



**Bethany Presbyterian Church**

# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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## **Lighting the Christ Candle**

*The candle is lit to awaken us to the presence of God, to alert us to the invitation of Christ, the Light of the world, and to affirm our unity in Christ (in this sanctuary, our homes in Seattle, and around the world).*

## **Prelude**

### **Welcome**

*Danielle Merseles, Associate Pastor*

*Leader: The Lord be with you!*

*People: And also with you!*

### **Introduction of Leslie Ross & Griffin Oakes**

*Doug Kelly, Senior Pastor*

## **Passing the Peace of Christ**

## **Call to Worship**

**\*Song** *Great Things* by Phil Wickham and Jonas Myrin

Come, let us worship our King

Come, let us bow at His feet

He has done great things

See what our Savior has done

See how His love overcomes

He has done great things

He has done great things

*O Hero of heaven, You conquered the grave*

*You free every captive and break every chain*

*O God, You have done great things*

*We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive*

*O Jesus, our Savior, Your name lifted high*

*O God, You have done great things*

You've been faithful through every storm

You'll be faithful forevermore

You have done great things

And I know You will do it again

For Your promise is Yes and Amen

You will do great things  
God, you do great things (*Chorus*)  
Hallelujah, God above it all  
Hallelujah, God unshakable  
Hallelujah, You have done great things (*Repeat*)  
You've done great things (*Chorus*)  
You have done great things  
O God, You do great things

**\*Hymn #475** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love  
Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I'm come  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood

**Silent Listening**

**Prayer of Confession and Declaration of Forgiveness**

**Godly Play**

*Tony Fues*

**Our Prayers to God**

*Danielle Merseles*

[>> Click Here for the Virtual Prayer Wall >>](#)

**Offering: Responding to God's Great Love**

[>> Click Here to Give Online >>](#)

*Leader:* You have given all to me.

*People:* To You, Lord, I return it.

*Leader:* Everything is Yours.

*People:* Do with it what You will.

*Leader:* Give me only Your love and grace.

*People:* That is enough for me.

**Special Music**    *We Will Remember*    by Tommy Walker

*We will remember, we will remember  
We will remember the works of your hands  
We will stop and give You praise  
For great is Thy faithfulness*

You're our creator, our life sustainer  
Deliverer, our comfort our joy  
Throughout the ages, You've been our shelter  
Our peace in the midst of the storm  
With signs and wonders You've shown Your power  
With precious blood, You showed us Your grace  
You've been our helper, our liberator  
The giver of life with no end (*Chorus*)  
When we walk through life's darkest valleys  
We will look back at all You have done  
And we will shout, our God is good  
And He is the faithful One (*Chorus*)

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*Ushers*

**Sermon**    *Twelve Stones*

*Jeff Van Duzer*

Text:        Joshua 4, selected verses (Pew Bible: OT, p. 181-182)

**The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper**

***The Lord's Prayer***    (p. 35 in hymnal)

*Please come forward to form two lines. There are two ways to receive the sacrament: you may take a communion kit and partake of it in your pew; or you may receive a piece of bread, dip it in the common cup, and partake of the elements. If you would like gluten-free, just ask your server for it. Those who do not wish to receive the sacraments can simply cross their arms and they will receive a brief blessing. A leader is available up front for intercessory prayer.*

**Song**    *Lead Me to The Cross*    by Brooke Ligertwood

Savior I come, quiet my soul  
Remember redemption's hill  
Where Your blood was spilled for my ransom

*Ev'rything I once held dear, I count it all as loss  
Lead me to the cross, where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees, Lord, I lay me down  
Rid me of myself, I belong to You  
Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross*

You were as I, tempted and tried, human  
The Word became flesh  
Bore my sin in death  
Now, You're risen (*Chorus*)

To your heart; to your heart  
Lead me to your heart  
Lead me to your heart (*Chorus x2*)

**\*Song** *Oh! Great Is Our God!* by Brian Eichelberger

Oh! Great is our God, so we should worship greatly  
No song is too loud, no orchestra too stately  
To hail the majesty of our King  
So lift your voices loud as we sing  
Oh! Great is our God, so let our songs be endless  
So awesome His ways, how could we comprehend them  
So we will make it known to our kids  
And we will sing about the gracious gifts You give  
*We will sing Your praise and pour forth Your fame  
We will bless Your name  
Let everyone give thanks, because our God is great*  
Oh! Great is our God, and we cannot contain it  
We sing from our souls, affected by His greatness  
His mercy covers all that He's made  
Showing His glory and His grace (*Chorus*)

## **Benediction**

**Hymn** #606 *Doxology*

## **Postlude**

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**Preaching Today:** *Jeff Van Duzer*

**Leading Worship:** *Danielle Merseles*

**Ministers:** *You, who are touched by God's grace, being healed by God's love.*

**Date:** *September 1, 2024*

**Cover:** *BlueOrange Studio*

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## TODAY

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**Preaching today is Jeff Van Duzer.** *Jeff is a long-time member who has been preaching regularly at Bethany for over forty years. He is currently exploring retirement and finding ways to spend his newfound spaciousness. Margie and he have two adult sons, two daughters-in-law, and three delightful grandchildren.*

