

Day of Pentecost

May 24, 2026 – 10am
Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song: *Come, Holy Spirit (sing 2x)*

Come, Holy Spirit, fall afresh on me. Fill me with Your power, satisfy my needs.

Only You can make me whole, give me strength to make me grow.

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Come, Holy Spirit, fall afresh on me. Fill me with Your power, satisfy my needs.

Only You can make me whole, give me strength to make me grow.

Come, Holy Spirit, fall afresh on 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: O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message

Pr. Paul

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, the apostles were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. 5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

(continued on next page)

11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." 14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. 16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 17 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. 18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. 19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. 20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. 21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

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

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.

Gospel: John 20:19-23

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Song of the Day:

O Living Breath of God

ELW 407

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:

Zeke Clemons

Offertory:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray together.

C: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Welcoming of New Communicants:

P: Today this community of faith rejoices with the following people who join in sharing the meal of holy communion: Emma Thompson and Hazel Wentzloff.

In the sacrament of holy baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. In the sacrament of holy communion, God unites us in Jesus Christ and nourishes us for that mission. Living among God's faithful people, we are strengthened by God's word and his holy supper to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

P: Let us welcome these sisters in Christ to holy communion.

C: Welcome to the Lord's table. We thank God for you. We pray that you will find joy and strength in this meal, until we feast forever at God's heavenly banquet.

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:

Loving Spirit Bind Us Together

**ELW 397
WOV 748**

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord; bind us together in love.

There is only one God. There is only one King. There is only one Body; that is why we can sing:

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord; bind us together in love.

You are the family of God. You are the promise divine. You are God's chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine.

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord; bind us together in love.

Final Blessing

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song:

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

African-American Spiritual

Every time I feel the spirit movin' in my heart I will pray.
Yes, ev'ry time I feel the spirit movin' in my heart I will pray.

Upon the mountain my Lord spoke. Out his mouth came fire and smoke.
All around me looks so fine, ask my Lord if all was mine.

Every time I feel the spirit movin' in my heart I will pray.
Yes, ev'ry time I feel the spirit movin' in my heart I will pray.

Jordan River runs right cold, chills the body, not the soul.
Ain't but one train on this track, runs to heaven and right back.

Every time I feel the spirit movin' in my heart I will pray.
Yes, ev'ry time I feel the spirit movin' in my heart I will pray.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem May 24, 2026
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

5/24—Cindy Hitesman
5/24—Tom Rockne

5/25—Amy Haara
5/28—Julie Lapeer

5/28—Kathleen Ivany
5/29—Cody Smith

5/31—Lois Gray

The church office will be closed on May 25th to celebrate Memorial Day.

Worship Servants for May 24

Presiding & Presiding—Pr. Paul Busekist

Assisting Minister—Doug Cunningham

Lector—Pam Reid

Musicians: David Husser, Zeke Clemons; Phil & Denice Bossardet, Pr Paul

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

Hospitality—Tim & Peggy Goebel

A/V—Dale Wentzloff / Paul Ton

Cookies/Coffee—Diane Cunningham; Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—VOLUNTEER

Bell Ringer—Tim Goebel

Front Door Monitor: Gail Goldsmith

Altar Guild—Patty Leibenguth / Erin Word

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Bonnie Gamble / Jane Passmore

We welcome Emma Thompson and Hazel Wentzloff as they receive their First Communion today.

Where 2 or more are gathered in my name. (Matt 18:20) In our world today there are a lot of things that we need prayer for. Every 4th Tues. starting at 11:00, we will be offering a time and place in church to pray. Please join us. The next date is May 26th. If any questions, please contact Peggy Burns at 231-392-6913 or cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com

BOOK CLUB: We will meet at The Cottage on Wed May 27 at 5:30 to discuss *HORSE* by Geraldine Brooks. If you are not on the email list please contact cmonroe@chartermi.net if you want to attend so there are enough places set for us at the restaurant. The book club will NOT be meeting during the summer.

NEW MEMBERS: Three new members will be accepted on May 31: Kathy Blume (sponsored by Barbara Oster) and Marilyn and Mark Farnwall (sponsored by Laura and Dan Hahn). If you are interested in membership, please contact the office or membership co-chairs Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net or John Halstead at marilynjohnhntc@hotmail.com

BLC T-shirts/Cherry Festival Once again this year we are volunteering for The National Cherry Festival. All shifts will be day shifts during the week. We will need 15-20 volunteers, the Cherry Festival pays us and the money goes to Pastor's sabbatical fund. As soon as the Volunteer Coordinator gives me exact times and dates I will have a sign up sheet in the narthex. In anticipation of our future volunteer projects, we want our volunteers to have BLC T-shirts. Price of the shirts will be based on how many we order. **There is a sign up sheet in the narthex, deadline to order is May 31st.** Please note: we plan to find v-neck and crew neck models this time.

The Social Ministry/Food Pantry Committee is planning a food drive for Sunday, May 31st. Our community seems to be in great need right now, and any food items or monetary donations would be appreciated. Items needed specifically for the outdoor food pantry include single serving items that are more portable as this is typically our un-housed population without the means to actually cook. It is easiest to have cans that have a pull top.

Tuna packet	Ramen	Jerky
Peanut butter	Noodle cups	personal products (toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine products)
Granola bars	Oatmeal packets	
Nut bars	Crackers	
Peanut butter crackers	Vegetable cups	
Cheese crackers	Fruit cups	

The baby pantry food needs are more diverse with larger servings and ability to cook. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.

