

**Third Sunday**  
**after Pentecost**  
**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
**June 14, 2026**  
**Sunday 10:00 a.m.**



**Welcome to All!** We are glad that you are able to worship with us today. **Please fill out a connection card in the pews if you like.** During the service, we will sit or stand in reverence to our Lord. Please do what is physically comfortable and reverent for you. For those who are unable to receive Communion near the altar and wish to have the Pastor administer it at your seat, please obtain a red and white card from one of the ushers and hold it up at Communion time to alert the Pastor. If you or a little one would like to receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, we invite you to come forward and cross your arms at the time of Communion. Please feel free to introduce yourself to our Pastor and fill in your name, address, etc in the guest book near the entrance to the sanctuary.

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 4, page 147**

**Bell Ringing/Welcome/Announcements**

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: Compassionate God,

C: **...we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: **Amen**

**Gathering Hymn**

***Praise to the Lord, the Almighty***

***ELW 858***

## Greeting

A: 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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



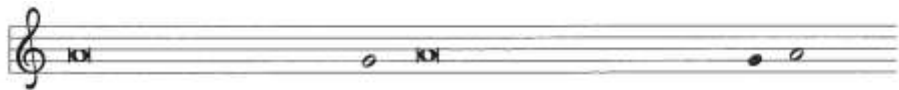
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

*(continued on next page)*

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

**Hymn of Praise**

***Glory to God***

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All  
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

*(continued on next page)*



**Prayer of the Day**

A: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

A: Let us pray together... C: **God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

**First Lesson**

**Exodus 19:2-8a**

*At Sinai God assured Israel, “You shall be my treasured possession,” and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God’s will.*

2 The Israelites journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.<sup>3</sup> Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup> ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup> Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup> but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.” <sup>7</sup> So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. <sup>8a</sup> The people all answered as one, “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalmody**

**Psalm 100**

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands! 2 Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God’s presence with a song.

**3 Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong; we are God’s people and the sheep of God’s pasture.**

*(continued on next page)*

4 Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise; give thanks and bless God's holy name.

**5 Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

## Second Lesson

**Romans 5:1-8**

*We are no longer God's enemies but have peace with God because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ's death.*

1 Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. 6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

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

**Matthew 9:35—10:23**

*The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.*

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

35 Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they

were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38 therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” 10:1 Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. 2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, 6 but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ 8 Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. 9 Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, 10 no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for laborers deserve their food. 11 Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. 12 As you enter the house, greet it. 13 If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. 14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. 15 Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town. 16 “I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. 17 Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues, 18 and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the gentiles. 19 When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you at that time, 20 for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. 21 Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, 22 and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. 23 When they persecute you in this town, flee to the next, for truly I tell you, you will not have finished going through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

**Pastor Paul Busekist**

**Hymn of the Day**     *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*     **ELW 588**



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: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

## *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
*(continued on next page)*

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

### The 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.**

P: The gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

### Communion

#### *Lamb of God*

### Communion Hymns

*Blessed Assurance*  
*Thine the Amen*

*ELW 638*  
*ELW 826*

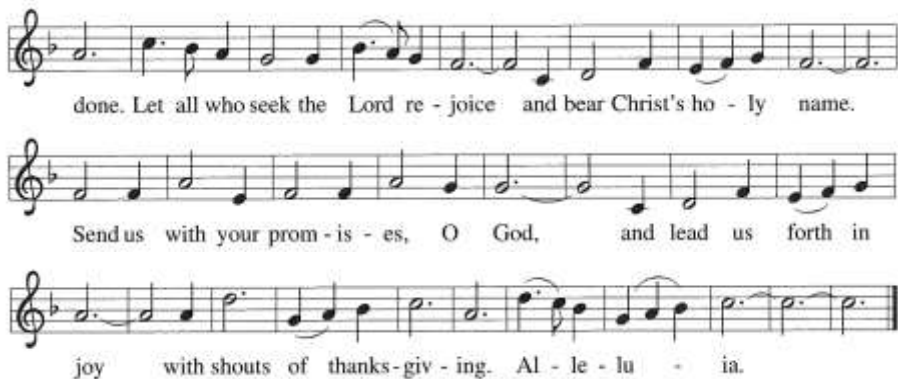
### Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

### Post-Communion Canticle

#### *Thankful Hearts*

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has



done. Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and bear Christ's ho-ly name.  
 Send us with your prom-is-es, O God, and lead us forth in  
 joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia.

### Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### SENDING

#### Blessing

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Song**      *Joyful, Joyful We Adore You*

**ELW 836**

#### Dismissal

A: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude



**Bethlehem** June 14, 2026  
 LUTHERAN CHURCH

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

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

6/14—Bob Hammond

6/14—Dorene Boyd

6/15—BJ Christensen

6/16—Grayson Vincke

6/18—Connor McLaughlin

6/19—Rita Kucera

6/19—Jessilyn Wallington

6/19—Forrest Bowling

### **Worship Servants for June 14**

Preaching & Presiding—Pr. Paul Busekist

Assisting Minister—Barbara Wright

Lector—Tim Goebel

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

Today's altar flowers are donated: *By Janet Landis in Memory of Betty Cole*

Hospitality: Jim & Dorene Boyd

A/V—Jim Hinds / Barbara Oster

Cookies/Coffee—Diane Cunningham; Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—VOLUNTEER

Bell Ringer—Tim Goebel

Front Door Monitor: Tina Dohm

Altar Guild—Kate Holtfreter / Barbara Oster

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—John Halstead / Forest Bowling

### **Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be holding its Annual Congregational Meeting**

**TODAY** at 11:15am after the 10:00am service. We will be electing members for

Church Council, Mission Endowment and Sustaining Endowment Committees.

After the meeting will be a party for the “burning” of the mortgage. Please plan to attend!

**Grief Group** meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30 in the gathering space. **The next meeting will be June 15th.** Any questions contact Peggy Burns 232-392-6913.

**Chair Yoga** meets at 3:00pm on Mondays only. It is \$5 per class. **The group will not meet tomorrow, June 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Farewell Appreciation Party for Gail Goldsmith!** As many of you know, Gail Goldsmith is moving away this summer to be closer to family. Gail has done so much for Bethlehem and we will miss her tremendously, so we want to show her all of our love and appreciation before she goes! Please join us after worship on Sunday, June 21st for cake and a chance to wish Gail your best. We are also gifting Gail a devotional to take on all her future adventures. The devotional chosen has lots of open space on the pages, and we would like to fill that space with messages and love from BLC. The devotional is the Narthex, so please take a moment to sign a page prior to worship on June 21st! If you have any questions, please reach out to Alanna Steffunick-Boomer or Peggy Burns.

**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 June 23rd. If any questions, please contact Peggy Burns at 231-392-6913 or [cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com](mailto:cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com)

**Parking Lot Fundraiser: Volunteers Needed!** - The youth of Bethlehem will be holding their Parking Lot Fundraiser again this year! The BLC parking lot will be open for business for the 1pm airshow on July 4th, the 10:30pm fireworks on July 4th, and the 1pm airshow on July 5th. We will be charging \$15 to use our lot for parking while people attend the airshows and fireworks, and all funds raised benefit the BLC youth program. The youth will be front and center welcoming cars into the parking lot and accepting payment, but we also need adult volunteers to guide cars into spots and keep the traffic flow running smoothly! Alanna will be leading the two airshow shifts and will be supervising the kids, but we need a leader for the firework shift and adult volunteers for all three shifts! If you are able to sign up, please reach out to Alanna or sign up in the Narthex!

**Parking Changes for Worship July 5th** - Please note that when you arrive for worship on Sunday, July 5th, only the entrance off of Peninsula Drive will be open for entering and exiting the parking lot! The other entrances/exits will be blocked off for the youth Parking Lot Fundraiser. You do not need to pay for parking to attend worship, but give a wave to our hard working volunteers as you pass by!

**VBS 2026: Knights & Castles is scheduled for July 27-29 (Mon-Wed), from 9am-1pm each day!** VBS is open to kids ages 3-10 and registration is now open - the registration link is on the BLC website ([bethlehemtc.org/vacation-bible-school](http://bethlehemtc.org/vacation-bible-school)), the BLC Facebook page, and the weekly email. VBS is only possible with the help of many wonderful volunteers (adults and kids age 10+), so please let us know if you would like to help! There are many different volunteer opportunities, including leading groups of kids, helping with activities, decorating and prep, snack preparation, loaning of household items for decorations, donating snacks, and so much more. All are very appreciated and essential to making VBS a success! If you would like to help in any way, please reach out to Alanna at [alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org)

**SHOEBOXES NEEDED:** We are in need of 30-ish shoeboxes for a craft during Vacation Bible School. Please place them in the box in the Narthex. Thank You! Christian Education Committee

**Sunday School holds class at 9:15am on Sunday throughout the summer.**

**Sunday Adult Education:** There will not be a formal class at 9:15am in the Youth Room, however, folks could come and discussion would take its own course whether that be checking in with one another or addressing the lessons for the day.