

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 25, 2022 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 3



Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

C: Amen.

P: Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of mercy and forgiveness,

C: ... we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

P: Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

Gather Us In

ELW 532

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, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

Annie Slabaugh

First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

1aAlas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria, 4Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; 5who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; 6who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! 7Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

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 16:19-31

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

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

Jesus said: 19“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. 20And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, 21who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. 22The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 23In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. 24He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ 25But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. 26Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ 27He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—

28for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’
29Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ 30He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ 31He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Song of the Day:

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715

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 Song:

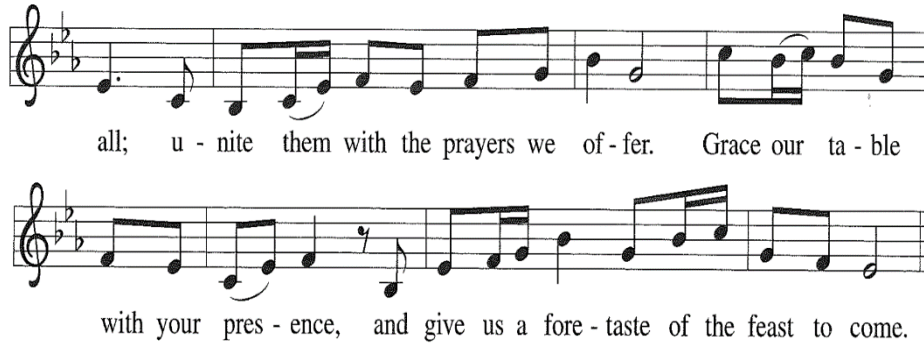
We Plow the Fields and Scatter

ELW 680

Offertory:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. 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:

**You Satisfy the Hungry Heart
Take My Life, That I May Be**

**ELW 484
ELW 685**

Final Blessing

P: God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

C: Amen.

Sending Song:

I Could Sing of your Love Forever

Over the mountains and the sea Your river runs with love for me, and I will open up my heart, and let the Healer set me free.

I'm happy to be in the truth, and I will daily lift my hands, for I will always sing of when Your love came down, yeah.

I could sing of Your love forever, I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever, I could sing of Your love forever.

Over the mountains and the sea Your river runs with love for me, and I will open up my heart, and let the Healer set me free.

I'm happy to be in the truth, and I will daily lift my hands, for I will always sing of when Your love came down, yeah.

I could sing of Your love forever, I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever, I could sing of Your love forever.

Oh, I feel like dancing; it's foolishness, I know. But when the world has seen the light,
They will dance with joy like we're dancing now.
I could sing of Your love forever, I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever, I could sing of Your love forever.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Bethlehem September 25, 2022
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9/28—Aleah Graf

9/28—Tom Woodworth

9/29—Bella Gaston

9/29—Austin Leatherman

9/30—Jan Schmidt

10/1—Bob Rogers

10/2—Braxton Rhodes

10/2—Eileen Rubino

10/2—Jason Nellist

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

Today, after worship, lunch will be served while we assemble in the Fellowship Hall for a second listening forum on staffing and new sabbatical updates and strategy moving forward. We hope all who would like can voice their ideas and concerns - for our ministry here and beyond our walls. Peace and see you then!

The Refresh Committee has started work in cleaning and painting the last classroom at Bethlehem. There is a bit more wear and tear in the classroom than we anticipated so it is going to take us a little more time to update. This classroom will be a Conference/Library Room when done. New LED lighting and painting will be completed in the next few weeks. We will continue to update everyone as we continue our projects. In terms of Fund Raising please see below:

Actual Cash on Hand :	\$8105
Pledged but not yet Received :	\$2200
TOTAL:	\$10,305

As you can see, we have reached our Goal of \$10,000 and we Thank Everyone who supported Our Refresh Project. If you have not contributed and still wish to, we appreciate any additional contributions to further our Refresh efforts. You can make a contribution and place it in the collection plate (Write Refresh on your check) or see Phil Anderson in the church office.

COVID NEWS: According to the CDC and Munson Hospital, Covid-19 is once again on the rise in Grand Traverse County, and our county now has one of the highest transmission rates in Michigan. Council voted on May 17th to adopt a guideline that masks are required for unvaccinated persons in worship and highly encouraged for those who are vaccinated.

Today's altar flowers are donated by: Betty Cole and Family in Memory of Cal Cole on the anniversary of his birth.

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.

Third Thursday: The next Third Thursday service will be a Taize service on October 20th at 7:00pm. The service will be livestreamed.

The October 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.

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

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.

The newest Living Lutheran magazine and the October/November/December 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.

Children’s Message Corner: We will be taking a break from Children's Message Corner for the foreseeable future. If you would like to schedule a one on one with Annie instead, please reach out to her directly.

HELP NEEDED: We are looking for volunteers for our A/V Team – specifically to advance the PowerPoint slides and/or pressing the button to change the angle for the Livestream camera. You don’t need to be proficient on computers, just able to follow the service and press a button. Training will be available. Contact Barbara Oster if you are interested. If you would like to watch the procedure on a Sunday, that can be arranged.

“Let Your Light Shine” All women are invited to join us for an inspiring evening: September 28th, 6:30pm Potluck Supper with an inspiring skit, music, food... and just being together as God’s family. Any questions, call Nancy Ammann at 946-8433.

Coffee and Cookies have returned! 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 will be sign-up sheets 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: IT’S BACK!! The choir will be singing during the service on Oct 2. Come add some music into your life! Rehearsals are 2-3 Thursdays per month at 7:00. The next rehearsal is Thursday, September 29th. Contact Tony Bero at bero.tony@gmail.com or 942-1162.

