, 2023 **12th Sunday after Pentecost**

11:00 AM Worship Service

Prelude *"Rejoice, the Lord is King"* John Darwall

Trinity Chimes

Welcome & Announcements

*Call to Worship
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

*Passing of the Peace

*Hymn *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"* UMH 89

*Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed* UMH 881

*Gloria Patri UMH 71

Scripture Reading Judges 16: 4-22

Offering

Offertory *"Meditation"* C.F. Becker
Kristine Lee, organ

*Doxology *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* UMH 95

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Children's Time

Hymn of Preparation *"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"* UMH 420
During the hymn, you are invited to the altar to join the pastor in assuming a posture of prayer. All are welcome.

Prayers of the People
Leader: The Lord be with you.
Response: **And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.

Anthem *"Be Strong in the Lord"* Brad Nix
Sanctuary Choir

Scripture Reading Judges 16: 23 -30
Reader: This is the word of the Lord.
Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Children's Stories: Samson and Delilah* Rev. Megan Gray

*Hymn *"Abide with Me"* UMH 700

*Benediction

*Postlude *"And Can It Be"* Charles Wesley

**Please stand if able*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A nursery is available on the First Floor for infants and children under 3 years.

After Children's Time, preschool and kindergarten are invited to **Wee Church** and 1st through 5th grade are invited to **Children's Church**, both in the Children's Wing.

Ushers: Blair Mathis, Mike Woodrum, Chris Moore & Andy Cannon

Altar Flowers: The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Brandon & Leanna Johnson's anniversary by Bill & Sheila Dobbins.