

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 21, 2024 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

WL: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

WL: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

WL: God, our provider,

C: ... help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

WL: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

Psalm 23

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters, His goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in You alone, and I will trust in You alone; For your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness, and He anoints my head with oil; And my cup, it overflows with joy, I feast on His pure delights.

And I will trust in You alone, and I will trust in You alone; For your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home.

And though I walk the darkest path, I will not fear the evil one; For You are with me, and Your rod and staff are the comfort I need to know.

And I will trust in You alone, and I will trust in You alone; For your endless mercy follows me, Your goodness will lead me home.

Greeting

WL: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all!

C: And also with you!

Kyrie

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

C: O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

Peggy Burns, SAM

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the "flock" of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David's line to save Israel and Judah.

1 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. 2 Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. 3 Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. 4 I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. 5 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 6 In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

11 Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—12 remember that you were at that time

without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15 He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16 and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. 17 So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18 for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. 21 In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.

WL: A reading from... C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

30 The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. 31 He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. 32 And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. 33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. 34 As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. 53 When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. 54 When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, 55 and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. 56 And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

WL: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Peggy Burns, SAM

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. *(continued on next page)*

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church / Sign of the Peace *(Let us give one another a sign of peace according to your comfort level.)*

Offering / Offering Song:

Zeke Clemons

Offertory:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
 we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
 all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
 with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray together,

C: **Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.**

Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Final Blessing

WL: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.
C: Amen.

Sending Song:

Send Me, Jesus

Gather #293

1. Send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me
Jesus, send me, Lord
2. Lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus, lead me
Jesus, lead me, Lord

3. Fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus, fill me
Jesus, fill me, Lord
4. Send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me
Jesus, send me, Lord

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem July 21, 2024
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7/21—Sandra Schichtel
7/22—Stephen Kramer
7/23—Jim Hutchinson

7/25—Betty Rutila
7/26—Helen Rafeld
7/26—Jalen Provo

7/26—Sandy Merrifield
7/28—Julia Acker

1050 Peninsula Drive
Traverse City, MI 49686
(231) 947-9880
www.bethlehemtc.org

We welcome Peggy Burns as our Worship Leader and Preacher this morning

Worship Servants for July 21

Assisting Minister—Cindy Monroe

Lector—Nancy Pflasterer

Musicians: David Husser, Zeke Clemons, Phil & Denice Bossardet

Today's altar flowers are donated: *by Ken and Kris Smith in Celebration of their August Anniversary*

Hospitality—Dan / Laura Hahn

A/V—Jim Monroe / Barbara Oster / Acker Family

Cookies/Coffee—Kathie Bair / Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—VOLUNTEER

Bell Ringer—Tim Goebel

Front Door Monitors—Jana / Tom Rockne

Altar Guild—NO COMMUNION

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Laura Hahn / Mike McCarty

The ELCA Youth Gathering is July 16-20th, 2024 in New Orleans: Pastor Paul, Tina Dohm, Makena Dohm and Owen Mungor are traveling home today from New Orleans. Please pray for a safe return.

CHAIR YOGA: Chair Yoga will continue through the month of August. We will meet every Monday at 3:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5.00 per person. It is slow paced stretches that helps with balance, flexibility and relaxation. Come and try it out.

Do you love to decorate? We could use your help with decorating for VBS! We are very blessed to have been gifted lots of decorations from East Bay Calvary Church, Cornerstone Church of Kingsley, and St. Joseph's Church, who all did the same scuba VBS theme that we are doing. That means that we have lots of fun scuba underwater decorations to put out! We are planning a decorating party for Saturday, July 27th from 10am until whenever we finish. You are welcome to join us for whatever amount of time you wish! If you plan to join, send Alanna an email at alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org to let her know that you'll be there!

Snack Donations are Needed for VBS! There is a list of needed snack donations in the Narthex, on the counter under the VBS signs. Gail Goldsmith is our wonderful VBS snack leader and has put together some amazing ideas that the kids are going to love! All we need now is donations of the snack supplies! Please check over the list and see if there is anything you might be able to donate. If you have snack related questions, please reach out to Gail. If you have general VBS questions, please reach out to Alanna. Thank you for your generous hearts as we prepare to spread God's love to these children!

The July issue of the STAR is now available. If you receive the weekly email, your August issue should be in with your emails on the morning of July 30th. The shut-ins will receive an issue by mail. There will also be a few copies available on the counter by the mailboxes. You may also contact the office at 947-9880 to request that mail delivery continues. For current issues of the Star, feel free to check online at www.bethlehemtc.org < About Us > "The Online Bethlehem Star" or type this URL to get these directly: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter>.

