



Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center



Season After Pentecost

August 27, 2023

Worship Services

9:00 am | 10:30 am

Welcome to Bethlehem!

We hope you feel a warm welcome at Bethlehem. Please visit our website at www.blcenc.org for more information about the congregation. If you're visiting with us, please fill out an information card and place it in the offering basket so we can stay connected.

CHILDREN

All children are welcome in worship at Bethlehem Lutheran Church (BLC). There is a comfort room at the back of the sanctuary. Busy bags are available in the narthex. Learning Circles are currently on hiatus for the summer.

COMMUNION

We practice **open communion** meaning all are welcome to participate. We commune by intinction. The pastor will dip the bread (or gluten-free wafer) into a divided chalice that has white wine or red grape juice. We are happy to bring communion to individuals with limited mobility.

ACCESSIBILITY

Hearing assistance devices are located at the back of the sanctuary. If you, or someone you know, are neurodivergent and you have questions about how to participate in worship or in one of our church ministries, please feel free to ask either the pastors or the church office for help.

PARTICIPATION

The different movements that happen during worship (sitting, standing, making the sign of the cross) are all optional; please engage as you are comfortable or able.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“Glory to God,” “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful,” and “Lamb of God” from **Bread of Life, Holy Communion Setting Five** - Tunes: Jeremy Young, b. 1952, ©1995 Augsburg Fortress Publishers. “**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah**” - Tune: Caribbean traditional, arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954, ©1995 Augsburg Fortress Publishers. “**You Are Holy**” - Text and Tune DU AR HELIG: Per Harling, b. 1945, ©1990 Augsburg Fortress Publishers. “**I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**” - Text and Tune HOUSTON: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934, ©1975 Celebration. For previous copyrighted selections, all rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net LicenseNo.A-706214. “**Seek Ye First**” - Text and Tune: Karen Lafferty, b. 1948, ©1972 Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing. All rights reserved. Reprints authorized under CCLI License #1085183. Other selections are in the Public Domain, and information is available in the pew hymnals. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-706214. Photo Credit: <https://parsippanyumc.org/living-the-question/>

GATHERING

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our life, and our salvation.

C: Amen.

L: Joined to the risen Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. We give you thanks, O God of solstice and equinox. When you called light into being, you set the world on an axis, giving us the gift of seasons, times of dying and rising, budding and harvest.

C: We give you thanks for the gift of baptism, washing us in every season with mercy, grace, and life, making resurrection our eternal home. You, O God - Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life - are the great source: river of creation, pool of healing, thundering falls.

L: Pour out the gift of your spirit, your truth, mercy, and grace into our lives in this, and every season. We give you our praise on this brilliant day, now and forever.

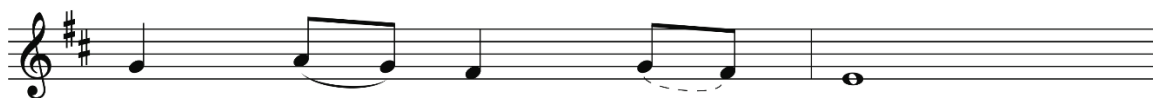
C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Seek Ye First – TFF 149 vs. 1 – 3



1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God
 2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,
 3. You do not live by bread a - lone,
 4. Where two or three are gath - ered in my name,



and his right - eous - ness,
 seek, and you shall find,
 but by ev - 'ry word
 there am I in their midst;

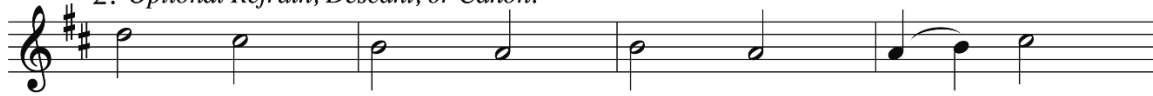


and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you;
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you;
 that comes forth from the mouth of God;
 and what - so - ev - er you ask I will do;



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

2. Optional Refrain, Descant, or Canon:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

GREETING

L: 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

WOV pg. 30



☪ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☩ Lord God, heav-en - ly One al-might-y God Cre - a - tor we



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



☪ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME (10:30 AM)

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12:1-8

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:13-20

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Sam Nelson

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are Holy – ELW 525



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always, C: And also with you!

