

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Serving, accepting, and loving all.

**Sunday Bulletin
August 31, 2025**

**Daniel P. Smail & Ellen S. Lundie, Pastors
Laura M. Henri, Organist and Director of Choirs**

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Web Page: www.belc.org

Sunday, August 31, 2025

Lectionary 22, Year C

Introduction

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ’s banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father,

and of the ✠ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

A: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A: Merciful God,

you free us to love others,

but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,

but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness,

and generosity,

but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds,

and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of ✝ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG NO. 880 O God Beyond all Praising

- 1 O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
- 2 The flow'r of earthly splendor in time must surely die,
its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown—
though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:
for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,
and we through him are given the final victory.
- 3 Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942-1996

Text © 1982, 1987 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

GREETING

P: 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



☐ 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 king, al-might- y God and Fa- ther, 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;



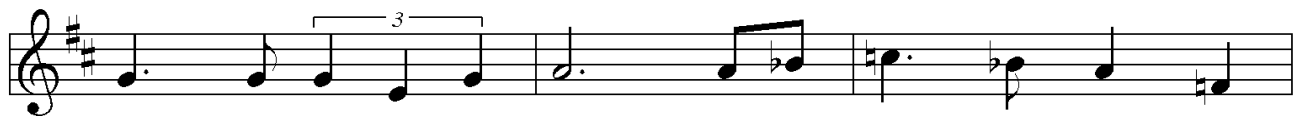
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



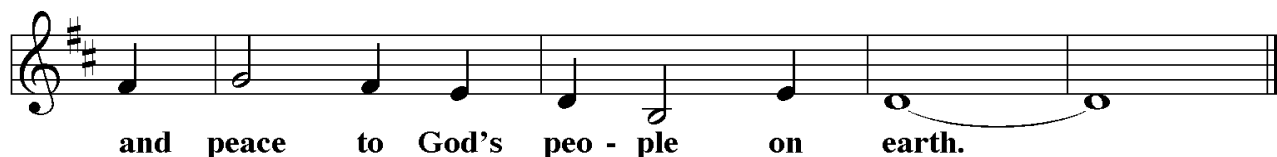
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

WORD

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7a

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

A reading from Proverbs,

⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,

^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD
and have great delight in | God's commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;**
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.

⁵ It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will nev- | er be shaken;**
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.

⁷ They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.

⁸ **Their heart is established and | will not shrink,**
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast

forever;

they will hold up their ¹ head with honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and ¹ pine away; the desires of the wick- ¹ ed will perish.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

A reading from Hebrews,

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

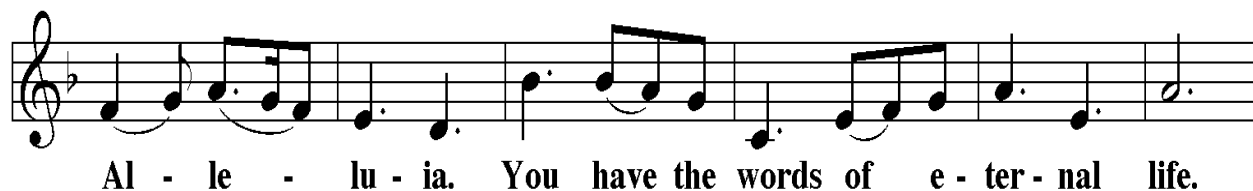
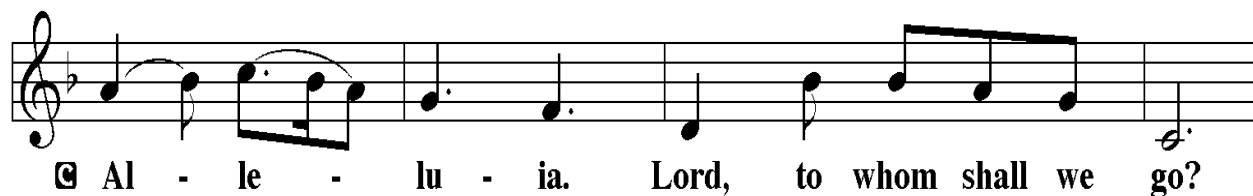
What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – The Rev. Ellen S. Lundie

HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 526 God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.

Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;

here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

APOSTLES' 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

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations, we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your

loving presence; especially those we name within our hearts (*a moment of silence*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING - *Offering boxes are located in the narthex and in back of the sanctuary.*

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: Creator God,

**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.**

**Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor, that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever. **C: Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

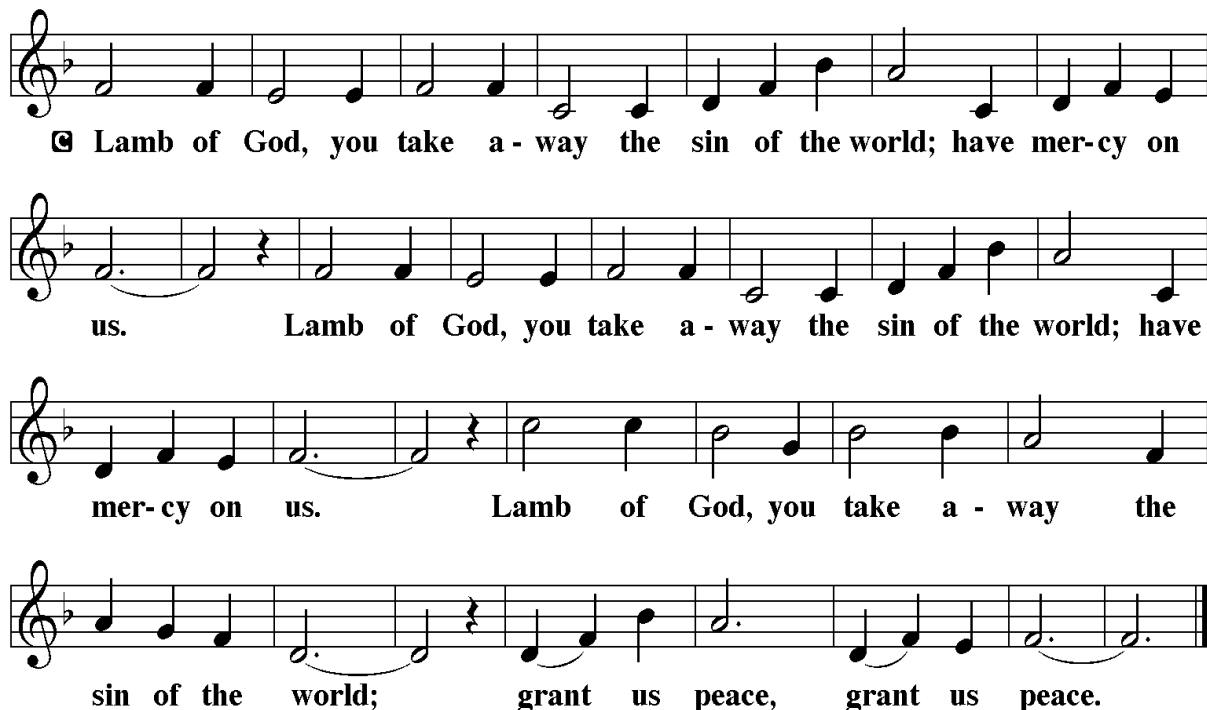
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

COMMUNION *Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available. Please ask the pastors or communion assistant.*

COMMUNION SONG



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 NO. 462 Now We Join in Celebration

- 1 Now we join in celebration
at our Savior's invitation,
dressed no more in spirit somber,
clothed instead in joy and wonder;
for the Lord of all existence,
putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us,
with his very life to feed us.
- 2 Lord, as round this feast we gather,
fill our hearts with holy rapture!
For this bread and cup of blessing
are for us the sure possessing
of your loving deed on Calv'ry,
of your living self, our vict'ry,
pledge of your unfailing presence,
foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.

