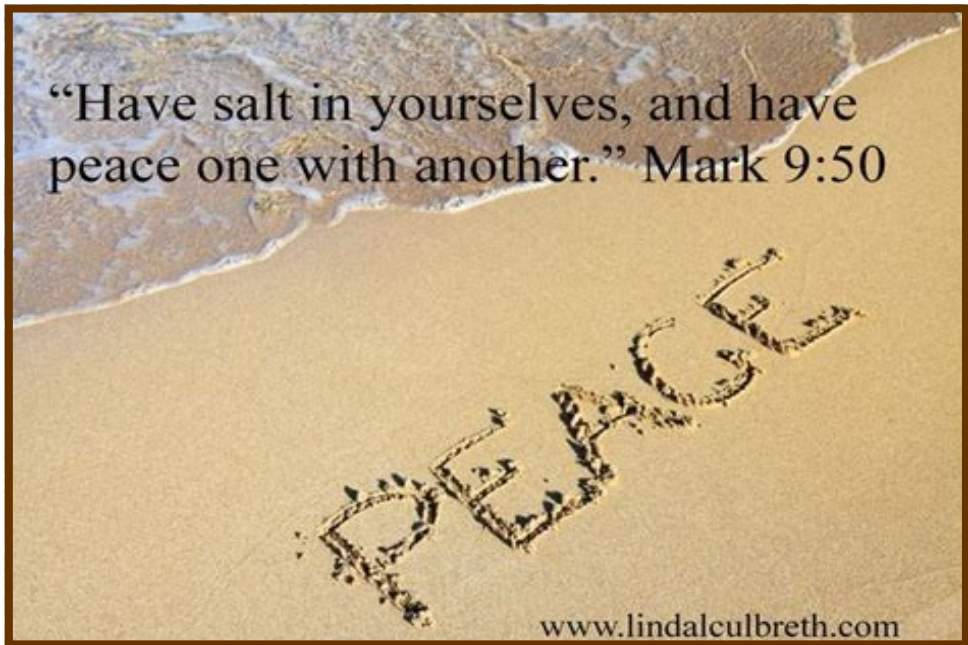


***Belonging to Christ.
Sharing Christ on the North Shore
and Beyond!***



“Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.” Mark 9:50

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, ELCA

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Contemporary Worship Service - September 29, 2024

Baptism of Sylvie Jill Anderson

Pastor Calvin Konop, Presiding

With Bethlehem's Average Worship Band

Introduction

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

Prelude *“Open the Eyes of My Heart”* Average Worship Band

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!
Praise be to God, the Giver of many gifts!
Our help is in God's name, the One who calls us here.
We come with songs of praise, with prayers too deep for words.
Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!
Blessed be the Lord!

Gathering Hymn *“The Name of the Lord”*

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.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, have mercy on us.

We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.

The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.

In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of 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 LWR World Hunger. }
Find that loose change and hand it to a kiddo!

First Lesson

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors?’ ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the

tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 19:7-14

- ⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- ⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- ⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- ¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- ¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.
- ¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not
get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and
innocent of a great offense.
- ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be
acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Second Lesson

James 5:13-20

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Mark 9:38-50

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

³⁸John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."

³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter

life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Calvin Konop

Hymn of the Day

“We Are Called”

ELW 720

Baptism of Sylvie Jill Anderson

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Prayers of God's People

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the people of God in all places. Shape our witness to the good news of Jesus that we joyfully share your transforming love with all whom we encounter. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the healing of the earth. Renew oceans and seas, marshes and estuaries. Uphold the work of conservationists, oceanographers, and all who care for fragile ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for peace and cooperation among local and global communities. Bless the efforts of community organizers, international aid workers, and all those who work for justice and peace around the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who are in any need. To all who grieve, bring consolation; to all who are weary or lonely, bring solace. By your grace, make your presence known among all who call to you for healing especially Nancy, Robert & Kay, Bruce & Stacey, Chet, Kati, Lynn, and Rhonda. We pray now

for those we name aloud, or in the silence of our hearts. (*A time of silence.*) Guard them in their waking and their sleeping. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We pray for caregivers: doctors and nurses, home health aides and counselors, and those who care for loved ones including individuals involved locally with Care Partners. Sustain them in their work and help us to build a health care system that supports all. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We give thanks for the saints who now rest in your eternal presence. In thanksgiving for their lives of faithful service and witness, we commend them to your loving care. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ (Mark 9:50)

Christ calls to us, “Be at peace with one another.” Let us turn to our neighbor and offer signs of the peace and love to which we are called.

Offering *“Spirit of the Living God”*

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God. All are welcome! Come!

{ *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

“Come to the Table”

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction (Mark 9)

You are the light of the world! Let your light shine for all to see!
You are the salt of the earth! Let your salt flavor this earth with God's love!
Go forth as salt and light. Be at peace with God's amazing world. Amen.

