

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 28, 2022 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: ... we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

P: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

Morning Has Broken

ELW 556

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 resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Proverbs 25:6-7

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

6Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; 7for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 112

1Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord and have great delight in God's commandments!

2Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

4Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

6For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

8Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

10The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia

Sinclair

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

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

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

1On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. 7When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

8“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; 9and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. 10But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. 11For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” 12He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. 13But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. 14And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Song of the Day:

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 469

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

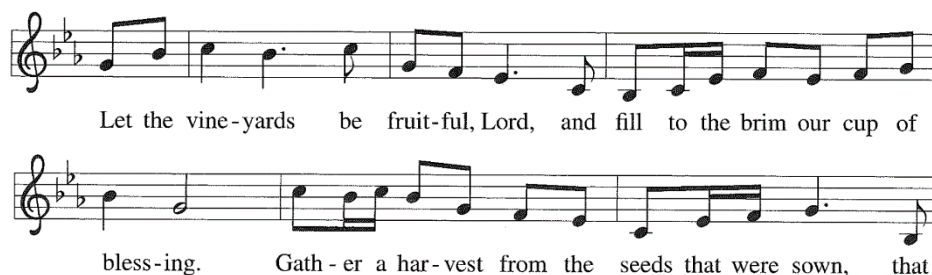
Offering Song:

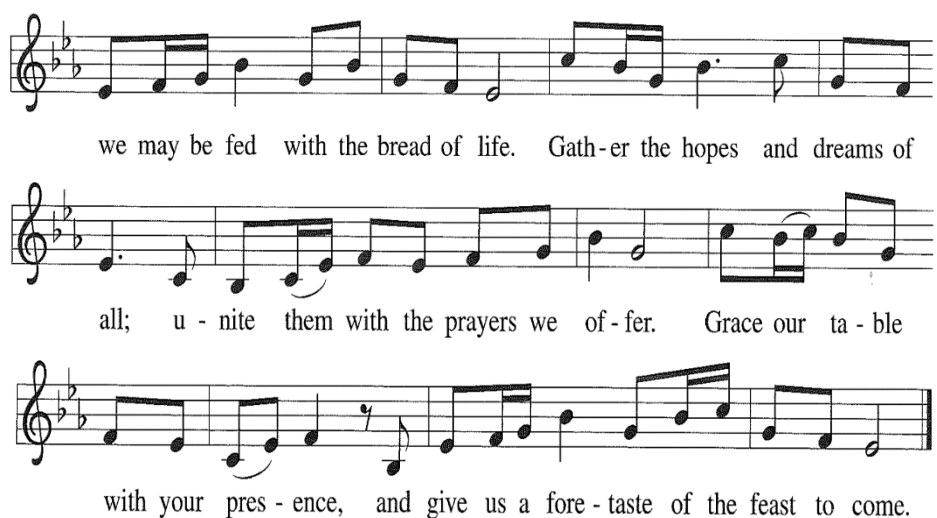
O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

ELW 658

Offertory:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful





Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. 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:

***Come to the Table (Sung Twice)
Here Is Bread***

ELW 481

ELW 483

Final Blessing

P: The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Song:

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful, where Your streams of abundance flow blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place, though I walk through the wilderness blessed be Your name.

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise. When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,

"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name. Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name."

Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me, when the world's "all as it should be" blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering, though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your name. Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise. When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,

"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name. Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name."

You give and take away, You give and take away. My heart will choose to say, "Lord, Blessed be Your name."
You give and take away, You give and take away. My heart will choose to say, "Lord, Blessed be Your name."

"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name. Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name."

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 28, 2022

1050 Peninsula Drive
Traverse City, MI 49686
(231) 947-9880
www.bethlehemtc.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

8/28—Shelia Mosley
8/29—Katherine Word
8/29—Danna Bugai

8/30—Bonnie Gamble
8/30—Bill Froelich
9/1—Mary Belle Woodring

9/1—Marilyn Dumond
9/4—Barb Svalstad

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

COVID NEWS: According to the CDC and Munson Hospital, Covid-19 is once again on the rise in Grand Traverse County, and our county now has one of the highest transmission rates in Michigan. Council voted on May 17th to adopt a guideline that masks are required for unvaccinated persons in worship and highly encouraged for those who are vaccinated.

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.

The September issue of the STAR is now available. The September issue will be available on August 28th. For current issues of the Star, 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>.

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 OR you may call the office to request a copy.

Prayer Requests:

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

Today's altar flowers are donated by: *the Word Family in Celebration of Kate's 9th Birthday.*

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.

The newest Living Lutheran magazine and the October/November/December Christ in Our Home can be picked up at the welcome table on Sunday mornings, from the Shooting STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion.

Children's Message Corner: We will be taking a break from Children's Message Corner for the foreseeable future. If you would like to schedule a one on one with Annie instead, please reach out to her directly.

HELP NEEDED: We are looking for volunteers for our A/V Team – specifically to advance the PowerPoint slides and/or pressing the button to change the angle for the Livestream camera. You don't need to be proficient on computers, just able to follow the service and press a button. Training will be available. Contact Barbara Oster if you are interested. If you would like to watch the procedure on a Sunday, that can be arranged.

Coffee and Cookies have returned! You are welcome to stay after the 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 will be sign-up sheets available near the cookies.

