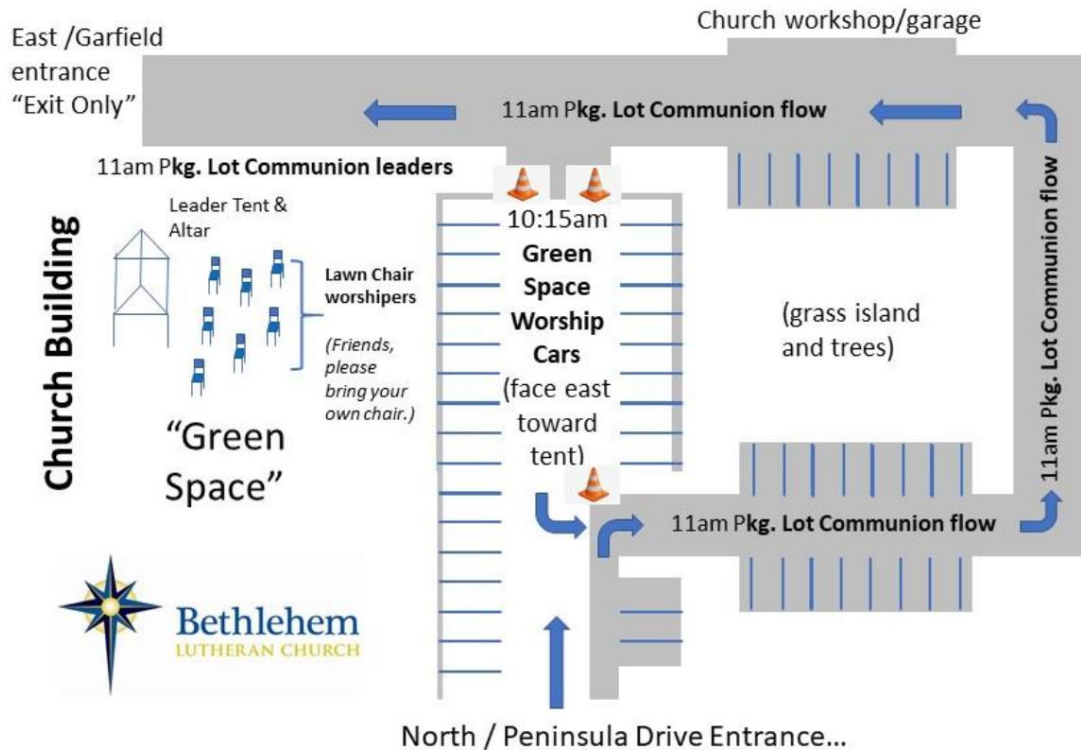


# Welcome to Outdoor “Greenspace” Worship and (Parking Lot) Communion!



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. **If your car window goes down, the mask goes up!**
- 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.

# Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 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: God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

### Verse 1

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment giv'n.

### Verse 2

There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good; there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood. There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.

### Verse 3

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.

### Verse 4

'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all: greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall. Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word, and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

## First Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

Paul writes: <sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2a</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. <sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

## **Gospel: Matthew 15:10-28**

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

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

<sup>10</sup>Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: <sup>11</sup>it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" <sup>13</sup>He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup>Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." <sup>15</sup>But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." <sup>16</sup>Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup>Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup>But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup>For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup>These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." <sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup>He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup>He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup>She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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 (next page)**

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.**

## **Build Your Kingdom Here**

### **Verse 1**

Come set Your rule, and reign in our hearts again. Increase in us, we pray. Unveil why we're made.  
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope, like wildfire in our very souls; Holy Spirit come invade us now.  
We are Your church; We need Your pow'r in us.

### **Verse 2**

We seek Your kingdom first, we hunger and we thirst; refuse to waste our lives, for You're our joy and prize.  
To see the captives' hearts released; the hurt, the sick, the poor at peace. We lay down our lives for heaven's cause.  
We are Your church; we pray revive this earth.

### **Chorus**

Build Your kingdom here. Let the darkness fear. Show Your mighty hand. Heal our streets and land.  
Set Your church on fire. Win this nation back. Change the atmosphere. Build Your kingdom here, we pray!

### **Verse 3**

Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r, reaching the near and far. No force of hell can stop Your beauty, changing hearts.  
You made us for much more than this; awake the kingdom seed in us. Fill us with the strength and love of Christ.  
We are Your church; we are the hope on earth.

### **Chorus**

Build Your kingdom here. Let the darkness fear. Show Your mighty hand. Heal our streets and land.  
Set Your church on fire. Win this nation back. Change the atmosphere. Build Your kingdom here, we pray!



**Bethlehem**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## *August 16, 2020*

**"2.0" is coming!** 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!

**The AUGUST issue of the STAR is here!** The STAR is no longer being subsidized by anonymous donors. We thank them for the generosity for 3 months and their hard work in preparing it for mailing. (There is even a rolling pin involved!!!) They are continuing to complete the lion's share of the work after it is printed, collated, and stapled, but now the cost of postage is being taken from the membership budget. If you read the STAR on line and have not told us, please make certain you contact the office or tell the Sunday greeter or hospitality team so we are not sending out copies needlessly. 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](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>

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 August STAR. More recent DVDs on the way.

**Altar flowers have returned to our worship services.** If you would like to sign up for a particular weekend, you can call Sharon at 231-947-9880 or email her at [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) – the cost is \$40 per week.

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

**Our next Jubilee service is scheduled for Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.**



**A huge thank you to everyone who donated cans and bottles toward our Youth this summer!** 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!

**Share your name please!** It can be hard to think of someone's name when you do not see the entire face because of a mask and when someone is wearing sunglasses. If you have an old name tag at home, please consider wearing it. If not, please stop at the greeter's table when you come for the greenspace service and you or the greeter can make you a tag. Even though we are mainly at a distance of 6 feet, it is still nice to hear your own name especially when you come forward for communion.

**Keep "Hope Spreading":** 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](mailto:paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org) or *Sharon* at [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) if you'd like to contribute to the blog!

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

**The Annual Chili Cook Off** 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!)

**Love Thy Neighbor is having a Summer Love Fundraiser Picnic on Wednesday, August 19** outside their office at 1109 East Front Street from 4 - 7 pm! Bring a chair to listen to some music while you eat or a drive thru pickup will be available for those who want to take it home. \$8 per meal or \$20 Family Pack (4 meals) includes Maxbauer's Hot Dog, Great Lakes Potato Chips, Baked Beans, KFC Coleslaw and Cookie, Sara Lee Cherry Pie.

**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](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net).

**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.