

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
October 12, 2025
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 3, page 138

Pre-Worship Music/Announcements

Prelude

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful and loving God,

C: ... we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn *Blessed Be the God of Israel* ELW 552

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 (lead by Pastor Paul)

S 138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

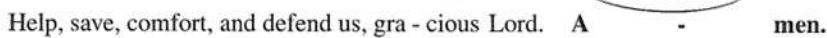
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

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 worship and praise,

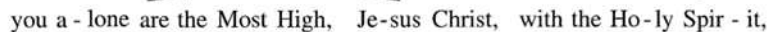
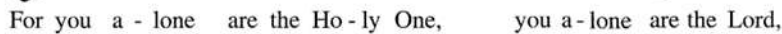
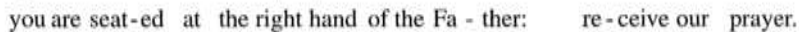
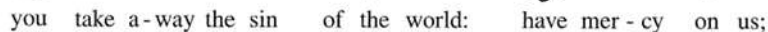
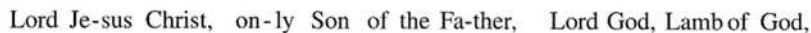
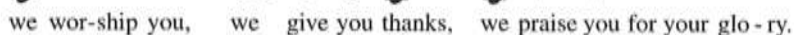
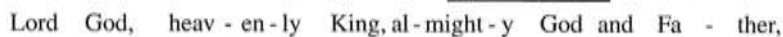
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Glory to God



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.





Prayer of the Day

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

A: Let us pray together... **C: Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Children's Message

Pr. Paul

WORD

First Lesson

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.

1 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. 2 Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease." 7 When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me." 8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." 9 So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." 11 But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. 13 But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" *(continued on next page)*

14 So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. 15a, b, c Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 111

1 Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are your works, O Lord, pondered by all who delight in them.

3 Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

4 You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

5 You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

6 You have shown your people the power of your works giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

8 They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

9 You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God’s praise endures forever.

Second Lesson

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Though Paul is chained as a prisoner, the word of God is never shackled or confined. Timothy is encouraged to proclaim that word of freedom in an honest and upright life as well as in his teaching and preaching.

8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, 9 for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. 11 The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; 12 if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us;

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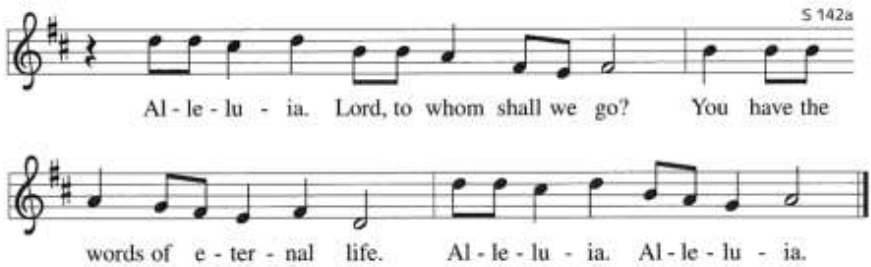
13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful—he cannot deny himself. 14 Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. 15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia



Gospel

Luke 17:11-19

Jesus' mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God's mercy.

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

11 On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, 13 they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" 14 When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16 He prostrated himself at Jesus's feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? 18 Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?" 19 Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Hymn of the Day *Now Thank We All Our God*

ELW 839

Apostle's 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 Intercession: response after each petition: **"Receive our prayer."** (*Before prayer*) A: Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation. (*Conclusion*) P: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offering (*Please be seated.*)

Offering Song:

Zeke Clemons

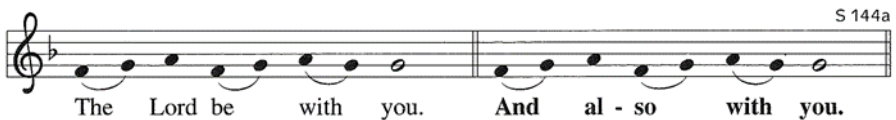
Offertory (*Please stand, as able.*) **As the Grains of Wheat** **ELW 465**

