Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2024 – 10am Modern Worship, ELW Setting 3

Prelude Music

Announcements



Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: ... have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of \pm Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

On Eagle's Wings

ELW #787

Greeting

P: 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: Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

4 The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! 5 We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; 6 but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at." 10 Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. 11 So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? 12 Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? 13 Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' 14 I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. 15 If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery." 16 So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you." 24 So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. 25 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. 26 Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. 27 And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." 28 And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" 29 But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!"

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 19:7-14

7b The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

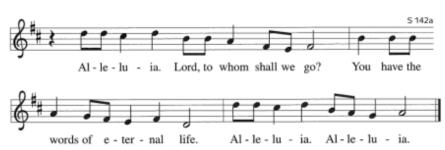
12 Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults. (continued on next page)

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia



Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

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

38 John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." 39 But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. 40 Whoever is not against us is for us. 41 For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. 42 "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. 43 If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45 And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. 47 And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, 48 where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. 49 "For everyone will be salted with fire. 50 Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Paul Busekist

Song of the Day: O Word of God Incarnate ELW #514

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



Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray together.

C: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

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.

Communion (Please note: gluten-free wafers and white grape juice cups are available)

The King of Love My Shepherd Is Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

ELW #502 ELW #464

Final Blessing

P: God all mighty, God most merciful \pm bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **C: Amen.**

Sending Song: All Night, All Day, Angels Watching Over Me (See insert for sheet music)

All night, all day, angels watching over me, my Lord. All night, all day, angels watching over me.

Now I lay me down to sleep. Angels watching over me, my Lord. Pray the Lord my soul to keep. Angels watching over me

All night, all day, angels watching over me, my Lord. All night, all day, angels watching over me.

Lord, stay with me through the night. Angels watching over me, my Lord. Wake me with the morning light. Angels watching over me.

All night, all day, angels watching over me, my Lord. All night, all day, angels watching over me.

Day is Dying In the West, Angels watching over me, my Lord. Sleep, My Child, And Take Your Rest. Angels watching over me.

All night, all day, angels watching over me, my Lord. All night, all day, angels watching over me.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9/29—Bella Gaston 9/29—Austin Leatherman 9/30—Jan Schmidt 10/1—Lindsay Susalski 10/1—Bob Rogers 10/2—Eileen Rubino 10/2—Jason Nellist 10/2—Braxton Rhodes 10/3—Pam Reid 10/4—Scoff Schlagel 10/4—David Susalski 10/6—Phil Bossardet 10/6—Will Gaston 10/6—Maggie Hahn

Worship Servants for September 29

Assisting Minister—Doug Cunningham

Lector—Tim Goebel

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

Today's altar flowers are donated: by Barb & Carmen Svalstad in Celebration of our 59th Anniversary

Hospitality—Dan & Laura Hahn

A/V—Acker Family

Cookies/Coffee— VOLUNTEER / Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—Gail Goldsmith

Bell Ringer—Gail Goldsmith

Front Door Monitors—Tina Dohm

Altar Guild—Mary Ann Tanis / Gail Goldsmith

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Carl Lehto / Forest Bowling

<u>GET A TREAT AND TAKE A SEAT!!!</u> Remember that today is the final Sunday of month so 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. Thank you! (We hope you brought your flower Legos today!)

<u>Coffee and Cookies on Sunday</u>: Remember that treats and a drink on Sunday are appreciated by all. The sign-up sheet has many BLANK spaces 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.

The next XYZ Potluck & Presentation will be on Friday, October 4th (note that this is the first Friday instead of the second, due to event conflicts). We will meet at noon for a delicious potluck lunch, followed by our presentation. We will be joined by Nancy Bordine who will be speaking on "The Way We Wore" and showing her collection of vintage clothing and their history. While predominantly geared toward seniors, XYZ is open to any adult who would like to join - the presentations would be enjoyable and informative to anyone!

JOIN THE VISION TRAIN: Here we go! Next Sunday, October 6, is our first Visioning Congregational Conversation. A meal will be served following worship beginning our afternoon together. Our first emphasis will be "Listening for God in Scripture." Please plan to join by signing up on the display in the narthex. We look forward to being with you, learning and growing together.

