



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Center**



Season After Pentecost

October 3, 2021

Worship Services

9:00 am Indoor | 10:30 am Outdoor

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Adapted from Beth Merrill Neel

L: The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident of God's love for us, let us offer our prayers, first in silence ... Holy God,

C: We open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives: Free us from the fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us, the ignorance that hobbles us, and the doubt that plagues us. Help us find courage in unlikely places, see the world with new and gracious eyes, enter into places where love is needed, and have faith that you are with us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

L: God pours out mercy and grace into our lives with abundance, and sustains us through the trials of this life. Trust in that abiding presence, and know with certainty that your sins have been forgiven, through the redeeming and sanctifying power of Christ's love.

C: Amen.

Cantor sings verses, congregation sings refrain

Leader or All

1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; . . . they shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; mer - cy
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; . . they are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, . . . all . . . be -

king - dom of God. Blest are they,
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who
 shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, the
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who
 cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,

full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.
 hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.
 pure of heart; they shall see God.
 suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.
 yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.

Refrain
 All

Re - joice and be glad!

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!

Re - joice and be glad!

Yours is the king - dom of God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 1:1-4

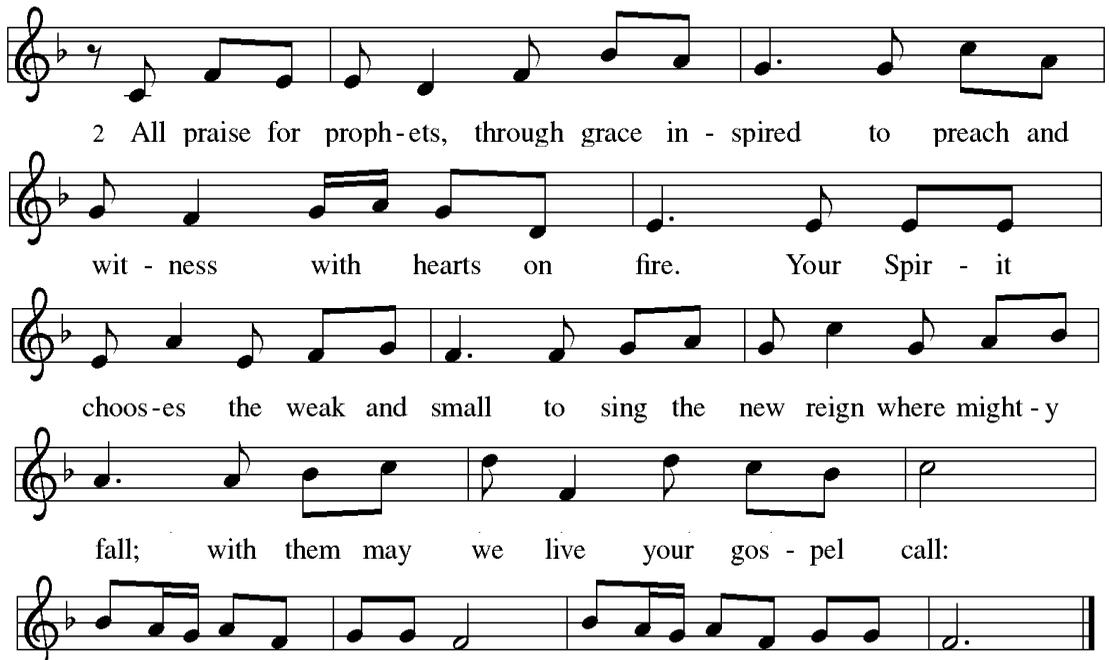
Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Soli Deo Gloria – ELW 878



2 All praise for proph-ets, through grace in - spired to preach and
wit - ness with hearts on fire. Your Spir - it
choos-es the weak and small to sing the new reign where might - y
fall; with them may we live your gos - pel call:
So - li De - o glo - ri - a! So - li De - o glo - ri - a!

