

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2025 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 10



Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: ... you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

All Things are Possible

Verse 1

Almighty God, my Redeemer, my hiding place, my safe refuge; no other name like Jesus, no pow'r can stand against You.

Verse 2

My feet are planted on this rock and I will not be shaken; my hope it comes from You alone, my Lord and my salvation.

Chorus

Your praise is always on my lips, Your word is living in my heart; and I will praise You with a new song, my soul will bless You Lord. You fill my life with greater joy, yes, I delight myself in You; and I will praise You with a new song, my soul will bless You Lord.

Verse 2

My feet are planted on this rock and I will not be shaken; my hope it comes from You alone, my Lord and my salvation.

(continued on next page)

Chorus

Your praise is always on my lips, Your word is living in my heart; and I will praise You with a new song, my soul will bless You Lord. You fill my life with greater joy, yes, I delight myself in You; and I will praise You with a new song, my soul will bless You Lord.

Bridge

When I am weak You make me strong, when I'm poor I know I'm rich; for in the power of Your name all things are possible, all things are possible; all things are possible, all things are possible.

Chorus

Your praise is always on my lips, Your word is living in my heart; and I will praise You with a new song, my soul will bless You Lord. You fill my life with greater joy, yes, I delight myself in You; and I will praise You with a new song, my soul will bless You Lord.

Bridge

When I am weak You make me strong, when I'm poor I know I'm rich; for in the power of Your name all things are possible, all things are possible; all things are possible, all things are possible.

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

p. 203

S203

1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.

We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

C: Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.

20 Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! 21 I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." 22 So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. 23 Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24 Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? 25 Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" 26 And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." 27 Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. 28 Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." 29 Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." 30 Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." 31 He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." 32 Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 138

1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

2 I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

3 When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

4 All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

5 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.

6 The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

8 You will make good your purpose for me; O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia

p. 205

S 205a

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.

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

1 Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." 2 He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. 3 Give us each day our daily bread. 4 And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." 5 And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6 for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' 7 And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' 8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. 9 "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11 Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12 Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Song of the Day:

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

WOV 783

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia.

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

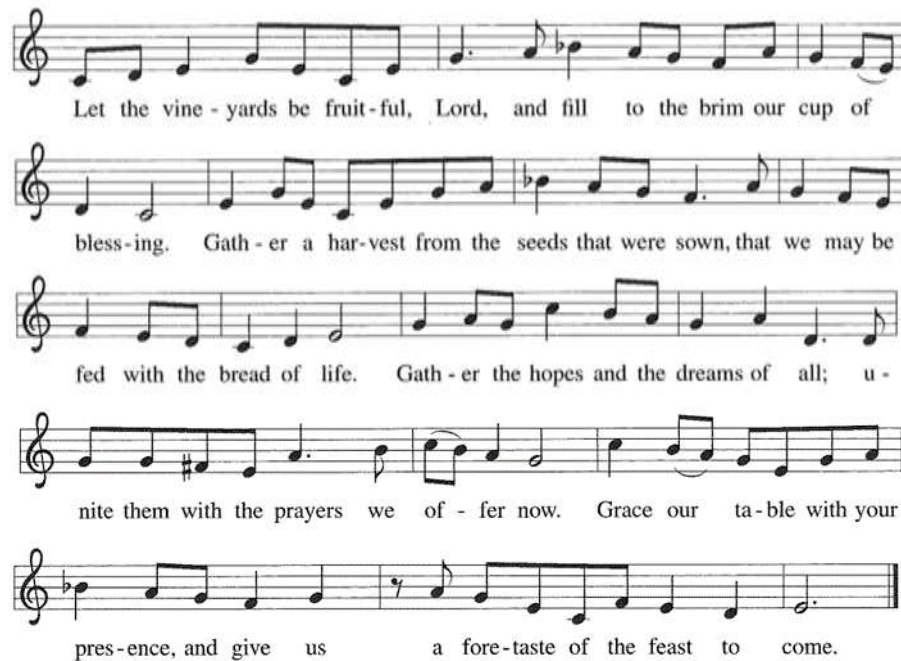
Offering Song:

Zeke Clemons

Offertory:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Pg. 182



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

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray together.

