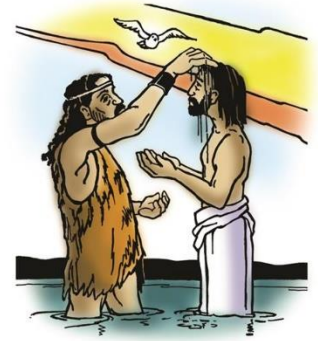


Baptism of Our Lord

January 16, 2022 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

P: Rejoice in this good news: In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song: **Come, Now is the time to Worship**

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God. One day ev'ry knee will bow.

Still, the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives. Willingly our knees will bow.

With all our heart, soul, mind, and strength we gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

Come... Come... come.

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: Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 29

¹Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

²Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

³The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the Lord bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, “Glory!”

¹⁰**The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹O Lord, give strength to your people; give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

Gospel Acclamation:

You Have Put On Christ

WOV 694

(please see back page for music)

You have put on Christ, in him you have been baptized.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God’s beloved Son.

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

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” ²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Song of the Day:

I’ve Just Come From the Fountain

WOV 696

(please see back page for music)

Confirmation of Hunter Antol – Affirmation of Baptism

Presentation:

Sponsors: I present Hunter, who desires to make public affirmation of his baptism.

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for this brother in Christ, whom you have made your own by the water and the Word in baptism. You have called him to yourself, enlightened him with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished him in the community of faith. Uphold your servant in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

Profession of Faith:

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

(The congregation answers, along with the confirmand)

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly:

(The minister addresses the confirmand)

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's 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?

Confirmand responds: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

(The minister addresses the congregation)

P: People of God, do you promise to support this brother in Christ and pray for him in his life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

(The minister again addresses the confirmand, who kneels at this time)

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in Hunter the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

(The confirmand stands and faces the congregation)

P: Let us rejoice with this brother in Christ.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Sending Song:

The River

(words below)

I know a place where we can go, to lay the troubles down eating your soul. I know a place where mercy flows take the stains, make you whiter than snow.

Like a tide, it is rising up deep inside. A current that moves and makes ya come alive. Living water that brings the dead to life. Oh... oh.

We're goin' down to the river, down to the river, down to the river to pray.
Let's get washed by the water, washed by the water, and rise up in amazing grace.
Let's go down, down, down to the river. You. Will. Leave. Changed.
Let's go down, down, down to the river. Never. The. Same.

I've seen it move in my own life, took me from dusty roads into Paradise. All of my dirt, all of my shame, drowned in the streams that have made me born again.

Like a tide, it is rising up deep inside. A current that moves and makes you come alive. Living water that brings the dead to life. Oh... oh.

We're goin' down to the river, down to the river, down to the river to pray.
Let's get washed by the water, washed by the water, and rise up in amazing grace.
Let's go down, down, down to the river. You. Will. Leave. Changed.
Let's go down, down, down to the river. Never. The. Same.

(interlude)

soloist: Let's go down.

choir: Oo, oo, oo.

soloist: Let's go down.

choir: Oo, oo, oo.

soloist: Let's go down.

We're goin' down to the river, down to the river, down to the river to pray.
Let's get washed by the water, washed by the water, and rise up in amazing grace.
Let's go down, down, down to the river. You. Will. Leave. Changed.
Let's go down, down, down to the river. Never. The. Same.

(interlude)

soloist: Oh, down.

choir: Oo, oo, oo.

*soloist: Gotta go, gotta go, gotta go
down in amazing grace.*

choir: Let's go down, down, down to the river.

*soloist: Gotta go, gotta go, gotta go
down in amazing grace.*

Dismissal

A: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

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You Have Put On Christ

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the text: "You have put on Christ, in him you have been bap - tized." The melody is marked with fingerings 1*, 2, and 3. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of the text: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"

You have put on Christ, in him you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**May be sung in two or three part canon.*

Text: Gal 3:27, International Commission on English in the Liturgy
Music: Howard Hughes, b. 1930
Text © 1969, music © 1977 ICEL

BAPTIZED IN CHRI:
irregul

696

I've Just Come from the Fountain

Refrain

I've just come from the foun-tain, I've just come from the foun-tain, Lord, I've

just come from the foun-tain, his name's so sweet. O Lord, I've sweet.

1 O broth-er, do you love Je - sus? Yes, yes, I do love my Je - sus.
 2 O sis - ter, do you love Je - sus? Yes, yes, I do love my Je - sus.
 3 O sin - ner, do you love Je - sus? Yes, yes, I do love my Je - sus.

