

Conclusion of Bible Reading

<sup>29</sup>Then Queen Esther, the daughter of Abihail, along with Mordecai the Jew, wrote another letter putting the queen’s full authority behind Mordecai’s letter to establish the Festival of Purim. <sup>30</sup>Letters wishing peace and security were sent to the Jews throughout the 127 provinces of the empire of Xerxes. <sup>31</sup>These letters established the Festival of Purim—an annual celebration of these days at the appointed time, decreed by both Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther. (The people decided to observe this festival, just as they had decided for themselves and their descendants to establish the times of fasting and mourning.) <sup>32</sup>So the command of Esther confirmed the practices of Purim, and it was all written down in the records.

Romans 8.28

<sup>28</sup>And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Special Senior: Karen Johnson  
Please sign the card located on the table in the entryway

Today’s Volunteers

- 1<sup>st</sup> Service Coffee Server: Ed Kawaleski
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Service Coffee Servers: Jill Mouw & Dianna Ockaski
- 1<sup>st</sup> Service Nursery: Amy Kunnen
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Service Nursery: Sally Hendrixon

Deep Sheet

(a place for your notes)

God works in mischievous and mysterious ways. A coincidence is a miracle in which God prefers to remain anonymous. He is always working in the background to make things better for those who love him.

What percentage of Americans know what “Independence Day” celebrates?

How many times does the book of Esther mention God?

What is “Purim?”

Other Notes:

July Weekly Bible Readings

| Date | Day | New Testament | ☑ | Special Prayer | Old Testament | ☑ |
|------|-----|---------------|---|----------------|---------------|---|
| 5    | Su  | Mark 6        |   |                | Hosea 9       |   |
| 6    | Mo  | Mark 7        |   |                | Hosea 10      |   |
| 7    | Tu  | Mark 8        |   |                | Hosea 11      |   |
| 8    | We  | Mark 9        |   |                | Hosea 12      |   |
| 9    | Th  | Mark 10       |   |                | Hosea 13      |   |
| 10   | Fr  | Mark 11       |   |                | Hosea 14      |   |
| 11   | Sa  | Mark 12       |   |                | Joel 1        |   |
| 12   | Su  | Mark 13       |   |                | Joel 2        |   |

Holy Coincidences



July 5, 2026

Laketon Bethel’s Core Values:

A. ACCEPTANCE:

Everyone, regardless of who they are, what they have done, or what they are doing, will be accepted here. Laketon Bethel will be a safe place to explore your relationship with Jesus.

B. BIBLE:

The teachings of Jesus, contained in the Bible, are the final authority for faith and practice. We will study these teachings with open minds and the best scholarship available.

C. CONNECTION:

We invite people to connect with Jesus and with each other in all that we do.

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Office Hours Tues. - Fri. 9am - 1pm

## Order of Worship - 9:00am

Gathering Song  
    “Almighty”  
Call to Worship  
    “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”  
Welcome & Announcements  
Congregational Prayer  
Worship in Song  
    “Grace Greater Than Our Sin”  
    “Amazing Grace”  
Crosstalk - “Holy Coincidences”  
Offering  
    “As the Deer”  
Benediction  
    “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”



## Order of Worship - 11:00am

Gathering Song  
    “Holy Water”  
Call to Worship  
    “The Joy”  
Welcome & Announcements  
Congregational Prayer  
Worship in Song  
    “Way Maker”  
    “What a Beautiful Name/Agnus Dei”  
Crosstalk - “Holy Coincidences”  
Offering  
    “Let It Be a Hallelujah”  
Benediction  
    “God Be With You”

## Announcements

**Membership Information Meeting** Are you interested in what church membership is all about? Or perhaps you're considering becoming a member here at Laketon Bethel? Join us for an informal informational meeting July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. We will answer your questions and—if you feel ready—provide an opportunity to officially become a member. There is absolutely no pressure; it’s simply a space to learn how it all works. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway if you plan to attend.

**Laketon Bethel Students – Lake Day!** Join us on Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup> as the DeBoer family hosts Laketon Bethel Students for an afternoon of summer fun and fellowship at the lake! Come and enjoy swimming, games, food, and time together as we grow in friendship and faith.

**Laketon Bethel Kids** We have concluded the 2025-2026 School Year and can begin the registrations for 2026-2027. Pick up a form at the Check-In Station or register online at [laketonbethel.org](http://laketonbethel.org) and look for **Children’s Ministry** under the **Ministries** tab to find the link for the registration page.

## Service Opportunities

**Supper House** This Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, volunteers will meet at Temple United Methodist Church at 2500 Jefferson St. to serve a meal. If you would like to be a part of this service, be there by 2:45pm. See Dave DeBoer for more information.

**Sacred Suds (Helping Every Living Person Survive)** With warmer weather finally here, T-shirts, short sleeve shirts, light jackets etc. will be appreciated. ***There is a special need for new or used men's small and medium underwear along with socks.*** Laundry detergent, towels, washcloths, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, soap or body wash are always welcome donations also.

## Esther 7, New Living Translation

So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther’s banquet. <sup>2</sup>On this second occasion, while they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “Tell me what you want, Queen Esther. What is your request? I will give it to you, even if it is half the kingdom!”

<sup>3</sup>Queen Esther replied, “If I have found favor with the king, and if it pleases the king to grant my request, I ask that my life and the lives of my people will be spared. <sup>4</sup>For my people and I have been sold to those who would kill, slaughter, and annihilate us. If we had merely been sold as slaves, I could remain quiet, for that would be too trivial a matter to warrant disturbing the king.”

<sup>5</sup>“Who would do such a thing?” King Xerxes demanded. “Who would be so presumptuous as to touch you?”

<sup>6</sup>Esther replied, “This wicked Haman is our adversary and our enemy.” Haman grew pale with fright before the king and queen.

<sup>9</sup>Then Harbona, one of the king’s eunuchs, said, “Haman has set up a sharpened pole that stands seventy-five feet tall in his own courtyard. He intended to use it to impale Mordecai, the man who saved the king from assassination.”

“Then impale Haman on it!” the king ordered. <sup>10</sup>So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai, and the king’s anger subsided.

## Esther 9

<sup>20</sup>Mordecai recorded these events and sent letters to the Jews near and far, throughout all the provinces of King Xerxes, <sup>21</sup>calling on them to celebrate an annual festival on these two days.<sup>[1]</sup> <sup>22</sup>He told them to celebrate these days with feasting and gladness and by giving gifts of food to each other and presents to the poor. This would commemorate a time when the Jews gained relief from their enemies, when their sorrow was turned into gladness and their mourning into joy.

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