C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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:

**What a Friend We Have in Jesus
Have You Thanked the Lord?**

**ELW 742
ELW 829**

Final Blessing

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Song:

My Lighthouse

In my wrestling and in my doubts, in my failures you won't walk out.
Your great love will lead me through.

You are the peace in my troubled sea. –whoa-oh-
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

In the silence you won't let go. In the questions, your truth will hold.
Your great love will lead me through

You are the peace in my troubled sea. –whoa-oh-
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

My lighthouse, my lighthouse shining in the darkness
I will follow you, Oh- my lighthouse, my lighthouse.

I will trust the promise you will carry me
safe to shore—safe to shore—safe to shore—safe to shore.

I won't fear what tomorrow brings. With each morning I'll
rise and sing. My God's love will lead me through.

You are the peace in my troubled sea. –whoa-oh-
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

My lighthouse, my lighthouse shining in the darkness.
I will follow you, Oh-my lighthouse, my lighthouse.

I will trust the promise you will carry me
safe to shore—safe to shore—safe to shore—safe to shore.

Fire before us you're the brightest. You will lead us
through the storms (hey). REPEAT 3 times

My lighthouse, my lighthouse shining in the darkness.
I will follow you, Oh-my lighthouse, my lighthouse.

I will trust the promise you will carry me
safe to shore—safe to shore—safe to shore—safe to shore.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem July 27, 2025
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7/28—Julia Acker
7/29—Tim Johnson
7/30—Maureen Bauer

7/30—Jim Parkinson
8/2—Pat Wall



We hope you all are enjoying attending church in a forest campground today! Our wonderful volunteers spent several hours yesterday putting up all of these decorations for Happy Campers Vacation Bible School. Over the next three days, we will have over 30 children in Bethlehem to learn about God's love for them through music, crafts, storytime, science, and more. Please keep all these precious children and all of our fantastic volunteers in your prayers during this VBS week!

BOOK CLUB NEWS: We will meet this Wednesday, July 30 at 5:30 at the home of Barb Beyer. We will be reading "Caste, The Origins of Our Discontent" by Isabel Wilkerson. In case of bad weather, our back-up location will be BLC fellowship hall. Please contact Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net if there are any questions. A list to sign up for items for the potluck will be sent to all those who are interested.

BLC partners with Old Town Playhouse for the musical telling the story of Moses in THE PRINCE OF EGYPT: Still looking for some volunteers to run concessions at Milliken Auditorium on Aug 22 for the 7:00 show and Aug 23 for the 2:00 show. (The youth will be running the concessions on Thursday, Aug 21 and their youth fund will receive the benefits.) For the other days funds earned can be designated to the charity or cause recommended by the volunteers. Bethlehem's Good Samaritan Fund? Project Feed the Kids? Safe Harbor? Grand Traverse Baby Pantry? Another idea? It's easy to sell items before the show and during intermission. Sign up in the gathering space or contact Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net or 231 631 0887 if you can help one of those days. You can also sign-up to reserve tickets to see the show. If tickets are purchased in groups of 6 each will cost \$42 for an adult and \$18 for youth under the age of 18.

Garden News: Thanks to all who have been involved in the garden in any way. If you have not been across the street to check on what's happening, the biggest news is, THE RADISHES ARE UP!!!!. Carrots, squash and tomatoes are on the way! Feel free to go there at any time. Do a little weeding. If any part of the garden looks stressed due to the heat, feel free to sprinkle using the hose on the north fence (irrigation only runs on alternating days). There will be more information when it is time to begin picking. You may meet some new friends from other churches when you are there. If questions contact Cindy at cmonroe@chartermi.net

What IS GRIEVING? Could it be the loss of a marriage, your home, or community, good health, a dream or something else? The list can go on and on. No matter the loss you have a family here at Bethlehem that loves you, wants to support you, and be here for you! **We meet here on the first Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30 and on the third Monday from 5:30-6:30.** If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Burns 231-392-6913.

