

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our comforter:

C: ...like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song: Mighty to Save

Ev'ryone needs compassion, love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me.

Ev'ryone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior. The hope of nations.

Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.

Forever, Author of salvation. He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave.

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures. Fill my life again.

I give my life to follow, ev'rything I believe in. Now I surrender.

Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.

Forever, Author of salvation. He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave.

Shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

Jesus. Shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.

Forever, Author of salvation. He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave.

Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.

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Shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing for the glory of the risen King.
Jesus. Shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing for the glory of the risen 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: Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

L: The Word of the Lord
C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia

Sinclair

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

Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophoenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

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

²⁴Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Pastor Paul

Song of the Day: Healer of Our Every Ill (*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:

We Come to you for healing Lord *(please see back page for music)*

Light Dawns on a Weary World *(please see back page for music)*

Final Blessing

P: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ☩ one God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song: America the Beautiful

Dismissal

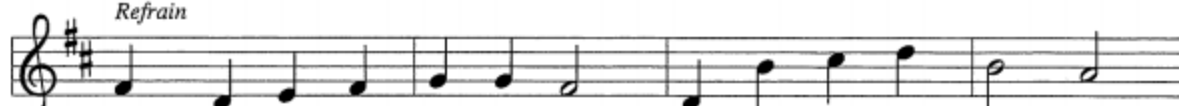
A: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: Thanks be to God.


Healer of Our Every Ill

612

Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,




give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL
 889 and refrain

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

617

1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in

bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our

Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.

MARTYRDOM

CM

Light Dawns on a Weary World

726



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won-der ech - oes sha - lom.



Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

September 5, 2021

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

9/8—Carole Luttinen
9/12—Monica Graf

9/11—Nancy Smith
9/12—Jana Rockne

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: *Ron and Marilyn Dork in Celebration of their 60th anniversary*

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.

Attention Bethlehem families: Sunday school is moving to a new time! We invite your little ones to join us for a special time of worship and learning to take place during regular service this fall. Children will be dismissed for Sunday school during service after the second reading. This change in timing will begin Sunday, September 19th and will continue for a trial period until November 21st. We are optimistic that this change will result in increased participation by current members and new or visiting families. Stay tuned for more information.

Sept 12 will be a special day in the life of our church, so please join us if at all possible:

- *God's Work, Our Hands Sunday
- *Installation of council members for 2021-2022
- *Dedication of Sacred Grounds on east side of building
- *outdoor ice cream social after the service to which members of the surrounding area have been invited
- *Start-up of BLC 24/7 Food Pantry--please consider bringing a staple food item in appreciation for the ice cream treat

Our thanks to Thrivent financial for the grant to sponsor our outreach to the community for the Ice cream social in addition to the Trapp family grant which allowed for the building of the pantry and will assist with providing food.

The BLC community pantry has been the wish of a BLC member who chooses to remain anonymous.

Through his gentle coaxing your current council decided that the time was right for BLC to have its own pantry due to its unique location. A sturdy cupboard has been purchased, assembled and placed outside the kitchen door thru a grant from the Trapp family. Funds will also be used from this grant to supplement what we as members of the congregation provide as donations to the pantry. There will also be some funds used from a Thrivent grant to provide staples for the pantry. **You are encouraged (but not required) to bring a canned good or nonperishable item to the Ice Cream Social on Sunday Sept 12.** Thanks to Scott and Lisa Schlagel and Cindy and Jim Monroe for leading this project. Contact them with any questions.

The Wednesday morning bible study of Matthew will resume on September 15th (9-11am). All are welcome. Bring your own bible. We read the bible and then talk about what we read. We say a prayer for any needs that are shared. Come. Join a fellowship. Leader is Barbara Graf.

If you would like to give a gift to Annie Slabaugh for her new son, Caleb, gift cards would be a great choice. Annie and Trent really like Target or a website called buybuybaby.com (can use Bed Bath and Beyond gift cards). If you would like to drop off your gift in the church office, we will see that she receives it.

Pecans are coming! Pecans are coming! The Worship and Music committee will sell the popular Schermer pecans again this Fall. Instead of having a table set up inside the church, we will take orders for **Dark Chocolate Pecans, Caramel Cluster Pecans and Cinnamon Glazed Pecans.** We will be trying something this year: There were a few requests for the Plain Pecans which we had tried to sell a few years ago. Since we were unable to sell the entire case of 24, we did not order again. But this year, if we can get orders of at least 15 bags of the case, we will order again. The plain are great for baking or roasting. They do freeze well. The \$12 bags are perfect for holiday or hostess gifts or just plain munching. We will be ordering the first week of October for delivery at the end of October/early November. Make your list of who you need gifts for and please contact Barbara Oster (231-668-7038 or beo6475@yahoo.com) by October 3rd.

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.

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

The newest Living Lutheran magazine can be picked up at the welcome table on Sunday mornings, from the STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion.

The September issue of the STAR is ready! 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>.

BLC Book club continues to meet the 4th Tues of the month at 5:30 on ZOOM. There is a change for the book for this month. It will be "Educated" by Westover. The book bag was available from the library so there are copies in a plastic bin outside the front door of church. There are additional copies so if you need one, or want to be added to the ZOOM List contact Cindy Monroe at Cmonroe@chartermi.net.

The outdoor "Shooting STAR Dispenser" at BLC is now full with several paper publications, including the September 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.

"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.

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.

The church calendar has returned 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

Monday, September 6 – Labor Day
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, September 7
9:00am—Property Work Group
9:45am—Staff Meeting (CR)

Wednesday, September 8
Bulletin articles due
4:00pm—All Star Testing (FH)

Thursday, September 9
1:00pm—Rebecca Ann Circle (FH)
5:30pm—ACOA (LL)

Friday, September 10
10:00am—Sew Pieceful Sewing Group (FH)
5:00pm—Drive My Way Registration (FH)