Adult Bible Study gets together on Wednesdays from 9:00am-11:00am. It is a casual discussion of the Gospel of Mark. Bring your bibles and come, share, learn and grow with us.

The Wednesday Zoom Bible Study meets on Wednesdays from 1:30pm—3:00pm. We will discuss the Book of Revelations from the Book of Faith. If you are interested, please contact either Pr Paul or Barbara Oster.

Christian Education committee is seeking discussion leaders for adult education on Sundays from 9:15am-9:45am.

Discussion will be about the Lessons/Gospel for the day. If interested, please call Barb Graf 946-5120.

Starting this September, Bethlehem's entire congregation will have the opportunity to join the youth in our brand new Intergenerational Events.

These are fun opportunities to gather in fellowship with Bethlehem's youth to connect and become a supportive and strong Christian influence. Reach out to Annie for more information.

Sunday Sundae: Wasn't it fun to join together for a Sunday "Sundae" on Sept. 18? Special thanks to a Thrivent Financial Action Team for funding the cost of all of our supplies and treats, for those who donated items for the food pantry, and to an anonymous donor who gave a large gift of money to help with keeping the food pantry stocked in the future.

24 hr food pantry: Remember to take advantage of BOGO offerings and bring your extras of staple foods for our outdoor food pantry. Those who are hungry will be appreciative. There is a teal bin below the table by the mailboxes for placing your goodies.

BLC Book Club: The BLC book club's Oct meeting is on the 25th at 5:30 via ZOOM. The book title should be announced within the week so the book will be available in the Book Club box outside of the church. If you are not on the email list and want to be involved send your information to cmonroe@chartermi.net.

LAUNDRY BASKET PROJECT UPDATE: The laundry basket project is ongoing. Please drop off any cleaning items in the Narthex. Families who visit the baby pantry have been most appreciative. Blessings to you all!



Bethlehem Week at Safe Harbor Coming in February: Yes, Bethlehem Lutheran will be joining with Northern Lakes Community Church (a Presbyterian congregation) to provide a week of evening meals again this winter. We will be serving from February 4 through February 10. Bethlehem will take Saturday February 4, Sunday February 5, and Tuesday February 7. "Five Loaves; Two Fish" of Leland is taking February 6- and all Mondays throughout the winter! Northern Lakes will handle the 8, 9, and 10 February. We are coordinating menus as we can to assure variety. Here are a couple other updates:

-I already have the Tina Dohm group committed to February 4th with a lasagna dinner and the Cindy Monroe group signed up for February 5th with a chicken and rice dinner. Still looking for a lead for the February 7th, but I do already have kitchen workers ready to assist. Reach me anytime at 631-0040. Come January we will have sheets to sign-up to assist in a number of ways outside of the kitchen with guest interaction and providing breakfast and other items. You may have also seen that Safe Harbor is going to be open days on the weekends. Safe Harbor will be looking for volunteers to assist the professional staff with supervision on Saturdays and Sundays during the day. Those shifts will be from 8AM to 1PM and 1PM to 6PM. If you have never volunteered at Safe Harbor before, this could be a good place to start. I can assist you in signing up for one of these opportunities. Look forward to a regular great response from Bethlehem members. More to come. Mark your calendars!

Thank you. Tom Rockne/Bethlehem Safe Harbor Coordinator M.231.631.0040

Due Dates for STAR/Bulletin/Screen Announcements:

- **STAR:** The third Friday of the month sent to admin@bethlehemtc.org (Please note STAR in subject line)
- **Bulletin/Verbal Announcements:** Tuesday of the week sent to admin@bethlehemtc.org (Bulletin/Worship Folder is prepared on Wednesday and printed on Thursday morning.) (Please note Bulletin or Announcement in subject line)
- **Screen Announcements/Weekly BLC Emails:** Tuesday of the week sent to annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org (Annie works Sunday – Wednesday)

Our interim tech support person is Trent Slabaugh. He welcomes your comments on the audio or video system. You may contact him by email at tslabaugh93@gmail.com

Monthly STAR: Thanks to all of you who have said that you will read the STAR on line or pick it up at church. Those of you who come to church, be thinking if there is any member close in your neighborhood that you could deliver their copy to them. If you have recently decided to read on line or pick-up at church please call the office and let them know.

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 1100am – 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 next to the mailboxes.

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.

A big thank you to all who turned in Olesons' receipts. We received a check from Olesons for \$187.74. So far this year we have received a total of \$464.62 just for people turning in their Olesons' receipts. Please continue to drop your Olesons' receipts off at church.

Love Thy Neighbor will be having a For the Love of Jazz and Neighbors fundraiser on Wednesday, October 19 from 6 - 8:30 at Faith Reformed Church. It will be a night of good food, music by Jazz North, with testimonies and information about how our organization helps our neighbors in need. Please spread the word and come join us for a night of fun!

Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. There are plenty of dates available for the rest of the year. 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 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.

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 is 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, September 25

10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion
11:15am—Listening Meeting/Lunch (FH)

Tuesday, September 27

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)
9:00am—Property Work Group
10:00am—Staff Meeting (CR)
5:30pm—Book/Supper Club (Offsite)
6:30pm—Newcomers (FH)

Wednesday, September 28

9:00am—Adult Bible Study
11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)
1:30pm—Johnson SG (Offsite)
1:30pm—Zoom Bible Study
6:30pm—“Let Your Light Shine” WELCA (FH)

Thursday, September 29

5:30pm—ACOA (FH)
7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal (S)

Saturday, October 1

9:00am—All Star DE (FH)

Sunday, October 2

10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion
11:15am—WELCA Board Meeting (CR)
11:15am—Worship and Music Meeting