

125 Years Sharing Christ on the North Shore and Beyond!



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Grand Marais, Minnesota

1899 - 2024



Quasiquicentennial Worship Service

22 September, in the year of our Lord, 2024

10:00 A.M. Service of Holy Communion



18th Sunday after Pentecost - Setting One
Pastor Calvin Konop, Preaching
Pastor Mark Ditmanson, Presiding
with Karina Roth & the Bethlehem Choir

218-387-2227 | blc@boreal.org | www.sharingchrist.org

Belonging to Christ, Sharing Christ on the North Shore & Beyond!

We welcome you to this Special Worship Service today!

Prelude *"Day by Day"* Sue Anderson, Violin

Gathering Hymn: *"Gather Us In"* ELW 653

Procession of Former Clergy & Staff, Synod Staff

Announcements Pastor Calvin Konop

Confession and Forgiveness Jonathan Rova

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of **+** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Greeting

JONATHAN ROVA

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.**

Kyrie

ELW page 98

JONATHAN ROVA

Canticle of Praise

“Glory to God”

ELW page 99

JONATHAN ROVA

Prayer of the Day

Pastor Calvin Konop

O God, you have promised through your Son to be with your church forever. We give you thanks for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your presence in our congregation. Increase in us the spirit of faith and love, and make our fellowship an example to all believers and to all nations. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**



Children’s Time

Sarah Rhodes

On the way up the aisles, the children will be collecting coins for the “Holy Cow” fund, which will support LWR World Hunger. *Find that loose change and hand it to a kiddo!*

First Lesson

1 Kings 8:27-30

Ashley Konop

²⁷ “But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! ²⁸ Regard your servant’s prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today, ²⁹ that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, ‘My name shall be there,’ that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. ³⁰ Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place: O hear in heaven your dwelling place; hear and forgive.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms

Psalms 77:11-15

Ashley Konop

¹¹ I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord: I will remember your wonders of old.

¹² I will meditate on all your work and muse on your mighty deeds.

¹³ Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?

¹⁴ You are the God who works wonders: you have displayed your might among the peoples.

¹⁶ With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. *Selah*

Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:4-9

Ashley Konop

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner."

⁸ and

"A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel

John 10:22-30

Pastor Calvin Konop

The holy gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²² At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter. ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will

never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

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

Sermon

Pastor Calvin Konop

Hymn of the Day

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

ELW 733

Recognition of Former Clergy, Staff and Synod Staff

Blessing

Affirmation of Baptism for the Assembly

Pastor Mike Carlson

ELW page 234

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor Mike Carlson

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Prayers of God's People

Pastor Mike Carlson

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Loving God, you welcome all at your table of grace. As we celebrate today, instill in your us a spirit of humility and curiosity, that we embrace all who seek you. We pray especially for ministries of hospitality like Coffee An' and our new Hospitality teams, and our faith formation ministries, especially our Sunday School, Confirmation, and Youth Ministries that have begun this fall. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you shape the world so there is more than enough for all. Curb our habits of overuse, and guide us toward more sustainable sources of energy, food, and water. We thank you for the ministries of environmental sustainability that

you have inspired in this congregation – continue to draw us to be stewards of the gift of your creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Faithful God, you draw near to you all who are in need. Transform economic, political, and social systems that oppress vulnerable people, especially systems of structural racism and generational poverty. Bring healing and wholeness to all who suffer, especially Buddy, Nancy, Ed & Kathy, Robert & Kay, Bruce & Stacey, Chet, Kati, Lynn, and Rhonda. We pray now for those we name aloud, or in the silence of our hearts. (*A time of silence.*) Guard them in their waking and their sleeping. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Transforming God, you accompany all through changes and transitions. Help us to see where you are calling this community to new ways of living the gospel promise: assure us that even as change brings loss, it also brings hope and life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, you embrace us on our final pilgrimage from this life. Accompany all who have died, console those who mourn, and at the last, show us the way to eternal life in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks to you for the members and the ministry of this congregation: for those who had the vision to begin this congregation, those who sustain its present ministry, and those who will carry its mission forward into the future. Strengthen our faith, and inspire us for another 125 years of ministry and worship. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **AMEN.**

Offering

“*Gather at the River*” (by Brian Tate)

Bethlehem Choir



Offering Prayer

Pastor Calvin Konop

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW page 107

Pastor Mark Ditmanson

Preface

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Pastor Mark Ditmanson

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW page 108

Pastor Mark Ditmanson

Words of Institution

Pastor Mark Ditmanson

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Mark Ditmanson

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 Mark Ditmanson

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God. All are welcome!

Bethlehem Lutheran Church believes in the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion, and we practice eucharistic hospitality. All persons, whether visiting or a member, are welcomed to Communion.

Communion Music

"Lamb of God"

"Children of the Heavenly Father"



ELW page 112

ELW 781

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor Mark Ditmanson

Prayer after Communion

Pastor Mark Ditmanson

Almighty God, we give you thanks that you have fed us with this heavenly food. In your grace and by your Spirit, help us to be what we celebrate, the body of Christ in the world. Send us out, renewed by this sacramental meal, to do the work you have

given us to do: to witness for Christ, to love you with singleness of heart, and to serve you with clarity of purpose: through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Pastor Calvin Konop

Go forth in peace and with the courage of faith. Love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.

Amen

Sending Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress"

ELW 504

Dismissal

Pastor Calvin Konop

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

Eric Anderson, Euphonium

Arranged by Aaron David Miller

Happy 125th
Serve the Lord with Joy and Gladness!



