

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2026 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

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 Song:

10,000 Reasons

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing Your song again. Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me. let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger. Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing. Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

And on that day, when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come; Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending ten thousand years, and then forever more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name, worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

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: Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message

Peggy Burns, S.A.M.

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

7 O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. 8 For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. 9 If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. 10 For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him." 11 But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. 12 O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. 13 Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

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 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

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

Jesus said to the twelve: 24 “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; 25 it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! 26 “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. 27 What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. 28 Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. 30 And even the hairs of your head are all counted. 31 So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. 32 “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, 33 but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. 34 “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. 35 For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, 36 and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. 37 “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, 38 and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Peggy Burns, S.A.M.

Song of the Day:

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

ELW 579

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: 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.

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:

Table of Grace (words below)

God Loved the World

ELW 323

Hear the good news, you've been invited
No matter what__ others may say
Your darkest sins__ will be forgiven
And You will always have a place

So come, you weak and heavy hearted
Don't try to hide your earthly scars,
For in His eyes we all are equal
Don't be afraid come as you are

At the table of grace, the cup's never empty,
The plate's always full, and it's never too late
To come and be filled with love never ending
You're always welcome at the table of grace

(continued on next column)

At the table of grace, the cup's never empty
The plate's always full, and it's never too late
To come and be filled with love never ending
You're always welcome at the table of grace

Final Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Sending Song:

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem June 21, 2026
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

6/22—Nancy Schmidt
6/23—Sherri Helman
6/25—Tom Fink

6/25—Amy Rogers
6/25—Nathan Kolka

6/27—Cindy Monroe
6/27—Bill Allen

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 TODAY 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.

Chair Yoga meets at 3:00pm on Mondays only. It is \$5 per class

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

Worship Servants for June 21

Presiding—Pr. Paul Busekist

Preaching—Peggy Burns, S.A.M.

Assisting Minister—Barbara Oster

Lector—Peg Pepler

Musicians: Dana Fall, Zeke Clemons; Phil & Denice

Bossardet, Pr Paul

Today's altar flowers are donated: *By Norm & Jane*

Fred in Celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary

Hospitality: Susie Burton

A/V—Dale Wentzloff / Paul Ton

Cookies/Coffee—Diane Cunningham; Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table— VOLUNTEER

Bell Ringer—Gail Goldsmith

Front Door Monitor: Jana & Tom Rockne

Altar Guild—Mary Ann Tanis / Gail Goldsmith

Tech Support—Jim Hinds

Counters—John Halstead / Forest Bowling

The Social Ministry/Outreach committee gained approval to have the 4th Sunday of every month dedicated to collecting items for the Food Pantry. Our first official Sunday will be Sunday, June 28th. Please see the display in the Narthex for items needed and take a flyer for your shopping trip. If everyone could just bring one thing, it would go a long way to fill the closet. Thank you for your support. Linda Hansen

Batter up! Let's go to a Pitspitters baseball game! The date is Sunday, July 19th, for a 1pm game. To make sure the group can all get seats together, the New Life Together team will take care of reserving the seats. If you'd like to attend the game, all you need to do is sign up in the Narthex and put your ticket payment (\$14 per ticket) in an envelope marked with your name in Alanna Steffunick-Boomer's mailbox outside the office door! **Please sign up to reserve your seat prior to July 1st.** See you at the game!

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), 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

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.

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.

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 July 6th. Any questions contact Peggy Burns 232-392-6913.

Social Ministry/Outreach update (REMEMBER: If general questions, concerns, or ideas contact Cindy Monroe or Jim Hutchison):

Thanks to all of those who have been participating in any way with the Baby Pantry, Food Pantry, and the monthly meals at Grace the past few months. Your efforts are appreciated. Also, special thanks to those for their participation in the meals at Safe Harbor.

Freedom Builders: Orientation meeting is July 21 at 6pm at their new warehouse at 571 West Commerce Drive (out by Turtle Creek Stadium) and workdays July 22-25 7:30am 'til done. Even if you cannot make it to the orientation or can only work one day, your help will be appreciated. Contact Jim Hutchison or Carl Lehto.

New Adventure to the north sponsored by Membership Committee: The trip to Sault Ste Marie will now be a fall excursion instead of in the spring. In the gathering space is a poster board so you can indicate your availability for possible dates (9/26, 10/1, 10/2, 10/3, 10/5, 10/6, 10/7) and preferred activities. Our guides will be Mark and Kathy McPherson. John and Judy Block have offered their cabin which is 20 minutes from the Soo if some want to stay overnight rather than make the trip in one day. Judy indicates it can sleep a "bunch" comfortably. Please indicate dates ASAP so we can confirm with the McPhersons. Contact Cindy or Jim Monroe if questions.

