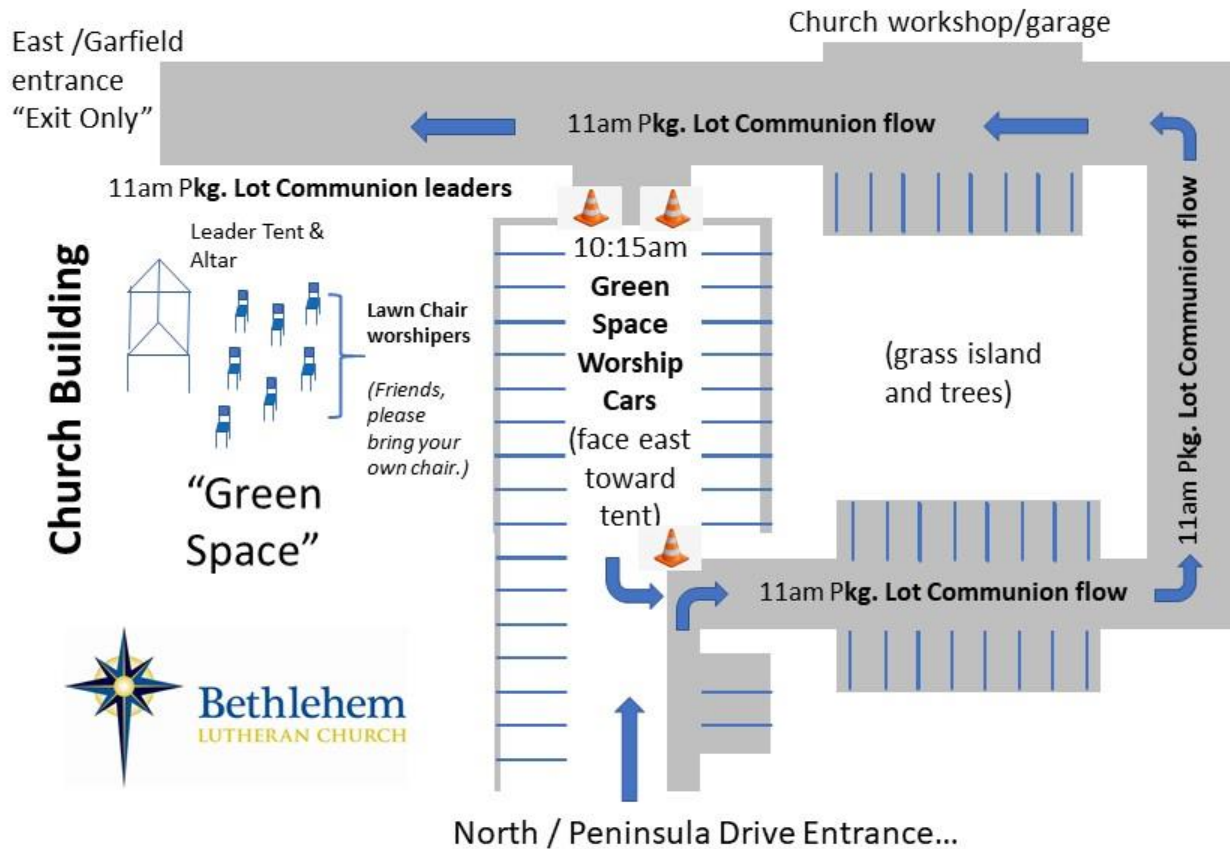


Welcome to Outdoor “Greenspace” Worship and (Parking Lot) Communion!



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.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July, 19, 2020

Virtual/Online and Parking Lot Worship (10:15)



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: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus name. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

Verse 2

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; in ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

Verse 3

His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood; when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

Verse 4

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found, clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne! On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

First Reading: Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

L: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

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

²⁴Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' " ³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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.

Announcements, Final Blessing & Dismissal

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.

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children of Light

Verse 1

It's a new day. Ev'rything changed when Your love came into the darkness.
You sent the light of the Son. You sent the light of the Son.

Chorus

Wake up! Open your eyes. No longer dead, we are alive.
Rise up, children of light. Open the doors; go let it shine.

Interlude

Woah (4X)

Verse 2

There is freedom in Your Kingdom. For You Jesus we will be dancing.
Forever Your joy is our song. Forever Your joy is our song.

Chorus

Wake up! Open your eyes. No longer dead, we are alive.
Rise up, children of light. Open the doors; go let it shine.

Interlude

Woah (4X)

Bridge

Song for the broken, let it shine. Into the shadows, let it shine.
Hope for the whole world, let it shine let it shine.
(REPEAT)

Chorus

Wake up! Open your eyes. No longer dead, we are alive.
Rise up, children of light. Open the doors; go let it shine.

Interlude

Woah (4X)

Ending

It's a new day. Ev'rything changed when Your love came into the darkness.
You sent the light of the Son. You sent the light of the Son.



Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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July, 2020 (see below for bulletin)

“2.0” is HERE! We are excited to announce a new experience 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. Check out our Facebook and Youtube video pages for 2.0 services each week. We may also look to YOU for help with readings if you are willing/able!

The JULY issue of the STAR is here! 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. Some chairs will be available but 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.

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.

Today’s altar flowers are donated by: *Barbara Oster in memory of her mother, Lois Oster, on the anniversary of her birth.*

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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 if you’d like to contribute to the blog!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) continues with “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.

Our next Jubilee service is scheduled for Sunday, August 30th.

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.

Online Fellowship Time on ZOOM continues on Wednesday with “WBLC” after our 7pm Holden Evening Prayer LiveWatch! Check your email or Facebook for more information.

"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.