ALL MEN OF BETHLEHEM! You are invited to join us for a chance to become a kid again! The Women of Bethlehem are hosting a fun afternoon for you on **June 7th beginning at noon.** "Take me out to the ball game!" Fun! Food! Fellowship! Games! Prizes! We invite you to wear apparel highlighting your favorite team! Sign up by the poster in the Narthex by May 31st. And bring a friend!

Flower Deliveries: If you are interested in delivering flowers and visiting to our shut-ins. We are looking for volunteers. It would involve doing this once a month or six weeks, depending on the number of volunteers. Please contact Lindsay Susalski @ 231.534.0020 or Peggy Burns @ 231.392.6913

Hammer'd Music CD's Available! If you attended XYZ on May 8th and enjoyed the beautiful music provided by the band Hammer'd, there is an opportunity for you to take some of that music home with you! Hammer'd put together a CD of some of their music several years ago, and have given several to BLC. If you would like one, Hammer'd asks that instead of paying them for the CD, you make a donation to BLC's Good Samaritan Fund to support community members in need. If you would like to make a donation and receive one of these CD's, please reach out to Alanna Steffunick-Boomer!

New Life Together We are looking for some folks to be at the volunteer table to welcome visitors to our church-just to say hello and we are glad that are here. Please see Peggy Burns 231-392-6933.

Let's Celebrate! Bethlehem paid off the mortgage to the church in November, so let's celebrate. Our Congregational meeting will be on June 14th, so after the meeting we will have a party and burn the old mortgage (copy).

Grief Group meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30 in the gathering space. Any questions contact Peggy Burns 232-392-6913.

Good Samaritan Fund During the last Good Samaritan Fund drive in August 2025, \$11,453.00 was collected from our generous congregation. Since January 2026, \$0.00 has been collected and \$1,735.92 has been given to those in need by Pastor Paul. Donations include partial rent payments, food cards, auto repair, gas cards, and energy costs. This leaves a fund balance of \$5,399.71. It is predicted that by summer, much of the money in the fund will be depleted. Because of that, we will have a new Good Samaritan fund drive this coming August. If there is anyone has a "creative" idea for our next drive, please contact Maureen Bauer or Jana Rockne.

BOOK CLUB: The book club is taking off its monthly meetings for the summer. Enjoy whatever you choose to read. New books will be available mid-August with a plan for the Sept meeting to be Wed Sept 23 or Sept 30.

Five fun facts from Synod Assembly:

1. Our national presiding Bishop Curry selected our assembly to attend and gave a wonderful talk and answered questions. When Bishop Curry was a congregational pastor he did a youth swap with a church in Connecticut, and our members Kathy and Mark McPherson had the pleasure of working with him.
2. There were 73 registered clergy and 147 lay members attending the assembly.
3. The resolution to encourage Mitten Synod Members to increase their care of creation passed and any BLC members who signed had their names included in the official assembly program.
4. The synod exceeded their \$10,000 offering goal with \$10,427 (BLC contributed \$637.11)
5. All future assemblies will be held at churches to be more cost effective. Plan now for May 14/15 2027 in Midland.

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 in the Traverse City area? Here is a list of his engagements in the next month that are close to TC:

Fri 5/22 & Sat 5/23 –Grand Traverse Resort, Acme 7:00pm;
Mon 5/25—Memorial Day French Valley Vineyard, Cedar 7:00pm
Wed 5/27 – The Pub TC, Traverse City 7:00pm;

Today's Prayer Receptants: Please send any changes or additions by email to admin@bethlehemtc.org

Harper Wiemerslage,	John Stretlien,	Sharon,
Jerry Hill,	Judy Fenton,	Kyle,
John Block,	Cindy Hitesman,	Christine,
Roy DuMond,	Richard Fernholz,	Janet,
Mary Woodring,	Julie Lapeer,	Cheryl
Norm Fred,	Lee,	Pat,
Lynn,	Chris,	Pat Burton,
Steve,	Cheryl,	Gretchen
Sherry,	Julie Barrett,	Shelley Miller
Bob,	Patti,	Pr. Zack Nelson

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.

Sunday, May 24

PENTECOST SUNDAY

9:00am—First Communion (Library)
9:15am—Adult Education (YR)
9:15am—Sunday School
10:00am—Worship Service/First Communion
Graduation (S)
1:00pm—Community Meal at Grace Episcopal

Monday, May 25

MEMORIAL DAY

CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED

Tuesday, May 26

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am— Property Work Group
9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)
11:00am—Prayer in the Sanctuary
2:00pm—Choir (S)

Wednesday, May 27

11:30am—Music Rehearsal
1:30pm—Zoom Book & Bible Study (Zoom & YR)
5:30pm—Book Club (Offsite)

Thursday, May 28

5:30pm—ACA (FH)

Friday, May 29

6:00pm—LifeRing Recovery Group (Library)

Saturday, May 30

10:00am—Funeral – Joan Maule (S)
11:00am—Burial—Joan Maule
11:30am—Luncheon—Joan Maule (FH)
8:00pm—AA (FH)

Sunday, May 31

9:15am—Adult Education (YR)
9:15am—Sunday School
10:00am—Worship Service/New Member Recognition (S)