

# Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



**Prelude Music**

**Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

**C: ... we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.**

P: These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are † forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Song:**

***Canticle of the Turning***

***ELW #723***

**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.**



## Sermon

Pastors Paul Busekist and Roger Hardy

## Song of the Day:

***Praise the One who Breaks the Darkness***

**ELW #843**

## 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.

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:

***As the Grains of Wheat***

**ELW #465**

## Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray together..

C: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. 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)*

## Communion Songs:

***We Come to the Hungry Feast***  
***When Peace like a River***

**ELW #479**

**ELW #785**

## Final Blessing

P: The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, ✠ bless you now and forever. C: Amen.

## Sending Song:

## *Burn Like a Star*

We were born for greater things, we were born to chase Your dreams.  
Come, my Lord, awaken holy fire.  
We are turning from our sin, we are praying once again.  
Come, my Lord, awaken holy fire.  
We are aching for the real thing; Hearts are open wide.

Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts. Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts.  
Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts. Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts.

Send revival; start in us. Set Your holy spark in us.  
Send us out in resurrection power.  
History's about to change. we are rising once again.  
Send us out in resurrection power.  
We are aching for the real thing; Hearts are open wide.

Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts. Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts.  
Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts. Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts.  
For Your glory, for Your fame, in this darkness, light a flame in us.

Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts. Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts.  
Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts. Burn like a star, light a fire in our hearts.  
For Your glory, for Your fame, in this darkness, light a flame in us.

## Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Bethlehem** November 17, 2024  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

11/18—Renna' Walter  
11/19—Art Newhouse  
11/19—James Pflasterer

11/22—Mary Lou Deutsch  
11/23—Carmen Svalstad

1050 Peninsula Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
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**JOIN THE VISION TRAIN: ALL ABOARD FOR TODAY'S THIRD AND LAST OF OUR CONVERSATION EVENTS!!** "Listening for God in Community" is today's emphasis and we will be guided again by our guest facilitator, Rev. Roger Hardy. We will be hearing more about the needs within Traverse City, the needs of the community which can help to guide us in our journey. If you have not signed up... please do not let that stop you. The luncheon for today's gathering is provided and supported by Thrivent! All are welcome! Please join us... see you after church!

**The Worship and Music committee's Pecan Sale.** The pecans have arrived and will be distributed to those who pre-ordered. 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 5:30 to 6:30 in the library. This month will be November 18th.** If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Burns at 231 392-6913.

### **Worship Servants for November 17**

Assisting Minister—Karen Feahr

Lector—Pam Reid

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

Today's altar flowers are donated: *By Doug and Diane Cunningham in Celebration of Diane's Birthday*

*In thankfulness to all the volunteers who stepped up for the bake sale and craft show*

Hospitality—Phil Anderson / Susie Burton

A/V—Jim Hinds / Acker Family

Cookies/Coffee— VOLUNTEER / Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table— VOLUNTEER

Bell Ringer— Tim Goebel

Front Door Monitors—Jan Stretlien

Altar Guild—Patty Leibenguth / Erin Word

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Laura Hahn / John Halstead

**COMMUNION WARE HAS BEEN REFURBISHED:** The Worship and Music committee recently had the Chalice and Ciborium (the vessel that Pr Paul uses for the wafers) refurbished. They will be used for the first time today.

**CHANGE OF DAYS FOR BOOK CLUB:** After years of meeting on Tuesdays the Book Club has moved our meetings to the **3rd WEDNESDAY of the month. The next meeting will be Wed, Nov 20 at 5:30.** We are reading "James". This is the story of the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn told from the point of view of the enslaved Jim. It is a Best Book of the Year for 2024 and a feature film of the book by Steven Spielberg is in development. 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](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net).

**Third Thursday Worship Service and Meal:** Bethlehem's next Third Thursday Worship Services and meal on November 21st. The meal will begin at 5:45 and the Fellowship Committee will be providing Cobb salad, dessert and beverages. Please come and enjoy a meal and social time before the Taize 1 service which begins at 7:00pm

**Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church held a fund raiser for hurricane relief on November 9th. Phil Bossardet planned the event and was the head chef with his son Bob. Together they made pancakes, sausage and eggs. Other foods were donated, breads, fruit and juice. 54 people were served and donated a total of \$2936. The funds were sent through Thrivent, who matched our dollars. For every \$2 we sent they gave an additional \$1. We choose Lutheran Disaster Response for the money to help the people in the southern United States who were devastated by the recent hurricanes. Thank you for all those who attended and the many volunteers: Phil Bossardet, Bob Pierce, Alanna Steffunick-Boomer and Sammy, Kay Rumbach, Barbara Oster, Janet Landis, Patty Leibenguth, Dan and Laura Hahn, Mark and Kathie Bair, Nancy Ammann, Kristen Rivard, Diane and Doug Cunningham, Tina Dohm, Betty Rutila, Jay Pflasterer and Gail Goldsmith. Thrivent provided the funds to purchase the food and paper products for the meal.