Sunday, October 6, Listening for God in Scripture **Sunday, October 20,** Listening for God in the Congregation **Sunday, November 17,** Listening for God in Community

<u>CHAIR YOGA</u>: Chair Yoga will continue through the month of <u>October but will take a break for the next two Mondays:</u>
<u>September 30 and October 7.</u> Janet, the instructor, will return on October 14th. 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.

CHANGE OF DAYS FOR BOOK CLUB: After years of meeting on Tuesdays the Book Club has found that it will be more helpful for some of its members if we move our meetings to the 3rd WEDNESDAY of the month. The next meeting will be **Wed, Oct 16 at 5:30.** We are reading October in the Earth. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall if you like to discuss good books. Any questions can be directed to Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net.

<u>CHOIR NEWS</u>: Choir rehearsals have resumed on <u>Thursdays at 7:00</u> – October 3rd and October 10th.. If you are interested in joining the choir, give your contact information to Cindy Monroe or any member of the choir and have them pass it on to our choir director, Tony Bero and he will get in touch with you directly. Or you can simply arrive at choir rehearsal on Thursday and we'll figure out how best to use your talents.

Wednesday Bible Studies have returned:

The Adult Bible Study will meet from 9:30am—11:30am with the topic of the Book of Romans
The Zoom Bible Study will meet from 1:30pm—3:00pm with the Book of Job. If you prefer to meet with Pr Paul and others in the Youth Room, you are welcome to join us. (Please note that we won't meet on October 9th)

Hello Bethlehem Safe Harbor Supporters! Mark your calendars! 2025 is coming... and Bethlehem will be preparing meals and hosting Safe Harbor guests on Saturday, 25 January; Sunday, 26 January; Tuesday 28 January at the Safe Harbor building on a. Our proven Kitchen Teams led by Cindy Monroe, B.J. Christensen, and Tina Dohm are assembling and tweaking their award-winning recipes. Zeke Clemons is again going to lend his guitar and voice one night and is seeking talent to cover our other nights... We will once again be seeking "treat" support from the congregation at large... and delivering warm food and warm wishes to all Safe Harbor guests. This is community outreach. This is heeding Christ's command to serve our neighbors. This is needed and appreciated. Safe Harbor is always looking for and appreciative of new support. As we consider our vision here at Bethlehem, maybe another group of would like to raise their hands and consider cooking for an additional night? It's never too late. Please contact me with any questions. Tom Rockne Bethlehem Safe Harbor Coordinator M.231.631.0040

You are Invited to Sunday Morning Adult Education: it is that time again, time to power up our learning and sharing of Scripture. Adult Education has resumed as of this morning. We will meet in the Youth Room from 9:15 to 9:45 each Sunday to discuss the lessons for the day. This is a relaxed venue, with inquisitive sharing, practical application, and an opportunity to get better acquainted with your brothers and sisters in Christ! We hope you will join... All Are Welcome!!!!

The Worship and Music committee has started its annual Pecan Sale. See the blue insert in today's worship folder for preordering information. The deadline for ordering is next Sunday, October 6th.

AARP Driving Refresher course for Seniors taught by our own member, Gary Ancinec. Have you wondered if you are driving as well as you should? Do you really know all of the rules? Especially with all of these new round-a-bouts? Then this is the course for you. It will be taught 1 to 5 pm on 10/23 and 10/24 in the Fellowship Hall. You need to attend both days to receive the completion certificate. Some insurances will honor that certificate with a reduction in your insurance (You must check individually with your insurance to determine any reduction in premium.) In any case this class should give you comfort knowing that you are doing everything possible to stay safe on the road. Cost is \$20 for AARP for members and \$25 for non-members. You receive a workbook which is yours to keep. There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering space or call Gary at 989 906 2765.

<u>Are you grieving something from a death or something else?</u> It could be any kind of loss, and it hurts. We have a place for you here at Bethlehem on the 3rd Monday of the month from 6:00 to 7:00 in the library. <u>Next month will be October 21st</u>. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Burns at 231 392-6913.

<u>Third Thursday Worship Service and Meal</u>: Bethlehem's next Third Thursday Worship Services and meal will be Behold Our Light on <u>October 17th</u>. The meal will begin at 5:45 and the Fellowship Committee will be providing a Caesar salad with chicken and dessert. Please come and enjoy a meal and social time before the Behold Our Light service which begins at 7:00pm



The October issue of the STAR will be available this week. If you receive the weekly email, your October issue will be emailed on October 1st. 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.