Refrain

Broth-er, do you love Je - sus? His name's so sweet. O Lord, I've
 Sis - ter, do you love Je - sus? His name's so sweet. O Lord, I've
 Sin - ner, do you love Je - sus? His name's so sweet. O Lord, I've



Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

January 16, 2022

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1/18—Kathleen Endline
1/19—Ron Dork

1/18—Debra Jean Knopf
1/19—Tracey Moyer

A COVID update from Council:

“For several months, Grand Traverse County has topped the 14-day average 17% Covid positivity threshold set up by Council for our current precautions. At the last Council Meeting, it was voted upon that **if the positivity rate rises to 17.5% that Bethlehem will once again require mandatory masks regardless of vaccination status.** This will ensure that we are doing our part to keep our parishioners and community safe.

Currently, Munson Healthcare has activated Pandemic Response Level Red for the first time in history (<https://www.munsonhealthcare.org/services/community-health/covid19/pandemic-status>), as they are seeing the most Covid cases since last year. At the time of Tuesday's Council vote, the rate was 15%, and **the latest update, as of time of printing, GT County positivity rate is very close to our new threshold, so we ask that ALL worshippers wear masks.** Stay safe, pray for all good things, and see you soon!
-Your Bethlehem Church Council”

Please note that the new Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.

Today's altar flowers are donated by: *Barbara Oster in memory of her father, Richard Oster, on the 100th anniversary of his birth.*

Today's Rose on the baptismal font is in: *celebration of Beau Michael Farley, born 1/8/22; Parents: Brett and Kirstin Farley; Grandparents: Scott Farley and Kristen Rivard*

The 2022 Giving envelopes are available in the Narthex. Please pick your box up at your earliest convenience.

COLLEGE/MILITARY PACKAGES: The Christian Education Committee once again wants to let our college students and military personnel know that they are in our thoughts and prayers. We are asking for the **names and complete addresses** of all college students and military personnel who are living away from home. Please contact Nancy Ammann with this information before January 30th. Phone 946-8433 email nmammann@gmail.com Thank you.

The January issue of the STAR is ready. 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>.

Due to the current positivity rate in Traverse City, we will be cancelling the Pancake Breakfast that was originally scheduled on Sunday, January 23rd. While we are disappointed, we are excited to announce that the Ski Trip scheduled for Saturday, February 26th, 9:00am – 6:00pm, is still on! Details will be coming out soon but please reach out to Annie with any questions or concerns.

All Youth and youthful at heart at invited to the annual All Youth Sledding Party on Saturday, January 22nd 12:30PM - 2:30PM at Twin Lakes Park! Bring your sleds and we'll have a fun time! Cocoa will be provided. Please reach out to Annie for further information or if you have any questions.

Book Club News: The book has been decided for the January 25 book club meeting at 5:30 on ZOOM. It will be *The Women of the Copper Company* by Mary Doria Russell and the books are in the plastic bin outside of church. Be sure to sign your name on the sheet next to the number that matches the number on your book. This book tells the story of the mining industry in the upper peninsula especially near Calumet. If you are not already on the email list and would like to join the discussion please send your email to Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net.

Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. You may 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 Administration 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 2022 dates are now on the sign-up poster.**

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 or 231.668.7038.

After two years of cancellations due to COVID-19, Living Water Ministries has decided to make camp a gift freely given for all campers of Stony Lake. This means that there are no registration fees for any program at Stony Lake for the summer of 2022!! Adult Leaders from Bethlehem are planning on being there for Week 1 (June 19-24) as long as there are youth interested. Please note that the Living Water Ministries Board of Directors made the decision to make full vaccination a requirement for attendance at any Living Water Ministries event, including camp. If your youth is interested in attending camp this summer, please see Annie after service or reach out to her via email at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org no later than Wednesday February 9th.

The outdoor food pantry is closed until spring to make sure that none of the food is damaged by the cold. You can still bring in your staples at any time and place it in the teal bin under the table by the mailboxes. One BLC member knew of an apartment complex for low income residents with food needs and delivered 12 overflowing bags of what had been outside to the very grateful recipients. Please keep the residents of the 72 unit Brookside Commons Apartments in your prayers. Watch for the pantry to jump back into full swing in the spring.



