

**Second Sunday after Pentecost  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
June 11, 2023  
Sunday 10:00 a.m.**



**Welcome to All!** We are glad that you are able to worship with us today. **Please fill out a connection card in the pews if you like.**

During the service, we will sit or stand in reverence to our Lord. Please do what is physically comfortable and reverent for you. For those who are unable to receive Communion near the altar and wish to have the Pastor administer it at your seat, please obtain a red and white card from one of the ushers and hold it up at Communion time to alert the Pastor. If you or a little one would like to receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, we invite you to come forward and cross your arms at the time of Communion. Please feel free to introduce yourself to our Pastor and fill out one of the Visitor cards available at our Welcome Table in the Gathering Place.

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3, page 138**

**Pre-Worship Music/Announcements**

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

P: Merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Righteous God,

**C: ... we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn     *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*     ELW #858**

**Greeting**

A: 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 (lead by Soloist)**

S 138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.     Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord,     have mer - cy.

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.

Lord,     have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## Hymn of Praise

## *Glory to God*

Assisting minister S 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together...

**C: O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

### First Lesson

**Hosea 5:15--6:6**

*Because the people have trusted in military powers and not God, God decides to withdraw from the scene until Israel acknowledges its guilt and seeks God's face. The response of the people does not acknowledge this guilt and is as fickle as fog or dew burned away quickly by the sun. God desires loyalty rather than words or meaningless deeds.*

15 I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favor: 6:1 "Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. 2 After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. 3 Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth." 4 What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. 5 Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. 6 For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalmody

**Psalm 50:7-15**

7 "Listen, my people, and I will speak: Israel, I will bear witness against you;  
for I am God, your God.

**8 I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; your burnt offerings are always before me.**

9 I will not accept a calf from your stalls, nor goats from your pens;  
**10 for all the wild animals of the forest are mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.**

*(Psalm continued on next page)*

11 I know every bird of the mountains, and the creatures of the fields are mine.  
**12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.**

13 Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?  
**14 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High.**

15 Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall honor me.

## **Second Lesson**

**Romans 4:13-25**

*Paul presents Abraham as a living model of right relationships. For Abraham and for us, a right relationship with God involves trusting that God's promises will be fulfilled because God makes the dead alive and calls into existence what otherwise does not exist.*

13 The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. 14 If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. 15 For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. 16 For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, 17 as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. 18 Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." 19 He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. 20 No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, 21 being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. 22 Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." 23 Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, 24 but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia**

S 142a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel****Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

*Jesus demonstrates God's mercy and power, accepting the unacceptable and curing the incurable. Even the dead receive new life.*

**C: ...Glory to you, O Lord...**

9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.  
10 And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" 12 But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."  
18 While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." 19 And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. 20 Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, 21 for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." 22 Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. 23 When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, 24 he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. 25 But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. 26 And the report of this spread throughout that district.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon****Kate Holtfreter****Hymn of the Day** *Healer of Our Every Ill***ELW #612**

## Apostle's 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 Intercession:** response after each petition: **"Hear our prayer."** (*Before prayer*) A: Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need. (*Conclusion*) P: Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

**Sharing of the Peace** (*Let us give one another a sign of peace according to your comfort level.*)

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Offering** (*Please be seated.*)

**Offering Song:**

**Zeke Clemons**

**Offertory** (*Please stand, as able.*) **Come to the Table**

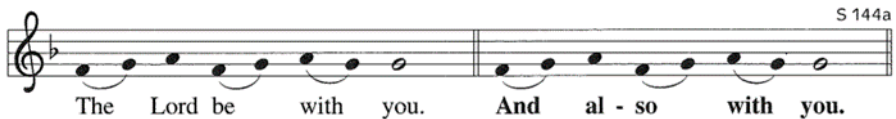
**ELW #481**

**Offering Prayer**

A: Let us pray.

**C: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Great Thanksgiving (continued)**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

***Holy, Holy, Holy***

S 144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

**Words of Institution**

**The 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.**



P: The gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
\*\*Please note: Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.

## Communion

### *Lamb of God*

S 146

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## Communion Hymns

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly  
Around You, O Lord Jesus*

*ELW #461  
ELW #468*

## Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

## Post-Communion Cantic

### *Thankful Hearts*

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
Send us with your prom-is - es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with



### Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

### SENDING

#### Blessing

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed  
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

C: Amen.

**Sending Song**     *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

*ELW #836*

#### Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Bethlehem** June 11, 2023  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1050 Peninsula Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
(231) 947-9880  
[www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

6/11—Kristen Rivard	6/13—Barbara Graf	6/15—Becky Price
6/11—Danielle Rice	6/14—Dorene Boyd	6/16—Grayson Vincke
6/12—Jan Waisanen	6/14—Bob Hammond	
6/12—Gary Ancinec	6/15—BJ Christensen	

**We welcome Pr. Ruth Overdier as Presiding Minister for today's service.** Pr Ruth is currently stated supply for Feast of Victory in Acme. Previously served several years at Bethany, Northport and at Shepherd of the Lakes, Walled Lake. She has provided interim pastoral services to numerous churches in the Grand Traverse Conference.

