

September 6, 2020

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



1300 St. Francis Road  
Santa Rosa, California 95409

[www.blc-bcc.com](http://www.blc-bcc.com)

# BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

## AND BETHLEHEM CHILDREN'S CENTER

Santa Rosa, California

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Summer Worship

September 6, 2020

## Worship Notes

WELCOME to the fellowship of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We gather to give praise and thanks to the One who has given us Christ Jesus, and through him, all things. Our goal is to rejoice in the presence of the Lord before we begin a new week, to support one another in prayer and to challenge one another to live as people of God in our homes, offices, shops, factories, schools and playgrounds. We believe the Christian life is the most rewarding, demanding and fulfilling life possible ... Please join us.

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Gathered to worship,  
Equipped by the Holy Spirit,  
Strengthened through community,  
Sent in peace to serve the Lord.

CHILDREN are welcome to join their parents in worship. A separate Children's Sermon is available online and within this service.

### ONLINE WORSHIP:

Please join us for worship on our YouTube channel "Pastor Bill Bethlehem Santa Rosa" <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5xTmtCjUddP81wRiT-d2C8w> or on our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/BLCSantaRosa](http://www.facebook.com/BLCSantaRosa) Please feel free to share with friends, remember to like, write a comment, friend or subscribe.

Today's worship can be found at [https://youtu.be/d58HTy\\_g3QQ](https://youtu.be/d58HTy_g3QQ)

### FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Shout to the Lord”

W&P #124

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism  
as the presiding minister begins:*

Pastor: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly*

Pastor: Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us. -Ezekiel 33:10  
*(wait for the weight)* O Lord...

**People: you call us always from the depth of our sin,  
but we see our own wickedness, not.** -Ezekiel 33:8  
**You teach us your statutes, law, commandments,  
decrees, ordinances, and precepts,  
and we stick with selfish gain and vanity.** -Psalm 119:33-40  
**You show us love,  
and sum all the commandments in love,** -Romans 13:9  
**still we cling to the works of darkness.  
We are sentinels of our neighbors sin,  
and waste away because of our own transgressions.  
How can we live?** -Ezekiel 33:10, Psalm 119:40

*(pause for reflection and self-examination)*

Pastor: The Lord has no pleasure in the death of the wicked,  
rather that the wicked turn from their evil ways and live. -Ezekiel 33:11  
To that end God sends Jesus the Christ,  
more than a teacher, more than a prophet: the Savior.  
It is by his blood that our sins are forgiven and we might have new life.  
It is by his love that we may gather together  
and renew ourselves as brothers and sisters and a holy community;  
filling full the law in love. -Romans 13:10  
In the name of Father, and the Son,+ and the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**-wjw



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

**SONG OF PRAISE** "Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

W&P #90



Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord, I love to sing your



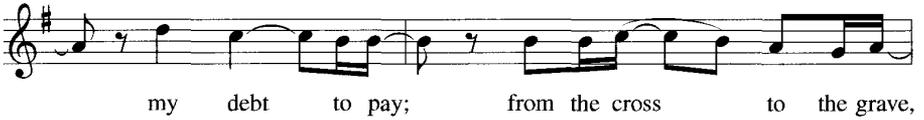
prais - es. I'm so glad you're in my life,



I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heav - en to earth



to show the way, from the earth to the cross,



my debt to pay; from the cross to the grave,



from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray,

**O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

### PSALM READING

Psalms 119:33-40

Reader: Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,  
and I shall keep it to the end.

**People: Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;  
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

Reader: Lead me in the path of your commandments,  
for that is my desire.

**People: Incline my heart to your decrees  
and not to unjust gain. R**

Reader: Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;  
give me life in your way.

**People: Fulfill your promise to your servant,  
which is for those who fear you.**

Reader: Turn away the reproach that I dread,  
because your judgments are good.

**People: Behold, I long for your commandments;  
by your righteousness enliven me.**

## PSALM PRAYER

**Reader: Holy God, you are just in all your ways and your commandments are the greatest of treasures. Teach us to love you with all our hearts and to love our neighbors as ourselves, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Following the reading...*

Assistant: Word of God. Word of Life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Thy Word" W&P #144



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

## GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

*Following the reading...*

Pastor: Word of God. Word of life.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated*

## SERMON

"Filling Full"

Pastor Bill Wessner

*Silence for meditation and reflection*



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la  
 Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



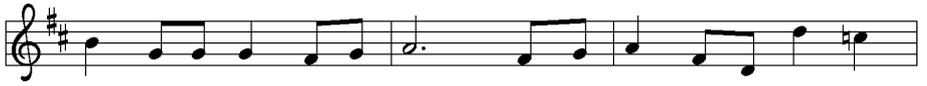
me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -  
 feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - te tie - ne un pues - to yu - na mi - sión.  
 wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -  
 1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -  
 2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the  
 3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la  
 mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm  
 ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be  
 peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -



*Refrain / Estribillo*

cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.  
 walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.  
 hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.  
 geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

## THE 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.

## THE PRAYERS

*We pray today for loved ones and friends who are ill and recovering, especially Margaret Warrick, Don Hux, Vivian Farland, Dorothy Gullixson, Sharon Boschen, Gina Thompson, Mike Turner, Janet Wolf, Brianne Konanz, Sue Barnard, Linda Wilkening, Tom Ziegler, Steve Sturgeon, Donald Schaap, Wyatt Hughes Graham, Judy & Paul Sengstock, Martin Curtis, Judy Warner, Elaine Gutsch, Liz Halburg, Angie Salado, Richard Doran, JoAnn Lockhard, Darci Raphael, Greg Talmadge, Jesse Halderman, Dixie Offt, Wendy Younger, and Karen Schmidt.*

Assistant: Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

Assistant: Lord, in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*The prayer concludes:*

Pastor: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: And also with you.**

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## THE MEAL

## GATHERING OF GIFTS

## Stewardship of Our Lives

*Our ministries continue. Please consider giving by mail, call the office and we will send envelopes or set up Offerings electronically, email our Financial Secretary, Susan Jenkins at RVWhine@sbcglobal.net. (Subject line: BLC Giving).*



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things  
 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our  
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's  
 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the  
 neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work  
 guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -  
 fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.  
 with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.  
 joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.  
 hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**God of harvest,**

**to your table we bring wine and bread,  
 and gifts from the labor of our hands.**

**Receive the offering of our lives,  
 and feed us with your living bread from heaven,  
 that we may serve and love all in your name;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.** -Sundays and Seasons adj.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

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

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name  
 and join their unending hymn:

# THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

## LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

**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

Pastor: Here we are reconciled with Christ,  
and with one another,  
as we gather at all our tables.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## COMMUNION SONG "Christ O Lamb of God" Chicago Folk

Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the  
sin of the world, - have mer - cy on us.  
Christ, O Lamb of God,  
who takes a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on  
us. Christ, O Lamb of  
God, who takes a - way the sin of the world, -  
give us your peace.

**DISTRIBUTION**

“The Lord Is My Strength”

Brad Hirsch

The Lord is my strength;  
The Lord is my strength;  
The Lord is my strength and my song.

He has become my salvation.  
He has become my salvation.  
He has become my salvation.

*After all have communed, please stand.*

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

**People: Amen.**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**We give you thanks faithful God,  
for feeding us with this one heavenly food.  
Transform us through this meal  
into the likeness of your Son,  
and unite us in love for one another,  
that we may be your body in the world;  
In Jesus' name we pray.**

**Amen.** -Sundays and Seasons adj.

# SENDING

## CLOSING HYMN

## "Make Me An Instrument"

Dakota Road

Make me an instrument of your love. Let me be a chan-nel from above.

D G A D G A D *Fine*

Make me an instrument of your love, an in-strument of your love.

G A D Bm7

When a friend is in need of an op - en heart,  
When some-one is hungry, when some-one is cold,  
If some-one should wonder is God still a - live,

G A D

let me be there, oh let me be there. When a friend is lost with  
let me be there, oh let me be there. When some-one needs help to  
let me be there, oh let me be there. If some-one should wonder does

Bm7 E7 A

no-where to go, let me be there.  
car - ry their load, let me be there.  
God real-ly care, let me be there.

## BENEDICTION, CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

from Romans 13:8-14

Pastor: <sup>12</sup>Let us put on the armor of light;  
<sup>13</sup>and live honorably as in the day.

The law and commandments are filled full  
as we "Love our neighbors as ourselves."

<sup>11</sup> Now is the moment to wake,  
salvation is coming near.

<sup>14</sup>Let us put on the Lord Jesus Christ....

**People: Amen.**

# DISMISSAL

Assistant: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

# POSTLUDE

## “To Live On”

## Dakota Road

To live on in grace and won - der. To reach out and to  
love each oth - er. To live on. To live on. To live on. *Fine (G)*  
*3rd X D.S. al Fine*

We don't al - ways know where we're go - ing. We don't al - ways know  
Some days we are in life's dark val - leys. Some days we are on

what to be - lieve. But we stand in-side this hope of free - dom,  
life's moun-tain tops. Ev-ry-where we go in all cre - a - tion,

hold - ing to the faith we have re - ceived. To live  
we walk in the prom - is - es of God.

God who made us, claims and saves us, lead us in your love. To live