**Leading worship today is Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adults, Danielle Merseles.**

### **Children's Programming**

- **Childcare:** *Ages 2 years and younger in room #102 at the beginning of the service.*
- **10:00am:** *Children 3 years and older stay with parents in service.*

**Godly Play in Worship** | *Through August, we are experiencing Godly Play during our children's message time. This year, the theme is "Forming a People for God." Please note – we'll be using the big screen during worship so everyone can see the Godly Play story, and then it will be removed from the sanctuary.*

**Welcome Interim Staff** | *Please welcome Leslie Ross and Griffin Oakes to their interim roles with us. Leslie is our Interim Director of Communications, overseeing all our web and print communications. Griffin is stepping in as our Interim Systems Coordinator to manage our online worship live streaming and oversee churchwide technology systems and equipment.*

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## REGULAR GATHERINGS

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**No Coffee Monday This Week** | *Event will resume September 9, 2:30-5:00pm at Queen Anne Coffee Co, with Pastor Doug.*

**Wednesday Night Dinner** | 5:00-6:30pm | Fellowship Hall  
*WND resumes this week! This is an open-door community ministry of Bethany. All are welcome to join us for dinner!*

**Young Adult Gathering** | Wed, Sept 4, 6:30-8:30pm | Bethany's  
*YA Gathering resumes its regular meeting on the 1st & 3rd Wed of each month, dinner provided. If you are postcollege-ish thru early 30's-ish and you are interested in community, this group is for you. Feel free to invite a friend! If you have any questions, email Matt Miller at [mattm@bethanypc.org](mailto:mattm@bethanypc.org).*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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[Click Here for Sign-Ups & Information for  
Upcoming Events Listed Below](#)

**Bethany Returns to Two Services** | Starting September 8th | *Next week, Bethany returns to our regular schedule -- Sunday morning services at 9am in-person in the Sanctuary and online, and also in-person at 10:45am.*

**Middle East: History and Current Peacemaking Organizations** | Sept 15, 22, & 29th, 9:00am | Parlor | *The situation in the Middle East is both heartbreaking and often times confusing. Join SPU History professor Alissa Walter for a special two-part history of the conflict, followed by a third week led by Tim and Kerry Dearborn highlighting peacemaking organizations and initiatives in the region, and time of prayer. Contact Marisa with questions: [marisag@bethanypc.org](mailto:marisag@bethanypc.org).*

**Bethany Book Fest** | Sun, Sept 15, After 2nd Service | *We're celebrating Bethany authors with book sales and signings, and hosting a book swap. Grab a few books and/or donate any you think someone else may enjoy. We'll send any extras to Books to Prisoners, a Seattle-based non-profit organization that collects book requests from people who are incarcerated. Please drop off your donated books to the church library Sun morning on Sept 1st or 8th, or Sat, Sept 14th 9a-12p. For more information or to sign up to help, contact Marisa Gronholz at [marisag@bethanypc.org](mailto:marisag@bethanypc.org).*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Choir Retreat at Bethany | Sat, Sept 21st, 9am–1pm** | *Let your heart sing out loud. Now is the perfect time to give the Bethany Choir a try. Join us Saturday Sept 21st for breakfast, lunch and lots of joyous singing. More details coming soon.*

**Staffing Task Force Information & Listening Session | Date Changed to Sun, Sept 22nd, 10:45am-11:30pm | Parlor** | *Join the members of Session's Staffing Task Force in the Parlor for a second gathering to hear about their process of examining our staff structure in order to recommend some staffing hour reductions. Bring your curiosity, insights, suggestions and prayers.*

**Men's Retreat – Early Bird Registration Ends Today! | Sept 27-29 Camp Casey** | [Click to register](#) today for \$195. Starting Sept 2, the cost is \$215. *Join us at iconic Camp Casey on Whidbey Island for a weekend of fellowship, rest, friendship, worship, and growth. Our theme: "Did Jesus Really Expect That?" Our speaker is Bob Drovdahl, emeritus professor of Educational Ministry at SPU and active congregant at Bethany.*

**Interested in Joining a Small Group?** | *As you look toward fall, is there a space in your life (or in your home group) to join with a small group to share life and faith together? Are you being invited to step into something new? Or return to something shared with others on the journey? New group sign ups coming in September. Send thoughts, questions, or ideas about leading, joining, or hosting, to Jennifer Steenstra, Group Life Elder at [jennifersteenstra.b@gmail.com](mailto:jennifersteenstra.b@gmail.com).*

**Save The Date: 90 Year Organ Anniversary Concert | Sun, Oct 20, 4pm-5pm** | *Bethany's organ turns 90 years old! We'll have a blowout birthday concert with guest organists and our own Sylvia Oines at the helm.*