

## **BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**(507-962-3270)**

**Sunday, October 10, 2021**

**Pastor Nita Parker (507-360-7582)**

**[nitaalmjeld.parker@gmail.com](mailto:nitaalmjeld.parker@gmail.com)**

For we walk by

*Faith*  
not by sight

**Music:** Angie Johnson

**Lay Reader:** Peggy Goettsch

**Deacon:** Jan Solberg

**Acolyte:** Abby Olson

**Ushers:** Abby Olson, Mya Erickson, Head Usher - Tom Bush

### **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**

**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God.**

**Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING SONG "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"**

**'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His Word;**

**Just to rest upon His promise, just to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er;**

**Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust Him more!**

**I'm so glad I learned to trust Him, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;**

**And I know that He is with me, will be with me to the end.**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er;**

**Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust Him more!**

**Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er;  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust Him more!**

**Oh for grace to trust Him more.**

### **GREETING**

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

**C:** And also with you

### **KYRIE p. 203**

- 1.) Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.**
- 2.) Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.**
- 3.) Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.  
Renew us with your saving pow'r, create in us new hearts!**

### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE p. 204**

- 1.) Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good will to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;  
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**
- 2.) Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;  
On the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**
- 3.) Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all;  
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE SCRIPTURES**

### **First Reading: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15**

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground!

They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

**Response: R: Word of God, Word of Life      C: Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm: Psalm 90:12-17**

**R:** So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

**C: Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? Be gracious to your servants.**

**R:** Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.

**C: Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us and as many years as we suffered adversity.**

**R:** Show your servants your works and your splendor to their children.

**C: May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.**

### **Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-16**

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Response: R: Word of God, Word of Life      C: Thanks be to God**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION pg. 205**

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior; open now your saving word.**

**Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.**

**Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

### **Gospel: Mark 10:17-31**

As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

**P: The Gospel of the Lord**

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON— *Pastor Nita Parker***

### **SONG OF THE DAY “In Christ Alone”**

**In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song**

**This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.**

**What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled,  
when strivings cease. My Comforter, my All in All. Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe,**

**This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.**

**‘Tis on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.**

**For every sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.**

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again.

And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand.  
'Tis he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

### **BAPTISM**

***Remington Noah Seachris***

**Sponsors: Joey Streeter & Chelsi DenHerder**

***Talia Carynn Seachris***

**Sponsors: Robby Vargas & Nancy Vargas**



**Parents: Dustin & Melissa Seachris**

### **NEW MEMBERS**

**Milton Lauck, Dustin, Melissa, Remington & Talia Seachris,  
Wade & Joan Johnson**

### **BAPTISM & NEW MEMBERS**

**P:** I ask you to reject sin, profess your faith in Christ, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that revel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**Response: We do**

*(Minster addresses the assembly)*

**P:** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**Response: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heavens and earth.**

**P:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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 seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**P:** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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**

**ALL: We welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P: Lord, in your mercy C: hear our prayer**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

**God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING pg. 206**

**P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.**

**P: Lift up your hearts C: We lift them to the Lord**

**P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P: It is indeed right, our duty and our prayer. . . And so, with all the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join your unending hymn.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.**

**P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.**

### **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**

### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

**Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!**

### **COMMUNION SONG “He Is”**

If you're troubled heavy hearted, come to Jesus and find your peace.  
If you're run down, empty handed, come to Jesus and find your strength.  
He is Hope for the hopeless, rest for the weary, help for the hurting,  
He is, He is

Mending the broken, bearing the burdens, all that you're needing,  
He is  
If you're wandering, in the darkness, come to Jesus and find your way.  
If you want freedom, need forgiveness, Just come to Jesus and find His grace.

He is Hope for the hopeless, rest for the weary, help for the hurting,  
He is, He is  
Mending the broken, bearing the burdens, all that you're needing, He is.  
Comforter, Counselor, Prince of Peace, Author and Maker of everything,  
Defender, Deliverer, King of Kings. He is, He is.

Helper and healer forevermore, Savior and Shelter through every storm,  
My Refuge, Redeemer and Lord of Lords. He is, he is.

Child of Heaven and Son of Man, Provider, Protector, the Great I am.  
Alpha Omega, Beginning and End. He is, He is

Hope for the hopeless, rest for the weary, help for the hurting, He is, He is.  
Mending the broken, bearing the burdens, all that you're needing, He is.  
All that you're needing, He is.

### **PRAYERS after COMMUNION**

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith  
into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing  
witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen

### **BLESSING**

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.  
The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG “Days of Elijah”**

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the word of the Lord, yeah  
And these are the day of Your servant Moses, righteousness being restored.

These are the days of great trials, or famine and darkness and sword,  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying, prepare ye the way of the Lord!  
Say, behold he comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet's  
call. Lift your voice, year of Jubilee, out of Zion's hill, salvation comes.

And these are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming flesh and these are the days of Your servant, David, rebuilding a temple of praise.

And these are the days of harvest, the fields are all white in Your world and we are the laborers that are in Your vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord.

Say, behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet's call, lift you voice, year of Jubilee, out of Zion's hill, salvation comes.  
Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet's call, Lift your voice, year of Jubilee, out of Zion's hill, salvation comes.