FOOD PANTRY: With summer in full swing, it is important to remember that there are still hungry community members amongst us. When I checked the pantry on arriving to church last Sunday I found it was almost completely empty. The storage room where we keep the food to restock was also almost completely empty. I urge each and every one of you to bring just one non-perishable item to donate to the food pantry the next time you come to church. If every member brings one item to donate, we can quickly restock our supplies. The need never ends and we are counting on you to step up to the plate to support community members in need. Thanks for your support, Suzanne and Kathie

Pr. Ruth: Our beloved friend in Christ, Pr Ruth Overdier, has some devotions in the September portion of Christ in Our Home. You can read her selections from September 16 – 30.

Chair Yoga: Chair yoga is back at 3:00 on Mondays and Wednesdays to Bethlehem. Cost is still \$5. Invite your friends. It is a great stretching exercise and we work on balance issues.

Bethlehem August Safe Harbor Update Bethlehem support for Safe Harbor's Summer has been Red Hot! The third Tuesday of each month MAY-SEP we provide staff to assist with check-in, meds, guest assistance, and more. August 19 and September 16 yet to come. Our BLC Hot Dog Picnic on June 25 was a first time ever event for Safe Harbor and a huge success. We are going to host another on August 27! Check the display in the Gathering Space and see how much fun serving can be! Thank you to a wonderful, overflowing group of volunteers! Tom Rockne, Bethlehem Safe Harbor Coordinator tomrockne@gmail.com or M.231.631.0040.

FREE ENTERTAINMENT: When you just want to do something or take your out-of-town visitors somewhere...

- **Every Wed at 5:30 until the end of July** enjoy classical music from IPR at Little Fleet at the corner of Front and Wellington. You can buy food and drink but you don't have to.
- **"Saturdays in the Park": 7-9** in the Civic Center all summer (donation bucket available but optional)

SUMMER BREAK: Please note that Sunday School, Sunday's Adult Education along with the two Wednesday Bible Studies will not meet during the summer months. Look for the September start dates in the weekly email, bulletins and the STAR at the end of summer.

SAVE YOUR PAPER SACKS: Please check the nooks and crannies of your home for paper sacks. The Baby Pantry fills requests from preschool teachers for their students whose parents cannot make it to the pantry. Paper sacks are the perfect size to place the needed items for each child. Just place your bags on the Care table in the coat room. Thank you!!



HOW DO WE CARE AND SERVE? John 12:26 "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me". **YOU ARE LOVED BY YOUR CHURCH FAMILY.** If you would like to have a visit and you would like to receive Communion, Christian Care Giving is here for you! Please let Peggy Burns at 231-392-6914 know and we will have one of our Care Givers come and see you.

PROTECT OUR CARPET: spills always happen, but we now have TWO consistent ways to deal with them. Thanks to an anonymous donor we now have an actual carpet cleaning machine stored in the maintenance closet. **If you cause one or see a spot, please grab the spot cleaner in the squirt container below the sink in the fellowship hall ASAP. Just follow the directions on the bottle and we should be able to keep our carpet in good condition. But, if the stain is too big or too resistant, please use the carpet cleaning machine. The longer the stain sits, the harder it is to clean. Thank you!!**

Alcoholics Anonymous: TC Groups are holding their Open Talk here at Bethlehem on three Saturday nights of each month from 8:00-9:00pm. During July, August and September, the group will be here every Saturday night while the Contra group takes a break.

Coffee and Cookies: Our wonderful volunteers Mary Ann Tanis and Diane Cunningham have indicated a willingness to continue offering this after the Sunday service during the summer as long as there are volunteers who bring the goodies and help with clean-up after. Our thanks to these two women for their wonderful display of the goodies and the clean-up after. Thanks to all of you who have shared goodies, and please feel free to continue to do so.

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, and Jana Rockne.

A big thank you to all who have turned in Olesons' slips. On March 31st, we received a check from Olesons for \$275.60 from receipts turned in. This makes a grand total of \$592.66 for the year 2025. 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 or any other grocery store. We just collect for Olesons

The July issue of the STAR is now available. If you receive the weekly email, your July issue was emailed on June 29th. 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>.