<u>Christian Caregivers</u>: Ever wonder what is done with the flowers behind the altar? They are divided up into small bouquets and given to our folks for a variety of reasons, people who have helped out, or it's a special occasion and thank you. The bouquets are delivered to our home bound and need to know we are thinking of them. We are looking for more people to help in this ministry. We need you! If you are interested or have any questions, please call or text Peggy Burns at 231-392-6913

GOOD SAMARITAN DRIVE A SUCCESS: You are still welcome to donate to this fund at any time, but we are so pleased that the goal of \$1275 has been achieved and surpassed. Over \$2000 was collected in August. Members of BLC are so generous!! Thank you!

<u>Volunteers for Watching the Front Door During Worship</u>: 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. We appreciate all of the volunteers. If you have any questions, the committee members are Gail Goldsmith, Maureen Bauer, Jana Rockne and Jan Stretlien

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

A BRIDAL SHOWER OF RECIPES: Many of you know that a young female BLC staff member will be married in Oct. Being a private person she declined our offer for a bridal shower. BUT, we have a "gentle" way to show her our love. Please take a recipe card and type or write down your favorite recipe and include your name somewhere on that card. If you don't like to cook, then please share your "recipe" for a happy marriage. There is a basket for collecting the cards in the gathering space. Please plan to deposit your card by the end of Sept.

Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am - 2:30pm, Monday - Thursday. Office Phone #: 231-947-9880

HAVE YOU NOTICED SOMETHING NEW IN THE PEWS? Some of our members have been disappointed that there has not consistently been a bible in their pew if they just wanted to read a particular passage while waiting for the service to begin. Well, one of our members decided to do something about it. Every pew now has 4 bibles with some even in the back for those who sit there. A special thanks goes out to this anonymous donor who saw a need and did something about it. What a blessing!



FOOD PANTRY NEWS The recent readings 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

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 10/2—The Pub, Traverse City 7:00pm

Fri 10/4—Hotel Indigo 6:00pm

<u>Offerings</u>: 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.

<u>IMPORTANT NOTICE</u>: 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:

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

<u>Phil Anderson/Bookkeeper</u> works 8:30am-12:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

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

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:

- <u>Prayer Chain</u>: 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



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. Your donations are very much appreciated.

<u>Name tags:</u> 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 August 29th, we received a check from Olesons for \$190.86 for a year-to-date total of \$397.46. Olesons' slips never expire. Please continue to turn in your Olesons receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks so much!!! Also, the area for the Oleson receipts is in the lower cabinets below the mailboxes (under the A-B-Cs...). The cabinet door is marked with the receptacle inside. Unfortunately, we are no longer collecting the receipts from Family Fair.

<u>Hoop's Pet Food Pantry</u>: This is the only pet food pantry in NW lower Michigan. They primarily provide dry food, wet food, treats, cat litter and toys for mostly dogs and cats but they will support any type of pet to the best of their ability. Please visit them at the Square Deal Country Store, 900 Woodmere Ave, TC from 11:00am – 2:00pm on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month with your donations OR you may leave donations in the tub on our "donations" table in the coat room. The volunteers have expressed their appreciation when receiving our donations.

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.

Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. Please use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$40 (payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the offering plate on Sunday morning (Preferable) or during the week, in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance. You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday.

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, September 29

9:15am—Sunday School 9:15am—Adult Education (YR) 10:00am—Worship Service (S) 12:30pm—Youth Discipleship / Confirmation Class (YR)

Tuesday, October 1 Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Property Work Group 9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH) 10:45am—Staff Meeting (CR)

Wednesday, October 2

9:30am—Adult Bible Study (Library) 11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S) 1:30pm—Zoom Bible Study (Zoom & YR)

Thursday, October 3

5:30pm—ACA (FH) 7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal (S)

Friday, October 4

12:00pm—XYZ (FH)

Saturday, October 5

12:00pm—Funeral – Inge Thomas 1:00pm—Luncheon – Inge Thomas

Sunday, October 6

9:15am—Sunday School 9:15am—Adult Education (YR) 10:00am—Worship Service (S) 11:30am—VISION Congregational Forum #1 (FH)





