

August 9, 2026 and Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
220 Cedar Street
PO Box 344
Pemberville, Ohio 43450
9 am: In Person Worship
9 am: Facebook Live Worship
11:30 am: Radio Worship on 99.1 FM**



**OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 2 pm
Friday- Closed
419-287-4182**

ANNOUNCEMENT

+GATHER+

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: Oh, Sing to the Lord **ELW#822**

APOSTOLIC 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.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN MESSAGE

SYNOD MEMORY VERSE: (1 John 4:19)

“We love because God first loved us.”

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God’s presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in “sheer silence.” God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake, ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵Then the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also 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. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

The Word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85

Hal H. Hopson

Hal H. Hopson



Lord, in your mer-cy hear my prayer; your good-ness nev - er fails.

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PSALM: 85:8-13

⁸ I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn
their hearts to you.

⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land. R**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ **Righteousness shall go before the Lord
and shall prepare for God a pathway. R**

SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart"
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

The Word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia No. 2

Joseph Stribrny



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON- SAM Eric Corns

HYMN OF THE DAY: My Life Flows On in Endless Song **ELW #763**

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

Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

+MEAL+

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
We gather our tithes and offerings. Following the collection, we pray.

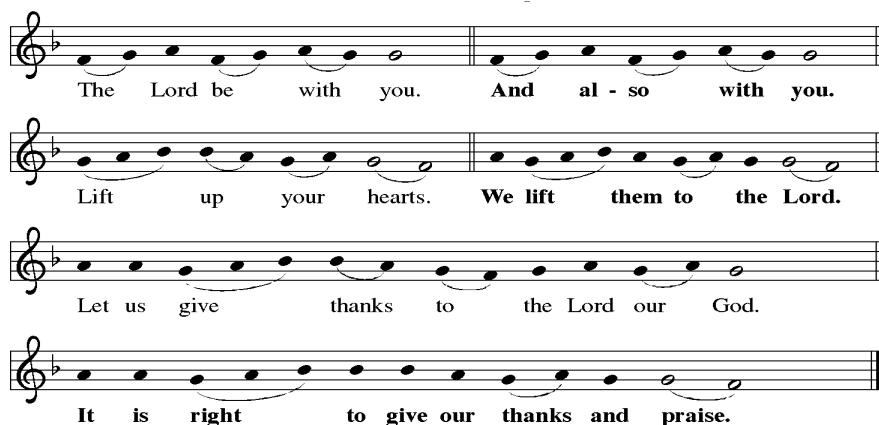
OFFERING HYMN: Come to the Table **ELW#481**

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread. All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail scarred hand. Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

OFFERING PRAYER

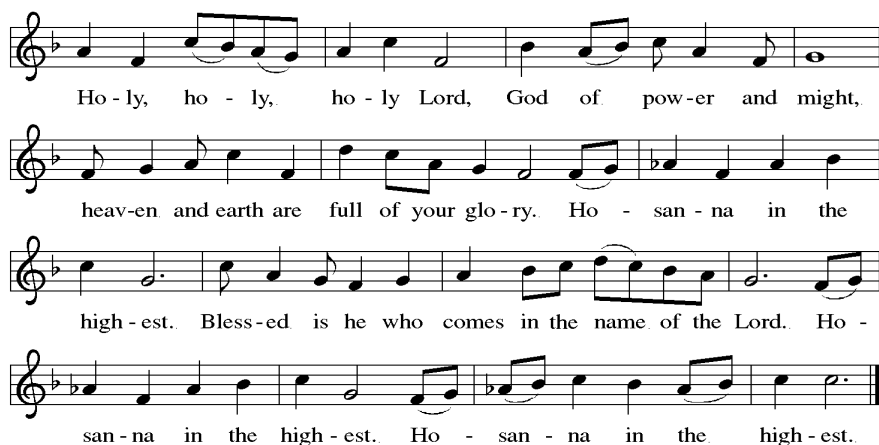
Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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, for the glorious resurrection of 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. 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, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. 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. 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. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

