Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday

September 12, 2021 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4

Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our comforter:

C: ... like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ⊕ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. C: Amen.

Gathering Song: Take My Life That I May Be (please see back page for music)

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: O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 116:1-9

¹I love the Lord, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication, ²for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow. ⁴Then I called upon the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray you, ^I save my life."

⁵Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is full of compassion. ⁶The Lord watches over the innocent; I was brought low, and God saved me.

⁷Turn again to your rest, O my soul. for the Lord has dealt well with you. ⁸For you have rescued my life from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;

⁹I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Allelu

Allelu! Allelu! Ev'rybody sing, "Allelu!" For the Lord has risen, it is true. Ev'rybody sing, "Allelu!"

(Sing Twice)

Repp

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

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

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Pastor Paul

Song of the Day: Your Grace Finds Me

It's there in the newborn cry, there in the light of every sunrise, there in the shadows of this life: Your great grace. It's there on the mountain top, there in the ev'ry day and the mundane, there in the sorrow and the dancing: Your great grace, O such grace.

From the creation to the cross, there from the cross into eternity Your grace finds me, yes, Your grace finds me.

It's there on a wedding day, there in the weeping by the graveside, there in the very breath we breathe: Your great grace.

The same for the rich and poor, the same for the saint and for the sinner, enough for this whole wide world: Your great grace, O such grace.

From the creation to the cross, there from the cross into eternity Your grace finds me, yes, Your grace finds me. There, in the darkest night of the soul, there in the sweetest songs of victory, Your grace finds me, yes, Your grace finds me.

Your great grace, O such grace. Your great grace, O such grace. The same for the rich and poor, the same for the saint and for the sinner,

Enough for this whole wide world: Your great grace, O such grace. Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh.

So I'm breathing in Your grace and breathing out Your praise. I'm breathing in Your grace. Forever, I'll be: breathing in Your grace and breathing out Your praise. I'm breathing in Your grace. Forever, I'll be: Breathing in Your grace and breathing out Your praise. I'm breathing in Your grace. Forever, I'll be: Breathing in Your grace and breathing out Your praise. I'm breathing in Your grace. Forever, I'll be:

It's the same for the saint and the sinner. It's enough for this whole wide world! Yes, Your grace finds me, yes, Your grace finds me.

Installation of Church Council (please see back page)

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

Offering

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

Communion Songs:

Eat This Bread(please see back page for music)Will You Come and Follow Me(please see back page for music)

Final Blessing

P: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever.

Sending Song: I Will Follow

Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay; when You move, I'll move. I will follow.

Oh, oh, oh.

All Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure; I will trust in You alone. Higher than my sight, high above my life; I will trust in You alone.

Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay; when You move, I'll move. I will follow You. Whom You love, I'll love; How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You, yeah.

Light into the world, Light into my life – I will live for You alone. You're the One I seek, knowing I will find all I need in You alone. In You alone.

Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay; when You move, I'll move. I will follow You. Whom You love, I'll love, How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You, yeah.

In You, there's life everlasting. In You, there's freedom for my soul. In You, there's joy, unending joy; and I will follow.

Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay; when You move, I'll move. I will follow You. Whom You love, I'll love, how You serve, I'll serve; if this life I lose, I will follow. Where You go, I'll go; where You stay, I'll stay; when You move, I'll move. I will follow You. Whom You love, I'll love, how You serve, I'll serve; if this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah.

I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You. I will follow you, yeah.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Installation of 2021/2022 Church Council of Bethlehem Lutheran Church*

P: The following people have been elected or appointed to positions of leadership on Church Council:

President: Mark McPherson Vice President/Personnel: Maureen Bauer Secretary: Gail Goldsmith Treasurer/Christian Ed: Leonard Graf Financial Secretary: Jim Monroe Christian Care: Jim Hinds Y2A: Paul Wiermerslage Fellowship: Laura Hahn Membership/Evangelism: Cindy Monroe Worship & Music: Denice Bossardet Stewardship: Scott Farley

P: We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

P: A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Cor. 12:4-7)

P: You have been elected to position of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

The presiding minister addresses those being installed P: On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected? Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Congregation stands. The presiding minister addresses the congregation P: People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized? C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

P: I now declare you installed as officers and council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ. C: Amen

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship Occasional Services for the Assembly, pages 98-99

Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress



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HOLY COMMUNION



Text and music @ 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

Irregular

Will You Come and Follow Me The Summons



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 Music: Scottish traditional

Text © 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

KELVINGROVE 13 13 7 7 13



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September 12, 2021

God's Work. Our Hands.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9/15—Cynthia Cuba 9/16—Meghan Denton 9/16—Jan Stretlien 9/18—Katie Pierce 9/19—Nancy Ammann

Bethlehem has discontinued the sign-in process for contact tracing. Masks will continue to be optional for vaccinated persons, but required for non-vaccinated persons.

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

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 Administration Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance or in the offering plate. 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 altar flowers are donated by: Kate Holtfreter in memory of her mother.

<u>Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font!</u> Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at beo6475@yahoo.com or (231) 668—7038.

The Wednesday morning bible study of Matthew will resume on September 15th (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.

Today is God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday a special day in the life of our church, so please join us if at all possible:

*Installation of council members for 2021-2022

*Dedication of Sacred Grounds on east side of building

*outdoor ice cream social after the service to which members of the surrounding area have been invited

*Start-up of BLC 24/7 Food Pantry--please consider bringing a staple food item in appreciation for the ice cream treat

Our thanks to Thrivent financial for the grant to sponsor our outreach to the community for the Ice cream social in addition to the Trapp family grant which allowed for the building of the pantry and will assist with providing food.