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:

Wed 6/24, 7/1 – The Pub TC, Traverse City 7:00pm
Fri 6/26, Sat 7/4—Grand Traverse Resort, Acme, 7:00pm
Sat 6/27—Bel Lago, Cedar 3:30pm

Trinity Lutheran School will have its 4th Annual "Trinity Tourney" Golf at Elmbrook Golf Course on August 14, 2026. Shotgun start at 9:00am with contests and prizes. For more information or a copy of the brochure, see Barbara Oster in BLC's office.

SAVE YOUR PAPER SACKS: Please check the nooks and crannies of your home for paper sacks. The Baby Pantry fills requests from preschool teachers for their students whose parents cannot make it to the pantry. Paper sacks are the perfect size to place the needed items for each child. Just place your bags on the Care table in the coat room. Thank you!!

Coffee and Cookies: Our wonderful volunteers Mary Ann Tanis and Diane Cunningham have indicated a willingness to continue offering this after the Sunday service as long as there are volunteers who bring the goodies and **help with clean-up after.** Our thanks to these two women for their wonderful display of the goodies and the clean-up after. Thanks to all of you who have shared goodies, and please feel free to continue to do so.

A big thank you to all who have turned in Olesons' slips. On June 18, 2026, we received a check from Olesons for \$211.15 for a total so far this year of \$505.39. Thank you so much to everyone who turned in their Olesons receipts. Also, the area for the Olesons' receipts is in the lower cabinets below the mailboxes (under the last names beginning A-C). The cabinet door is marked with the receptacle inside. Unfortunately, we are no longer collecting the receipts from Family Fair or any other grocery store. We just collect for Olesons

Volunteers for Watching the Front Door During Worship: The Safety and Security Committee has the new sign up sheets available. We need volunteers who can be available to stay in the Gathering Space to lock the doors and let in late comers for Sundays. We appreciate all of the volunteers. If you have any questions, the committee members are Gail Goldsmith, Maureen Bauer, Jana Rockne, and Dave Pepler.

The June issue of the STAR is available. If you receive the weekly email, your June issue was emailed on June 1st. The shut-ins receive an issue by mail. There will also be a few copies available on the counter by the mailboxes. You may also contact the office at 947-9880 to request that mail delivery continues. 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>.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We often find the front door and/or the kitchen door unlocked when there is no one in the building. Please be sure that the doors are locked when you leave.

Please Note:

Barbara Oster/Administrative Assistant works 9:00am-2:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
Phil Anderson/Bookkeeper works 8:30am-12:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Please note that Phil works these days through the summer months
Alanna Steffunick-Boomer/Ministry Coordinator working in the office on the first Tuesday of each month from 9:30am - 12:30pm, and on Wednesdays from 11:30am - 2:30pm on all other weeks. I will also work from home throughout the week.

Prayer Requests:

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

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.

Norm Fred has helped a previously homeless couple for a few years. They are proud people and do not like to be given charity but they will accept help in the form of donated cans that they can recycle for money. Please bring in your recyclables in for them. **Leave them in plastic bags by the garage.** These are nice people. There, but for the Grace of our God, go we.

Are you looking for the Caring Table for your donations? It is located inside the coat room to the right. Your donations are very much appreciated.

LOST AND FOUND: If you lose something in the church building, please check our Lost and Found box located in the Coat Room. Also, if you find something, please put it in the box.

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, weekly emails and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included in any of these, please reach out to Alanna.Steffunick@bethlehemtc.org
If you are not getting the weekly emails for any reason, please contact Alanna at her email above.

Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. Please 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 \$45 (**This is a new amount.**) The check should be 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.

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

Harper Wiemerslage,
Jerry Hill,
John Block,
Roy DuMond,
Mary Woodring,
Norm Fred,
Lynn,
Steve,
Sherry,
Bob,
John Stretlien,
Judy Fenton,
Cindy Hitesman,
Richard Fernholz,
Julie Lapeer,
Lee,
Chris,

Cheryl,
Julie Barrett,
Patti,
Sharon,
Kyle,
Christine,
Janet,
Cheryl
Pat,
Pat Burton,
Gretchen
Shelley Miller
Pr. Zack Nelson
Mike & Fredricka
Dolly
Jacque

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, June 21

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

9:15am—Adult Education (YR)
9:15am—Sunday School
10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:15am—Appreciation for Gail Goldsmith

Monday, June 22

3:00pm—Chair Yoga (FH)

Tuesday, June 23

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Property Work Group
11:00am—Prayer in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, June 24

11:30am—Music Rehearsal

Thursday, June 25

5:30pm—ACA (FH)

Friday, June 26

6:00pm—LifeRing Recovery Group (Library)

Saturday, June 27

8:00pm—AA (FH)

Sunday, June 28

9:15am—Adult Education (YR)
9:15am—Sunday School
10:00am—Worship Service (S)
10:00am—Baptism – Johnny Baldwin(S)
1:00pm—Community Meal at Grace Episcopal
3:30pm—Burial – Dale Leider
7:00pm—TC Sings!



