



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

June 29, 2025 - Setting 12

Pastor Calvin Konop, Presiding

Karina Roth, Musical Director

Blue Grass Worship Service

218-387-2227 | blc@boreal.org | sharingchrist.org



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

Introduction— The Third Sunday after Pentecost

We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

Prelude

Glory Bound
(The Wailin' Jenneys)

Blue Grass Musicians

Welcome & Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

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.

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. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

ELW 774

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.

Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, **you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Children's Time

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



First Reading

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place."

¹⁹ So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰ He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" ²¹ He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

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

Psalm:

Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are
pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading:

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

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

Gospel:

Luke 9:51-62

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

⁵¹ When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³ but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes

have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹ To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰ But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹ Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶² Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Calvin Konop

Hymn of the Day

Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793

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 God's People

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation. (*A brief silence.*)

Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of *your apostles Peter and Paul* and Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Protect this world, O God. Watch over forests and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence *especially Deidre, Dawn, Lois, Joan, Bruce, Lynn, Gene & Barbara*. We pray now for those we name aloud, or in the silence of our hearts. (*A time of silence.*) Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Set free this assembly, O God. Grow your Spirit's fruits within us and within our congregation's ministries. Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

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

Offering

Gospel Plow

Blue Grass Musicians

Offering Prayer

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

ACS page 36

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.**

Words of Institution

ACS page 37

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

The kingdom of God is set before you.

Eat and rejoice. 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.

Communion Music

Welcome Table

I'm gonna sit at the welcome table
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table
Gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, one of these days.

I'm gonna feast on milk and honey
I'm gonna feast on milk and honey one of these days
I'm gonna feast on milk and honey
I'm gonna feast on milk and honey one of these days, one of these days.

All God's children gonna sit together
All God's children gonna sit together one of these days
All God's children gonna sit together
All God's children gonna sit together one of these days, one of these days.

I'm gonna sit at the welcome table
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table
Gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, one of these days.

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

Blessing

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✝ bless you and give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

May the Circle be Unbroken

(over...)



There are loved ones in the glory
Whose dear forms you often miss.
When you close your earthly story
Will you join them in your bliss?

Refrain:

May the circle be unbroken
By and by, by and by
Is a better home awaiting
In the sky lord, in the sky?

In the joyous days of childhood
Oft they told of wondrous love
Pointed to the dying Savior,
Now they dwell with Him above.

Refrain

You remember songs of heaven
Which you sang with childish voice.
Do you love the hymns they taught you,
Or are songs of earth your choice?

Refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Blue Grass Musicians



Thank you, Blue Grass Musicians! Karina Roth, Mike Roth, Hilja Iverson, Drew Heinonen, Kent Anderson, and Enno Limvere

Your prayers are requested for healing: Diedre Anderson, Lois Johnson, Joan Bieber, Bill Lyght, Gene and Barbara Erickson, Lynn Schulte, Bruce and Stacey Johnson, Paulina Backstrom, Shae Lindholm, Rhonda Silence, Rhonda Schulte, Char Anderson, Betty Jones, Stacey Schulte, Hank Ferland, Ramiro Acero and Dawn Rude.

This week we lift up these members: Carrie, Jeremy, Lute, Birk, Alma, Orin & Lars Jansen; Anne Cervenka & Tom Cohenour; Randi & Rick Nelson; Sarah LaKosky, Ari & Ethan Fish; Terry & Lori Backlund. May God walk with these friends in their journey of peace.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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On-line giving is encouraged using this QR Code
or through automatic transfer.

(Forms are available online & the office.)



This Week at Bethlehem:

Sun June 29 10:00 AM Worship Service
Tues July 1 8:30 AM Staff meeting
Wed July 2 8:00 AM Church in
Society meeting
12:30 PM Text Study
Thurs July 3 8:00 AM Bible Study
9:00 AM Quilting
Fri July 4 - - - - Office is closed
Sun July 6 8:40 AM Choir practice
10:00 AM Worship Service

Mark your calendars: Sunday July 13 is our 14th Annual Jazz Service. Thank you to Mike DeBevec, composer-director-pianist, and musicians who are busy getting ready for this fun worship service.

Traveler Cards and Local Grocery Cards are available from BLC to members of the community that need help. Please contact the office.

Prayer List update from Barb Coe: She is doing well and thanks everyone for their prayers and concerns as she healed from her knee replacement surgery.

The June Mission of the Month will support *Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM)*. "We are a church that is a catalyst, convener and bridge builder. That's why every year the ELCA provides young adults the opportunity to grow in their faith and accompany our global neighbors through our *Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM)* program. Young adults, ages from 21 to 29, accept a call into a life-changing year of service in communities around the world. Please join us in God's amazing work. Help raise up young leaders." Note on your gift "Mission of the month or YGAM." **Member Challenge:** Take a look at their website to learn more about YAGM. Then talk to one of your favorite young adults about this exciting and challenging program. www.elca.org/elcayoungadults.

AND IT IS GOOD! VBS 2025



**A Vacation Bible School about God's Good
Creation and our place in it!**

**IT'S TIME TO GET READY
FOR VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL! JULY 14-18,
2025; 9AM-NOON**

**AGES: KINDERGARTENERS
THROUGH 5TH GRADERS
(2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR)**

**REGISTRATION FORMS IN
NARTHEX & ONLINE**

(sharingchrist.org)



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