

# Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 2, 2023 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 3



**Prelude Music**

**Announcements**

**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 Song:**

***My Country 'Tis of Thee***

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:

Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride from every mountain side let freedom ring!

My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love:

I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills; My heart with rapture thrills like that above.

Let music swell the breeze and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song:

Let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake; Let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

Our fathers' God to Thee, author of liberty, to Thee we sing:

Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light; Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King!

**Greeting**

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!**

## Kyrie

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: 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. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

**C: O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

*Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).*

5 The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; 6 and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. 7 But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. 8 The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. 9 As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

## Psalm: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

1 Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

**2 For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

**4 'I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.'**"

15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout! They walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.

**16 They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

17 For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

**18 Truly, our shield belongs to the Lord; our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

## Gospel Acclamation:

## Alleluia

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 10:40-42

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

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

Jesus said to the twelve: 40 “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. 41 Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; 42 and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

Pastor David Sprang

## Song of the Day:

**Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory**

**ELW #890**

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

## Offering

## Offering Song:

Zeke Clemons

**Offertory:**

***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.

## **Words of Institution**

## **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.

**Communion** *(Please note: gluten-free wafers and white grape juice cups are available)*

**Communion Songs:**

***Let Us Go Now to the Banquet  
Come, Let Us Eat***

**ELW #523**

**ELW #491**

## **Final 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:**

***America the Beautiful***

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern impassioned stress a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!  
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw, confirm thy soul in self control, thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine till all success be nobleness, and ev'ry gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

## **Dismissal**

A: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Bethlehem** July 2, 2023  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7/3—Jim Johnson

7/5—Norm Fred

7/6—Julie Cole

7/7—Michelle Smith

7/8—Carl Lehto

7/8—Judy Block

**We welcome Pastor David Sprang as Presiding and Preaching for today's service.** Currently serving as Assistant to the Bishop and Director for Evangelical Mission; previously served for many years at Christ the King, Gladwin. He has also served Camp Mowana in Ohio and Settlement Lutheran in Gowen, MI.

**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.

**Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday. – Please note that the Church Building/Office will be closed on 7/4.**

### **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.*

**Today's Rose on the baptismal font is:** In celebration of Anna Rose Clark who was born on June 2, 2023. She is the daughter of Jacob and Haley Clark and the great granddaughter of Jacque Rossfeld.

### **Congratulations to those who were elected at last week's Congregational Assembly:**

COUNCIL: Gary Ancinec, Tina (Christina) Dohm, Scott Schlagel

MISSION ENDOWMENT: Paul Ton

SUSTAINING ENDOWMENT: Phil Anderson, Barbara Oster

**The July 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.

**Special music will be provided by some children joining with our band for pre-service songs on July 9.** Be sure to be in the sanctuary early or have your Facebook or youtube ready to watch and listen. It should be a special treat as part of our Sabbatical.

**Copies of the Living Lutheran magazine** can be picked up at the welcome table on Sunday mornings or from the Shooting STAR box below the outside mailbox. We have not received the next issues of Christ in Our Home – they are being reshipped..

**Prayer Requests:**

- Prayer Chain: Please contact Jan Stretlien at [jstretlien@gmail.com](mailto:jstretlien@gmail.com) or 231-947-3265
- Prayers read from the altar: Please call Administrative Assistant in the church office 231-947-9880

**Due Dates for STAR/Bulletin/Screen Announcements:**

- STAR: The third Friday of the month sent to [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) (Please note STAR in subject line)
- Bulletin/Verbal Announcements: Tuesday of the week sent to [admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) (Bulletin/Worship Folder is prepared on Tuesday and printed on Thursday morning.) (Please note Bulletin or Announcement in subject line)
- Screen Announcements/Weekly BLC Emails: Tuesday of the week sent to [alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org)

**Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font!** Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at [beo6475@yahoo.com](mailto:beo6475@yahoo.com) or 231.668.7038.

**Photo Directory:** We have a chance to make a new directory the final week of September, but with any project like this we need volunteers. Please leave your name in the office if you can help on this project in any way. Thanks to those who have already volunteered. And please, try to be in town that week. We want everyone's smiling faces in our new directory.

**THANK YOU THRIVENT!!!** We have been able to stretch our funds for activities by organizing some great Thrivent Action Teams. This has included our Sabbatical Send-off Sunday, the baking of cinnamon buns, subsidizing the new Bethlehem T-shirts for the Cherry Festival volunteers, and the monthly Sunday Sundaes. And there are even some more events to come.

**Sabbatical Hike with Cheryl:** I'd like to encourage all ages to attend our nature hike, **Sunday, July 16, right after church.** We will meet at Seven Bridges at 12:30. Seven Bridges is a short walk across several bridges that cross the beautiful Rapid River. Everyone should bring a sack lunch that we will eat at Freedom Park in Rapid City. Next we will hike the picturesque 1.1 mile trail along the Rapid River. That hike can be cut to the length that each person feels comfortable with as it is just out and back. I hope children attend also. I will bring a kickball, and, if there is enough interest, we will have a kickball game. Again, one can do as little or as much as one feels comfortable with so this activity is great for all ages. Any questions, contact Cheryl at 384-5621.