Offering Prayer

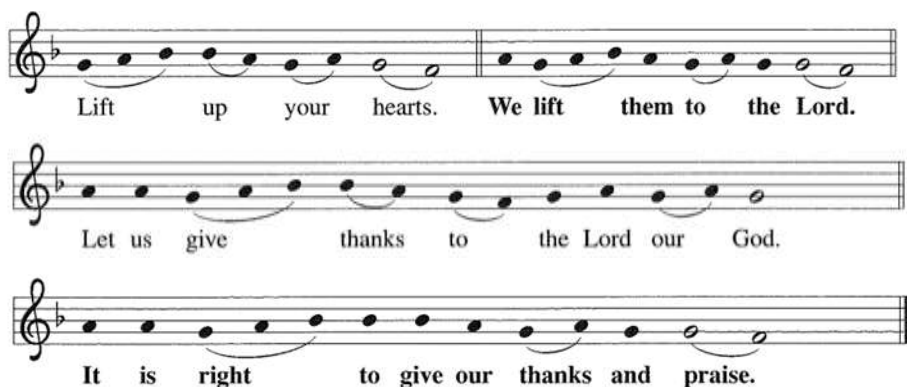
A: Let us pray together.

C: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



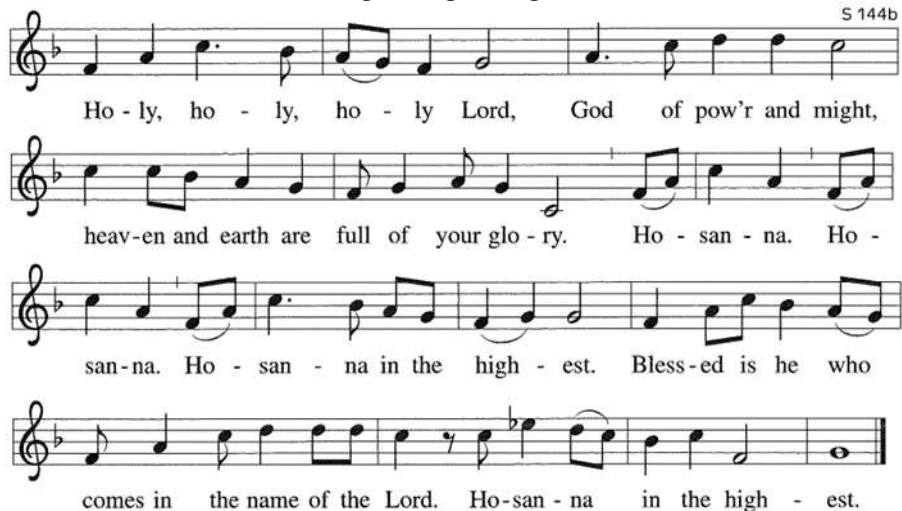
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Great Thanksgiving (continued)

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

Holy, Holy, Holy



Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

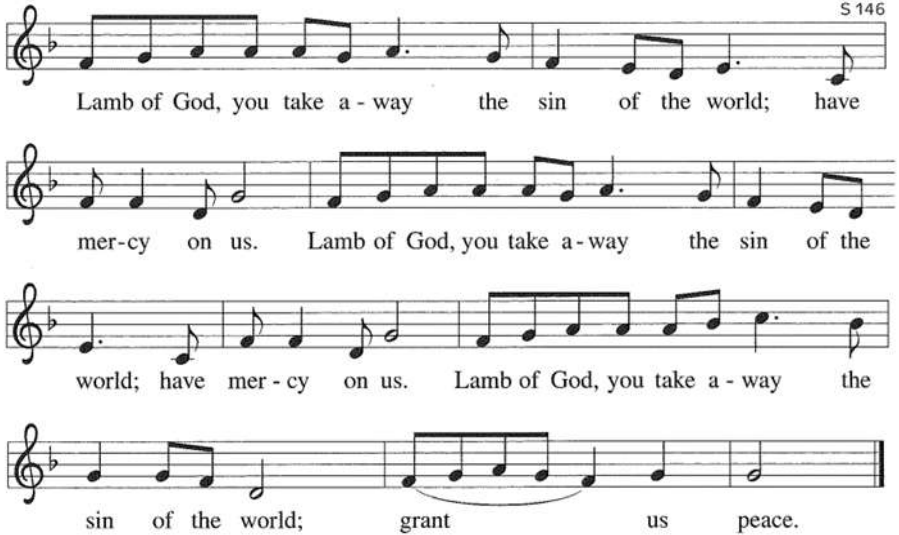
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the 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.
**Please note: *Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

Communion

Lamb of God

S 146



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymns

*I Am the Bread of Life
Here is Bread*

*ELW 485
ELW 483*

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 and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with

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Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* **ELW 858**

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem October 12, 2025
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