3 Lord, we share in this communion
as one fam'ly of God's children,
reconciled through you, our brother,
one in you with God our Father.
Give us grace to live for others,
serving all, both friends and strangers,
seeking justice, love, and mercy
till you come in final glory.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen

Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through the
healing power of this gift of life. In your
mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in
faith toward you and in fervent love toward
one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG NO. 886 Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

- 2 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.
- 3 The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace.
- 4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.
- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Altar Flowers – The flowers on the altar today are dedicated
to the glory of God and the adornment of his house.

Children's Space

We encourage children to worship in the sanctuary as much as possible. However, we know that some days, a break may be needed. Please stop in the lounge for shorter breaks where there are coloring activities and snacks provided. All children must be accompanied by an adult. The nursery is also available downstairs in Fellowship Hall with the ability to hear the service.



Here are some of the most desired foods:

Single serve Hormel meals small pkg. of Cereals
Pasta & Spaghetti sauce small size jars of Condiments Juice boxes
Boxes of Pop Tarts – that can be open to give 1 serving of 2 in a pkg.- to an individual person
Peanut butter & saltine crackers or club crackers snack size pkgs. Cookies or granola bars
Tuna in foil pkg. for easy opening Individual bottles of Ensure can of carnation milk
small pkg. of instant mashed potatoes small pkg. of muffin or brownie mix

NO MEDICATIONS OF ANY KIND

Of Note* When purchasing your items for donating, remember to please try and get flip off lids and small size packages to accommodate those who may come for food but have no can opener or anywhere to store what they take. Think grab and eat!!!

Monthly Special Offering for AUGUST is: Bethlehem Campership Fund

The Week at Bethlehem

Sunday, August 31st 8:00 am Worship & Communion

*9:30am Worship & Communion

* Live streaming of worship service

Monday, Sept. 1st 9:00a-2:30p PACC (Fellowship Hall)

11a-2p Passage to Recovery (Library)

6:30-8:00p Girl Scouts Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, Sept. 2nd 10:30-11:30a AA (Schmid Hall)

6:00-8:30pm NA (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, Sept. 3rd 7-8:30p Boy Scouts Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, Sept. 6th 6:00pm Worship/Comm.

****NOTE: Sept. 6th & 7th** We return to our fall/winter worship schedule with worship – Saturday's 6pm and Sunday's 8am and **10:30am** with Sunday School at 9:15am

Did you hear BELC has a new podcast episode? Check it out.

Title: What makes a Lutheran a Lutheran?

[Www.belc.org/podcast](http://www.belc.org/podcast) or the action button on the website or wherever you get your podcasts!

2025 Madrigal Dinner 2nd

Interest and Organizational Meeting!

Last year we had a great time pulling together our very first Madrigal Dinner production. Well, here we are, and it is time to continue making plans once again for this year's event. Our second organizational meeting will be held on **Sunday, September 14th following our 10:30 worship service.** And please know, there are all kinds of ways to get involved! We need dramatists and thespians, set designers and lighting experts, choristers and cooks, and a whole host of other things too! So, if you are ready to join the fun, please check out the weekly online announcements for the lists of areas where helping hands are needed. If you but cannot make the meeting, and are interested, please feel to reach out to Pastor Ellen or Pastor Dan and they will be sure to get you plugged in! The event will take place on Dec. 5th 6th at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Sunday School Registration 2025-2026
(Sunday School begins on Rally Day, Sept. 7th @ 9:15am)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Grade Entering: _____ Nickname: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Baptism: _____

Emergency Contact during Sunday School:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Relationship: _____ OR In the Building: _____

Food Allergies: _____

Helpful hints to help your child learn: _____

Special Needs: _____

Thank you,
Bethlehem Sunday School Staff

***** Please return the completed form to the church office ASAP!!**

LEMONADE & LAUGHTER

Please join us TODAY, August 31st following our 9:30am service, when our final committee will provide lemonade and cookies for the summer..

You bring the good conversation and help create the laughter .

