

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2021

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ☩ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song: Open Up the Heavens

We've waited for this day. We're gathered in Your Name, calling out to You.

Your glory, like a fire, awakening desire, will burn our hearts with truth.

You're the reason we're here. You're the reason we're singing.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You. Open up the floodgates, a mighty river, flowing from Your heart, filling every part of our praise.

Your presence in this place, your glory on our face, we're looking to the sky.

Descending like a cloud. You're standing with us now.

Lord, unveil our eyes.

You're the reason we're here. You're the reason we're singing.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.

Open up the floodgates, a mighty river, flowing from Your heart, filling every part of our praise.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.

Open up the floodgates, a mighty river, flowing from Your heart, filling every part of our praise.

Show us, show us your glory. Show us, show us your power.
Show us, show us your glory, Lord.

Show us, show us your glory. Show us, show us your power.
Show us, show us your glory, Lord.

Open up the heavens. We want to see You.
Open up the floodgates, a mighty river,
flowing from Your heart, filling every part of our praise.

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, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

²²Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish 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: Mark 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

P: A reading from...

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁶Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Pastor Paul

Song of the Day: For the Fruit of All Creation (*please see back page for music*)

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

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: You Satisfy the Hungry Heart (*please see back page for music*)
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (*please see back page for music*)

Final Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen

Sending Song: Your Grace is Enough

Great is Your faithfulness O God; You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart.

You lead us by still waters into mercy and nothing can keep us apart.

So, remember Your people, remember Your children, remember Your promise O God.

Your grace is enough, your grace is enough, your grace is enough, for me.

Great is Your love and justice, God of Jacob; You use the weak to lead the strong.

You lead us in the song of Your salvation, and all Your people sing along.

So, remember Your people, remember Your children, remember Your promise O God.

Your grace is enough, your grace is enough, your grace is enough, for me.

Yeah, your grace is enough, your grace is enough, your grace is enough, for me.

Remember Your people, remember Your children, remember Your promise O God.

Your grace is enough, your grace is enough, your grace is enough, for me.

Yeah, your grace is enough, heaven reaches out to us. Your grace is enough for me.

God, I sing Your grace is enough, I'm covered in Your love. Your grace is enough for me, for me.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

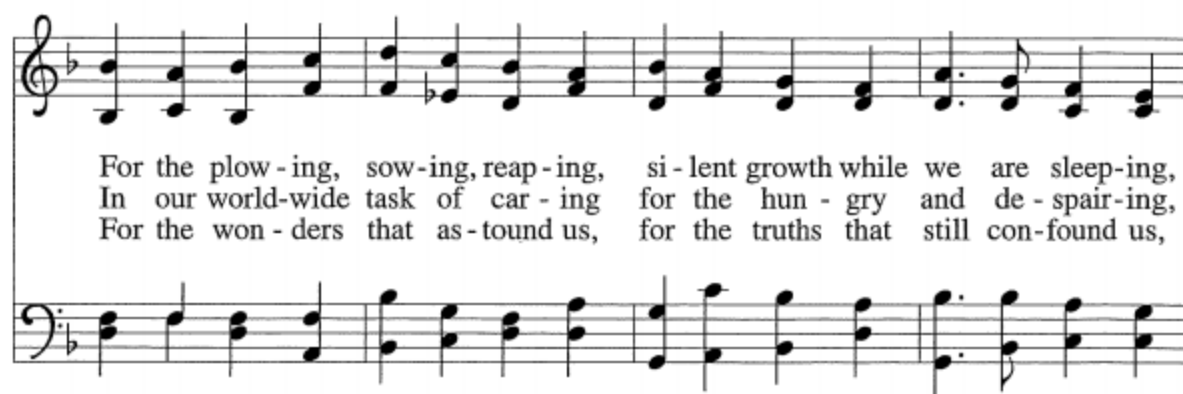
For the Fruit of All Creation



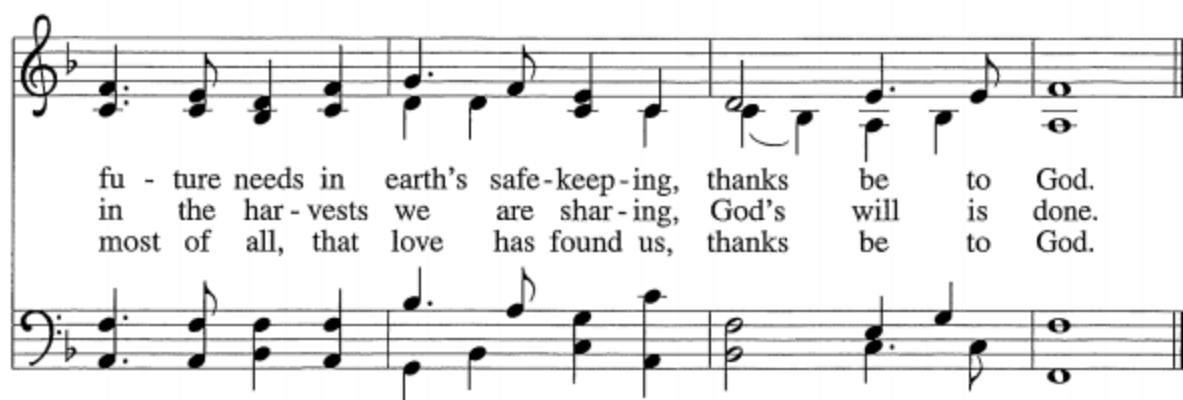
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company

Arr. © Oxford University Press

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You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Gift of Finest Wheat

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Refrain



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

Refrain



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' - n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.





Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Traverse City, MI 49686
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June 13, 2021

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

6/14—Dorene Boyd
6/15—BJ Christensen

6/14—Bob Hammond
6/19—Jessilyn Wallington

Based on positivity rates, masks are now optional for vaccinated persons. Please see your Bethlehem emails for more details.

Bethlehem's Council voted to reopen the church building as of Wednesday, May 26th. New Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.

Next Sunday, June 20th, we will have our annual Congregational Meeting on the West lawn at 11:15am. We will be electing members for the Church Council, Mission Endowment and Sustaining Endowment.

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. 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: *Tom and Jana Rockne in celebration of their 46th wedding anniversary.*

Pr Ruth Overdier has given Bethlehem many books from Pr Fred's collection. Please feel free to take what you would like from the table in the area between the Gathering Space and Narthex.

"Zoom Bible Study" gathering via Zoom is now studying Walter Wangerin's *Jesus: A Novel*. Besides the thought-provoking discussions, we also have great conversation and fellowship. Please contact Pr. Paul if you are interested in joining.

The BLC book club will meet via ZOOM at 5:30 on Tues, June 22. We will be discussing *Sparrow Migration* by local author, Cari Noga. If you are not already on the list and want to be added to the group for June just send your email to Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net.

Summer is just around the corner and here at Bethlehem we're planning a new exciting VBS Adventure not only for your kids...but for the entire family! Are you looking for a safe, friendly and fun environment that you can all enjoy together? Then sign up today for Great Bible Reef One Day VBS! This outdoor fun-filled vacation bible school is for the young and the young at heart for one day only on Sunday, June 27th 2PM - 5:45PM.

Today, June 13th, is the registration deadline. For more information or to register for VBS, go to myvbs.org/blcvbs2021 or reach out to Annie Slabaugh at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880 extension 16!

The June 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>.

The outdoor **"Shooting STAR Dispenser"** at BLC is now full with several paper publications, including the June 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.

Drive My Way, the driver's ed school using Bethlehem's facility is in need of experienced driver's ed teachers. If you are experienced or know someone who is experienced, please contact Mark or Ashley Ingraham, the Father/Daughter Team; Drive My Way Driver Education; (231)492-6612. Time and pay are negotiable.

Christ in Our Home Devotionals are available for July/August/September. Special Note: Pr Ruth Overdier is the writer for the daily devotions from July 11-20. They can be picked up at the name tag table on Sunday mornings, from the STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion. The newest *Living Lutheran* magazine is also available in the same locations.

A big thank you to all who turned in their Olesons receipts to Bethlehem. We just received a check from them for \$255.62. Please continue to turn in your receipts to church.

Calling all Knitters!! There is an overabundance of yarn skeins in the bin under the mailboxes in the narthex. PLEASE feel free to grab some to make hats, mittens, prayer shawls, etc.! The yarn is sorted according to kind, so you can be sure to find something appropriate for whatever project you have in mind. Questions? Call Betty R. (947-1013)

The online sign up for volunteers for the Parking Lot Fundraiser is out! Due to the Cherry Festival not having fireworks or an airshow this year we will be having our fundraiser on Sunday July 4th during the city fireworks only...but we will still have a great time! **The Sign Up is on the contact tracing table or you can get the link to the online sign up by checking out our Facebook Events Page, checking out the weekly emails or reaching out to Annie for the link! Also see her if you have any questions!**

Our "Hope Spreading" blog is undergoing a revamp: 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.

Due to Living Water Ministries closing their camp for this summer Bethlehem is teaming up with Advent Lutheran Church and Immanuel Lutheran Church for a very special camp outing, Thursday August 26th - Sunday August 29th! We are hoping to get a group of youth together grades 6th grade and up (families are also invited!), and we will be having fun activities such as hiking, swimming, bonfires, worship and fellowship! Price is \$20 per person for overnight camping (whether one night or three) and \$10 per person for the weekend for people participating without camping. Please mail checks or cash to Advent Lutheran Church (PO Box 249, Lake Ann, MI 49650). Space is limited so youth registration deadline is July 1st while adults and family is August 1st. Please see today's special insert for registration info. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Pastor Paul!

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.

The church calendar has returned 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

Monday, June 14

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

5:00pm—Finance Committee (Zoom)

Tuesday, June 15

9:00am—Property Work Group

10:00am—Staff Meeting (Youth Room)

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

6:00pm—Council

7:00pm—Lautner ASG (Offsite)

Wednesday, June 16

9:00am—Bill Gourdie Funeral (Sanctuary)

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, June 17

4:00pm—Drive My Way (FH)

5:30pm—ACOA (LL)

Sunday, June 20

11:15am—Annual Congregational Meeting