Welcome to Outdoor "Greenspace" Worship and (Parking Lot) Communion!



Please follow our parking lot ushers' guidance and review additional instructions on the reverse side

Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Outdoor / Green Space Worship and Communion

So that you are safe today, please follow the directions of our parking lot attendants. There will be cones and you will be directed to proper parking spaces. You can listen to the service if you turn to 99.7 FM on your car radio. Please drive slowly in the parking lot.

- Worship starts at 10:15; Parking Lot Communion starts at 11am and will last until roughly 11:30.
- Please bring your own lawn chair or remain in your car to ensure safety.
- The building will be closed with no exceptions.
- If your windows are closed, you may leave your masks off but please wear your masks when you open your window. <u>If your car window goes down, the mask goes up!</u>
- To see and hear the most of what's going on from your car, please park in the main lot facing the church building. Parking lot attendants will direct you to a space.
- Turn your car radio to 99.7 to listen to the worship service. Only if necessary, you may be advised to change to 106.9 as an alternate station – do not change unless instructed (we can only use one of those signals).
- At the end of the service, the parking lot attendants will direct you to the line for distribution of Communion. Cars will move one car at a time. Please wait for the parking lot attendant before you move your car.
- If you do not wish to "stay" for Communion, you will be directed to the exit.
- You may drop off your donations to the Youth can drive while in line for Communion look for Annie near the garage building.
- Communion will be held at the end of worship (for outdoor worshipers) or during Parking Lot Communion at 11am.
- When it is your car's turn to receive Communion, please lower your driver and passenger side windows (remember "mask on").
- The wafer is inside a small ziplock baggie. Each occupant will receive a wafer. There will be gluten free wafers available.
- After receiving the wafers, please pull your car forward to where the Assisting Minister is standing with the empty chalice.
- Wine/Blood will not be distributed. The Blood of Christ will be spoken. Our bishop reminds us that The Bread/Body (of Christ) is enough, as wine is too difficult to do safely at this point.
- When you have received Communion, please pull your car forward to receive this week's bulletin, The Living Lutheran and Christ in Our Home (July/August/September)
- If you have your offering, you may give it at this time.
- Please exit the parking lot when you are finished. You will be directed by the parking lot attendants.

Share your name please

Some of us are finding that not seeing an entire face and dealing with sunglasses causes us to have more difficulty knowing and calling other BLC members by name. If you enjoy being greeted by name please consider placing your name on your dashboard while drive-through communion is occurring. If you have an extra name tag at home you may want to consider wearing it when green space services occur. And please be sure to wear your name tag when the time comes to re-enter church.

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 9, 2020

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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!

A: Let us pray together,

C: O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

Verse 1

God of tempest, God of whirlwind, as on Pentecost descend! Drive us out from sheltered comfort; past these walls your people send! Sweep us into costly service, there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!

Verse 2

God of blazing, God of burning, all that blocks your purpose, purge! Through your church, Christ's living Body, let your flaming Spirit surge! Where deceit conceals injustice, kindle us to speak your truth, kindle us to speak your truth!

Verse 3

God of earthquake, God of thunder shake us loose from lethargy! Break the chains of sin asunder, for earth's healing set us free! Crumble walls that still divide us; make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!

Verse 4

God of passion, God unsleeping, stir in us love's restlessness! Where the people cry in anguish, may we share your heart's distress. Rouse us from content with evil, claim us for your kingdom's work, claim us for your kingdom's work!

First Reading: Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." ¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without



someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalmody: Psalm 85:8-13

⁸I will listen to what the Lord God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.
⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.
¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
¹²The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.
¹³Righteousness shall go before the Lord and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

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

²²Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds.²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." ²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Pastor Paul

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 / Interlude

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.

Final Blessing

P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **C: Amen.**

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you C: Thanks be to God.

You Are God Alone

Verse 1

You are not a god created, by human hands, You are not a god dependent, on any mortal man. You are not a god in need of, anything we can give. By Your plan, that's just the way it is.

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You are not a god created, by human hands, You are not a god dependent, on any mortal man. You are not a god in need of, anything we can give. By Your plan, that's just the way it is.

Chorus

You are God alone, from before time began, You were on Your throne, You are God alone. And right now in the good times and bad, You are on Your throne You are God alone.

Bridge

You're unchangeable, You're unshakable, You're unstoppable, that's what You are. You're unchangeable, You're unshakable, You're unstoppable, that's what You are.

Verse 2

You're the only God whose power, none can contend. You're the only God whose name and praise will never end. You're the only God who's worthy, of ev'rything we can give. You are God, that's just the way it is.

