

August 30, 2026 and Fourteenth 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: Lift High the Cross ELW#660

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, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through 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: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah's delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."

¹⁵ O Lord, you know;

remember me and visit me,

and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;

know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,

and your words became to me a joy

and the delight of my heart,

for I am called by your name,

O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,

nor did I rejoice;

under the weight of your hand I sat alone,

for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,

my wound incurable,

refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,

like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord:

If you turn back, I will take you back,

and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,

you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,

not you who will turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people

a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you,
 but they shall not prevail over you,
 for I am with you
 to save you and deliver you,
 says the Lord.
²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
 and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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

Psalm 26

Hal H. Hopson

Hal H. Hopson

Refrain



Lord, in you do I trust. You are the strength of my life.

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PSALM: 26:1-8

¹ Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;

I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O Lord, and try me;
 examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
 I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,
 nor do I consort with the deceitful. R**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;
 I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,
 that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
 and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
 and the place where your glory abides. R

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue

hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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

SERMON- Pastor Tim Philabaum

HYMN OF THE DAY: Will You Come and Follow Me **ELW #798**

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.

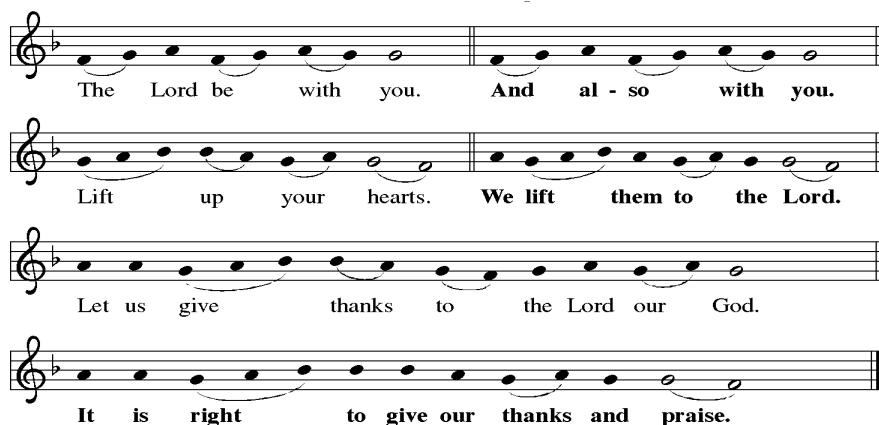
OFFERING HYMN: Come to the Table **ELW#481**

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

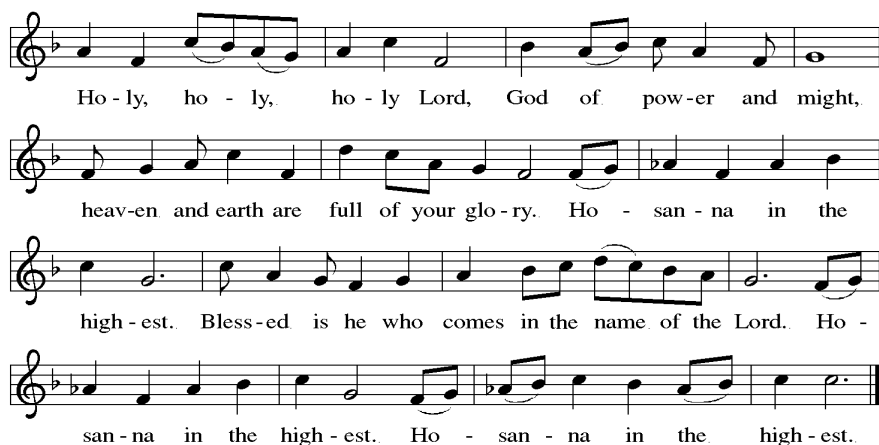
Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

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.

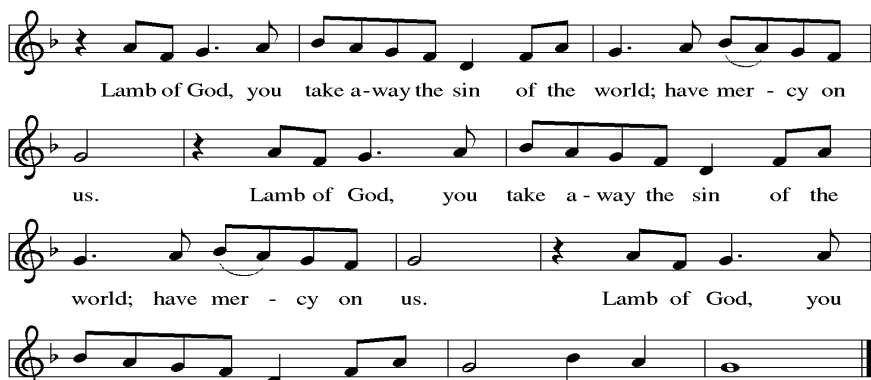
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant **ELW#659**

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: Let Streams of Living Justice **ELW # 710**

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-74 Online-60

Offering: \$3,109.00 ELCA Benevolence: \$163.00

IN OUR PRAYERS

For healing: Randi Parton (friend of Lois Hansen, Carolyn Borcharding, Ken & Bev Gerwin, Nancy Rife,

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God.

Radio Broadcast is given to the glory of God and in memory of Marie Walters & Ernestine Hille from Rick & Cyndi Walters & Family.

Online Streaming is given to the glory of God.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

8/30, Sun	10:20 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
8/31, Mon	6:45 p.m.	Yoga
9/1, Tues	9-12 p.m.	Knotting
	11 a.m.-2p.m.	Food Pantry Open
	6p.m.	Bible Study
9/4, Fri.	All Day	Office Closed
9/6, Sun	10:30 a.m.	Community Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mission Action project for September Haiti Mission International of America. Items Needed: new children's underwear, match box cars, string back packs, pencils and pencil sharpeners please place items in the September Mission action room.

- Sponsor a child for \$100 a year. You choose your child and keep his/her picture. We encourage you to pray for your child.
- Give up one small luxury a week. For only 25 cents you can feed a child for a day. It only takes \$75 to feed the whole school for a day.
- Host a Circle of Life Jewelry Party. Invite your friends for a fun evening and introduce them to our products and projects.
- Make a monthly commitment to MIA. Many people have committed to a monthly amount making it easier for MIA to plan expenses. Talk to Jay if you want suggestions on how to do this.
- Collect needed items. We are always in need of match box cars, new children's underwear, string back packs, pencils and pencil sharpeners. Please place items in the bin in the Mission Action Room (111).

Food Pantry items for September are Ramen Noodles (chicken or beef), pancake mix, maple syrup, canned fruit, toilet paper, body wash (men or women)

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.

This month Pastor Tim will be offering his Tuesday, 6pm Bible Study only on September 1, 8, 15. During these three sessions we will study Paul's letter to the Philippians. The Bible Study will then commence again on October 13.

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.





Bethlehem apparel is available! Choose from T-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, and more in a variety of colors and styles.

Visit the online store at the link or QR code:

https://stores.inksoft.com/bethlehem_lutheran_church_/shop/home
to browse the selection and place your order today!

