

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
August 11, 2024
Sunday 10:00 a.m.



Welcome to All! We are glad that you are able to worship with us today. **Please fill out a connection card in the pews if you like.** During the service, we will sit or stand in reverence to our Lord. Please do what is physically comfortable and reverent for you. For those who are unable to receive Communion near the altar and wish to have the Pastor administer it at your seat, please obtain a red and white card from one of the ushers and hold it up at Communion time to alert the Pastor. If you or a little one would like to receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, we invite you to come forward and cross your arms at the time of Communion. Please feel free to introduce yourself to our Pastor and fill in your name, address, etc in the guest book near the entrance to the sanctuary.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3, page 138

Pre-Worship Music/Announcements

Prelude

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: 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.

(continued on next page)

P: 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 Hymn *As We Gather at Your Table* **ELW #522**

Greeting

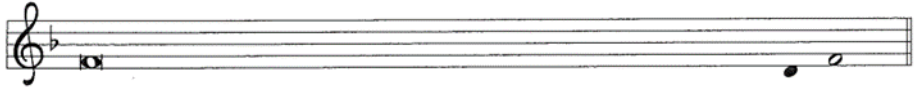
A: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Kyrie (lead by Pastor Paul)

S 138



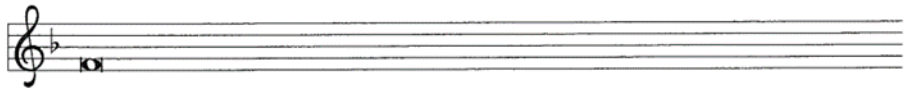
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



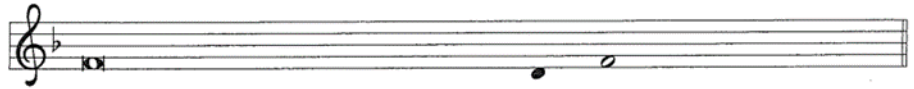
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Hymn of Praise *Glory to God (lead by Pastor Paul)*

Assisting minister S 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together...

C: Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Lesson

1 Kings 19:4-8

First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the Lord is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

4 Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." 5 Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." 6 He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. 7 The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." 8 He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 34:1-8

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

2 I will glory in the Lord; let the lowly hear and rejoice.

(continued on next page)

3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; let us exalt God's name together.
4 I sought the Lord, who answered me and delivered me from all my terrors.
 5 Look upon the Lord and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.
6 I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me and saved me from all my troubles.
 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord and delivers them.
8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are they who take refuge in God!

Second Lesson

Ephesians 4:25—5:2

Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

25 So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. 26 Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and do not make room for the devil. 28 Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. 29 Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. 31 Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, 32 and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, 2 and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

S 142a

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

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

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

C: ...Glory to you, O Lord...

35 Jesus said to the crowd, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." 41 Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42 They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" 43 Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. 44 No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. 45 It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. 46 Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. 47 Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. 48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. 50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. 51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Hymn of the Day *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* **ELW #618**

Apostle's 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.

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 Intercession: response after each petition: **“Receive our prayer”** (*Before prayer*) A: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. (*Conclusion*) P: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **C: Amen.**

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

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering (*Please be seated.*)

Offering Song: Zeke Clemons

Offertory (*Please stand, as able.*) **As the Grains of Wheat** ELW #465

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.

Great Thanksgiving

S 144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Thanksgiving (continued)

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

Holy, Holy, Holy

S 144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

The 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.

P: The gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.
***Please note: Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

Communion

Lamb of God

S 146

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymns

I Am the Bread of Life
O Living Bread from Heaven

ELW #485
ELW #542

Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

Post-Communion Canticle

Thankful Hearts

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and bear Christ's ho-ly name.
Send us with your prom-is-es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Sending Song *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

ELW #535

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem August 11, 2024
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

8/12—Debbie Hissong Fink

8/13—Pat Friedli

8/17—Brita Williams

Worship Servants for August 11

Assisting Minister—Peggy Burns

Lector—Barbara Graf

Musicians: David Husser, Zeke Clemons, Phil & Denice Bossardet, Pr. Paul

Today's altar flowers are donated: *by Carolyn Mann in Loving Memory of David Mann*

Hospitality—Leonard / Barbara Graf

A/V—Paul Ton / Acker Family

Cookies/Coffee—VOLUNTEER / Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—Gail Goldsmith

Bell Ringer— Gail Goldsmith

Front Door Monitors—Gary Ancinec

Altar Guild—Mary Ann Tanis / Gail Goldsmith

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Jane Passmore / Bonnie Gamble

COMMUNION AT THE RAILING: During today's service, we will have a trial run of receiving Communion at the altar railing. You may either kneel or stand, depending on your comfort level.

Coffee and Cookies on Sunday: Remember that treats and a drink on Sunday are appreciated by all. **The sign-up sheet is BLANK so 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.

Good Samaritan Fund Drive for August: This is one of our local outreach initiatives that allows us to be able to help our local residents when there may be a need for assistance with food, gas, a doctor bill, etc. We have been lucky in the past to help many many families and hope that you will once again help us build back this dwindling fund. Please, if paying by check, make the check payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church with Good Samaritan fund in the memo line. Check out the special board in the Narthex for more information.

VISIONING TEAM NEWS: The Visioning Team held its second mini-retreat this week with great progress being made. Dates are being secured for the fall activities, plans are underway, and now to develop our communication tools in order that everyone is receiving consistent information. For now, dates that you will want to add to your calendar include: Sunday, October 6; Sunday, October 20; and Sunday, November 17. The time on each of these days would be following worship for a meal and then our “Visioning Time” together. Be watching... more complete information to be coming out soon!

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 at 10:30. Even if you can’t walk you can receive a free t-shirt from Thrivent which will also be labeled with “Margaret’s Marchers”. If you would like to donate see the web instructions in the weekly email. REMEMBER, JIM AND MARGARET HAVE PLEDGED AN ADDITIONAL \$20 FOR EVERY PERSON/FAMILY UNIT FROM BLC WHO CONTRIBUTES TO THIS WALK!!!!

FOOD PANTRY NEWS: The readings last Sunday remind us to be generous; to give of ourselves for the benefit of others. Sharing what we have and being generous does not take from what we have for ourselves. Giving of ourselves nourishes our hearts and souls. We are reminded that in faith all will be nourished, food will be fruitful, and there will be plenty for all. I urge all of you to be generous and give from your heart. Remember that if you have a Thrivent account you can apply for a \$250 grant to use to help us stock the food pantry. Buy a few extra items at the grocery store. This is a great way to take care of members of our community who are struggling to feed themselves and their families. Additional items we can put in the pantry are tooth brushes, trial size soaps, female products in small packages, and similar items. Thank you all for your support and love. Suzanne and Kathie

CHANGE OF PLANS FOR BOOK CLUB: The book club will meet at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall on Wed Aug 21 to discuss the best seller *The Women* by Kristin Hannah.

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 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

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.

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!!! **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.

Are you looking for the Caring Table for your donations? It has been moved inside the coat room to the right. Your donations are very much appreciated.

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.

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 or admin@bethlehemtc.org