BLC Safe Harbor Supervision

BLC will provide support for the Safe Harbor Emergency Housing Shelter for the period Saturday, February 5 through Tuesday, February 8. This is our part of a shared full week of service with the Northern Lakes Community Church. Two types of support are needed: Donations of Snack items and On-site Volunteer Service

Donations of Snacks

We are seeking donations of sack items for guests to enjoy in the evening hours. Suitable snacks include granola bars, easily peeled fruit (bananas, clementines), commercially prepared snacks in individual packages (chips, pretzels, etc.), homemade goodies (cookies, brownies) that are packaged in individual-sized kitchen baggies.

If you wish to donate snacks, please call, text, or email Jim Hutchison for more details: 231-668-1916, hutchison@alma.edu. Contact with him should be made by Thursday, Feb. 3. You will be asked to deliver your items to the shelter building.

On-site Volunteer Service

The need for volunteers is lower than in past years since Safe Harbor staff directly supervises guests during the 6 pm to 10 am period that the shelter is open. Volunteers serve in the following three ways:

1. Evening Welcoming Volunteers 5:30PM - 9PM

Two volunteers (men or women) each evening will assist the professional staff with checking in the guests. These volunteers provide an important service because guests are literally coming in from an often unwelcoming and even threatening world and a kind welcome is so important. Our kindness helps them relax and trust.

These volunteers also maintain a coffee cart and are the eyes and ears of the professional staff, observant while being welcoming, bringing to them any concerns about guest behavior, especially in the dining room and the tent and smoking areas.

During this period guests will eat in shifts at tables divided by plexiglass shields. Otherwise, guests will lounge in an outside heated tent and sleep in bunks that are separated from one another by plastic sheeting.

2. Morning Volunteer 6AM -8:15AM

The Morning Volunteer (one or two) assists the Safe Harbor Staff with providing coffee, making the guests' own medications available to them, and giving guests a warm send-off.

3. Evening meal preparation

Groups in the congregation have already committed to provide these meals. Those involved with meal preparation and dinner service will not have duties outside the kitchen.

How to volunteer. It is not expected that BLC will provide all the needed volunteers. Community volunteers are available to assist our efforts. You may sign up be a volunteer at this web site: https://gtsafeharbor.ivolunteer.com/beth_luthe_nlcc Please call, text, or email Jim Hutchison, 231-668-1916, hutchison@alma.edu for more information.

Shelter operating procedures are designed to provide a safe environment for both guests and volunteers. Guests and volunteers are given temperature checks before they are admitted. We are not asking you to volunteer out of a sense of obligation to our congregation, rather we seek volunteers who are comfortable with working at the shelter and who are motivated by a personal desire to participate in this ministry of service to others in this difficult time.

Our blog has been renamed "Paths of Hope". Check it out on the Bethlehem website:
<http://www.bethlehemtc.org/new-blog-paths-of-hope>.

The newest Living Lutheran magazine and the January/February/March Christ in our Home can be picked up at the welcome table on Sunday mornings, from the Shooting STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion.

The Wednesday morning bible study of Matthew meets from 9-11am. All are welcome. Bring your own bible. We read the bible and then talk about what we read. We say a prayer for any needs that are shared. Come. Join a fellowship. Leader is Barbara Graf.

Quilters need help! We meet on Tuesdays 9:00am-11:00am. It is not traditional quilting. We tie three layers of fabric together. The "quilts" are sent all over the world when needed by Lutheran World Relief. So if you can tie or even cut, please join us on Tuesday mornings.

"Zoom Book Study" gathering via Zoom has returned on Wednesdays at 1:30pm for the new year. Besides the thought-provoking discussions, we also have great conversation and fellowship. For this series, we are discussing the Gospel of Matthew. Please contact Pr. Paul if you are interested in joining.

Please continue to turn in your Olesons' receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks for your support.

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 and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included for either Screen Announcements or Facebook Events please reach out to Annie at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org.

Bethlehem sends weekly emails directly to your inbox with important announcements and information! If you are not getting them for any reason or if you have something you'd like to have added please reach out to Annie at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org.

The church calendar has returned below. Please be sure to notify the office (admin@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is on the calendar.

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 16

10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion

Tuesday, January 18

9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)
9:00am—Property Work Group
10:00am—Staff Meeting (CR)
6:00pm—Council Meeting
7:00pm—Lautner SG (Offsite)

Wednesday, January 19

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Bible Study (YR)
11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)
1:30pm—ZOOM Bible Study

Thursday, January 20

1:00pm—Piano Tuning (S)
5:30pm—ACOA (GS)

Friday, January 21

10:00am—Sew Pieceful (FH)

Saturday, January 22

12:30pm—All Youth Sledding Party (Offsite)

Sunday, January 23

10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion