



Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church

God's Family Serving Christ with Love



2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 15 & 19, 2022

W8267 Hwy 33 East,
Portage, Wisconsin 53901

Pastor Jaime Benson

Office: 608-742-8502

www.bethlehemLCportage.org

Church Office Hours: Mon-Wed 9am-3pm,
Thurs & Fri 9am-12pm

Holy Communion is celebrated each week; all people of God are welcome. We offer communion two ways: prepacked and communion at the altar. You can pick up the prefilled communion cup on your way into the sanctuary or ask the usher for it at communion time. It contains a wafer, which you open first by lifting the clear cellophane on top and then the grape juice. If you would like a **gluten free wafer**, please let the usher know before the start of worship. We have begun to offer communion at the altar again for those that wish to come up. Please fill out a Communion Card found in the pew racks and give it to the usher when you come up for communion.

Children's Worship Activity Bags are available in the Narthex with activities for your children, please help yourself. You can place the used activity bags in the basket located beneath the activity bag tree as you leave. We have a ***Cry Room*** for your comfort where you can hear and see the service.

Hearing assistance devices are available on the counter in the Narthex for your convenience. Please ask the greeter or usher for help.

Large print copies of the bulletin are available in the Narthex.

❖ CONFESSION & FORGIVENES

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. We invite those who are able to stand each time this symbol ❖ appears in the bulletin.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

❖ GATHERING HYMN

#574 “Here I Am, 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.**

❖ PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 65:1-9

¹I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, “Here I am, here I am,” to a nation that did not call on my name. ²I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; ³a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; ⁴who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine’s flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; ⁵who say, “Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.” These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. ⁶See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps ⁷their iniquities and their ancestors’ iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. ⁸Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, “Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,” so I will do for my servants’ sake, and not destroy them all. ⁹I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from

Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:19-28

¹⁹But you, O LORD, be not far away; O my help, hasten to my aid.

²⁰**Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.**

²¹Save me from the lion's mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

²²**I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.**

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

SECOND READING: Galatians 3:23-29

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian,

²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

❖ GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39

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

²⁶Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”—²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (Sunday)

SERMON

❖ SERMON HYMN

#843, v. 2, 3 “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

❖ 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 power of 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

❖ THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pray aloud as the spirit guides you*

P: United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you hear the cries of those who seek you. Equip your church with evangelists who reveal the continuous call of your outstretched hands and your promises of a home in you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of the earth. Restore places where land, air, and waterways have been harmed. Guide us to develop and implement sources of energy and food production that do not destroy the earth. We pray especially for those in Montana and Wyoming who have experienced large amounts of flooding. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of those who are marginalized or cast out. On this Juneteenth observance, guide us continually toward the end of oppression in all its forms, especially white supremacy. Bring true freedom and human flourishing to all your beloved children. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of those who suffer. Come to the aid of all who are homeless, naked, hungry, and sick *especially for everyone on our prayer list*. Bring peace to any experiencing mental illness, that they can clearly recognize your loving presence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of those who celebrate and those who grieve on this Father's Day. Nurture mutual love and tender care in all relationships. Comfort those for whom this day brings sadness or longing. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the faithful departed whose lives proclaimed all you had done for them *especially for Ruth, Colleen and all of those we hold in our hearts at this time*. At the last, unite us with them as we make our home in you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

❖ PEACE

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

THE OFFERING

We share our offerings for the mission of Christ through Bethlehem. Thank you for your participation in this ministry to the Glory of God!

❖ OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

..we praise your name and join the unending hymn...

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san- na. Ho - san- na.
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.

