

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

We are called by God to follow Christ in
love and service to all.



August 23, 2026

We encourage children to feel welcome in church during worship. And we recognize that kids need to move and fidget while we share this time together. Tables and coloring pages are available to kids in both the front of the worship space and in the Commons. Parents, please feel free to let your kids move around as needed.

Prelude

Claudius Cazan

Welcome and Announcements

(please stand)

Confessions and Forgiveness

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

"The Church's One Foundation"

ELW# 654

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.

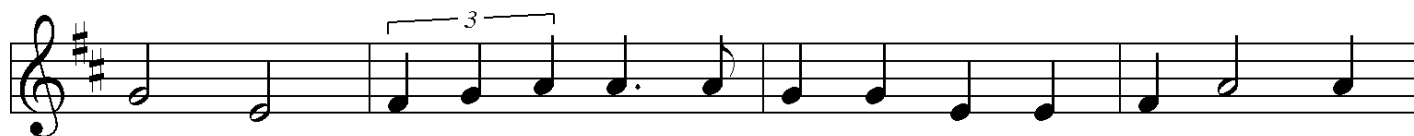
Hymn of Praise



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



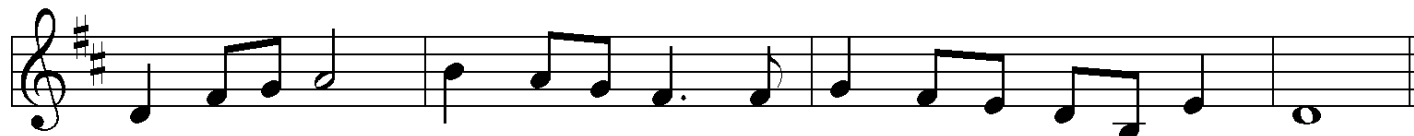
☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



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



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



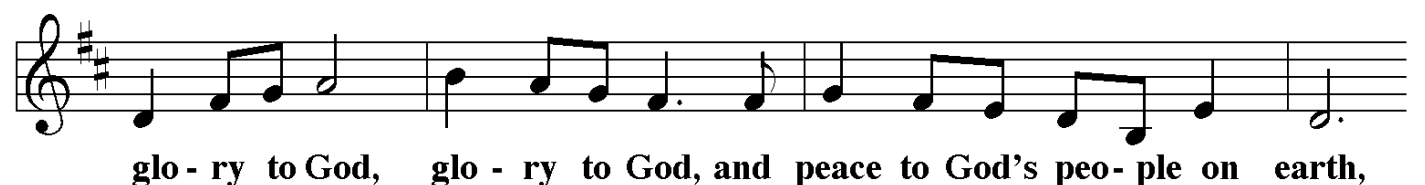
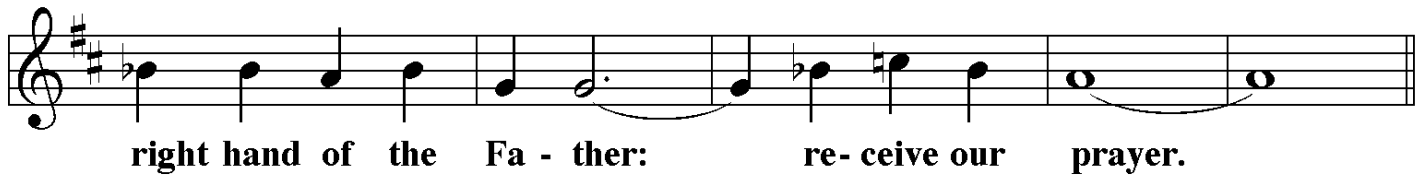
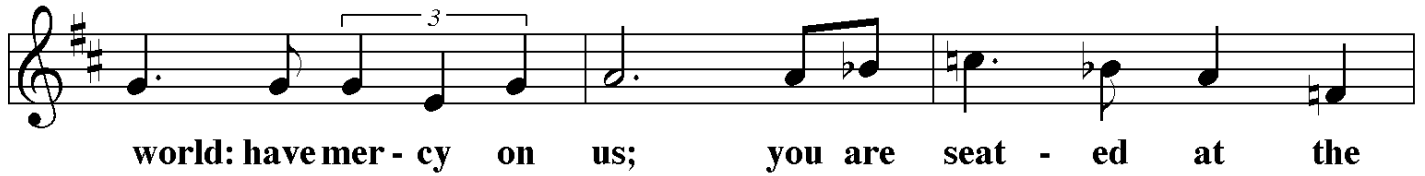
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