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Laura Ziehl

HYMN OF THE DAY

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken – ELW 603



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
 2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
 3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
 4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
 5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
 world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing,
 seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
 in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
 be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
 all the fail - ures we con - fess.
 set us free and grant us peace.
 make us stron - ger, give us faith.
 God, en - cour - age and re - new!

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

During the offertory response you are invited to prepare your communion elements.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Take My Life – ELW 583

Refrain/Estrillo

Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;
let them flow in cease - less praise. *To stanzas* less praise. *Last time*

2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
not a mite would I with - hold;
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
Refrain/Estrillo
pow'r as thou shalt choose.

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,

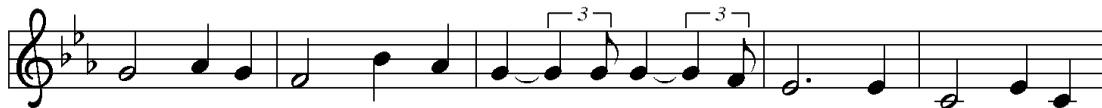
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

If you have prepared communion elements, you are invited to commune during the hymn saying: "The body of Christ, given for you." & "The blood of Christ, shed for you."



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

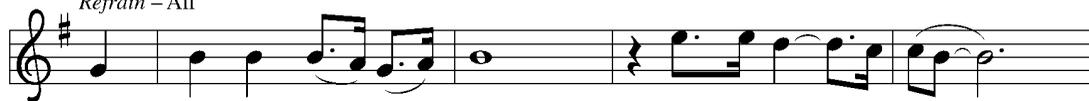
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

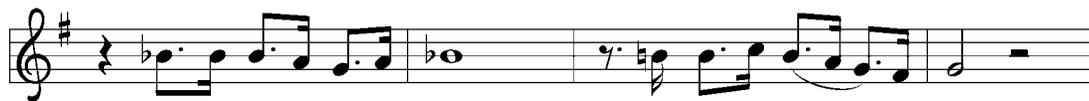
SENDING HYMN

We've Come This Far by Faith – ELW 633

Refrain – All



We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord;



trust-ing in his ho-ly word, he's nev-er failed us yet.

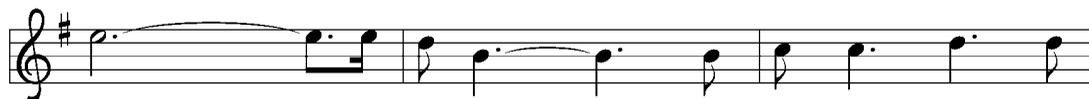


Oh, can't turn a-round, we've come this far by



faith. We've come this far by faith.

Leader



1 Just re-mem-ber the good things God has
2 Don't be dis-cour-aged with trou-ble in your



done, things that seemed im - pos - si - ble; oh,
life; he'll bear your . . . bur - dens, and

Refrain



praise him for the vic - t'ries he has won. Oh!
move . . . all the dis - cord and strife. Oh!

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. The living Word dwells 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, 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.

Offering gifts can be made electronically, either on our website at www.blcenc.org by clicking on the contribute tab, or by using the **Give Plus Church** mobile app. There are options for one-time donations, as well as recurring gifts and special offerings.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Bethlehem Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Center

Electronic Giving Options Update

- Our Give Plus+ App has been replaced by **Vanco Mobile App!** **Vanco Mobile App** will be your new mobile means of financially supporting Bethlehem. To begin using it:
 - Download the “**Vanco Mobile**” app from your App Store using your smartphone or tablet
 - Search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church **Encinitas** by name
 - If you already have an account, your User Name and Password remain the same. And your prior online account information and recurring gifts will automatically carry over
 - If you don’t have an account, follow the app’s “Sign Up” prompts
- BLC Website
 - Go to BLCENC.org and select the “Contribute” tab from the top menu as before
 - Click the “Give Now” button to go to our new and improved Vanco OnLine page.

- 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 the general or various special funds
 - All donations appear on your giving statements

Thank You for Supporting Bethlehem!