There's no God like Jehovah! There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah! There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah! There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah! There's no God like Jehovah!

There's no God like Jehovah! There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah! There's no God like Jehovah!

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet's call, Lift your voice, year of Jubilee, out of Zion's hill, salvation comes.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet's call, Lift your voice, year of Jubilee, out of Zion's hill, salvation comes.

DISMISSAL ....P: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. C: Thanks be to God

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\*\*\* Please keep these people in your prayers:

Jerry Thorin, Carol Hadler, Norma Wassenaar, Jack Paulson, LN Metzler, Shirley Johnson, Sam McGaffee, Kelly Demuth, Nancy Swanson, Larry Parker, Wade Johnson,

\*\*\* Please keep these new babies in your prayers as they await their baptism:

*Henley Kate Hanson* parents are Dustin and Katie Hanson

*Beckham Bryce Ellingson* parents are Caleb and Macy Ellingson – Sunday, Oct. 17th

*Kane Marshall Paulsen* parents are Tyler and Britny Paulsen

*Cade Brian Sandager* parents Lucas & Ann Marie Sandager

*Merritt Mark Hoogendoorn* parents Jarid & Anna Hoogendoorn

**OUR SYMPATHY to the Brandt family**

*Alex Brandt* (24) passed away on Sunday, October 3, 2021. Fellowship will be on Friday, October 15, 10:00-11:00 am.; Funeral Services following at 11:00 am. @ Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Pastor Nita Parker officiating.





## **BETHLEHEM 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church officially began with worship being held in the home of one of the original charter members of the church on July 10, 1872, making next July the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the church. If you would be interested in being on a committee to help commemorate this momentous event please speak to one of the council members or Pastor Nita. We are looking for at least **6 people** to help plan a very special event to happen sometime next year. The date, time, type of event, and everything else that goes along with that needs to be decided. Please think about how you can help.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **MAKE A DIFFERENCE as a HOSPICE VOLUNTEER**

Sanford Luverne Hospice is in need of a few additional men and women interested in volunteering at The Cottage and/or visiting patients. Volunteering is flexible and is based on your interests, schedule and travel plans throughout the year. A Hospice Orientation will be offered starting in October. If you have a little time to give and a compassionate heart, please contact Helen Saum, Sanford Luverne Hospice, by calling 507-283-1805 or email: [helen.saum@sanfordhealth.org](mailto:helen.saum@sanfordhealth.org)

**TUFF MEMORIAL HOME** is collecting Halloween candy for residents to hand out to the Trick or Treaters. You may drop off your candy donation @Tuff Home front entry way.

**Trick or Treat Outside walk on Sunday, Oct. 31**  
**Tuff Memorial Home.....Starting at 4-5:00 pm.**



### **BENEFIT FOR PRESTON WILHELMI – Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

Free will donation meal, silent auction & bake sale starting at 4:00 to 7:00 pm.  
@Steen Reformed Church, Steen, MN.

Preston was diagnosed with a low grade soft tissue sarcoma, he will undergo radiation at Mayo Clinic and then surgery to remove tumor in his leg. In addition to the benefit, an account has been set up at Security Savings Bank in Hills in Preston's name. If you would like to donate to the bake sale or silent auction, please contact Staci Bundesen @507-227-5175 or Marie LaRock @605-929-9291 by Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

We are asking better record keeping of our membership. In order to be an active member of the ELCA, we are to keep record that members have received communion 1 time per year and make \$1 of record for contributions. Needless to say this is a very bare minimum, and it takes considerable more money to keep the doors open, and your soul needs to be in touch with the Lord significantly more than one time per year. That being said, please help us to keep records in good order and sign your name on a sheet one time per year.

**BOARD POSITIONS** We still need a Vice President, one Trustee & one Ed. Board. Please talk to a council member if you are interested.

Pastor Nita will be attending **Fall Theological Conference** – October 11-12

**Bethlehem/Flowerfield Cemetery Board** will be selling Christmas Wreaths for both cemeteries or for your front door. Orders can be made by calling Wanda Hoyme @507-962-3464. Cost is \$40.00, deadline for orders is October 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a fundraiser to help with cost for cemetery maintenance.

**Wed. Night Worship!** Please join us for worship on Wednesday Nights at 7:15pm! This will be a more contemporary service, video music, a conversation type sermon with scripture and Holy Communion. We will be catering to those who can't make Sunday for work schedules and especially for our youth! Please check it out!

## **Bethel Reformed Church, Little Rock, IA.**

(3 miles South of Ellsworth, MN. & 1 mile east)

***Dr. Micah Parker***, Christian Motivational Speaker will be speaking on the topic of Sexually & Profanity, How our cultures tricks us.

Sunday night, October 24<sup>th</sup>; Music starts at 6:30 pm., Speaker at 7:00 pm.

Ages 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up, along with their parents are encouraged to attend.

RSVP # of people attending. Jim DeBeer @507-227-0933

The **Youth Group** is planning some fun activities for the fall festival, Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, if anyone is willing to help them out by providing baked goods for the cake walk or individually wrapped candy for game prizes, they would appreciate it greatly. Please contact Madison (605-906-7070) or email [madisonspath21@gmail.com](mailto:madisonspath21@gmail.com) if you are able to help or have any questions.