**We welcome Kate Holtfreter as Preaching for today's service.** Kate is a long-time member of BLC with an active role in areas of worship and music including: choir handbells, steel drums, committee member, lector, and assisting minister.

**Special music will be provided by a Barbershop Quartet, The Wayfinders, at the beginning of today's service.** It should be a special treat as part of our Sabbatical.

**Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.**

**For Pastoral Care during Pr Paul's Sabbatical time,** please call Barbara in the church office. If it is after hours and it cannot wait until the next work day or Sunday, you may call Barbara at home (231.668.7038) so that she can contact someone. We have two different people for Pastoral Care.

**Please Note:**

Barbara Oster/Administrative Assistant works 9:00am-2:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and some Wednesday mornings.

Phil Anderson/Bookkeeper works 8:30am-12:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. This will last through the summer months.

Alanna Steffunick/Ministry Coordinator works 9:00am-2:30pm – in the office on Tuesday and Thursday and from home on Wednesday

**Offerings:** The offering plates are now passed during the service. The vase in the back of the Sanctuary is still available for those who prefer not to touch the offering plate.

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

**The June issue of the STAR is now available.** For current issues of the Star, 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>.

**Looking for a link to last month's full Council minutes?** Type this address/url into your web browser to get the latest approved minutes from Council:  
[bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes](http://bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes) OR you may call the office to request a copy.

**BIKE AND BEER - SABBATICAL ACTIVITY -CHANGE IN TIME:** Join us for a fun afternoon of activity on the Leelanau Trail and later for a beer and appetizer at Hop Lot in Suttons Bay. **On Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, meet at 11:00 am at Leelanau Trail Parking lot in Suttons Bay (off 4th street). Group will bike out and back from the trailhead and meet at Hop Lot at 12:00 pm.** All ages welcome. Those unable to join the ride can meet the group after the ride at Hop Lot for appetizers and libations. Sabbatical Funds will pay for the appetizers all other drinks and food will be paid for by participants. Contact Paul Wiemerslage with questions: 612-210-3135.

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be holding its Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 25 at 11:15am after the 10:00am service.** We will be electing members for Church Council, Mission Endowment and Sustaining Endowment Committees and any other business that may be brought up. The packet of reports is available. Then after the meeting, Sundaes on Sunday will be served. Please plan to attend!

**SUMMER SABBATICAL ACTIVITIES:** Please take a moment to review the activity sheets on the table in the Gathering Space and SIGN-UP!! The date has now been determined for the cookie decorating activity. It will be TUES, Aug 8 6-8 pm. Come prepared to have a good time.

**Norm Fred has helped a previously homeless couple for a few years.** They are proud people and do not like to be given charity but they will accept help in the form of donated cans that they can recycle for money. Please bring in your recyclables in for them. Leave them by the garage. These are nice people. There, but for the Grace of our God, go we.

**BLC Book Club:** The BLC book club's June meeting is on the 27th at 5:30 in person in the office conference room and via ZOOM. The book is Lottery by Patricia Wood. This book is fiction but the author knows the topic well since her father won 6 million dollars in the Washington State Lottery in 1993!! Books will be available in the bin outside the front door. If you are not on the email list and want to be involved send your information to [cmonroe@chartermi.net](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net).

**Coffee and Cookies:** You are welcome to stay after the Sunday service for coffee, cookies and conversation. This will be done as many Sundays as there are volunteers to make the coffee and/or bring cookies, etc. There is a sign-up sheet available near the cookies. **There are open dates, so please sign up!**

**FOOD PANTRY:** With the return of good weather we have re-opened our outdoor food pantry to the community. Please be watching for special deals so you can help us restock our pantry. It's pretty slim pickings right now. The shelves are labeled so if the church is not open you can put your gifts right in. Or, when the church is open you can bring them to the "offering" table in the coat room. Thanks

**BABY PANTRY:** Suggested donations for June are: paper towels, toothpaste and brushes, baby shampoo and any other cleaning products.. Thank you!

**GOLF OUTING:** If you are interested in a golf outing this summer, please let either Phil Anderson or Barbara Wright know. It will probably be 9 holes on a Sunday afternoon.

**A big thank you to all who turned in Olesons' receipts.** We just received a check from them for \$304.88. Last year received \$651.20. Let's see if we can do even better this year! Please continue to drop off your receipts at Bethlehem. Please note they do not expire. Thank you!

**We have heard that our friend and former Choir Director, Billie Thompson, has had a stroke.** She cannot communicate but would love to get any well wishes. Her address is 3436 29th Street, San Diego, CA 92104