

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

October 13, 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
The Way of Peace

Adult Choir

Announcements / Temple Talk

Prelude

GATHERING

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 † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn *Rise Up, O Saints of God!* **ELW #669**

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

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,

(continued on next page)



Prayer of the Day

A: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

A: Let us pray together...

C: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Lesson

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.

6 Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. 7 Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! 10 They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. 11 Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. 12 For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. 13 Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. 14 Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. 15 Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

12 So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

13 Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? Be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.

15 Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us and as many years as we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works, and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

Second Lesson

Hebrews 4:12-16

We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

12 Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

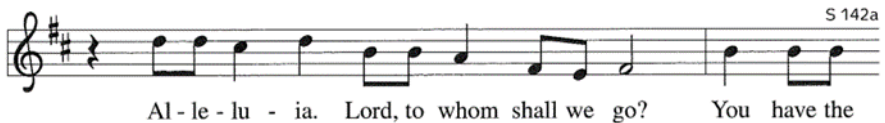
13 And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. 14 Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia



(continued on next page)



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

Gospel

Mark 10:17-31

Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.

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

17 As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” 18 Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. 19 You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” 20 He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” 21 Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” 22 When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. 23 Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” 24 And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” 26 They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” 27 Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.” 28 Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” 29 Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, 30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Hymn of the Day *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound ELW #779*

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: **"Hear our prayer."** (*Before prayer*) A: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation. (*Conclusion*) P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. 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 / Offering Song:

Zeke Clemons

Offertory (*Please stand, as able.*) **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 the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your

(continued on next page)

pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

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.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. S 144a

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, S 144b

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



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.

Welcoming of New Communicant:

P: Today this community of faith rejoices with the following Bethlehem disciple who joins in sharing the meal of holy communion: Grayson Vincke. In the sacrament of holy baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. In the sacrament of holy communion, God unites us in Jesus Christ and nourishes us for that mission. Living among God's faithful people, we are strengthened by God's word and his holy supper to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

P: Let us welcome our brother in Christ to this most holy communion.

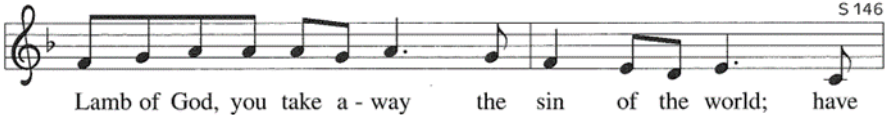
C: Welcome to the Lord's table. We thank God for you. We pray that you will find joy and strength in this meal, until we feast forever at God's heavenly banquet.

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



(continued on next page)

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

*Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal
 How Great Thou Art*

*ELW #464
 ELW #856*

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. Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P: God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ELW #810

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem October 13, 2024
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

10/13—Tom Cole

10/15—Meredith Busekist

10/15—Sally Ton

10/19—Gary Jones

10/20—Mark McPherson

Worship Servants for October 13

Assisting Minister—Barbara Oster

Lector—Mary Ann Tanis

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

Today's altar flowers are donated: *by Ron & Marilyn Dork in Celebration of the wedding of Rudy Kelly and Brandon Bruce*

Hospitality—Dan & Laura Hahn

A/V—Paul Ton / Jim Hinds / Acker Family

Cookies/Coffee— Gail Goldsmith / Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table— Gail Goldsmith

Bell Ringer— Gail Goldsmith

Front Door Monitors—Gail Goldsmith

Altar Guild—Mary Ann Tanis / Gail Goldsmith

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Kate Holtfreter / Cindy Cuba

Bark (I mean, MARK!) your calendars, friends. Join us for a "**Blessing of the Animals**" at Bethlehem on THIS AFTERNOON at 2:45pm. Bring your dog, cat, turtle or any other pet to be blessed with a little music and a message of love and thankfulness to God for how they bring goodness to our lives each day! All pets and their humans are welcome!

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.

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

JOIN THE VISION TRAIN: We are on a roll! Next Sunday, October 20, will be our second Visioning Congregational Conversation. Similar to October 6, a meal will be served following worship beginning our afternoon together. This emphasis will be "Listening for God in the Congregation." Please plan to join by signing up on the display in the narthex. We look forward to being with you, learning and growing together.

CHOIR NEWS: Choir rehearsals have resumed on Thursdays at 7:00 – October 31st (tentative), November 7 & 14. More dates are being discussed so look for those in upcoming bulletins. 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.

The Worship and Music committee's Pecan Sale. The cases have been ordered and hopefully will be delivered some time in November. We will have a few bags left to sell for those who did not order. As in the past, we truly appreciate the support of Thrivent in this fundraiser.

Are you grieving something from a death or something else? 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. Next meeting will be October 21st. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Burns at 231 392-6913.