Volunteers for Watching the Front Door During Worship: The Safety and Security Committee has the new sign up sheets available. We need volunteers who can be available to stay in the Gathering Space to lock the doors and let in late comers for Sundays in July and August. We appreciate all of the volunteers. If you have any questions, the committee members are Gail Goldsmith, Maureen Bauer, Jana Rockne and Jan Stretlien

National Cherry Festival Volunteers: BLC members volunteered 2 days at the National Cherry Festival. On Monday July 1st, Barbara Oster, Cindy and Jim Monroe, Kay Rumbach and Gail Goldsmith worked in the Pepsi Tent. On Tuesday July 2nd there was a second group, Nancy Pflasterer, Dave and Lindsay Susalski, Robbie Mowry, Duane Weillau (Gail Goldsmith's friends) and Gail Goldsmith worked in the Souvenir Tent. When nonprofit organizations volunteer at the National Cherry Festival, funds are divided and we will receive a check. We will use those funds to go toward future Sabbatical funds. Thank you to all of the Volunteers!

Visioning Team Update: The Visioning Team is alive and well and held its first mini-retreat on June 25. We have been focusing on the review and study of current literature, sharing insights of learning, as well as beginning to look into the fall schedule. The month of July is a very busy month for many in Traverse City and our members of Bethlehem are no different. As a result, the team will be meeting again in early August once folks are returning from vacation and other meaningful activities. In this in between time, take some time to be thinking about your hopes and dreams for your congregation. Visioning is not the work of one or a few; it "takes a village" as the saying goes. We look forward to working together on this important task. Peace!!

CHANGE OF PLANS FOR BOOK CLUB: The book bag we had on reserve came available early so we will be meeting in August. We will be reading *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. It has been on many best seller's lists. You can sign out a book on the shelf below the mailboxes in church or send Cindy Monroe a message to leave one outside for you in the STAR box at cmonroe@chartermi.net. Our meeting will be Wed Aug 21 or Thurs Aug 22 depending on when the most people can attend. Watch the bulletin and August STAR for confirmation of the date.

WALK FOR PARKINSON'S: One of our members, Margaret Hutchison, recently received that diagnosis. She and her family will be participating in the Parkinson's walk at the Civic Center on the morning of Sat. Aug 24. Just as some from BLC supported a member for the epilepsy walk we are hoping to have a good showing for this walk. If you can donate to their cause please sign on to their website and enter your donation under "Margaret's Marchers". Even if a donation is not in your budget at this time, anyone can sign up for a free t-shirt by requesting your size on the sheets in the gathering space.

We had an incredibly successful Parking Lot Fundraiser this year! Over the three days we held the fundraiser, we brought in \$4,308! Our best year yet! This wouldn't have been possible without the help of our wonderful volunteers, listed below. Because the fundraiser benefits them, youth volunteers worked the front of the operation - letting cars in, welcoming people, taking money, making change, and handing out paper receipt slips. As always, we are so impressed and proud of them for their hard work, responsibility, and willing, happy attitudes! Adult volunteers got cars parked in the lot, and supervised to make sure the kids had a safe place to work - thank you for taking the time to make this fundraiser successful! Every single one of our volunteers was absolutely amazing!

- Youth Volunteers: Makena Dohm, Lincoln Dohm, Owen Wilson, Aleah Graf, Jacob Graf, Owen Munger, Sammy Steffunick, Parker Busekist
 - Adult Volunteers: Tina Dohm, Renae Wells, Mark and Kathie Bair, Scott Farley, Lindsay Susalski, Steve Kramer, Martin Graf, John Halstead, Forrest Bowling, Peggy Burns, Nancy Pflasterer, Linda Hansen, Tracey Moyer, Bethany Uhl, Allison Hayes
- Many thanks to all of you for making this fundraiser such a great success!

PROTECT OUR CARPET: spills always happen, but we now have a consistent way to deal with them. If you cause one or see one, please grab the spot cleaner in the squirt container over by the triple sinks in the kitchen. Just follow the directions on the bottle and we should be able to keep our carpet in good condition. Thank you!!

