

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
Thankoffering Sunday
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
November 13, 2022 – 10 a.m.
Traditional Worship



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 out one of the Visitor cards available at our Welcome Table in the Gathering Place.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3, page 138

Pre-Worship Music/Announcements

Prelude

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who redeems us in Christ Jesus, whose steadfast love endures forever. **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 our neighbors. We have ignored voices that call for your justice. We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness. We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community. We truly repent of things we have done and left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness, follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen.

P: Rejoice and be glad! God hears the prayers of all who cry out, and restores us to life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

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 (lead by Pastor Paul)

S 138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



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: Let us pray together...

C: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Temple Talk / Special Thankofferings

WORD

First Lesson

Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that “the day is coming.” On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who honor God.

1See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. 2aBut for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 98

1Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

2O Lord, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

3You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

4Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

5Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

6With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the Lord.

7Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

8Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.

9The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity

Second Lesson

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

6Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. 7For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, 8and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. 9This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. 10For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. 11For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. 12Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. 13Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

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

5When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, 6“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.” 7They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” 8And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them. 9“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” 10Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; 11there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. 12“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. 13This will give you an opportunity to testify. 14So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; 15for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. 16You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. 17You will be hated by all because of my name. 18But not a hair of your head will perish. 19By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Cindy Monroe

Hymn of the Day *Sing a New Song* (see insert)

Gather #230

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: **“Receive our prayer”** (*Before prayer*) A: United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world. (*Conclusion*) P: Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

MEAL

Offering (Please be seated.)

Offering Song:

Zeke Clemons

Offertory (Please stand, as able.) *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 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

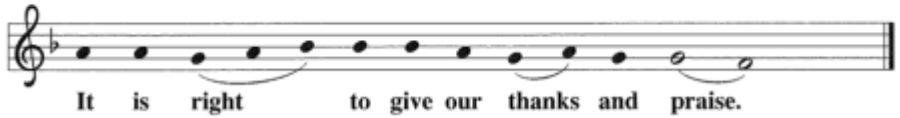
A: Let us pray.

C: Blessed are you, Maker of all things. As you have entrusted us with all that you have created, now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament, and send us to those who hunger and thirst, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

S 144a



Great Thanksgiving (continued)

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

Holy, Holy, Holy



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.

***Please note: Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

Communion

Lamb of God

S 146

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.

Communion Hymns

O Living Bread of Heaven
Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

ELW 542
ELW 767

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.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with



Prayer after Communion

A: We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P: The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good, who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

Let All Things Now Living

ELW 881

Dismissal A: Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world. C: **Thanks be to God**



Bethlehem November 13, 2022
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

11/15—Marilyn Halstead 11/16—Patty Leibenguth 11/19—Art Newhouse

Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.

Pledge Sunday: You should have received your pledge letter and documents in the mail. Our Pledge Sunday continues today. You may place your pledge envelope in the vase at the back of the sanctuary.

THANK OFFERING SUNDAY: Today's Thank Offering Sunday service is when most positions of the worship service are handled by women. A special offering will be taken during that service which will be used to support women's ministries churchwide. Thank Offering jars are available in the Narthex; special envelopes will also be provided.

Third Thursday: The next Third Thursday service will be a Jazz Vespers service on November 17th at 7:00pm. The service will be livestreamed.

Giving Statements Available: Your individual giving statements will be available in your mailbox in the Narthex beginning Sunday October 23, 2022. The statement covers giving from January 1st through September 30, 2022. Please pick them up at your convenience. To save on postage, I will mail out the ones not picked up by the end of November 2022. Thank you for your generous support for the programs and ministries of your church. We are all blessed by your faithful giving. Your Bookkeeper

Refresh Committee Update: We have received some questions regarding funding of the Refresh Project in connection with the Church Budget. The Refresh Committee has not used any money from the 2022 Church Budget. When we had our meetings with the Congregation earlier this year, we had planned on asking for some funding from the Sustaining Endowment Fund and a match from Asset Replacement. This did not occur. Based on the current economic climate we felt it was not appropriate to ask for these funds. Currently, all money being used for the Refresh Project is money we received from the generous donations of members of the Congregation. If there are any other questions, please feel free to contact me. Thanks, Chuck Ardingo

COVID: Please note that masks are required for unvaccinated persons in worship and highly encouraged for those who are vaccinated.

Today's altar flowers are donated: *In Honor of WELCA Thank Offering Sunday.*

Offerings: The offering plates are now passed during the service. The vase in the back of the Sanctuary is still available for those who prefer not to touch the offering plate.

CLEAN UP IN THE SANCTUARY: Please consider staying after today's service for deep cleaning in the sanctuary, including washing the windows, vacuuming the floor, with spot cleaning the carpet stains. We will be dusting the altar and sweeping and cleaning the floor of the altar. We will also be cleaning the 2 main bathrooms and the bathroom by the sacristy. We need volunteers to do all of these chores. There will be snacks and water provided. And remember many hands make light work. If we have several people, it shouldn't take more than about an hour to do all of this. This will give us a fresh clean church for the upcoming Holidays. Blessings to you all
The November issue of the STAR is now available. 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>.

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.

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Special Book Announcement: Calling all true mystery lovers...we have our own mini-mystery right here at Bethlehem. One of the copies of our most recent book club selection, Isadore's Secret has not been returned. The library is giving us extra time to attempt to locate it. If you happened to carry it home or saw it in some nook and cranny at church please let the office know.

Coffee and Cookies: You are welcome to stay after the service for coffee, cookies and conversation. This will be done as many Sundays as there are volunteers to make the coffee and/or bring cookies, etc. There is a sign-up sheet available near the cookies. There are open dates, so please sign up!

Name tags: Your name tags are back in your mailboxes. Please walk a little farther and retrieve them so you can proudly wear them on Sunday mornings. We often have visitors and it helps them if they can see a friendly face and attach a name to it.

Choir announcement: Come add some music into your life! Future rehearsals are Tues Dec 6 and 13 at 7:00. The choir is excited with its new Advent and Christmas music. We would love to have more singers!! Contact Tony Bero at bero.tony@gmail.com or 942-1162 so he can have music ready for you.

24 hr food pantry closing for the winter: The outdoor pantry will be closing for the winter after the craft show on Nov 6. If you or someone you know needs some extra food please take some before it closes. There will be extra food set out on the day of the show. Before April anyone in need can contact the office to arrange a pick-up from the indoor storage. If you find a deal too good to refuse from Nov to Apr the teal bin will be available below the table by the mailboxes for placing your goodies.

BLC Book Club: The BLC book club's Nov meeting is on the 22th at 5:30 via ZOOM. The book selection is *The Story of Arthur Truluv* by Elizabeth Berg and can be found in the book club tub by the church's front doors. If you are not on the email list and want to be involved send your information to cmonroe@chartermi.net.

Advent meals are back for 2022! We will be trying Thursday nights this Fall for Advent. The meals are put on by the Fellowship Committee and volunteers. We could really use more volunteers! Is this something that you would be willing to help with, in any capacity that works for you? Do you like to:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| *Plan meals | *Clear tables and put away tables and chairs |
| *Shop for food | *Wash dishes |
| *Prepare food | *Clean up the kitchen after the meal |
| *Set up tables and chairs | |
| *Serve food | |

You don't have to volunteer for ALL of that! If you are able to do just one thing, you are a help and a blessing to everyone who attends and enjoys the Advent Services, including yourself! If this is something you would like to do, or if you have any questions, please contact Laura Hahn at dandlhahn@gmail.com, or 929-1339. Thank you!