Sending Hymn

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The Average Worship Band



Thank you to the Average Worship Band! *You Rock our Services!*



We welcome Sylvie Jill Anderson as the newest member, Child of God, into our congregation. Sylvie is the daughter of Trent & Diedre Anderson. Her Christian Sponsors are Hudson Ledeen and Katie Paige. *We rejoice with you in the life of baptism and will continue to support and pray for you.*

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are requested for healing: Nancy Lindquist, Robert Olson, Stephanie Radloff, Chet Linskog, Kati Kristenson Stieler, Kim Schulte, Shae Lindholm, Emily Ulhorn, Bruce & Stacey Johnson, Lynn Schulte, Paulina Backstrom, Vera Finn, Gene & Barbara Erickson, Char Anderson, Rhonda Schulte, Les Donek, Kristi (Speck) Perales, Emi Heikkinen, Elsa Sorenson, Hank Ferland, Betty Jones, Sharon & Lisa Bloomquist, Stacey Schulte, Carol Ann, *If you have any updates on these prayer requests, or any new requests, please call the office at 218-387-2227. Thank you.*

This week we lift up these college students: Amery Oberg, J & Ryan Shannon, Martine Redshaw, Kamryn Johnson, Trinity Rude, Taylor Everson, Andrew Hallberg, Rowan Lindstrom, Katie Peck, & MaKenzie Fairbanks. May God walk with these friends in their faith journey and grant them peace.



Sunday School has started! All children ages 3 through 3rd grade are invited to attend Sunday School during worship. We are still looking for a few teachers to help once a month. Talk to Pastor Calvin or Sarah, CYF Director.

9th Graders who wish to be Confirmed will meet after worship next Sunday, Oct. 6 at 11:15am to discuss writing their Faith Statement. Any questions, talk to Sarah, CYF Director.

NEW Bible Study for Women: "Jesus and Women" by Kristi McLelland. Starts **this** Thursday Oct. 3 and will run to Nov 21, 7-8 pm at Konop's home. The books are in! \$25. See Ashley Konop.

Traveler & Local Grocery Cards are available from BLC to members and the community that need to travel out-of-town for medical appointments or need help with food security. Contact the office.

Bethlehem Choir practices every Sunday at 8:40 am. We invite anyone who can carry a tune and likes choral music (wide variety!) is welcome to join in the fun. For more information talk to Karina Roth.

Wednesday Text Study: Join us at 12:30 pm on Wednesdays for a study of the scripture lessons and laughter!

Men's Bible Study: Every Thursday morning, beginning at 8:00 to 9:15 am. Contact Mike Chmelik for information, 218-387-1790

Quilters are seeking more helpers, especially anyone that can sew quilt tops! Every Thursday morning at 9 to 11:30am. No experience necessary. Work with the group or at home, whatever works best for you! **We have several lovely kits ready for your sewing pleasure.**

Free Bibles: Help yourself to a large print English Standard Version Bible, on the counter in the Narthex. Thanks to Paul & Pam for this gift!

Christ In Our Home Devotionals are in the narthex and entryway by the offices.

Prayer Chain Warriors: These warriors consist of members (and friends) at Bethlehem who respond to prayer requests through a phone tree network and are pledged to confidentiality. To join or make a request, contact Pastor Calvin, Laura Popkes (218-370-0721), or Denise in the office. (218.387.2227)

Sign Up to Help with Sunday Services and Coffee An: There are blue clipboards in the Narthex and kitchen to sign up with Sunday morning help & coffee. All are qualified and help is much appreciated.



The Mission of the Month for September is **Lutheran Disaster Response**. This organization shares God's hope, healing, and renewal with people whose lives have been greatly disrupted by disasters of all kinds. In the United States the need is great as so many have been affected by flooding, hurricanes, tornados, and wildfires. Internationally, Lutheran Disaster Response continues to give humanitarian aid in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and South Sudan where war has caused so much destruction and suffering. LDR also continues to give aid in places like the Horn of Africa where drought has caused widespread famine.

We can show our love and compassion for all God's children with a big response for this Mission of the Month. Please note on your gift "For LDR/MOM". Thank you for your generosity.

Mission of the Month Membership Challenge: Learn more about how your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response share hope and healing with communities impacted by disaster in the United States and around the world. Do some interactive research: <https://resources.elca.org/lutheran-disaster-response>.

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. -1 Peter 4:10

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This Week at Bethlehem: Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Mon Sept 30 11:00 AM Staff meeting
3:15 PM Girl Scouts
7:00 PM CYF Meeting
Tues Oct 1 7:00 PM Stewardship mtg
Wed Oct 2 8:00 AM Church in Society mtg
10:00 AM Ministerium mtg
12:30 PM Text Study
5:30 PM Community Meal
6:00 PM Worship
6:30 PM Confirmation Classes
Thurs Oct 3 8:00 AM Bible Study
9:00 AM Quilting
7:00 PM Book Study at Konop's
Sun. Oct 6 8:40 AM Choir Practice
10:00 AM Worship/Sun School
11:15 AM 9th Gr Faith Stmt mtg

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