*****8-31 Serving today is – L.I.F.T. Group***

Already looking forward to next August...



WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

With another Hymn Sing service planned for the fall, members are requested over the rest of the summer to take a moment to submit your favorite hymn to be included. Perhaps use the quiet time before the worship service begins to leaf through the sections of the hymnal to help recall those hymns that have a special meaning. And if you have more than one favorite, be sure to submit the form below.

HYMN SING REQUEST FORM

My favorite hymn Is: _____ No: _____

Name: _____



Bethlehem Book Club - September 2025

On the evening of September 23rd at 6:30 the Bethlehem Book Club will gather to discuss Robert Dugoni's, "Hold Strong." "Hold Strong," has been described as a "one of a kind novel," so join us for a meaningful conversation and let's discover the uplifting ways in which the things we are reading have the power to inform our lives of faith in meaningful ways. Thanks in advance for your participation!

FALL & WINTER SCHEDULE RETURNS Next weekend Sept. 6th-7th

Beginning next weekend we will worship at 6pm on Saturday evenings and on Sunday at 8am and **10:30am**

Rally Day , Sept. 7th at 9:15am is the start of another Programmatic Year with Sunday School for both children and adults to begin.

Our church picnic is also on Sept. 7th following late service. All RSVP's are due into the office by Tuesday, September 2nd for those planning to attend. If you have not signed-up please use the form in this bulletin and place your completed form into the offering box.

Finally we will be blessed to have Bishop Kusserow and his family at worship with us and for our picnic on Rally Day as we celebrate his years of dedication and service as Bishop of The Southwestern PA Synod. Happy Retirement.



LIFT to Hartville, OH – day trip Saturday, September 13 @ 9 am.

Join the LFT group (and friends) as we head out for a day trip to Hartville, OH for shopping, fun and fellowship! We'll plan to leave at 9 am from the church parking lot. We'll have lunch, shop and return in the late afternoon. Look for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

We'll need drivers for the trip. If you are willing to drive, please add that info to the sign-up sheet. There is a great Farmers Market, as well as an indoor Flea Market, a giant hardware store, gift shops, Amish bakery and restaurant in Hartville – all under one roof! You'll find great fall decorations (lots of pumpkins!) and, of course, it's not too early to think about Christmas shopping! Hope you can join us. PS. Invite a friend!

BETHLEHEM'S 95TH ANNIVERSARY

1930 -2025

Plans were made at a recent Worship Committee meeting to celebrate the 95th anniversary of the founding of Bethlehem in 1930, with a theme developed around Luther's 95 Theses. The Committee agreed to hold a single celebration service on **Reformation Sunday, October 26th**, at the regular worship time of 10:30 a.m. All members are encouraged to join together as "one body in Christ" for worship. Our retiring Bishop Kurt Kusserow has accepted our invitation to preach. Plans are also underway for a celebratory luncheon following the service. Watch for further details as arrangements are finalized.

Music Angels for Reformation: Adding a special choral piece for the Anniversary service that would require brass musicians would be outside the planned Music Budget. In honor of the 95th anniversary, we are hoping that **95 'new Music Angels'** would consider donating \$5 each to cover this additional cost.

My music angel gift. - Given by NAME: _____ Amt.\$ _____



CHURCH PICNIC

September 7th

Come join in the fellowship and fun following the 10:30 am service on September 7th. We will enjoy some hot dogs and burgers on the grill to celebrate Rally Day. **Please RSVP by September 2nd**, either through the form below, or the weekly announcements.

We ask those with last names starting with **A-M to bring a dessert** to share while those with last names starting with **N-Z to bring a side dish** to share.

If you ordered a yellow Bethlehem t-shirt or if you already have one (God's Work, Our Hands) please wear that to the picnic. We're hoping to get a group photo!

Detach and return to the church office or deposit into the offering boxes.