Name tags: Your name tags are back in your mailboxes. Please walk a little farther and retrieve them so you can proudly wear them on Sunday mornings. We often have visitors and it helps them if they can see a friendly face and attach a name to it.

Choir announcement: IT'S BACK!! Come add some music into your life. The adult choir will resume rehearsals 2-3 Thursdays per month at 7:00 on Sept 8. Return to a favorite pastime or start a new one. Plan to come to the first rehearsal or contact Tony Bero at bero.tony@gmail.com or 942-1162.

Adult Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, September 21st from 9:00am-11:00am. It is a casual discussion of the Gospel of Mark. Bring your bibles and come, share, learn and grow with us.

The Wednesday Zoom Bible Study will begin on September 14th from 1:30pm—3:00pm. We will discuss the Book of Revelations from the Book of Faith. If you are interested, please contact either Pr Paul or Barbara Oster.

Refresh Committee Update: We are continuing to make progress with our goal to raise \$10,000. **Pledges and Actual donations this week are \$8,925.** Thanks to all of you who have donated. We are going to continue our pledge program into 2023 as the current economy has provided challenges for everyone. We feel that we are at a point where we can begin our improvements. By late August / early September you will begin seeing changes. We are trying to incorporate all the input we received by the Congregation into our plans. If you have any questions, please reach out to us. Since there is more work to do and we continue our pledge drive into 2023, please see or contact Phil Anderson in the office if you are able to make a pledge or donation. Thanks to all for your continued support.

Christian Education committee is seeking discussion leaders for adult education on Sundays from 9:15am-9:45am, starting on September 18th. Discussion will be about the Lessons/Gospel for the day. If interested, please call Barb Graf 946-5120.

Remember that CHARGE was rescheduled for Friday November 4th - Sunday, November 6th here in TC at the Great Wolf Lodge. If your youth is already signed up you don't have to do anything more, but if you have a youth who is still interested please let Annie know by Wednesday, September 14th at 4:30PM. We are also looking for a male chaperone to be with the boys at night. If you are able to help, please consider reaching out to Annie ASAP so we are able to do this activity.

Starting this September, Bethlehem's entire congregation will have the opportunity to join the youth in our brand new Intergenerational Events. These are fun opportunities to gather in fellowship with Bethlehem's youth to connect and become a supportive and strong Christian influence. For September, we will be joining Au Sable after the Ice Cream Social on Sunday, September 18th for a service project. Reach out to Annie for more information.

Due Dates for STAR/Bulletin/Screen Announcements:

- **STAR:** The third Friday of the month sent to admin@bethlehemtc.org (Please note STAR in subject line)
- **Bulletin/Verbal Announcements:** Tuesday of the week sent to admin@bethlehemtc.org (Bulletin/Worship Folder is prepared on Wednesday and printed on Thursday morning.) (Please note Bulletin or Announcement in subject line)
- **Screen Announcements/Weekly BLC Emails:** Tuesday of the week sent to annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org (Annie works Sunday – Wednesday)

LAUNDRY BASKET PROJECT FOR 2022: We are collecting cleaning items to be given out during the Baby Pantry here at Bethlehem. There is an example basket in the Narthex along with a list of items needed. You may fill an entire basket OR bring single items if you prefer. Thank you for your participation!

BLC Book Club: The BLC book club's Sept meeting is on the 27th at 5:30 via ZOOM. The book, Isadore's Secret, a local mystery by Mardi Jo Link, will be available in the Book Club box outside of the church. If you are not on the email list and want to be involved send your information to cmonroe@chartermi.net.

Monthly STAR: Thanks to all of you who have said that you will read the STAR on line or pick it up at church. Those of you who come to church, be thinking if there is any member close in your neighborhood that you could deliver their copy to them. If you have recently decided to read on line or pick-up at church please call the office and let them know.

24 hr food pantry: Remember to take advantage of BOGO offerings and bring your extras of staple foods for our outdoor food pantry. Those who are hungry will be appreciative. There is a teal bin below the table by the mailboxes for placing your goodies.

N/W Lower Michigan WELCA Synod Mini Retreat – Saturday September 24, 9:30am – 4:00pm at Immanuel Lutheran, 726 Fuller Ave, Big Rapids. The mini retreat will include fellowship opportunities, election of officers, Bible Study, lunch and worship service. Cost is \$10, payable at the door. RSVP: Ann Rundhaug 231-938-1607 or prund@freeway.net

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 1100am – 2:00pm on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month with your 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 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.

Our interim tech support person is Trent Slabaugh. He welcomes your comments on the audio or video system. You may contact him by email at tslabaugh93@gmail.com

A big thank you to all who turned in Olesons' receipts. We received a check from Olesons for \$187.74. So far this year we have received a total of \$464.62 just for people turning in their Olesons' receipts. Please continue to drop your Olesons' receipts off at church.

Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. There are plenty of dates available for the rest of the year. 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 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.

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.

The church calendar is below. Please be sure to notify the office (admin@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is on the calendar.

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 28

10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion
11:15am—WELCA Board Meeting (CR)

Tuesday, August 30

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Property Work Group
10:00am—Staff Meeting (CR)

Wednesday, August 31

11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)

Thursday, September 1

5:30pm—ACOA (FH)

Sunday, September 4

10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:00am—Parking Lot Communion
11:15am—Worship and Music Committee (CR)