

Reformation Sunday

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

October 30, 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/Temple Talk

Prelude A Mighty Fortress is Our God

BLC Choir

GATHERING

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 Hymn *How Firm a Foundation*

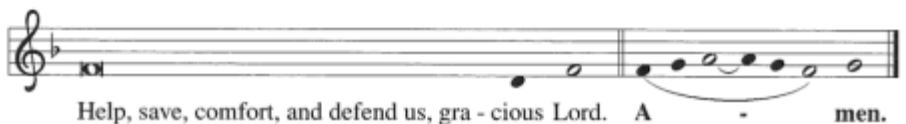
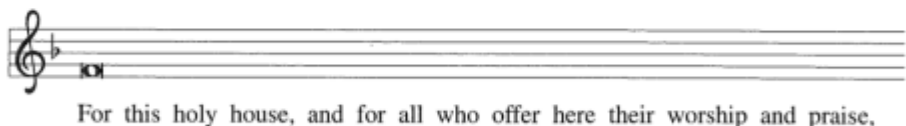
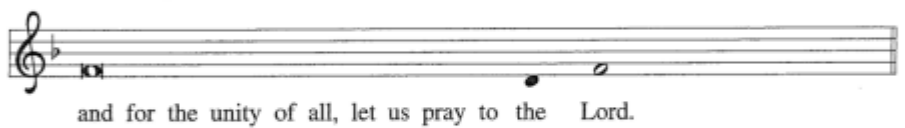
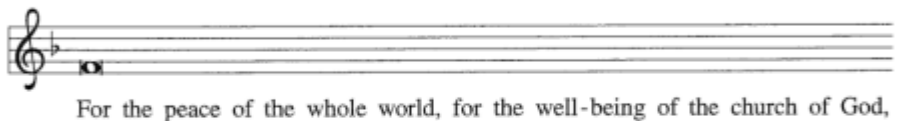
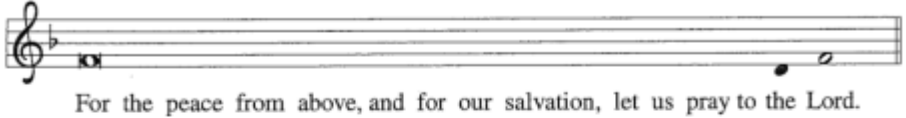
ELW 796

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



Assisting minister S 139



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

All



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: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

31The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalms 46

1God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

3though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

4There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

5God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

6The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

7The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

8Come now, regard the works |of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

9behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

10“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

11The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Lesson

Romans 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

19Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. 21But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, 22the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; 24they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; 26it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. 27Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

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

31Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” 33They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’” 34Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Hymn of the Day *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

ELW 504

Confirmation of Julia Acker and Jacob Graf - Affirmation of Baptism

Prayers of Intercession: response after each petition: **“Your mercy is great.”** (*Before prayer*) A: In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God’s creation. (*Conclusion*) P: With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; 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: 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.

Great Thanksgiving

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

S 144a

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup
By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 492
ELW 469

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: Let us pray. God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

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 *Soul on Fire (words on screen)*

Dismissal

A: Go in peace, with Christ beside you. C: **Thanks be to God.**



Bethlehem *October 30, 2022*
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

10/30—Celia Kane

11/4—Beth Nunnelley

10/31—Jim Rumbach

11/5—Jane Zlojutro

11/3—Rudy Kelly

11/6—Phil Anderson

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

Today we will have a talented 8th grader from West Middle School playing the trumpet with the choir on A Mighty Fortress. Her name is Ava Zeratsky.

FALL BACK: Next week is the end of daylight savings time so don't forget to turn your clocks BACK by one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, Nov. 5th.

Pledge Sunday: You should have received your pledge letter and documents in the mail. Our Pledge Sundays will be on Nov. 6th and Nov. 13th.

Today's altar flowers are donated by: *Bonnie Gamble in Memory of the Halachwias & Baesch Families.*

Thank you everyone for coming to our Farewell Reception last week and for your overwhelming support, kindness and generosity! We did not expect it and we appreciate you all so much. God has filled this place with some very special people who we will miss very much. Please keep in touch! The Slabaugh Family

The church council (and all members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church) would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has helped with special projects this past year. We owe huge debts of gratitude to all who have helped with the sound system, replacing the confidence screen, funding various special projects, building and property repairs, Gods Work Our Hands service, Refresh, attending forums – they are all critical to the health and welfare of our congregation. For those who have made financial contributions and wish to remain anonymous (you know who you are), your generosity is so very much appreciated. As we enter into a season of thanksgiving and celebration, please know the heart of the church beats every day with your living symbols of Christ's love.

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.

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

BAKE SALE! Christian Education is hosting a bake sale during the craft show on November 5th. In previous years you all have stepped up to share your baking abilities by donating cookies, bars, cakes, pies, lots of goodies! We are asking you again this year to help us out. Please pre-package the cookies and bars in groups of a half dozen and indicate name and ingredients (i.e. chocolate chip with/without nuts, peanut butter, etc). We would also appreciate gluten free treats. Items can be dropped off on Friday during the day or early Saturday morning. Thank You!!

XYZ Potluck: Join us for good food, laughter and fellowship on Friday, November 11th at 12 Noon. For now it will be mainly fellowship, but we plan to eventually add a program. While predominately geared toward seniors, we welcome any adult who would like to attend.

CLEAN UP IN THE SANCTUARY: We are planning another cleanup day. This time we will be doing a 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. We will be doing this on Sunday, November 13th immediately after church. This will give us a fresh clean church for the upcoming Holidays. Blessings to you all,

THANK OFFERING SUNDAY COMING UP: Thank Offering Sunday is being held on November 13th. This is the Sunday 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 on November 13th. Please come and join us.

Choir announcement: Come add some music into your life! Future rehearsals are Thurs Nov 3 & 10 and 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 will be announced in future bulletins. If you are not on the email list and want to be involved send your information to cmonroe@chartermi.net.