10/12—Kay Asiala

10/15—Sally Ton

10/13—Tom Cole

10/19—Gary Jones

10/15—Meredith Busekist

Worship Servants for October 12

Presiding & Presiding—Pr. Paul
Busekist

Assisting Minister—Barbara Wright

Lector—Nancy Ammann

Musicians: David Husser, Zeke

Clemons, Phil & Denice Bossardet, Pr.
Paul

Today's altar flowers are donated: By
*Inga Nyquist in Celebration of the 1st
Birthday of great-grandson Isaac*

Hospitality—Jim & Dorene Boyd

A/V—Barbara Oster / Paul Ton

Sound Board—Julia Acker & Family

Cookies/Coffee—Diane Cunningham /
Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—VOLUNTEER

Bell Ringer—Tim Goebel

Front Door Monitor—John Halstead

Altar Guild—Barbara Oster

Counters—Kate Holtfreter / Cindy

Cuba

**Congregational Informational Meeting TODAY, October 12, 2025
Immediately after Worship Service**

Our local Honor Flight is happening on 10/14/25 to 10/15/25. Please come & welcome them home on the 15th. Their plane should be in by about 8:00pm the more the merrier. Also please honor them with a thank you letter or card.

Third Thursday: Join us for the next Third Thursday service, Behold Our Light, on October 16th at 7:00pm. Linda Hansen is making the Third Thursday meal which will be pulled pork on a bun, veggie tray, chips, gluten free brownies, cupcakes and beverages. Come at 5:45 and enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship before the service.

Calling All Bakers Bethlehem is hosting the Fall Synod Theological Event October 19-21, 2025. We are planning on providing pastries with coffee on the mornings of Monday and Tuesday the 20th and 21st. There will be 80 to 100 participants to serve. If you have some great pastry recipes, please sign up to either make or purchase items such as muffins, scones, cookies or danish. Easy finger breakfast foods. The sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you for sharing your talents.

BLC SOCIAL MINISTRY/OUTREACH GROUP MEETING ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 19 AFTER THE SERVICE: Anyone who is interested can attend even if you did not attend the September meeting or have indicated an interest in more than one Visioning area.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH ART & CRAFT SHOW SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2025 9:00am TO 3:00pm Featuring 50 local artists and crafters with original, handmade goods! Please sign up in the Narthex hallway to volunteer for our fundraiser. Your help would be greatly appreciated. There will be a Silent Auction of items donated by the crafters and a Grand Traverse Baby Donation booth for items to bid on. Both auction and donation sales support the baby pantry and Bethlehem's ministries. Our Christian Education Team will have a bake good table and would appreciate a cookie/brownie/etc. for their table! "Many hands make work light"

BAKE SALE ITEMS NEEDED! We are having a bake sale during the Craft Show on November 1st with proceeds to benefit the youth of Bethlehem. Any type of baked goods is much appreciated as well as sugar-free and gluten-free items. Please pre-package in groups of 6 or so and label on the outside what they are and if they contain nuts, peanut butter, etc. Items can be dropped off on Friday during the day OR early Saturday morning, Thank You!

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 of the calendar.

Sunday, October 12

9:00am—Bibles to Youth (Library)
9:15am—Adult Education (YR)
9:15am—Sunday School
10:00am—Traditional Worship Service (S)
11:15am—Congregation Informational Meeting (S)
12:30pm—Youth Discipleship Class (YR)
1:00pm—WELCA Set-up
2:00pm—WELCA Fun Day

Monday, October 13

11:00am—Finance Committee
2:30pm—Choir Rehearsal (S)
3:00pm—Chair Yoga (FH)
6:00pm—Creation Care

Tuesday, October 14

Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Property Work Group
9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)
1:00pm—Friendship Bible Study (Offsite)
6:00pm—Y2A/Christian Ed Meeting
6:30pm—Executive Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, October 15

11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)
1:30pm—Zoom Bible Study (Zoom & YR)
3:00pm—Chair Yoga

Thursday, October 16

5:30pm—ACA (FH)
5:45pm—Third Thursday Meal (FH)
7:00pm—Third Thursday Service (S)

Friday, October 17

10:00am—Sew Pieceful (FH)
1:00pm—Lehto SG (Library)
6:00pm—LifeRing Recovery Group (Library)

Saturday, October 18

3:00pm—Funeral – Debbie Knopf
5:00pm—AA Chili Cook-off
8:00pm—AA (FH)

Sunday, October 19

9:00am—Bibles to Youth (Library)
9:15am—Adult Education (YR)
9:15am—Sunday School
10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:15am—Social Ministry & Outreach (Library)
4:00pm—Fall Theological Event

