



Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center



Season After Pentecost

Sunday September 6th, 2020

Welcome to Bethlehem!

Greetings and welcome to Bethlehem! Below are a few guidelines to keep in mind as we gather for in-person worship on the lawn. If you are joining us virtually, please feel free to skip ahead two pages; unless you are curious about our new protocol! This list is not meant to be exhaustive, but is supposed to give you an idea of what to expect when you come to worship.

- Please sign up for worship on Sign Up Genius.
- Please watch the orientation video!
- If you have a fever, or any of the following symptoms – cough, breathing problems, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of taste or smell – please enjoy our virtual worship service from your home.
- If you have traveled outside of the great state of California, or flown on a plane, or been exposed to someone with the symptoms listed above, please enjoy our virtual worship service from your home for 14 days.
- Masks will be required at all times, except for children 2 years and under.
- Please maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet from people not in your household.
- Bring any supplies you might need to survive a 45 min outdoor worship service!
 - **Chairs or blankets** (limited handicap seating will be available)
 - Water, hats, sunscreen, umbrellas, and hand sanitizer (some will be available but we'd love for you to bring your own)
 - What you need for communion (prizes for highest quality may be awarded)

- Please print the bulletin at home or bring it on your phone or tablet.
 - A scannable QR code will be available when you arrive if you forget.

- There will be one entrance point near the olive trees and benches. Exits will be located near the MU building and Dot's Garden.

- Ushers will guide you to your seating area. Once you are seated, please refrain from leaving your seating area. Children must remain with their household at all times. Ushers will come and dismiss you when worship has concluded.

- Please refrain from using the bathroom if at all possible (even if the sermon is boring). The bathroom in the MU building will be available for one person to use at a time.
 - Please enter through the door closest to the parking lot.
 - And exit through the door that opens onto the grass.

- Come with an open mind and a gracious heart as we live into this new way of worshipping together. We can't wait to see you!

GATHERING

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

L: Renewing God, in the waters of baptism you claim us and call us to be your beloved children.

C: May water be an ever-present sign that you make all things new.

L: We thank you for the waters of baptism that bring us closer to your grace, hope, and unending love.

C: Lord, send your grace.

L: Just as Jesus stretched his hand over the storming sea and said “Peace. Be Still,” we ask for God’s calming Spirit to still the waters of anxiety that stir inside each of us during these difficult and uncertain times.

C: Lord, send us your peace.

L: We pray for the people and places that do not have clean water or whose source of water is threatened. We give you thanks for the water that stems wildfires and ends destruction.

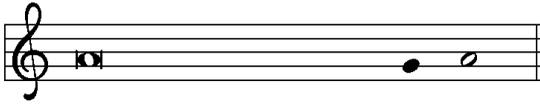
C: Lord, send your healing.

L: For water that renews us, for the Pacific Ocean near us, for all water that helps us to see beauty and creation we give you thanks.

C: Lord, lift our spirits.

L: Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us. Refresh us with the good news of Christ’s love and anoint us with your Holy Spirit, that we might know the fullness of the new life that you prepare for us in your kingdom. In the name of Christ, we pray.

C: Amen



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.



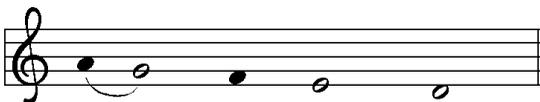
Lord, have mer - cy.



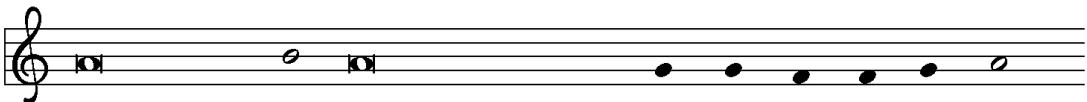
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



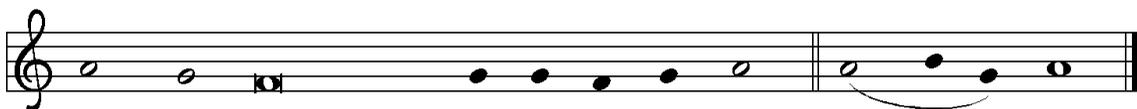
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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

This is the Feast – ELW pg. 149 - 150

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 151



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:23-35

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

R: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

HYMN OF THE DAY

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Verse 1: Amazing grace how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see

Verse 2: 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed

Chorus: My chains are gone I've been set free; my God my Savior has ransomed me. And like a flood His mercy rains. Unending love amazing grace.

Verse 3: The Lord has promised good to me his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures

Chorus: My chains are gone I've been set free; my God my Savior has ransomed me. And like a flood His mercy rains. Unending love amazing grace.

Verse 4: The earth shall soon dissolve like snow; the sun forbear to shine. But God who called me here below will be forever mine. Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you!

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Let the Vineyards be Fruitful – ELW 184



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.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you,

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts,

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 112

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.



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, grant us peace.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“Kyrie,” “This Is The Feast,” “Gospel Acclamation,” “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful,” and **“Lamb of God”** from **“Holy Communion, Setting Four,”** in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Tunes: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927, © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress. **“Go, My Children, with My Blessing,”** Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Tune AR HYD NOS: Welsh traditional, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958, arr. © Oxford University Press. For copyrighted selections, all rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net License No. A-706214. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-706214. **“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”** - Text and Tune: Chris Tomlin, John Newton, Louie Giglio, © 2006 Capitol CMG Publishing. All rights reserved. Digital reprint and recording authorized under CCLI License #1085183.

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Constance Mithelman

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Gail Winterbourne – Half Day Preschool Director

Office Administrator

Judy Foland

Music Ministries

Mona Goetsch – Director
Judy Collier – Pianist/Organist

Ministries & Programs

Laure Reynolds – Stephen Ministry
Rose Moldenhauer – Parish Nurse

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**The Mission of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is
to announce boldly the love of God through Christ.**

All Are Welcome!

We live in a diverse world. We are hurting, broken and heavy hearted. We are loving, celebrating, and above all — we are welcoming. Regardless of the color of your skin or the color of your hair, regardless of your gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, or political affiliation — you are welcome here.

If you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker after Christ — you have a place here.

If you own, rent, or have nothing at all — you are welcome here.

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person of differing abilities, if you have regrets, fears, addictions, or afflictions — you have a place here.

All who are wise and all who are confused, all who have found love and all who have lost it, all who celebrate this welcome statement and all who fear it — are welcome here.

For these are all of the things that make you who you are: the person God loves. Come as you are and be celebrated for who you are. The time is now. Your place is here. Bethlehem Lutheran Church is an all-inclusive church.



Reconciling in Christ



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Bethlehem Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Center

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- Give Plus+ App
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 - If you already have an online giving account from the BLC website you can login with that or you can create a new one in the app
 - BLC Website
 - Go to BLCENC.org and select the “[Contribute](#)” tab from the top menu
 - Click the “Give Now” button
- *****
- With either option you can:
 - Use a checking account, or credit & debit cards
 - Choose to cover the credit card transaction fee
 - Make recurring, or one-time donations
 - Give to general, or various special funds
 - All donations appear on your giving statement

Thank You for Your Support of BLC!