❖ 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

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

You may come forward to receive communion at this time. If you prefer to celebrate communion in your pew with prepackaged elements, please let the usher know.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖ BLESSING

The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.**

❖ SENDING HYMN

#886, v. 5, 6 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

❖ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. **Thanks be to God.**

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Depart to share

This Week's Worship Team

Wednesday 5:30 pm, 6/15

Music: Samantha

Usher: Geoff Gilbert

Acolyte:

Altar Guild: Kathy Lawrence

Sunday 9am, 6/19

Music: Carla

Ushers: _____

Reader: Darlene Anderson

Video Production: Justice Oh

Acolyte: _____

Altar Guild: _____

Communion Assistants: _____ & _____

Coffee Hour: _____

Altar Flowers: Bev Johnson in honor of loved ones

Next Week's Worship Team

Wednesday 5:30 pm, 6/22

Music: Ronna

Acolyte: Zoe Zellmer

Altar Guild: Cara Druckrey

Sunday 9am, 6/26

Music: Ronna

Ushers: _____

Reader: _____

Video Production: Justice Oh

Acolyte: Beau Grosklaus

Altar Guild: _____

Communion Assistants: Darlene Anderson & _____

Coffee Hour: _____

Please Pray For

Church Prayer List:

Family of Ruth Utke

Family of Colleen Davison

Dorothy Weber

Mark Teslik

Elaine Benson

Our Extended Family Prayer Concerns:

Jody Tilton (Cloe Rehdantz's granddaughter)

Sharon Stickford (friend of Ginny Paulson's)

Christie Rhinehart (Cloe's daughter)

Jim Atkinson

Lori Culberson (Dianna Bush's sister-in-law)

Dorothy Casson
Mary Tennyson
Bonnie Bender
Lynn Grueneberg
Noretta Moran

Lavern Allhiser (brother-in-law of Sandy Sween)
Freda Manzullo (Mark Teslik's sister)
Judy Fleres (Ginny Paulson's cousin)
Lynn Henrickson (Del & Margaret Molden's in-law)
Jody Crosby (friend of Denhartighs)
Judy Skille (Tania Anderson's mother)
Deb Moe & family (Sandra Sween's cousin)
Betty Hayes (Chad Hayes' grandma)
Steve Rohrbacher (Marie & Ed's son)
Tom Teslik (Mark Teslik's son)
Rick Voight (Halley Harms' father)

This Week:

Wednesday, June 15

10:30 am Tai Chi
5:30 pm Worship

Thursday, June 16

6:30 pm Council Meeting

Friday, June 17

Chimes Articles Due to Office

10:30 am Tai Chi
11:30 am Walking Group

Sunday, June 19

9 am Worship
10 am Hand Chime Practice



Monday, June 20

11 am Colleen Davison Funeral
6:30 pm SRA Meeting

Wednesday, June 22

10:30 am Tai Chi
5:30 pm Worship

Rummage Sale Items Needed

It's time to start cleaning your closets and gathering items for the BLC Rummage Sale.

The sale will be held on August 6, 2022, so we need your new or slightly used items to be at church no later than noon on August 1, 2022

Following is a list of items that we will accept:

- Clothing – Children, Men, & Women – no soiled, torn, or dirty items accepted
- Household items
- Kitchen Items, (includes toasters, mixers)
- Linens
- Craft Items
- Furniture
- Glassware/dinnerware
- Tools
- Toys/bicycles

The following items will not be accepted:

- Large appliance of any kind
- TV's, radios
- Computers – In the past Goodwill will take these items
- Books, DVD's, VCR Tapes – Donate them to your local library for their resale event.
- No personal electronic devices, (ex: shavers, hearing aids, water picks.
- No gas powered items
- No cosmetics

Make sure all items are clean and in working order. If you have items that you are not sure are appropriate, please call: 608-770-7073

Let's Get Walking!



Join us at Chandler Park (at Park Lake) in Pardeeville on the following dates and times:

- Friday, June 17 at 11:30 am
- Tuesday, June 21 at 5:30 pm

Meet at the main playground area (closer to the beach), where there is plenty of parking. We will walk for at least 30 minutes. Feel free to stay longer if you'd like! For the morning events, look for Jaimie Rudolph and in the evenings, Lisa Cook will be there.

VBS Registration

Dates: Aug. 1-5th. Registration is now open. Also looking for volunteers. Information & forms are in the June Chimes & in the narthex.