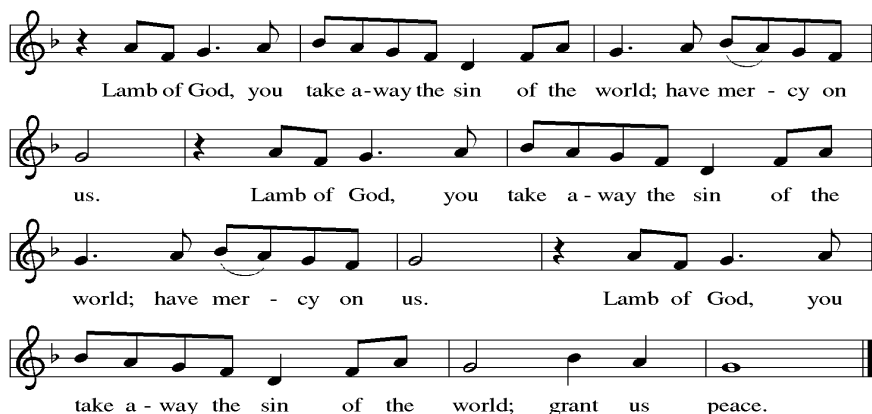
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 COMMUNE

Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!



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.

COMMUNION HYMN: Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW#773

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.

+SENDING+

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN: When Peace like a River **ELW #785**

DISMISSAL

What is our mission?

Transformed by the crucified and risen Jesus we are a loving community of disciples making disciples.

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

LAST WEEKS

Attendance: In Person– 85 Online-52

Offering: \$4,092.00 ELCA Benevolence: \$579.00

IN OUR PRAYERS

For healing: Randi Parton (friend of Lois Hansen, Nancy Rife, Joni (Abke) Moncrief, Carolyn Borcharding, Ken & Bev Gerwin, Rachel Durham Staats.

Altar Flowers and Radio Broadcast is given to the glory of God.

Online Streaming is given to the glory of God and

WEEKLY CALENDAR

8/9, Sun	10:20 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
8/10, Mon	6:45 p.m.	Yoga
8/11, Tues	11 a.m.-2p.m.	Food Pantry Open
8/14, Fri.	All Day	Office Closed
8/15, Sun	9 a.m.	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Adalida Culp of the Duke's Mixture 4-H club! Adalida is our Champion Sheep Showmanship winner at the Ohio State Fair!

The Mission Action project for August is Honduras items we are collecting flip flops, wash cloths, hand towels, bath towels, twin sheets.

Food Pantry items for August are creamy peanut butter, apple juice, noodle, canned fruit, kleenex, wipes

Bethlehem is sponsoring a community free swim on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2026 from 1:00-5:00pm. Everyone is welcome.

The area churches are planning to provide an evening meal for fair workers on Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 6:00pm. We are in need of hot dishes, salads, and desserts. We also need several kitchen workers and those to mingle with the fair workers. There is a sign-up sheet outside the office window. Please contact Luann Snyder for any questions at 419-349-4032.

Bethlehem is responsible for providing and serving pies on Thursday, Aug. 20, 2026. There is a sign-up sheet outside the office window. Please contact Luann Snyder for any questions at 419-349-4032.

Bethlehem is planning to have a golf cart in the Pemberville Grand Parade on Saturday, August 22, 2026. We are asking any children willing to walk in the parade to let the office know.

Prayer for New Pastor- 220 Prayer

220 - that's our address, the place where the Bethlehem community gathers for worship. You are invited to join this Bethlehem community each day at 2:20pm (or am if you are up) for a time of prayer centered on God's calling of a new pastor. You are welcome to use your own words, or use these: Most Holy God, we thank you for the gifts and ministry of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We pray that you inspire and guide the pastor you will be calling to serve with us. We know you hold us in your hands of grace, so we give you thanks! Amen.

Anyone is welcome to make a one time or reoccurring donation by using the QR code that links to Tithe.ly, Bethlehem's online giving portal. When you scan the QR code, you will be required to set up an account, which only takes a few minutes. There is a small transaction fee for the use of the app. The app will prompt you to indicate your choice to pay the transaction fee or have it deducted from your donation. Thank you for supporting the ministries at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.



