

**Eighth Sunday after
Pentecost
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
July 14, 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 4, page 147

Bell Ringing/Welcome/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

O God of Light

ELW #507

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.**

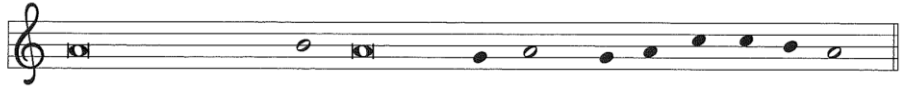
Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, 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 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Prayer of the Day

A: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

A: Let us pray together... C: **O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

First Lesson

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

The ark of the covenant, long a symbol of God's presence with Israel, is brought into Jerusalem by David. The entrance of the ark into this new capital city is marked by great rejoicing, and David himself is the chief dancer.

1 David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. 2 David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. 3 They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart 4 with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. 5 David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the Lord with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals. 12b So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; 13 and when those who bore the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. 14 David danced before the Lord with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. 15 So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

(continued on next page)

16 As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart. 17 They brought in the ark of the Lord, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord. 18 When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts, 19 and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 85:8-13

8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

9 Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.

10 Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before the Lord and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. 5 He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,

(continued on next page)

12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; 14 this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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 6:14-29

As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.

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

14 King Herod heard of the disciples' preaching, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." 15 But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." 16 But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." 17 For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. 18 For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. 21 But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. 22 When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." 23 And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." 24 She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer."

(continued on next page)

25 Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” 26 The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. 27 Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, 28 brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. 29 When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Hymn of the Day *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* **ELW #807**

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: One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer...(*Conclusion*) P: Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

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.

Great Thanksgiving

S 152

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.

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, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 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.

Communion

Lamb of God

S 154



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, grant us peace.

Communion Hymns

Now We Join in Celebration
Here Is Bread

ELW #462
ELW #483

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

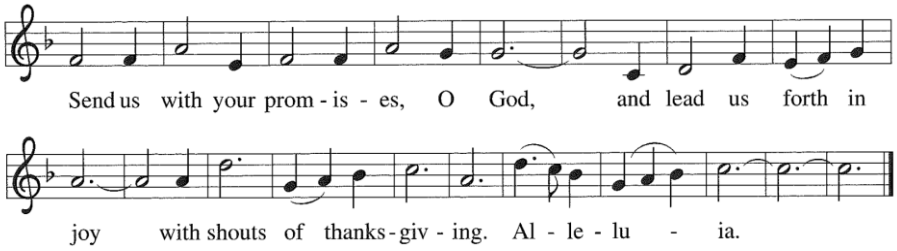
Thankful Hearts



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.



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

Special Blessing and Message for National Youth Gathering

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 *God Be With You Till We Meet Again* **ELW #536**

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem July 14, 2024
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7/15—Dick Gray

7/17—Martin Graf

7/15—Connie Christopherson

7/21—Sandra Schichtel

7/15—Connie Barrow

COMMUNION AT THE RAILING: During today's Traditional service, we will have a trial run of receiving Communion at the altar railing. Because of the location of the musicians, just the railing on the East side will be used. You may either kneel or stand, depending on your comfort level. We plan to repeat this trial run at the August Traditional service.

Worship Servants for July 14

Assisting Minister—Barbara Oster

Lector—Barbara Graf

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

Today's altar flowers are donated: *by Tom & B.J. Christensen in Celebration of their 57th Wedding Anniversary*

Hospitality—Leonard & Barbara Graf

A/V— Paul Ton / Acker Family

Cookies/Coffee—Peg Peppler / Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—Gail Goldsmith

Bell Ringer— Gail Goldsmith

Front Door Monitors— John Halstead

Altar Guild— Mary Ann Tanis / Gail Goldsmith

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Laura Hahn / Mike McCarty

The ELCA Youth Gathering is July 16-20th, 2024 in New Orleans. We are very excited to have a group from Bethlehem that will be traveling to attend this wonderful event! Two adult leaders (Pastor Paul and Tina Dohm) and two youth (Makena Dohm and Owen Mungor) from Bethlehem will be partnering with a group from Mamrelund Lutheran Church in Kent City to make the trip down to New Orleans. They will be leaving on Monday, July 15th, and will return on Sunday, July 21st! Please keep these youth and their adult leaders in your prayers as they prepare to make the journey to attend Gathering!"

Youth Gathering Send-Off: As you can see above, Pr. Paul, Tina, Makena and Owen will leave BLC on July 15th at 8:00am. You are welcome to join us to give them a prayerful send-off at 7:45 am. Hope to see you there.

VBS Registration is Open! Kids ages 3-10 are invited to join us for Scuba Vacation Bible School on July 29th - 31st. Activities will include games, crafts, storytime, snacks, and other fun as they learn all about God's love for them! Registration is available online now in your weekly email or on the BLC website. Space is limited, so sign up now!

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!