Chorus

You are God alone, from before time began, You were on Your throne, You are God alone. And right now in the good times and bad, You are on Your throne You are God alone.

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You are God alone, from before time began, You were on Your throne, You are God alone. And right now in the good times and bad, You are on Your throne You are God alone.



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August 9, 2020

<u>"2.0" is coming</u>! We are excited to announce that a new experience is coming soon for our online worship, and we're calling it "2.0"! On Wednesday Nights, join Pastor Paul and others for an online Holden Evening Prayer, as we begin melding some of our typical "Celebrate!" content, along with footage from outdoor communion and other gatherings into a new Wednesday experience. More info coming soon! We may also look to YOU for help with readings if you are willing/able!

<u>The AUGUST issue of the STAR is here!</u> Thanks to an anonymous donor, printed copies of our STAR newsletter will be mailed to members. Printed STARs will also be available in the "Shooting Star box" outside the church entry later this week. 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

With the recent rescinding of Gov. Whitmer's full stay-at-home order and new guidelines by the Governor regarding different "phases" of safety for re-opening gathering venues, we continue this week with our "Greenspace Worship" on the West Lawn. You are encouraged to B.Y.O.C. (Bring your own chair). Safety is our primary concern.

The outdoor **"Shooting STAR Dispenser" at BLC is now full** with new DVDs for April and May virtual church services and several paper publications, including the June STAR. More recent DVDs on the way.

<u>Altar flowers have returned to our worship services.</u> If you would like to sign up for a particular weekend, you can call Sharon at 231-947-9880 or email her at <u>admin@bethlehemtc.org</u>.

Today's altar flowers are donated by: the Congregation in thanks for all of God's blessings.

Book Club News: The book club will continue to meet via Zoom. On August 25 at 5:30 we will discuss *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* which is based on a true story. If you would like to be involved and have not already sent your email to Cindy Monroe, please send it now to cmonroe@chartermi.net.

Our next Jubilee service is scheduled for Sunday, August 30th at 10:00 am.

<u>A huge thank you to everyone who donated cans and bottles toward our Youth this summer!</u> Your outpouring of generosity was amazing and we got a LOT of cans! Thank you to everyone who helped out and supported our Youth.

A special thank you to the following families who took time out of their summer to pick up and deposit cans-often filling up truck beds and the back of cars or helped in other ways!

Hunter Antol, Shawn Antol, Landen Branch, Matt Branch, Quenten Branch, Shelly Carpenter, Christina Dohm, DJ Dohm, Lincoln Dohm, Makena Dohm, Norm Fred, Aleah Graf, Jacob Graf, Martin Graf, Monica Graf, Kathi Ivany-Mort, April Kurkowski, Cecilia Kurkowski, Jane Kurkowski, Kevin Kurkowski, Ally Leatherman, Austin Leatherman, Courtney Leatherman, Jef Mort, Shannon Nemeth, Annie Slabaugh, and Trent Slabaugh

A few families are still getting me their deposits for the fundraiser so I will keep everyone informed on final totals when I can!

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<u>Keep "Hope Spreading"</u>: Don't forget our blog "Hope Spreads Further" is still going strong! We've had many very inspiring entries and hope to read more. We invite you to help us build this blog or just read current entries at http://www.bethlehemtc.org/hope-spreads-further. Reach out to *Pastor Paul* at paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org if you'd like to contribute to the blog!

<u>Vacation Bible School (VBS) is now virtual!!</u> Introducing "Bible Stories" each Monday at 6PM on Zoom. Registration open all summer long so go to myvbs.com/blcbiblestories and register your child TODAY to get the Zoom Link! Please contact Annie Slabaugh at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org if you have any questions or concerns.

<u>The Annual Chili Cook Off</u> has been postponed to a later date, as was our May Jubilee service. Please stay on the lookout for more updates, and we can't wait to see you and share some chili with you all when we can (likely in the fall!)

Online Fellowship Time on ZOOM continues and will start as soon as worship is over, or approximately 7:45pm on Wednesdays. We will not be sharing the Zoom information publicly on Facebook or our website, so we can avoid hacking. An email will be sent out the day before either the Fellowship or the Bible Study. If someone you trust wants to join our Zoom Fellowship time or the Wednesday Bible Study, feel free to share this information with them privately.

"Zoom Bible Study", gathering via Zoom is going strong each Wednesday from noon until about 1:15pm, and each week we are having great conversation and fellowship. Pastor Paul and Annie co-lead this study. Our subject matter is now more of a book study using the Walt Wangerin book *Paul: A Novel*, on the famous apostle plus whatever life and ministry guides us as we meet...which gives us plenty of good stuff to talk about.