

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 14, 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 compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Verse 1

Lord, you give the great commission: “Heal the sick and preach the word.” Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity: With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.

Verse 2

Lord, you call us to your service: “In my name baptize and teach.” That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each, give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community: With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.

Verse 3

Lord, you make the common holy: “This my body, this my blood.” Let us all, for earth’s true glory, daily lift life heavenward, asking that the world around us share your children’s liberty: With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.

Verse 4

Lord, you show us love’s true measure: “Father, what they do, forgive: Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give. May your care and mercy lead us to a just society: With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.

Verse 5

Lord, you bless with words assuring: “I am with you to the end.” Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity: With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8a

At Sinai God assured Israel, “You shall be my treasured possession,” and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God’s will.

²The Israelites had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.³Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.” ⁷So

Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. ^{8a}The people all answered as one: “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 9:35--10:8

The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.

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

³⁵Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” ^{10:1}Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. ⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Pastor Paul

Prayers of the Church / Sign of the Peace

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 / 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.

I Will Follow

Intro

Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay; When You move, I'll move. I will follow. Oh, oh ,oh.

Verse 1

All Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure; I will trust in You alone.
Higher than my sight, high above my life; I will trust in You alone.

Chorus

Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay; When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.
Whom You love, I'll love; How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You, yeah.

Verse 2

Light into the world, Light into my life—I will live for You alone.
You're the One I seek, knowing I will find all I need in You alone. In You alone.

Chorus

Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay; When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.
Whom You love, I'll love; How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You, yeah.

Bridge

In You, there's life everlasting. In You, there's freedom for my soul. In You, there's joy, unending joy; And I will follow

Chorus

Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay; When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.
Whom You love, I'll love; How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will follow.

Chorus

Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay; When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.
Whom You love, I'll love; How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You, yeah.

Ending

I will follow You, yeah. I will follow You.

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June, 2020

“2.0” is coming! Friends! 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** later this summer, join Pastor Paul, Sharon and others for an online **Holden Evening Prayer**, and we will be melding some of our typical "Celebrate!" content, along with footage from our outdoor communion and other gatherings into this new Wednesday experience. More info coming soon!

The JUNE issue of the STAR is here! Thanks to an anonymous donor, printed copies of our STAR newsletter will be mailed to members this week. 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, Bethlehem is working on plans **to start gathering in June (note: this is an update from our information in the May STAR.) It looks like our first foray into gatherings will be an outdoor "Parking Lot Communion" on Sunday, June 14th at 11:15 a.m. (Note this will not be a worship service.)** We are exploring more detailed plans for advancing into full worship outside later in the summer but have not yet settled in on dates for each phase. Safety is our primary concern. Details will be sent out as we get closer, and we give thanks always for your support, understanding and prayers.

Hikers, be aware! The "Longest Day" Hike is coming soon! We're excited to announce that we are still planning on doing the annual **Longest Day Hike** that will be taking place on the evening of **Sunday, June 21st (ahem, the longest day of the year!)** This year by request we are going to go to Sleeping Bear Trail (i.e. instead of the Dune Climb), look for a map and exact times for the hike, coming next week!

Pr Paul and the staff (Sharon, Phil, Annie and Barbara) pray that you are staying safe and healthy. We miss seeing you in person and look forward to being able to worship and have fellowship together.

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!

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. Check soon for the next DVDs for services in May and June.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is going virtual!!! Because of all the COVID-19 precautions and changes, BLC joins other churches in altering our VBS plans. Introducing "Bible Stories" each Monday at 6PM on Zoom. Registration will be 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 at 10:00 am.

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!)

The family of Hazel Lautner would like to thank the congregation for the cards, prayers, and kind words we received from them. Mom was an amazing person, and we were privileged to have her as our mother.

Online Fellowship Time on ZOOM continues and will start as soon as worship is over, or approximately 10:45am on Sundays and 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.

To login to our Zoom ministry sessions, you can type into your web browser (or click on) the weblinks provided via email. **You may need to have the ZOOM app (from Zoom.com) installed on your device. We now have the ability for you to dial into simply the audio portion on a landline.**

"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 "Luke and Acts ToGather" and whatever life and ministry guides us as we meet... which gives us plenty of good stuff to talk about. *Please note that you don't need to be a biblical scholar to join us.* In fact, much of our time might be just as social as it is theological. Like the Sunday Fellowship, the meeting ID and password will be emailed out the day before the Bible Study. Contact Pastor Paul if you would like the login sent to you.