Spotlight on Zeke: So many of us enjoy Zeke's talents with religious music, but did you know that he plays other kinds of music at various locations in the Traverse City area? Here is a list of his engagements in the next month that are close to TC:

Wed 7/24—The Pub 8:00pm

Sun 7/28—North Bar TC 1:00pm

Fri 7/26—MiddleCoast 6:00pm

Wed 7/31—The Pub 8:00pm

Coffee and Cookies on Sunday: Remember that treats and a drink on Sunday are appreciated by all. Please take a moment to sign up to bring cookies or some other tasty treat on the Sunday that works best for you. Or sign up to prepare the coffee to give our loyal volunteer Mary Ann Tanis a day off. Please see the message elsewhere about having the final Sunday of the month be a time when we join in the Fellowship Hall for this activity. We can sit at a table and chat with someone new while we munch on a treat.

GET A TREAT AND TAKE A SEAT!!! Remember that on the final Sunday of month, we are moving our coffee hour into the Fellowship Hall. This allows each person to sit for a moment and perhaps visit with someone new. So, on that Sunday each month be sure to take a turn into the Fellowship Hall. We will have a reminder sign on the counter in the Gathering Space to help you remember. Thank you!

Good Samaritan Fund Drive: You did so well with contributions last year that council agreed that a drive should be repeated this summer, especially since the needs are so great in our community. Please keep that in mind if you have been setting any \$\$\$ aside for a special need.

Food/Supply Pantry: It's SUMMER! Please LOOK for staple items when they are on sale and bring your extras to the coat room. Families visiting the baby pantry especially have appreciated the cleaning supplies. NO matter what you bring your generosity is so appreciated.

Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.

Offerings: Even though the offering plates are passed during the service, you may use the vase in the back of the Sanctuary if you prefer not to touch the offering plate.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We often find the front door and/or the kitchen door unlocked when there is no one in the building. Please be sure that the doors are locked when you leave.

Please Note:

Barbara Oster/Administrative Assistant works 9:00am-2:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

Phil Anderson/Bookkeeper works 8:30am-12:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. This is a change for the summer months

Alanna Steffunick/Ministry Coordinator works 9:00am-2:30pm – in the office on Tuesday and Thursday and from home on Wednesday

Taking a break for the summer: Wednesday Bible and Book Studies along with Sunday School, Adult Education, XYZ, our Third Thursday services and Tuesday morning Quilters will all pause for the summer. These activities will return in September.

Looking for a link to last month's full Council minutes? Type this address/url into your web browser to get the latest approved minutes from Council: bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes OR you may call the office to request a copy.

Prayer Requests:

- Prayer Chain: Please contact Jan Stretlien at jstretlien@gmail.com or 231-947-3265
- Prayers read from the altar: Please call Administrative Assistant in the church office 231-947-9880

Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font! Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at beo6475@yahoo.com or 231.668.7038.

Norm Fred has helped a previously homeless couple for a few years. They are proud people and do not like to be given charity but they will accept help in the form of donated cans that they can recycle for money. Please bring in your recyclables in for them. **Leave them in plastic bags by the garage.** These are nice people. There, but for the Grace of our God, go we.

Are you looking for the Caring Table for your donations? It has been moved inside the coat room to the right. Also, the area for the Oleson and Family Fair receipts is in the lower cabinets below the mailboxes (under the A-B-Cs...). The cabinet door is marked with the receptacle inside.

LOST AND FOUND: If you lose something in the church building, please check our new Lost and Found box located in the Coat Room. Also, if you find something, please put it in the box.

Yarn Available: There is yarn available free for the taking located in the cabinets located under the mailboxes in the Narthex. Take what you need.

Name tags: Your name tags are in your mailboxes. Please retrieve them so you can proudly wear them on Sunday mornings. We often have visitors and with so many recent new members it helps them if they can see a friendly face and attach a name to it.

A big thank you to all who have turned in Olesons' slips. On April 8th, we received a check from Olesons for \$206.60. Olesons' slips never expire. Please continue to turn in your Olesons receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks so much!!!

Have something important going on at Bethlehem that you'd like others to know about? Maybe a Small Group? A Club Event? Feature it on the Screen Announcements, weekly emails and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included in any of these, please reach out to alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org If you are not getting the weekly emails for any reason, please contact Alanna.

The church calendar is below. Please be sure to notify the office (admin@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is of the calendar.

Sunday, July 21

National Youth Gathering – New Orleans

10:00am—Worship Service (S)

Monday, July 22

3:00pm—Chair Yoga

Tuesday, July 23

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Property Work Group

6:30pm—Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 24

11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)

Thursday, July 25

5:30pm—ACA (FH)

Friday, July 26

2:00pm—Bill Springer Internment

Sunday, July 28

10:00am—Worship Service (S)