RSVP for Rally Day Picnic by September 2nd

Name: _____

Number of adults: _____ Number of children: _____



SAVE THE DATE - Saturday, October 25, 2025 Join your friends and family at the Fundraiser/Spaghetti Dinner to benefit Northside Common Ministries on Saturday, 10/25/25 from 4-7 pm. The dinner will be held at Northmont Presbyterian Church (8169 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237). Dinners can be 'dine in' or "to go". There will be a freewill offering to cover costs and one of our 'famous' basket raffles! Hope you'll be able to join us!

Save the Date! Fall Discipleship Retreat, November 7th through the 9th Our fall discipleship retreat is scheduled for November 7th through the 9th at Camp Sequanota in the beautiful Laurel Highlands. Every year this time away provides an impactful opportunity to pray, worship, study, reflect, and connect in meaningful ways with our siblings in Christ. And this year, we have an important focus: we'll be considering how to sustain our commitment to Christ over the long haul. We will be honest about the ups and downs inherent in spirituality and service; and with the help of the Holy Spirit and the writings of J.R.R. Tolkien we will work together to reignite a sense of adventure in our lives of discipleship. Need a boost, need to recharge, need a fresh perspective to power through the months ahead? Then, this weekend away might be just the time you have been hoping for! Please be sure to check upcoming bulletins, weekly announcements, and website for more details about the retreat, pricing information, and registration forms. Do you already know you are planning to attend? Then, simply reach out and we will be glad to reserve your spot. Thanks in advance for your consideration!

Stained Glass & Other Crafts



Thursday, September 18th the BELC Stained Glass & Other Crafts will start back up for the season. We meet at 10:00am in the Music Room and all are welcome. If you are not wanting to try stained glass projects, but would like to fellowship and good conversation grab a project of your own and still join in the FUN each week.



We heard you—and listened. We have found a way to bring Living Lutheran back to print in a quarterly fashion. Each issue (spring, summer, winter and fall) will feature the stories you know and love, along with updates on the church and your ELCA community.

Thank you for your support in the past—and in the future. We look forward to again sharing in print our church's stories of God's people living their faith.

To start receiving the print magazine, congregations can sign- up for a group rate of \$17.00 per year but we must have a (minimum of 10 sign-ups to get the discounted rate.

Even though it says click to subscribe up above, to get the special rate we ask that you use the form below and fill in your information and place that along with your check for \$17.00 made payable to BELC into an envelope marked Living Lutheran on the outside of it and drop it into the offering box and we will get you signed-up from the church office. **Deadline to sign-up is: Sept. 14th to allow enough time for us to get everyone registered online for receiving the fall edition by mail.**

Living Lutheran Magazine Subscription

Name _____ Amt. enclosed _____

Physical Mailing Address: _____

NEW Bishop's Installation Service

Saturday, October 18: 1 PM

In celebration of this special occasion -- Bethlehem Lutheran Church is planning to host a watch party here at the church...Details are all forthcoming so please watch upcoming bulletins.

Attention : Parents of 3 year Olds and 3rd Graders!!!!!!

It's a tradition at Bethlehem to present children who are 3 years old and in 3rd grade with a Bible during the first weekend of Sunday School, Rally Day! This will happen at all three of our services (6:00 pm Saturday, 8:00 am and 10:30 am Sunday) on September 6-7. If your child is 3 years old or in 3rd grade and will be present, please email Pastor Ellen (e.lundie@belc.org) which service you will attend so that we can have a Bible prepared for them.

You're Invited!!!

1 st Monday Meal – Free Community Dinner

Bethlehem Lutheran Church 1719 Mt. Royal Blvd., Glenshaw, PA 15116.

The next 1st Monday meal Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be hosting, is going to be held on Monday, September 8th Our Free Community Dinner is from 5-7 pm. in Fellowship Hall.

Dinners will continue the first Monday of each month throughout 2025, except Sept. 8th (actually the 2nd Monday of the month, due to Labor Day)

Menu will feature: “ hamburgers and hotdogs, tater tots and a vegetable”

Please feel free to join us for dinner and fellowship! Any questions, please contact the church office at 412-486-0550.