

# Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**C: Amen.**

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God, our provider,

**C: ... help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C: Amen.**

## Gathering Song: Here I am to Worship

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness, opened my eyes, let me see.  
Beauty that made this heart adore You, hope of a life spent with You.

So, here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that You're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly You came to the earth you created, all for love's sake became poor.

So, here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that You're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.  
And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.

So, here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that You're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

## 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: Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Children's Message

### First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

*In the Near East, covenant means "agreement" or "alliance." It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.*

<sup>1</sup>Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2a</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel: John 6:56-69

*The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”*

P: A reading from...

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

Jesus said, <sup>56</sup>“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon – Pastor Paul

**Song of the Day: I am the Bread of Life** (*please see back page for music*)

## 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

### Offering

#### Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

**C: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. 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

#### Communion Songs:

**The Table** (*words below*)

**Come, Let Us Eat** (*please see back page for music*)

#### The Table

I will feast at the table of the Lord. I will feast at the table of the Lord. I won't hunger anymore at His table.  
I will feast at the table of the Lord. I will feast at the table of the Lord. I won't hunger anymore at His table.

Come all you weary, come and find His yoke is easy, His burden light.  
He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord.

There is peace at the table of the Lord. There is peace at the table of the Lord. I won't worry anymore at His table.

There is healing at the table of the Lord. There is healing at the table of the Lord. Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table.

Come all you weary, come and find His yoke is easy, His burden light.  
He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord.

I know he has a place for me. Oh, what joy will fill my heart with the saints around the mercy seat of God.

Come all you weary, come and find His yoke is easy, His burden light.

He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord, at the table of the Lord.

I'm invited to the table of the Lord. I'm invited to the table of the Lord. He says come just as you are to His table.

## Final Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## Sending Song: Unstoppable God

Heaven thundered and the world was born. Life begins and ends in the dust you form.  
Faith commanded and the mountains moved. Fear is losing ground to our hope in you.

Unstoppable God, let your glory go on and on. Impossible things in your name shall be done.

Freedom conquered, all our chains undone. Sin defeated, Jesus has overcome.  
Mercy triumphed when the third day dawned. Darkness was denied when the stone was gone.

Unstoppable God, let your glory go on and on. Impossible things in your name shall be done.  
Unstoppable God, let your glory go on and on. Impossible things in your name shall be done.

Nothing shall be impossible. Your kingdom reigns, unstoppable. We'll shout Your praise forevermore.  
Jesus, our God, unstoppable.

Nothing shall be impossible. Your kingdom reigns, unstoppable. We'll shout Your praise forevermore.  
Jesus, our God, unstoppable.

Oh! Oh, oh, oh.

Unstoppable God, let your glory go on and on. Impossible things in your name shall be done.  
Unstoppable God, let your glory go on and on. Impossible things in your name shall be done.

## Dismissal

A: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## I Am the Bread of Life

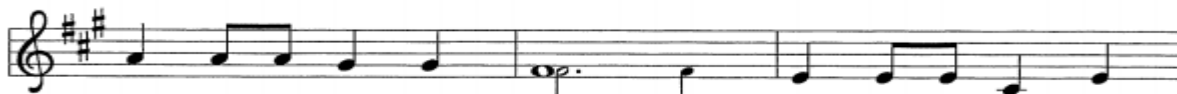
Leader or All



1 "I am the Bread of life. You who  
 2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my  
 3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the  
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion,  
 5 Yes, Lord, . . . I be - lieve that . . .



come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -  
 flesh for the life of the world, . . . and if you  
 flesh of the Son of Man . . . and . . .  
 I . . . am the life. . . . If you be -  
 you . . . are the Christ, . . . the . . .



lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to  
 eat . . . of this bread, and you shall . . . live for -  
 drink . . . of his blood, and drink . . . of his  
 lieve . . . in . . . me, e - ven . . . though you  
 Son . . . of . . . God, who . . . have . . .



me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."  
 ev - er, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."  
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."  
 die, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."  
 come in - to . . . the . . . world. . . .

