

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

PASTOR CALVIN KONOP, PRESIDING

JESSICA CHRISTENSON, CYF DIRECTOR

KARINA ROTH, MUSICAL DIRECTOR

10:00 AM - AUGUST 16, 2026 - SETTING 12



Belonging to Christ, Sharing Christ on the North Shore & Beyond!

INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

PRELUDE

Karina Roth

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who looks upon us with compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Have mercy, O God, against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love. **Blessed be God forever.**

GATHERING SONG:

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me
ACS 1084

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

ACS page 31

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory to God

ACS page 31

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all peoples, **your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Jess Christenson

On the way up the aisles, the children will be collecting “Noisy Change” for the “Holy Cow” fund, which will support ELCA World Hunger.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,

for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:

I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

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

PSALM

Psalm 85:8-13

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the
peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Paul writes: ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia

ACS page 33

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help

me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

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

SERMON

Pastor Calvin Konop

HYMN OF THE DAY

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy

ELW 588

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

With bold trust in God’s unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation. *(A brief silence.)*

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind. We pray especially these we name before you now: *for Jackson, Virginia, Bonnie, Linda, Lynn, Luke, Sarah, Katrina, and Nancy.* We pray now for those we name aloud, or in the silence of our hearts. (*A time of silence*). We lift to You all those dealing with issues of mental health or addiction. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Kyrie Eleison

Bethlehem Choir

Arr. by Andrew Donaldson

ACS 1073

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, **we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Almighty God, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with

the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ACS page 36

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast. 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

ACS page 40

Build a Longer Table

ACS 1062

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in grace unto everlasting life. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, **through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment **ACS 1036**

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Karina Roth

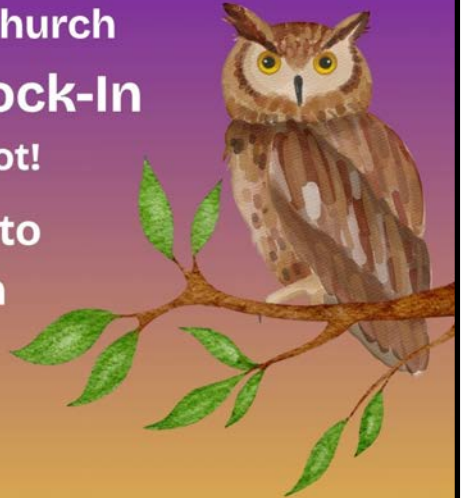


**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Youth Owl Night Lock-In**

It's going to be a hoot!

**August 22nd @ 8pm to
August 23rd @ 11am**

For all incoming
6th - 12th grade students.
All are welcome!



Register Now!
Contact Jess with any questions,
comments or concerns!
blcyouth@boreal.org 507-530-2763



**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

August 22!



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

417 First Avenue West, PO Box 638

Grand Marais, MN 55604

218-387-2227

www.sharingchrist.org | blc@boreal.org

This Week at Bethlehem:

Sun Aug 16	8:40 AM	Choir practice
	10:00 AM	Worship Service
	2:00 PM	Worship at the Care Center
Mon Aug 17	6:30 AM	Church Council Meeting
Tues Aug 18	8:30 AM	Staff Meeting
Wed Aug 19	12:30 PM	Text Study
Thur Aug 20	8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Quilting
Fri Aug 21	-----	Clarity Hearing Appointments
Sat Aug 22	8:00 PM	OWL Night Lock-in
Sun Aug 23	8:40 AM	AWB practice
	10:00 AM	Worship Service

Council Members: Last chance! Get your reports in to the office by tomorrow morning at 8:00am.

Sunday Morning Volunteers

We are always looking for more help with ushers, communion servers, greeters and lectors on Sunday mornings. If you would like to learn more about any of these volunteer positions, ask Pastor Calvin. Getting more info does not sign you up to help.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:

OWL Night Lock-in: All youth going into 6th to 12th grades are invited to attend. Starts Sat. Aug. 22 at 8pm; ends after church on Sun. Aug. 23.



VBS Water Day: August 28, 1:00 to 2:30 pm. Open to all students incoming K-5th grades. Students arrive in clothes & shoes that can get wet. We will be playing water games outside, no swimming involved.



FREE CONCERT: *Jumpin' Jehosafat*, a musical group who blend traditional jazz & gospel music, will preform a concert at the Congregational Church, Wed. Aug 19 at 5:00pm. A free will donation will go toward our local Food Shelf.

We pray for healing for these members & friends: Jackson James Schliep, Virginia Hahn, Bonnie, Linda Zenk, Lynn Schulte, Luke Gulstrand, Sarah Coe, Clayton & Nancy Koss, Lois Johnson, Butch & Rhonda Schulte, Denise Murray, Stacey Johnson, Char Anderson, Phyllis Olson, Paulina Backstrom, Shae Lindholm, Stacey Schulte, Hank Ferland, Margaret Dahl, Katrina Crouse, Karen Shannon, Tom Christiansen, Alexander, and Danny.

This week we lift up these members: Stacey Johnson; Kathy Bolstad; Barbara Johnson; Peter & Dena Schliep; and Steve Byers. May God walk with these friends in their faithful journey.