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 7/30 —The Pub, Traverse City 7:00pm **Fri 8/1**—Brady's, Traverse City 6:30pm
Sat 8/2—MiddleCoast, Traverse City 6:00pm

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 Thursday. **(this is Phil's summer schedule)**

Alanna Steffunick-Boomer/Ministry Coordinator works 9:00am-2:30pm – in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday and from home on Thursday – **Please note that this is a new schedule**

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:

- Prayer Chain: 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

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.

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 is now located 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.

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 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 \$45 (This is a new amount.) The check should be 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.

Today's Prayer Recipients: Please send and changes or additions by email to admin@bethlehemtc.org

Harper Wiemerslage,
Jerry Hill,
John Block,
Roy DuMond,
Mary Woodring,
Norm Fred,
Lynn,
Steve,
Sherry,
Bob,
Suzanne Lehto,
Dick & Lois Gray,
Milt & Carol Bowes,
Debbie Knopf,
Ron Hellenga,
Jim Rumbach,
John Stretlien,
Judy Fenton,



Cindy Hitesman,
Richard Fernholz,
Julie Lapeer,
Tom & Lee,
Chris,
Dale and Cheryl,
Leroy,
Julie Barrett,
Patti,
Sharon,
Kyle,
Ben,
Marianne,
Christine,
Janet,
Cameron,
Cheryl

THE HOLY LAND CHRISTIANS ARE GOING TO BE OUR GUESTS
HEAR THEIR STORY AND SEE THEIR BEAUTIFUL OLIVEWOOD CRAFTS

On Aug. 10, 2025 and during the service, we will be hearing about the Christians of the Holy Land, and after the service we will be hosting at the church Narthex a nice display of handmade olive wood religious articles from Bethlehem available for purchase. These carvings include olivewood Nativity sets, crosses, Christmas ornaments, candle holders, angels and many other religious crafts that could make a nice wedding, baptism, confirmation, Easter and Christmas gifts. The carvings are handmade by Christian families from Bethlehem who rely on it for their daily bread.

More than 70% of the Christian Community in the Holy Land depend upon tourism as their only source of income. For decades those Christians have been enduring many hardships as tourism in Bethlehem has plummeted and access to other sources of income has been sharply restricted due to the ongoing conflict, the wars, the 12 yard wall built around Bethlehem, the COVID-19 pandemic, and nowadays the catastrophic ongoing war for the past nineteen months, due to this tourists are afraid and unable to visit the Holy Land. This made it very difficult for the Christian families to find their daily bread and forced them to immigrate and flee their homeland since they lost their source of income. The Christian population of the Holy Land was 30% in the last century, today it is less than 1%. If it continues like this, in few years we will find no Christians in the land of Christ, which could cause tragic consequences to our faith and holy sites.

Please help support our Christian brothers and sisters in the town of Bethlehem where Christ was born by purchasing their carvings.

A Christians family from Bethlehem will be telling us the story of the Christians of the Holy Land and they will be presenting these carvings after the services.

It is never too late to help. All proceeds go to support Christian families from Bethlehem.

Let us carefully tend to our roots, Christian children of God in the Holy Land.

And let us pray together for peace in the land where our Savior once walked to tell the world the good news of salvation.

Thank you for your support
Sincerely in Christ,
Dr. George Ghanem
Holy Land Christian Solidarity Cooperative
www.hlcsc.org
703 745-2604

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, July 27

10:00am—Worship Service (S)

Monday, July 28

9:00am—Vacation Bible School

3:00pm—Chair Yoga (FH)

Tuesday, July 29

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Vacation Bible School

9:00am—Property Work Group

7:15pm—OTP Choir Rehearsal (S)

Wednesday, July 30

9:00am—Vacation Bible School

11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)

3:00pm—Chair Yoga (FH)

Thursday, July 31

10:00am—EPS Maintenance

5:30pm—ACA (FH)

Saturday, August 2

8:00am—Biederman Wedding Parking

4:00pm—Biederman Wedding Parking

6:00pm—LifeRing Recovery Group (Library)

8:00pm—AA (FH)

Sunday, August 3

10:00am—Worship Service

(S)

