

Bethany United Church of Christ

September 7, 2025

As you prepare your heart for worship it might be helpful to read through the call to worship and the prayer of confession and think about them.

Prelude and Bell Ringing
Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Call to Worship (from Psalm 139)

Leader: O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

Congregation: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

L: You search out my path and my lying down;

C: are acquainted with all my ways.

L: Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

C: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

L: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

C: Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?

L: Search me, O God, and know my heart!

C: Try me and know my thoughts!

L: And see if there be any wicked way in me,

C: and lead me in the way everlasting!

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn of Praise #17 "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above"

Call to Confession

Unison Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, forgive us. We often sin in our attitude and actions towards the world. We try to ignore it, or we complain about it. We worry about it, but then we mostly leave it to others to deal with. We sin in different ways, but we seldom think or pray about what you would have us do to make a difference. Forgive us and fill us with your Holy Spirit. Guide us in ways we can influence what happens in the world beyond our little corner of it. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*GLORIA PATRI

Invitation to the Children (Jesus Loves the Little Children)

Children's time

Pre-K to Grade 2 children dismiss to church entryway for Sunday School

Scripture

Old Testament lesson - Jeremiah 18:1-12
New Testament lesson - Luke 14:25-33

Sermon "Political Christians"

*Hymn of Preparation #170 "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Offering, Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn of Commitment #252 "Once to Every Man and Nation"

*Charge and Benediction

Amen! We go forth to serve.

*Choral Response: "God Be with You" #177 (SS) (v. 1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY - Rev. Darwin Smith

Women's Fellowship would like to thank all those involved in helping make the Blessing Box project come to fruition: "A big thanks to Don Savage for the construction of the box. It is perfect. Our second thanks goes to the Church Council who installed and landscaped the box. There is no way we could have done any of these projects. The third thanks is to Joel, who will be helping Marian get the word out to the people of Tioga. Bethany is truly blessed with wonderful members."

The Friends of Unit 4 Fall Festival is this coming Saturday, September 13, from 2 p.m. until the late evening, at the Adams County Fairgrounds. The annual event raises funds for Unit 4 school activities. This year features country band Lick Creek at 7:30 p.m., as well as food, a raffle, an auction, and other activities for any age throughout the day. See the bulletin strip for more information.

September-October Upper Rooms are available in the entryway.

Loretta Wollbrink is celebrating her 90th birthday Thursday, September 18, with a card shower. If you would like to send a card, her address is 620 Pawn Ave., Quincy, IL 62301.

SAVE THE DATES:

Women's Bible Study: Mondays, 9:30 a.m.

Men's Event: Sunday, November 9, 6 p.m.

Jared Roskamp is greeter today, Jane Roskamp next week. Thanks to the greeter, Rev. Smith, the musician, AV tech - all who helped with the service.

WELCOME ALL! If you are a visitor, please sign the guest register and come again.

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