Our September youth events will join forces this month to help care for the earth by planting wildflowers along the Boardman River. This all ages youth event will take place on Saturday, September 18th from 9am - 11am at Beaver Pond Trailhead, off Cass Road across from Jack's Landing. We will provide milk and donuts for the kids and coffee and donuts for adults along with all the plants and tools necessary to help us get the job done. Please consider bringing sturdy shoes (rubber boots are not necessary, but nice depending on the weather) and remember to dress for the weather, we will shoot to plant rain or shine! This is a great way for us to show our support for creation while helping care for a wonderful local resource. Please RSVP to Paul Wiemerslage (paul.w@ausable.org or call/text 612-210-3135).

Attention Bethlehem families: Sunday school is moving to a new time! We invite your little ones to join us for a special time of worship and learning to take place during regular service this fall. Children will be dismissed for Sunday school during service before the Gospel. This change in timing will begin Sunday, September 19th and will continue for a trial period until November 21st. We are optimistic that this change will result in increased participation by current members and new or visiting families.

The BLC community pantry has been the wish of a BLC member who chooses to remain

anonymous. Through his gentle coaxing your current council decided that the time was right for BLC to have its own pantry due to its unique location. A sturdy cupboard has been purchased, assembled and placed outside the kitchen door thru a grant from the Trapp family. Funds will also be used from this grant to supplement what we as members of the congregation provide as donations to the pantry. There will also be some funds used from a Thrivent grant to provide staples for the pantry. You are encouraged (but not required) to bring a canned good or nonperishable item to the Ice Cream Social. Thanks to Scott and Lisa Schlagel and Cindy and Jim Monroe for leading this project. Contact them with any questions.

If you would like to give a gift to Annie Slabaugh for her new son, Caleb, gift cards would be a great choice. Annie and Trent really like Target or a website called buybuybaby.com (can use Bed Bath and Beyond gift cards). If you would like to drop off your gift in the church office, we will see that she receives it.

Y2A News: Our next fundraiser, a Chili CookOff, was planned for October 31st. Council had this event on their agenda in August, and they determined <u>the Chili CookOff be cancelled</u>. Hopefully, things will improve in the future, and we will still be able to hold this popular event.

Pecans are coming! Pecans are coming! The Worship and Music committee will sell the popular Schermer pecans again this Fall. Instead of having a table set up inside the church, we will take orders for Dark Chocolate Pecans, Caramel Cluster Pecans and Cinnamon Glazed Pecans. We will be trying something this year: There were a few requests for the Plain Pecans which we had tried to sell a few years ago. Since we were unable to sell the entire case of 24, we did not order again. But this year, if we can get orders of at least 15 bags of the case, we will order again. The plain are great for baking or roasting. They do freeze well. The \$12 bags are perfect for holiday or hostess gifts or just plain munching. We will be ordering the first week of October for delivery at the end of October/early November. Make your list of who you need gifts for and please contact Barbara Oster (231-668-7038 or beo6475@yahoo.com) by October 3rd.

BLC's Art & Craft Show has returned for 2021. Mark your calendar for Nov. 6th. The show will feature 50 local & original handcrafted artists and crafters.

<u>The newest Living Lutheran magazine</u> can be picked up at the welcome table on Sunday mornings, from the STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion.

The September 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.

BLC Book club continues to meet the 4th Tues of the month at 5:30 on ZOOM. There is a change for the book for this month. It will be "Educated" by Westover. The book bag was available from the library so there are copies in a plastic bin outside the front door of church. There are additional copies so if you need one, or want to be added to the ZOOM List contact Cindy Monroe at Cmonroe@chartermi.net.

The outdoor "Shooting STAR Dispenser" at BLC is now full with several paper publications, including the September STAR and the current week's worship folder/bulletin. If you would like a copy of a DVD, please contact the church and one will be produced for you.

<u>"Zoom Book Study"</u> is taking a summer break and will start up again in the Fall. Look for details then to join the group.

<u>A big thank you</u> to all who turned in their Olesons' receipts to Bethlehem. We just received a check from them for \$179.90. So far this year, we have received \$435.52 total from Olesons' receipts. Please continue to turn in your Olesons' receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks again.

Our blog is undergoing a revamp and will be named "Paths of Hope". Be on the lookout soon for more detailed information.

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.

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.

<u>The church calendar has returned below</u>. Please be sure to notify the office (<u>admin@bethlehemtc.org</u> or 231-947-9880) to be sure that your group is on the calendar.

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 12

10:00am – Worship 11:00am – God's work. Our Hands activities (please see in the bulletin more information) *Schedule correction: the Confirmation meeting for parents and students will now be Sunday 9/19 at 1pm

Monday, September 13

10:00am—Baby Pantry – Reorganization (FH) 4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH) 5:00pm—Finance Committee (CR) 6:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

Tuesday, September 14

9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH) 9:00am—Property Work Group 10:00am—Staff Meeting (CR) 12:00pm—Sarah Circle (FH) 1:00pm—Ruth Circle (FH) 4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH) 4:30pm—Executive Committee (CR) 6:00pm—Drive My Way (FH) 6:00pm—Y2A Meeting (GS)

Wednesday, September 15

Bulletin articles due 9:00am—Bible Study (YR) 4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH) 6:00pm—Drive My Way (FH) 7:30pm—Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, September 16

11:00am—Baby Pantry (FH) 4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH) 5:30pm—ACOA (LL)

Friday, September 17 4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

Saturday, September 18

9:00am—All Youth Project (Offsite)

Sunday, September 19

1:00pm – Confirmation meeting and class for parents and students (FH / Youth Room)