



Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center



Season After Pentecost

November 12, 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. During our 10:30 AM service, after Children's Time, children ages 3 years – 6th grade may either attend our Learning Circle program or remain with you.

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

"Come, Now is the Time to Worship" -Text and Tune: Brian Doerksen, © 998 Integrity Music. **"How Great Is Our God"** - Text and Tune: Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves, © 2004 Music Services, Inc. **"Sovereign"** - Text and Tune: Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Jonas Myrin, Martin Chalk, Matt Redman, © 2012 Capitol CMG Publishing, Essential Music Publishing LLC. **"I Can Only Imagine"** - Text and Tune: Bart Millard, © 2002 Essential Music Publishing LLC. **"Amen (Because He Lives)"** - Text and Tune: Chris Tomlin, Daniel Carson, Ed Cash, Gloria Gaither, Jason Ingram, Matt Maher, William J. Gaither, © 2014Capitol CMG Publishing, Essential Music Publishing LLC, Gaither Copyright Management. For all songs listed above, all rights reserved.Reprints authorized under CCLI License #1085183. **"Shepherd Me, O God"** - Text and Tune: Marty Haugen, © 2023, GIA Publications, Inc. For previous copyrighted selection, all rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net LicenseNo.A-706214. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-706214. Photo Credit: <https://www.ptm.org/layering-parable-of-ten-virgins-what-is>

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be God, the one who forms us; Jesus, who bears the cross;
And the Spirit, who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

L: Let us bow our hearts before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Steadfast and faithful God,

C: You have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path.

L: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✝ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG

“Come, Now Is the Time to Worship” – Doerkson

Chorus

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

Verse

One day every tongue will confess You are God.
One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
who gladly choose You now.

Come, come just as you are. Come, come.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME (10:30 AM)

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 5:18-24

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Shepherd Me, O God – ELW 780

Shep- herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from
death in - to life. *to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5* *to stanza 4*
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
lead me by path - ways of righ - teous - ness and truth, my
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name. *Refrain*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:1-13

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Laura Ziehl

HYMN OF THE DAY

“How Great Is Our God” – Tomlin

The splendor of the King clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide.
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

How great is our God, sing with me.
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great, is our God

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands
Beginning and the End. Beginning and the End.
The Godhead three in one: Father, Spirit, Son.
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb

Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My hear will sing how great is our God.

How great is our God, sing with me.
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great, is our God. (Repeat)

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Sovereign” – Tomlin

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 FROM THE NEW ZEALAND PRAYER BOOK

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.
Amen.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

“I Can Only Imagine” - Millard

I can only imagine what it will be like when I walk by Your side.
I can only imagine what my eyes will see when Your face is before me.
I can only imagine.

Chorus

Surrounded by Your glory what will my heart feel?
Will I dance for You Jesus, or in awe of You be still?
Will I stand in Your presence, or to my knees will I fall?
Will I sing hallelujah, will I be able to speak at all?
I can only imagine. I can only imagine.

I can only imagine when that day comes.
And I find myself standing in the Son.
I can only imagine when all I will do is forever worship you.
I can only imagine. I can only imagine.

(Repeat Chorus 2x)

I can only imagine, yeah, I can only imagine.
I can only imagine. I can only imagine.
I can only imagine when all I will do is forever worship you.
I can only imagine.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

“Amen, Because He Lives” – Tomlin

I believe in the Son, I believe in the Risen One.
I believe I overcome by the power of His blood.

Amen, amen.

I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives

Amen, amen.

Let my song join the one that never ends because He lives.

I was dead in the grave, I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name, He rolled the stone away

Amen, amen.

I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives

Amen, amen.

Let my song join the one that never ends because He lives.

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.
Because HE lives ev'ry fear is gone.
I know He holds my life, my future, in His hand.

Amen, amen.

I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives

Amen, amen.

Let my song join the one that never ends because He lives. (Repeat)

Because he lives (Repeat)

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. God is at work in you! **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!**



Bethlehem_Lutheran_Encinitas



Facebook.com/BethlehemLutheranChurchEncinitasCA

Follow us on
social media!