



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Worship Service with Jazz Liturgy
October 11, 2026



The 20th Sunday after Pentecost 15th Annual Jazz Service Pastor Calvin Konop, Presiding Music provided by local Jazz Musicians,

Everyone: Please refer to the “Jazz Liturgy Booklet” where indicated. (Please leave these booklets at back of the sanctuary when the service has ended.)

Introduction

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus’ parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

Prelude *“On the Inland Sea: The Timeless Dawn”*

Eric Anderson, Mike Roth & Mike DeBevec

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Hymn *“O Strengthen My Soul”* Karina Roth & Mike DeBevec



Confession & Forgiveness *“The Long and the Short of It”* Jazz Choir

*I came up short, Lord, Lord, I came up short, Oh Lord
Forgive me, Lord, I came up short, Oh Lord
It don't take long to come up short.*

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie Chant

Jazz Liturgy Booklet

(Congregation replies, chanting same single note as the Cantor)

Cantor: Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Cong.: Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Canticle of Praise

Jazz Liturgy Booklet

Prayer of the Day

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



Children's Time

Jess Christenson

On the way up the aisles, the children will be collecting coins for the "Holy Cow" fund, which will support LWR World Hunger. *Find that loose change and help feed hungry kids.*

First Reading:

Isaiah 25:1-9

¹ O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. ² For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. ³ Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴ For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵ the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶ On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25

Jazz Liturgy Booklet

Second Reading:

Philippians 4:1-9

¹ My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Jazz Liturgy Booklet

Jazz Choir on verses / Choir & Congregation on refrain

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel:

Matthew 22:1-14

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding

robe?" And he was speechless.¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Calvin Konop

Hymn of the Day/Offering *"Lean On Me" (Withers)* Jazz Ensemble

Refrain: You just call on me, brother, when you need a hand
 We all need somebody to lean on
 I just might have a problem that you'll understand
 We all need somebody to lean on

Offering Prayer

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

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

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world. (*A brief silence.*)

Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain. Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious difference, that the world may know your undivided love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters. Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to not abandon us amid storm and disaster. Renew all communities facing disasters and give your courage to those leading relief efforts. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to wipe away every tear. Heal and console all who are sick or suffering *Ed, Milly, Kent & Janet, Bonnie, Linda, Luke, Sarah, & Katrina*. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise of a banquet open to all people. Challenge this congregation to open wide our doors and welcome everyone to the table. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember your promise to swallow up death forever. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Great Thanksgiving

Jazz Liturgy Booklet

Holy, Holy, Holy

Jazz Liturgy Booklet

The Lord's Prayer

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

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come! All are welcome.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church believes in the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion, and we practice eucharistic hospitality. All persons, whether visiting or a member, are welcomed to Communion. (Offered in these sacraments are wine or apple juice; and regular or gluten-free wafers.)

Communion Music:

"Lamb of God"

Jazz Liturgy Booklet

"Drink the Cup"

Jazz Choir

Prayer after Communion

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

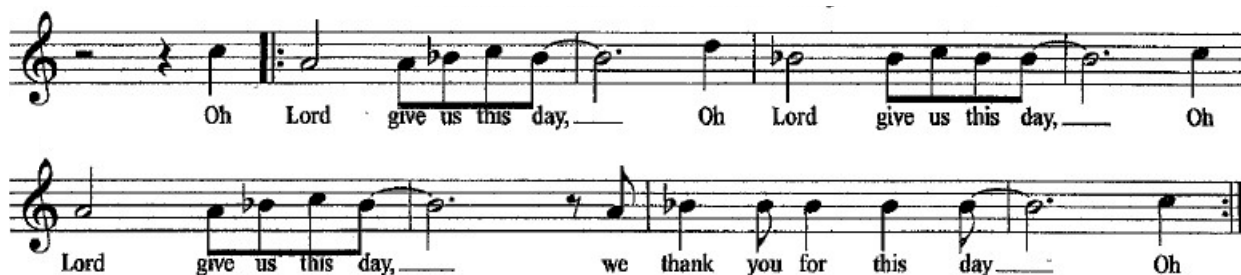
Blessing

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"O Lord Give Us This Day"

Jazz Ensemble



Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **And also with you.**

Postlude



"Straight From the Sky"

Eric Anderson, Erik Hahn Mike Roth & Mike DeBevec

Visitors Welcome! We are glad that you are worshipping with us today. Please join us for coffee following the service upstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

**THERE WILL NOT BE REGULAR WEDNESDAY
EVENING ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK DUE TO MEA BREAK.
(NO MEAL, NO WORSHIP, NO CONFIRMATION, AND
NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY EVENING.)**



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
417 First Avenue West, PO Box 638
Grand Marais, MN 55604
218-387-2227
www.sharingchrist.org | blc@boreal.org

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This is the 15th Annual Jazz Service at Bethlehem!



This Jazz Service is one of our favorite annual services. Thank you to this wonderful collection of local **Jazz Musicians** who prepared this service. **Mike DeBevec** organized all the musical details & practices for this service. All songs written and arranged by Mike DeBevec except as indicated.

Jazz Musicians: Thank you all for your time and talents for this worship service!