**Sunday Adult Education and Sunday School will resume in the Fall.**

**Spotlight on Zeke:** In a recent NMC Extended Education email our own Zeke Clemons was the subject of their "Instructor Spotlight: Eric "Zeke" Clemons is a musician and sought-after music instructor in Traverse City. We're so lucky to have him teach College for Kids! His popular guitar and ukulele classes are always fan favorites. New this year, we're adding Songwriting! July 31-August 4 is 'Zeke Week!' Classes include Songwriting for grades 6-12; Fun Play the Ukulele Way for grades 3-5; Ukulele University for grades 6-9; and Beginning Guitar for grades 5-12." Information on the classes can be found at <https://nmc.augusoft.net//index.cfm?fuseaction=1010> – click on Music.

**Another Spotlight on Zeke:** So many of us enjoy Zeke's talents with religious music, but did you know that he plays other kinds of music at various locations around town? Here is a list of his engagements in the next month that are close to TC:

Tues 7/4 -- Bel Lago Winery in Cedar at 5  
Fri 7/7 -- Brady's Bar at 6:30  
Sat 7/8 -- Hotel Indigo at 6  
Sat 7/22 -- Brady's Bar at 6:30  
Thurs 7/27-- Park Place at 8  
Sat 7/29 -- Hotel Indigo at 6

**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 is taking a summer vacation!!!! Please keep reading and bring your suggestions back to the group on Sept. 26 or send them in advance to [cmonroe@chartermi.net](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net). We hope to share meals at our meetings again besides discussing wonderful books.

**Are you looking for the Caring Table for your donations?** It has been moved inside the coat room to the right. Also, the area for the Oleson and Family Fair receipts is in the lower cabinets below the mailboxes (under the A-B-Cs...).

**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!

**Safe Harbor is closed for the summer.** We are committed to assist at Safe Harbor in January 2024 on the 27/28/30. Our superb kitchen Team Leaders B.J Christensen, Cindy Monroe, and Tina Dohm had again advised they are ready to prepare meals. And I am sure that as you all talk with those who "checked people in" and accomplished other tasks, you will find that those tasks were very doable and the staff support was always there. Plan to join the Bethlehem group at Safe Harbor in January! Thanks! Tom Rockne, BLC Safe Harbor Coordinator, 231.631.0040 Here are some numbers on those served this past season:

Guest Demographics

338 individuals entered shelter

22 veterans

24 young adults

252 men

81 women

5 reported they identify as transgender or no single gender

93% from the Greater Grand Traverse area

**Name tags:** Your name tags are in your mailboxes. Please retrieve them so you can proudly wear them on Sunday mornings. We often have visitors and with so many recent new members it helps them if they can see a friendly face and attach a name to it.

**Adult Bible Study:** will resume in the Fall with the Gospel of John.

**The Zoom Bible Study:** will resume in the Fall. Look for the next topic at the end of summer.

**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. 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. **PLEASE CONSIDER BRINGING A FOOD OFFERING IN TRADE FOR THE WONDERFUL ICE CREAM SUNDAE YOU RECEIVED ON JUNE 25.**

**BABY PANTRY:** Suggested donations for July are: tissues, laundry soap, toothpaste and brushes, baby shampoo and regular cleaning products. Thank you!

**Freedom Builders:** Bethlehem's week for volunteering at Freedom Builders will be July 17-22. There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex. Please sign up for the dates that you are able. This is the last week to sign up.

**Night of Harmony:** For those of you who really enjoyed our musical guests on June 11, the entire Cherry Capital Chorus of Barbershop music is presenting a performance on Aug 5 at 7:00 pm at the Presbyterian Church. Admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 for students

**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!

**Hoop's Pet Food Pantry:** This is the only pet food pantry in NW lower Michigan. They primarily provide dry food, wet food, treats, cat litter and toys for mostly dogs and cats but they will support any type of pet to the best of their ability. Please visit them at the Square Deal Country Store, 900 Woodmere Ave, TC from **11:00am – 2:00pm on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month** with your donations OR you may leave donations in the tub on our "donations" table in the coat room. The volunteers have expressed their appreciation when receiving our donations.

**Have something important going on at Bethlehem that you'd like others to know about?** Maybe a Small Group? A Club Event? Feature it on the Screen Announcements, weekly emails and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included in any of these, please reach out to [alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org) If you are not getting the weekly emails for any reason, please contact Alanna.

**Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service.** Please use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$40 (payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the offering plate on Sunday morning (Preferable) or during the week, in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance. You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday.

**The church calendar is below. Please be sure to notify the office ([admin@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org) or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is of the calendar.**

**Sunday, July 2**

9:15am—Parking Lot Fundraiser  
10:00am—Worship Service (S)

**Monday, July 3**

**Bulletin articles due today**

1:45pm—National Cherry Festival volunteers

**Tuesday, July 4**

**HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY**

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

6:00pm—Parking Lot Fundraiser

**Wednesday, July 5**

11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)  
11:30am—WELCA Board Meeting

**Thursday, July 6**

5:30pm—ACA (FH)

**Sunday, July 9**

10:00am—Traditional Worship Service (S)

Bayside Travellers

# CONTRA FOLK DANCE



LIVE FOLK MUSIC  
by  
-  
Tommy McKinney  
-  
Mason Brown  
-  
Jeff Standley

No partner or experience needed!

*dance by donation*  
\$10/person recommended

**JULY 15TH, 2023**

Beginner Workshop 7pm      Dances 7:30 - 10:30pm

all led by caller PAT REESER

LOCATION:  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
1050 Peninsula Drive  
Traverse City, MI 49686

dancetc.com  
@baysidetravellersdance  
baysidetravellersdance@yahoo.com