

# Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 24, 2022 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



**Prelude Music**

**Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, 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: Merciful God,

**C: ... we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Song:**

**Hear the Call of the Kingdom**

Hear the call of the kingdom, lift your eyes to the King; Let His song rise within you  
as a fragrant offering of how God, rich in mercy, came in Christ to redeem all who trust in His unfailing grace.

Hear the call of the kingdom, to be children of light with the mercy of heaven the humility of Christ;  
Walking justly before Him, loving all that is right, that the life of Christ may shine through us.

King of heaven, we will answer the call. We will follow, bringing hope to the world,  
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name.

Hear the call of the kingdom, to reach out to the lost with the Father's compassion in the wonder of the cross,  
bringing peace and forgiveness, and a hope yet to come: let the nations put their trust in Him

King of heaven, we will answer the call. We will follow, bringing hope to the world,  
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name,

King of heaven, we will answer the call. We will follow, bringing hope to the world,  
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name,  
salvation in Jesus' name, salvation in Jesus' name.

## Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all!

**C: And also with you!**

## Kyrie

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

**C: Almighty 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.**

## Children's Message

Annie Slabaugh

## 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.*

<sup>20</sup>Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup>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." <sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>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? <sup>25</sup>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?" <sup>26</sup>And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>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." <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup>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." <sup>31</sup>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." <sup>32</sup>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**

## Gospel Acclamation:

## Alleluia

Sinclair

Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia.

## 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.**

<sup>1</sup>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."<sup>2</sup>He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."<sup>5</sup>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; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'<sup>7</sup>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.'<sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>"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. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>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:

## Listen, God is Calling

ELW 513

## 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:

Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793

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: God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. 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:

**One Bread, One Body**  
**Holy God, We Praise Your Name**

**ELW 496**  
**ELW 414**

## Final Blessing

P: The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

**C: Amen.**

## Sending Song:

### **The New Song We Sing**

You are the God Who reconciles the wayward heart through Christ.  
The old has gone, the new has come; we are reconciled by love, we are reconciled by love.  
You are the God Who reconciles the wayward heart through Christ.  
The old has gone, the new has come; we are reconciled by love, we are reconciled by love.

And this is the new song we sing to the King of heaven. This is the new song we bring after all you've given.  
And we stand before You redeemed as Your children. This is the new song we sing.

We who were once so far away are brought near by Your blood.  
The barrier has been destroyed; by Your grace we freely come, by Your grace we freely come.

And this is the new song we sing to the King of heaven. This is the new song we bring after all you've given.  
And we stand before You redeemed as Your children. This is the new song we sing.  
And we live in You. We live for You. We live to You, our King.  
We stand in You. We stand for You. We stand as Your redeemed.  
And we live in You. We live for You. We live to You, our King.  
We stand in You. We stand for You. We stand as Your redeemed. Your redeemed.

And this is the new song we sing to the King of heaven. This is the new song we bring after all you've given.  
And we stand before You redeemed as Your children. This is the new song we sing.  
And this is the new song we sing to the King of heaven. This is the new song we bring after all you've given.  
And we stand before You redeemed as Your children. This is the new song we sing.

## Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



**Bethlehem**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 24, 2022

1050 Peninsula Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
(231) 947-9880  
[www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7/25—Betty Rutila	7/26—Sandy Merrifield	7/29—Tim Johnson
7/26—Helen Rafeld	7/27—Virginia Thompson	7/30—Maureen Bauer
7/26—Jalen Provo	7/28—Julia Acker	7/30—Jim Parkinson

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

**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.

**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.

**The August issue of the STAR is now available.** For current issues of the Star, feel free to check online at [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:jstretlien@gmail.com) or 231-947-3265
- Prayers read from the altar: Please call Administrative Assistant in the church office 231-947-9880

**Today’s altar flowers are donated:** *In Honor of the Tuesday AM work group.*

**BJ Christensen’s mom is turning 100 on July 29.** She loves birthday cards!!! Please consider sending a card to Ann Mazurek in c/o BJ at 10255 S. Cedar, Cedar, MI 49621

**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](mailto:beo6475@yahoo.com) or 231.668.7038.

**The newest Living Lutheran magazine and the July/August/September 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:** The next Message Corner is scheduled for this afternoon at 2:45pm. To be put on the email list to receive the Zoom link please see Annie after worship or contact her at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org).