**THANK YOU!!** To all of you who baked goodies for the Christian Education bake sale during the craft fair, many, many thanks! Such a great turnout of baked items, some new and some the good old standbys! We moved from our old spot and people were asking where the goodies were! So the community looks forward to it. Thanks to all the bakers and buyers, over \$700 was made to further children's ministry here at Bethlehem. Blessings to each one of you!

**CHRISTMAS TEA IS COMING!** Our annual Christmas Tea will be held on **Sunday, December 8th from 2-4PM.** Our theme this year is 'Angels Unaware'. If any of you have angel decorations you would like to share with us that day, please let Nancy Ammann know. (946-8433) There is a poster and signup sheet in the Narthex with more information. A wonderfully blessed way to usher in the Advent Season!

**CHECK YOUR MAILBOX:** The photo sheet of new members is now available as a loose insert for your directory if you took the time to have your photo taken. Please check your BLC mailbox and carry the sheet safely home to place inside your directory. Be sure to check the reverse side for more names.

**Giving Statements Available:** Your individual giving statements is available in your mailbox in the Narthex. The statement covers giving from January 1st through September 30th. Please pick them up at your convenience. To save on postage, I will mail out the ones not picked up by the end of November. Thank you for your generous support for the programs and ministries of your church. We are all blessed by your faithful giving. Your Bookkeeper

**Christian Care Giving Visitation** If you currently go visit people, would you please let me know and also if you take communion too. If you would like to be part of this important ministry, please let me know. Peggy Burns 231-392-6913  
[cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com](mailto:cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com)

**BOOK OF RECIPES PRESENTED TO ALANNA IN HONOR OF HER MARRIAGE TO JOSH BOOMER:** Congratulations and best wishes to Alanna and Josh Boomer who were united in marriage on Oct 26 and celebrated in the way most meaningful to them with a Contra Dance Reception. If you missed your chance to contribute your favorite family recipe or a recipe for a happy marriage to the book already presented to Alanna, you can place one in Alanna's mailbox at any time.

**HAVE YOU SEEN THE GREAT FRESH LINES IN THE PARKING LOT?** Thanks so much to the Tuesday property crew for adding the extra handicap parking spots and for repainting all of the lines in the lot. There had been a request earlier from some members reporting that all of the designated handicapped parking spots were full before they arrived for a service. We definitely wanted those who needed closer spots to have them. And it certainly is nice to have our lot so spruced up in addition to the completion of the alley and the paving of the strip behind the hedge.

**CHOIR NEWS:** Choir rehearsals be on Tuesdays at 7:00 –November 26, December 3, 10. 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.

**Coffee and Cookies on Sunday:** 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.

**CHAIR YOGA:** Chair Yoga will continue 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.

**Next Month at Safe Harbor!** As the holidays move closer, I want to thank you all again for the gifts of time and food you are planning for our Safe Harbor effort in the New Year. We'll be serving Safe Harbor guests on Saturday, 25 January; Sunday, 26 January; Tuesday 28 January. Kitchen Teams will be led by Cindy Monroe, B.J. Christensen, and Tina Dohm and the crews they have recruited. Zeke will be entertaining one night and we are seeking more talent- guitar, keyboard, other... We will welcome congregational "treat" support from you with sign-ups right after Christmas. This is needed community outreach. This is heeding Christ's command to serve our neighbors. All volunteers have been pleased with their experiences. Please contact me with any questions. Tom Rockne Bethlehem Safe Harbor Coordinator M.231.631.0040

**Food pantry news:** The food pantry was recently re-stocked with funding of a Thrivent grant. Each month when the baby pantry is open, we also provide food and cleaning items to families. We are just about out of cleaning products and are in desperate need of. Some of the things that are most appreciated are laundry soap, dish soap, bleach, and disinfectants. Consider picking up some of these items on your next shopping trip and drop them off at church. We appreciate your continued support of our community members. In God's peace, Kathie and Suzanne

#### **Wednesday Bible Studies:**

The Adult Bible Study meets from 9:30am—11:30am with the topic of the Book of 1 Corinthians

The Zoom Bible Study meets 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.