Choir: Karina Roth, Hilja Iverson, Janet Simonen, Ashley Konop, Elunia Steckelberg, Eric Anderson, Erik Hahn, Carl Dyar and Peter Bennett. Directed by Karina Roth

Band: Erik Hahn-sax, Eric Anderson-trombone, euphonium, Jonathan Steckelberg-bass, Karina Roth-hand percussion, vocals, Mike DeBevec, piano, vocals.



Your prayers are requested for healing: Patrice Konop, Ed Hedstrom; Malorie, Lane & Brazell Family, Milly Gestel, Kent & Janet Peterson, Bonnie, Linda Zenk, Stacey Johnson, Clayton & Nancy Koss, Lois Johnson, Butch & Rhonda Schulte, Luke Gulstrand, Sarah Coe, Char Anderson, Phyllis Olson, Paulina Backstrom, Shae Lindholm, Stacey Schulte, Hank Ferland, Margaret Dahl, Katrina Crouse, Karen Shannon, Tom Christiansen, and Loretta Bloomquist

This week we lift up these members: *Chet Lindskog; Rolf & Amy Morck; Carol Ouellette; Britta Muus; and Tom & Patty Nelson.* May God walk with these faithful friends as they share in their gospel-filled lives.

Traveler Cards are available from BLC to members of the community that need to travel out-of-town for medical appointments. **Grocery Cards** are available from BLC Women's Circles to members that need help with food insecurities. Please contact the office for help.

BE WARE of phishing emails! Denise received a phishing email that had Pastor Calvin's name on it this week. One way to check if it is real, look at the actual email address that sent it. If it isn't the one you know is correct...DO NOT OPEN/RESPOND to it. In this case, Pastor's email is: blcpastor@boreal.org. Remember: we do not send out emails asking for money or your personal information. (Stewardship campaigns are different.)



Middle East Crisis Response

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with our companions on the ground throughout the Middle East, to provide critical assistance for those affected by the conflict, including emergency food and water, shelter and essential supplies, trauma-informed care and long-term recovery efforts.



Scan the QR code to give today.

By giving to Lutheran Disaster Response, you make it possible for the ELCA to act quickly after disasters – including humanitarian crises – and remain for as long as the recovery takes.



The news from the Middle East is heavy and unrelenting, marked by escalating conflict and devastating humanitarian consequences.

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with our companions on the ground throughout the Middle East. To provide critical assistance for those affected by the conflict, including emergency food and water, shelter and essential supplies, trauma-informed care and long-term recovery efforts.

We believe in the power of hope,

even in the darkest of times. We believe in the compassion that compels us to act, to offer a hand to those in need. And we believe in the unwavering presence of the church, standing alongside our partners in the region, offering comfort and support.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to this and other disasters, whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts will be used in full (100%) for those affected by disasters.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Sun Oct 11 10:00 AM Worship Service
& Sunday School

Mon Oct 12 Holiday Office close
3:30 PM Girl Scouts
6:30 PM Executive
Committee

Tues Oct 13 8:30 AM Adult Ed./Bible
Study
9:30 AM Staff Meeting
3:30 PM Girl Scouts

Wed Oct 14 12:30 PM Text Study
6:30 PM Adult Ed./Bible
Study

Thur Oct 15 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
9:00 AM Quilting
1:00 PM Daisy Scouts

Fri Oct 16 - - - - Clarity Hearing

Sat Oct 17 11:00 AM Lynn Schulte's
Memorial Service

Sun Oct 18 8:40 AM Choir practice
10:00 AM Worship Service
& Sunday School
2:00 PM Care Center
Worship Service
3:30 PM Borealis practice
Orchestra
5:00 PM Borealis practice
Chorale

Council members: Your monthly reports are due to the office by noon on Thursday Oct. 15

Borealis practices begin next Sunday



Sign up to help with Sunday morning worship services. Use this QR Code.



The October Mission of the Month will support **Lutheran Disaster Response**. Lutheran

Disaster Response's work spans the globe, providing aid to those experiencing flooding in Nepal, earthquakes in Columbia and Venezuela, the crisis in the Middle East, and severe storms and wildfires in the United States.

Mission of the Month envelopes are on the Narthex Welcome table for your convenience.

Women in the Life of Jesus

4-week Bible Study - 2 Study Groups:

8:30am Tuesday mornings or
Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm

Open to all adults



The study will focus on a different woman from Jesus' life in each of the 4 Gospels. By studying how Jesus and these women interacted, we can learn how to challenge practices of oppression and exclusion in our world today, and help us to see the expansive love and grace of God through Jesus. Sign-ups are in the Narthex, or email Pastor Calvin at blcpastor@boreal.org

Upcoming Events:

October 17: Memorial Service for Lynn Schulte at 11:00 am. Light meal to follow in the Fellowship Hall. Patti Beyer & Robin Johnson's Hospitality Team will be serving. Contact them if you can help.

October 25: Reformation Sunday and Affirmation of Faith for our 9th grade students

October 28: Lefse Making - Intergenerational Project, 6:00 pm

October 31: Trunk or Treat 5:00-6:30pm at Community Center (Jess is organizing event—contact her to help &/or to donate candy.)

November 1: All Saints' Sunday and Daylight Saving Time ends