### **Due Dates for STAR/Bulletin/Screen Announcements: PLEASE NOTE NEW DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN**

- **STAR:** The third Friday of the month sent to [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) (Please note STAR in subject line)
- **Bulletin/Verbal Announcements:** **Tuesday** of the week sent to [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto: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](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org) (Annie works Sunday – Wednesday)

**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.

**Grief Workshop** In the Informational Meeting we had in March to discuss Pastor's Sabbatical activities, grief counseling was brought up as a need in our congregation. In some of our discussions with the Sabbatical Team and the Church Council we thought this is a need to be met now and not in a year. Munson Hospice is willing to come in and do some workshops free of charge. We are calling them workshops as it will be once a month from September through March with a break in December. They can provide group counseling, music and/or art therapy. What we need to know is who is interested? The time you would like to have it, afternoon or evening? And also are there any children you would like to have join you. Munson Hospice is willing to meet our needs and maybe small groups, separate children's groups or possibly a combination. We would have it at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and if you know someone outside of our church family with this need, they would be welcome to come. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or call Gail Goldsmith at 231-633-2630.

**Refresh Committee Update:** Our Committee would like to thank those who have pledged to help us in our efforts to update the look of our church. We know the economy is presenting challenges for all of us. If you are able to make a pledge, any amount would be welcome. As we discussed during our open meetings, we indicated we would keep the Congregation updated on reaching our \$10,000 goal. As such, here are the current totals:

Pledges	\$3450
Received Donations	\$4300
Total so far	\$7750

**Music news at BLC:** The adult choir is taking a break for the summer and will resume rehearsals 2-3 Thursdays per month at 7:00pm on Sept 8. It's time to return to a favorite pastime or start a new one. Plan to come to the first rehearsal or contact Tony Bero at [bero.tony@gmail.com](mailto:bero.tony@gmail.com) or 942-1162.

**Name tags:** Yes, your name tags are back in your mailboxes, but please walk a little farther and retrieve them so you can proudly wear them on Sunday mornings. We often have more visitors in the summer and it helps them if they can see a friendly face and attach a name to it.

**LAUNDRY BASKET PROJECT FOR 2022:** We are collecting cleaning items to be given out during the Baby Pantry here at Bethlehem. There is an example basket in the Narthex along with a list of items needed. You may fill an entire basket OR bring single items if you prefer. We would like to have baskets available beginning in March. Thank you for your participation!

**BLC Book Club:** The BLC book club continues to meet during the summer. Our meeting in August is on the 23rd at 5:30 via ZOOM. The book which will be announced next week, 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](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net).

**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.

**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.

**On Sunday, July 31st right after church there will be a Youth Group Parent Meeting in the Youth Room** to discuss some major changes that are being considered for youth groups starting in the fall. Before any plans are finalized however, Annie wishes to discuss the potential changes with parents and get feedback as well as get any ideas from parents. Every youth family will be invited and welcomed to this meeting!

**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](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org).

**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](mailto:tslabaugh93@gmail.com)

**A big thank you to all who turned in Olesons receipts.** Please continue to drop your Olesons receipts off at church.

**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](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org).

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

#### **CALENDAR**

##### **Sunday, July 24**

10:00am—Worship Service (S)  
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion  
11:15am—VBS Final Prep Party  
2:45pm—Children's Message Corner (Zoom)

##### **Monday, July 25**

8:30am—VBS

##### **Tuesday, July 26**

###### **Bulletin articles due today**

8:30am--VBS  
9:00am—Property Work Group  
5:30pm—Book/Supper Club (Zoom)

##### **Wednesday, July 27**

8:30am--VBS  
12:45pm—Music Rehearsal (S)  
1:00pm—Johnson SG (Offsite)  
1:15pm—VBS Tear Down Party

##### **Thursday, July 28**

5:30pm—ACOA (GS)

##### **Saturday, July 30**

9:00am—All-Star DE (FH)

##### **Sunday, July 31**

10:00am—Worship Service (S)  
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion  
11:30am—Youth Group Parent Meeting (YR)