Refrain

All



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,



and I will raise you up on the last day."



Leader or All



- 1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
- 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
- 3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,
- 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
 come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
 in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
 rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.;  
 tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.

Music: Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and adapt. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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# Bethlehem

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

*August 22, 2021*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

8/24—Byron Pearce

8/27—Jim Williams

8/29—Danna Bugai

8/25—Bonnie Newhouse

8/28—Sheila Mosley

8/29—Katherine Word

**Bethlehem has discontinued the sign-in process for contact tracing. Masks will continue to be optional for vaccinated persons, but required for non-vaccinated persons.**

**Please note that the new Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.**

**Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service.** You may 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 Administration Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance or in the offering plate. 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.

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

**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 or (231) 668—7038.

**Someone left a lace tablecloth on Barbara Oster's desk in the church office.** Would that person please call her at the church office – 947-9880 as she does not know what she is to do with it.

**The BLC book club will meet via ZOOM at 5:30 on Aug24.** We will be discussing *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman which is currently a bestselling book. If you are not already on the list and want to be added to the group for August just send your email to Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net.



**BLC's Art & Craft Show has returned for 2021.** Mark your calendar for Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. The show will feature 50 local & original handcrafted artists and crafters.

**The August issue of the STAR is ready!** 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>.

The outdoor "**Shooting STAR Dispenser**" at BLC is **now full** with several paper publications, including the August STAR and the current week's worship folder/bulletin. If you would like a copy of a DVD, please contact the church and one will be produced for you.

**Drive My Way**, the driver's ed school using Bethlehem's facility is in need of experienced driver's ed teachers. If you are experienced or know someone who is experienced, please contact Mark or Ashley Ingraham, the Father/Daughter Team; Drive My Way Driver Education; (231)492-6612. Time and pay are negotiable.

**Christ in Our Home Devotionals are available for July/August/September.** They can be picked up at the name tag table on Sunday mornings, from the STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion. The newest *Living Lutheran* magazine is also available in the same locations.

**"Zoom Book Study"** is taking a summer break and will start up again in the Fall. Look for details then to join the group.

**A big thank you** to all who turned in their Olesons' receipts to Bethlehem. We just received a check from them for \$179.90. So far this year, we have received \$435.52 total from Olesons' receipts. Please continue to turn in your Olesons' receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks again.

**Our blog is undergoing a revamp and will be named "Paths of Hope"**. Be on the lookout soon for more detailed information.

**Bethlehem sends weekly emails directly to your inbox with important announcements and information!** If you are not getting them for any reason or if you have something you'd like to have added please reach out to Annie at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org).

**FUN Ministry! Recycle Altar Flowers! Meet People! New Faces and New Places!** This Ministry will Help BLC grow! This Ministry promotes Caring and Compassion! Come Join Our Team for the Jesus Love Theme - ♥♥♥ Set your own time. Be Creative. Call Kathi Ivany for more information. 231 313 1647

**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 and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included for either Screen Announcements or Facebook Events please reach out to Annie at [annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org).

The church calendar has returned 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 on the calendar.

**CALENDAR**

**Monday, August 23**

9:00am—Drive My Way (FH)

**Tuesday, August 24**

9:00am—Property Work Group

9:00am—Drive My Way (FH)

10:00am—Staff Meeting (YR)

5:30pm—Book/Supper Club (Zoom)

**Wednesday, August 25**

**Bulletin articles due**

**Star articles due**

9:00am—Drive My Way (FH)

1:00pm—Johnson SG (Offsite)

**Thursday, August 26**

**All Youth & Family Camp Outing @ D.H. Day Campground**

9:00am—Drive My Way (FH)

5:30pm—ACOA (LL)

**Friday, August 27**

**All Youth & Family Camp Outing @ D.H. Day Campground**

10:00am—Sew Pieceful (FH)

**Saturday, August 28**

11:00am—All-Star DE (FH)