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

WOV pg. 35



☞ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. 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 now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

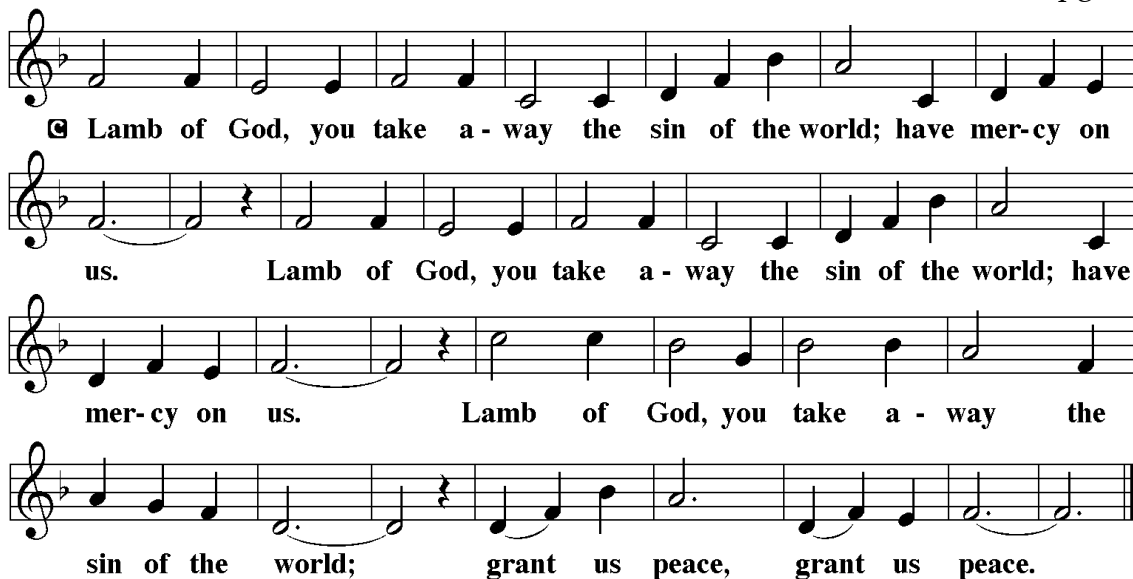
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God – WOV pg. 39



☞ 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less – ELW 597



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

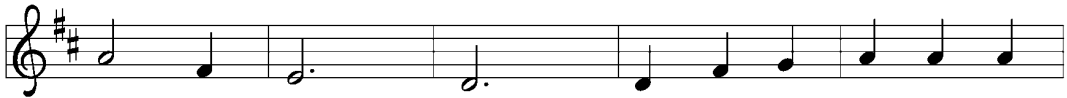
SENDING HYMN

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light – ELW 815

Vs. 1 & 2



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the Good News! C: **Thanks be to God!**

All Are Welcome!

We live in a diverse world. We are hurting, broken and heavy hearted. We are loving, joyous, and above all, we are welcoming. Regardless of the color of your skin, or the color of your hair; regardless of your gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, relationship status, or political affiliation, you are welcome here. We honor indigenous people and are committed to the work of anti-racism and the stewardship of the creation.

If you are Buddhist, Roman Catholic, agnostic, Muslim, Jewish, seeking, have never set foot in a church, or are a life long Lutheran; you have a place here. If you own, rent, or have nothing at all; you are welcome here. If you are neurodivergent, 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.

Come as you are and be celebrated for who you are. Your place is here. Bethlehem Lutheran is an All are Welcome church.



Reconciling in Christ



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Electronic Giving at Bethlehem

Offering gifts can be made electronically on our website www.blcenc.org under the contribute tab, or by scanning this QR code. There are options for one-time donations, recurring gifts, and special offerings. **No account is needed to donate on our website.**



You can also use the **Vanco Mobile App**. Simply download it from your app store, and search "Bethlehem Lutheran Church Encinitas" by name (there is no invite code). If you already have an account from our website, the same login information will work. If not, please sign up with a new account. **Thank You for Supporting Bethlehem!**



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