**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 November issue of the STAR is now available.** If you receive the weekly email, your November issue was emailed on November 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](http://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>.

**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 11/20**—The Pub, Traverse City 7:00pm    **Sat 11/23**—Hotel Indigo 6:00pm    **Wed 11/27**—The Pub, Traverse City 7:00pm

**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!

**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. We appreciate all of the volunteers. If you have any questions, the committee members are Gail Goldsmith, Maureen Bauer, Jana Rockne and Jan Stretlien

**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 5 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!

**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!!

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

**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 Wednesday.

Alanna Steffunick-Boomer/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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org)

**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](mailto: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. 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.

**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.

**Hoop's Pet Food Pantry:** 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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is of the calendar.**

**Sunday, November 17**

9:15am—Sunday School  
9:15am—Adult Education (YR)  
10:00am—Worship Service (S)  
11:30am—VISION Congregational Forum #3 (FH)

**Monday, November 18**

3:00pm—Chair Yoga (FH)  
5:30pm—Grief Group (Library)

**Tuesday, November 19**

**Bulletin articles due today**

9:00am—Property Work Group  
9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)  
12:00pm—Sarah Circle (Library)  
6:30pm—Council Meeting (Library)

**Wednesday, November 20**

9:30am—Adult Bible Study (Library)  
11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)  
1:30pm—Zoom Bible Study (Zoom & YR)  
5:30pm—Book/Supper Club (FH)

**Thursday, November 21**

5:30pm—ACA (FH)  
5:45pm—Third Thursday Meal (FH)  
7:00pm—Third Thursday / Taize Service (S)

**Sunday, November 24**

9:15am—Sunday School  
9:15am—Adult Education (YR)  
10:00am—Worship Service (S)







## BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

### 2024 Art & Craft Show

A heart filled “thank you” goes out to volunteers that participated in the successful November 2nd “Art & Craft Show.” *“Many hands make work light.”* Our goals of organizing a productive fundraiser, providing a community event for church exposure to bring fresh faces occurred for the sixth time. From the planning stages until the day of the show, many hands worked together to make this event happen. We are so blessed!

#### A SPECIAL THANK YOU! – to the TEAM LEADERS

Julie Cole	Silent Auction
Janet Landis	Baby Pantry Silent Auction
Kay Rumbach	Baby Pantry Silent Auction
Barb Wentzloff	Volunteers - 2024
Karen Feahr	Volunteer Placement
Barb Graf	Crafter Coffee, etc.
Nancy Ammann	Christian Education Bake Sale
Carl Lehto	Property Work Group
Tracey Moyer	Donation of Special Projects
Alanna Steffunick-Boomer	Public Relations Media
Pastor Paul	Craft Show Blessing

#### A SPECIAL THANK YOU! – to our CHURCH VOLUNTEERS

You permitted the show to run clockwork: Phil Anderson, Kathie & Mark Bair, Forrest & Jeanne Bowling, Meredith Busekist, Tom Christensen, Tom Cole, Diane & Doug Cunningham, Marilyn & Ron Dork, Gail Ericson, Norm Fred, Peggy & Tim Goebel, Gail Goldsmith, Dan Hahn, Marilyn Halstead, Kate Holtfreter, Kathi Ivany, Suzanne & Carl Lehto, Jim & Cindy Monroe, Betsy Morley, Barbara Oster Dave & Peg Pepler, Tom & Jana Rockne, Kristen Rivard, Betty Rutila, Don Sheehan, Ken Smith, Mary Ann Sparks, Lindsay Susalski, Paul Ton, Pat & Frank Wall, Cheryl Wegener, Dale Wentzloff, Barbara Wright, and those that contributed baked goods for the Christian Education Bake Sale.

A special kudos goes out to Judy Wieske, who helped tape off the church layout. Mark Bair made and donated the Children’s Picnic Table. Kathie Bair created lovely holiday wreaths. Margaret Daniels made and donated two Swedish blankets for the Baby Pantry. Also, thank you to our members that came to check out the fifty artists and crafters for support of the fundraiser.

*Faith is taking on all challenges with an open heart and mind, with no doubts, total trust in His Word.*

Blessings, Patty Leibenguth, and Kris Smith  
Show Co-Coordinator

# Third Thursdays



at Bethlehem



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Light Dinner at 5:45pm  
Worship Service at 7pm

*All are welcome here!*

Thursday  
Nov 21st

# Christmas Tea

"Angels Unaware"

Sunday  
December 8th  
2-4pm