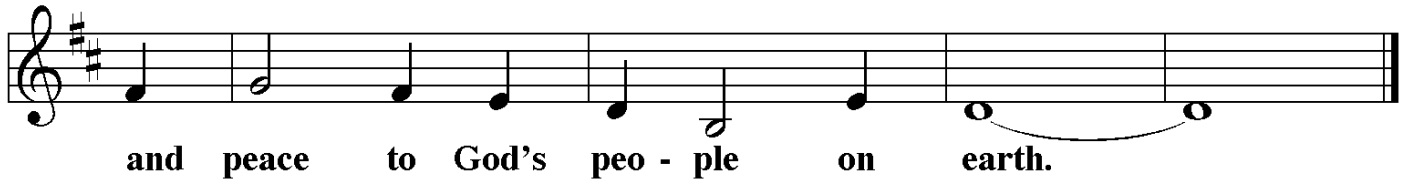


☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the





Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray,

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(be seated)

First Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
 my salvation has gone out,
 and my arms will rule the peoples;
 the coastlands wait for me,
 and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
 and look at the earth beneath,
 for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
 the earth will wear out like a garment,
 and those who live on it will die like gnats,
 but my salvation will be forever,
 and my deliverance will never be ended.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 138



¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with ¹ my whole heart;
 before the gods I will ¹ sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of
 your steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness;
 for you have glorified your name and your word a- ¹ bove all things.**

³ When I called, you ¹ answered me;
 you increased my ¹ strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise ¹ you, O LORD,
 when they have heard the words ¹ of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways ¹ of the LORD,
 that great is the glory ¹ of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares ¹ for the lowly,
 perceiving the haughty ¹ from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you ¹ keep me safe;
 you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right ¹ hand
 shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your pur- ¹ pose for me;
 O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works ¹ of
 your hands.**

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-8

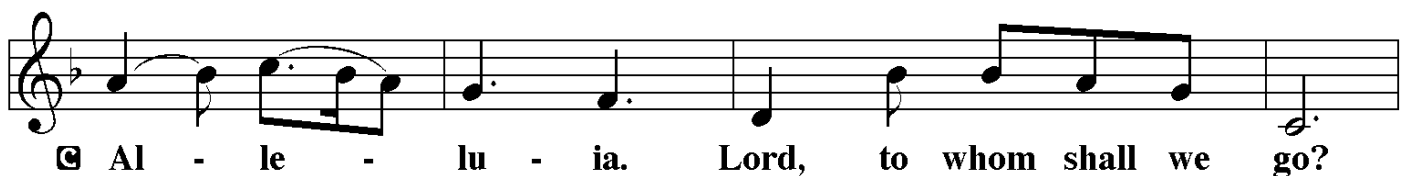
¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

(be seated)

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

“Rock of Ages”

ELW# 623

(please stand)

The Apostle's 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.**

(please stand)

The Prayers

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

After each portion of the prayers:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Greet one another with a word of welcome and peace.

(be seated)

Offering

Thank you for your offerings today. As Christ comes to us in the bread and cup of the holy table, we present ourselves through our own sacrifice of generosity to love and serve our neighborhood and the whole world. You can also give online at www.bethluth.org/give as a one time donation or as a recurring gift. Use this code to access the giving site.



(please stand)

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray,

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

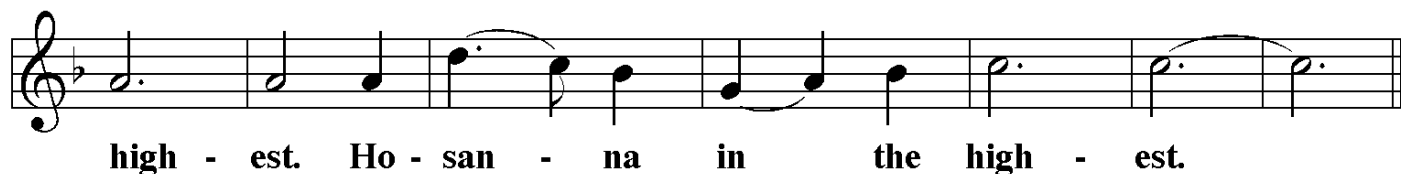
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus



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.

(be seated)

Lamb of God



☞ 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, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

All are welcome at the table of Christ. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.

Communion Hymns

“We Are an Offering”

ELW# 692

“Give Me Jesus”

ELW# 770

(please stand)

Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

The Benediction

Almighty God , Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

ELW# 597

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Claudius Cazan



Let's Celebrate!

Please join us in celebrating Jeannie Baldwin's 100th birthday on Saturday, August 29th from 2:00pm-4:00pm at her farm. Your presence is gift enough.

Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Concert

August 30th 3:00pm

Join us for an afternoon of beautiful music in The Sanctuary provided by the Flathead Valley Community Orchestra. The concert begins at 3pm. Bring your friends and neighbors. All are welcome!



New Directories Available!

The new 2026 directories are complete! You can pick up your copy in The Commons. One copy is named for everyone who participated. The directories cost \$11.50 each to print and have been paid for by the church. If you'd like to donate to help defray the cost (not required, but appreciated), you can do so in the offering basket here or with a designated offering.



Ice Cream Social and Sunday School Sign Up!

September 13th

Hey parents and kids! Summer is almost over, so it's nearly time for Sunday School. **September 13th**, come have an ice cream and socialize after service! We will have registration forms for Sunday school and a build-your-own sundae buffet. Hear what we have planned this year as we dive into the story of Moses and learn our way to a movie party.



Help Kids Around the World with School Supplies!!

It's that time of year when school supplies are on sale for great prices. As you are shopping please consider picking up supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits. Items needed are:

- 70 page count spiral notebooks
- rulers
- blunt tip scissors, unsharpened
- Box of crayons
- black or blue ballpoint pens
- Donations are always welcome to buy any needed supplies as well.

A collection box will be in the Commons or bring your donation to the church office.



Rally Day is Coming...!

September 20th

First day back to Sunday School will be Sunday September 20th! Our yearly tradition of a marshmallow fight will be happening for the first day. We will also be doing an ice cream social and registration. New end time for Sunday School is 10:15am. Parents please enjoy a bit of fellowship time before coming to get your kids so they get an hour of fun.



Backpack Program Drive!

The Flathead Food Bank's Backpack Program provides local students bags filled with child-friendly, non-perishable food that can be easily prepared at home. Prepared bags are discreetly distributed to children on the last day before the weekend or school holiday to ensure that children have enough to eat when school-provided meals are unavailable. Each Backpack Program bag contains enough food for one child to enjoy breakfast and lunch on each day that the student is out of school in addition to juice, milk, and a treat. Please drop off food items in the designated box in The Commons through the month of September. Suggested items are: granola bars, ramen noodles, jerky, fruit pouches, applesauce, oatmeal packets, juice boxes, and canned pasta rings. Any questions, please see Vickie Cunningham.



Peter's Confession of Christ

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)



I W H Q O X N F C T Z V D L M
P V V P O E U A Z F U I B O M
E R Y G V M S T S P S Y D R N
O X O A R J R H B M E G O O M
P P E P G E D E L G N T S C S
L H I I H E L R B I S P E K E
E K F R S E Y I K A V U V R U
U T E S W I T J J O P I M O W
M H E Y O E Q S E A A T N P I
T L C T S A J I Z R H J I G M
B A H Y P R P J S I E K O S L
X P R J N T F E J A D M A H T
I L I B U H D J L A J P I X N
J J S Y L A J G A T E S T A T
G L T E H U I S A C H U R C H

CHRIST	EARTH	SON	PROPHETS	PEOPLE
BLESSED	KINGDOM	CHURCH	GATES	BAPTIST
LIVING	ROCK	FATHER	HADES	ELIJAH
JOHN	HEAVEN	PETER	KEYS	JEREMIAH

Prayer Concerns: Illness/surgery:

Erika Hauser, Char Kaber, Carol Eckholt, Kathy Adams, Jana Thompson, Kevin Haas, Oliver Thompson and Family.

A Special Thank You To Our Assisting Ministers:

<u>Reader:</u>	Charlene Singley
<u>Cantor:</u>	Solveig Munson
<u>Greeters:</u>	Don & Janan Beller
<u>Communion Setup:</u>	Sherry Korthase
<u>Communion Asst:</u>	Tony Nelson, Lynette Lorenzen, Charlene Singley
<u>Usher:</u>	Sharon Bristow, Jana and Bill Pursell, Mary Thompson
<u>Power Point:</u>	Julia Munson
<u>Acolytes:</u>	

This Week at Bethlehem

SUNDAY

9:00am
10:30am

08/23

Worship
Bell Choir Practice

MONDAY

10:00am
6:00pm

08/24

Respite, FH
Feeding the Flathead, FH

TUESDAY

12:00pm

08/25

Women on the Go, FH

WEDNESDAY

6:45am
10:00am

08/26

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study, FH
Respite, FH

THURSDAY

9:00am
9:00am
5:30pm

08/27

Quilters, FH
Knitters, FR
Flathead Valley Community Orchestra, FH

SUNDAY

9:00am
10:30am
3:00pm

08/30

Worship
Bell Choir Practice
Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Concert



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Pastor Scott Thompson

Pastor Lucy Schottelkorb

office@bethluth.org / www.bethluth.org

Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Kalispell

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