*"Let us go now to Bethlehem
to see this thing that has
taken place, which the Lord
has made known to us."*

Luke 2: 15



Wednesday Worship and Community Meals start at 5:30pm. (Free will donations for meal.) Contemporary Worship & Confirmation begins at 6:00pm. All are welcome.

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are requested for healing: Nancy Lindquist, Buddy Skinner, Ed & Kathy Bolstad, Lyle & Laurie Spry, Robert Olson, Gene & Barbara Erickson, Stephanie Radloff, Chet Lindskog, Kati Kristenson Stieler, Shae Lindholm, Emily Ulhorn, Joan Bieber, Jody Daugherty, Bruce & Stacey Johnson, Lynn & Craig Schulte, Paulina Backstrom, Vera Finn, Char Anderson, Rhonda Schulte, Les Donek, Kristi (Speck) Perales, Emi Heikkinen, Elsa Sorenson, Hank Ferland, Betty Jones, Sharon & Lisa Bloomquist, Kim & Stacey Schulte, Carol Ann. *If you have any updates on these prayer requests, or any new requests, please call the office at 218-387-2227. Thank you.*

This week we lift up these member families and friends: *Mark, Brooke, Reuben, Grete & Barrett Youngdahl; June Tveekrem; Brad, Brooke, J, Ryan & Katie Shannon; Martina & Jesse Johnson, Aubrey, Blake & Oliver; John Ceryes.* May God walk with these friends in their faith journey.

Sunday School has started! All children ages 3 through 3rd grade are invited to attend Sunday School during worship.

NEW Bible Study for Women: Join Ashley Konop (at their home) as we read & discuss “*Jesus and Women*” by Kristi McLelland. Thursdays Oct. 3 to Nov 21, 7-8 pm. Sign up sheet in narthex. \$25/book.

Traveler & Grocery Cards are available from BLC to members and the community that need to travel out-of-town for medical appointments or need help with food security. Contact the office.

Bethlehem Choir practices every Sunday at 8:40 am. We invite anyone who can carry a tune and likes choral music (wide variety!) is welcome to join in the fun. For more information talk to Karina Roth.

Wednesday Text Study: Join us at 12:30 pm on Wednesdays for a study of the scripture lessons and laughter!

Men’s Bible Study: Every Thursday morning, beginning at 8:00 to 9:15 am. Contact Mike Chmelik for information, 218-387-1790

Quilters are seeking more helpers, especially anyone that can sew quilt tops! Every Thursday morning at 9 to 11:30am. No experience necessary. Work with the group or at home, whatever works best for you! **We have several lovely kits ready for your sewing pleasure.**

Free Bibles: Help yourself to a large print English Standard Version Bible, on the counter in the Narthex. Thanks to Paul & Pam for this gift!

Prayer Chain Warriors: These warriors consist of members (and friends) at Bethlehem who respond to prayer requests through a phone tree network and are pledged to confidentiality. To join or make a request, contact Pastor Calvin, Laura Popkes (218-370-0721), or Denise in the office. (218.387.2227)

Christ In Our Home Devotionals are in the narthex and entryway by the offices.

Sign Up to Help with Sunday Services and Coffee An’: There are blue clipboards in the Narthex and kitchen to sign up with Sunday morning help & coffee. All are qualified and help is much appreciated.

We Gratefully Acknowledge

Those who assisted in our Worship Service and Program this morning. . .

Rev. Rollie Bockbrader, Northeastern Minnesota Synod Minister for Operations & Congregational Care
Rev. Mark Ditmanson, Rev. Robert Stoskopf, Rev. Mike Carlson, Rev. Rolf Morck, Rev. Art Dale,
Rev. William Beckstrand, Jonathan Rova, Rev. Tom Murray

. . . And those who assisted with our Quasiquicentennial Celebration

Mike Chmelik	Kristine Hedstrom	Ethel Johnson
Martha Rosbacka	Ruth Tice	Pastor Calvin Konop
The BLCW	The MOB	Nan Onkka (new logo!)

. . . **Flowers on the Altar are in honor of Mathias Johnson.** Mathias was a charter member of Bethlehem. Six generations of his descendants (too numerous to mention) have been baptized at Bethlehem and we look forward to more generations to come!

. . . And to Double D's Catering for our delicious meal today

This Week at Bethlehem:

Sun Sept 22 11:30 AM Program & Meal
Mon Sept 23 11:00 AM Staff Meeting
7:00 PM High School
Vocation Night
Tues Sep 24 8:30 AM ISD166 School
Evacuation Drill to BLC
Wed Sept 25 12:30 PM Text Study
5:30 PM Meal
6:00 PM Contemporary Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation
Thurs Sept 26 8:00 AM Bible Study
9:00 AM Quilting
10:30 AM RIC meeting
Sun. Sep 29 8:40 AM Choir Practice
10:00 AM Contemporary
Worship Service with Average Worship Band

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

417 First Avenue West

P. O. Box 638

Grand Marais, MN 55604

218.387.2227

www.sharingchrist.org

www.facebook.com/BethlehemLutheranGM

Pastor Calvin Konop, Pastor

blcpastor@boreal.org 763-226-5425

Sarah Rhodes, CYF Director

blcyouth@boreal.org 952-818-5490

Denise Murray, Office Manager

blc@boreal.org 218-370-1058

Office Hours: MON-THURS 8:00 AM-3:30 PM

Friday 8:00 AM-NOON

blc@boreal.org

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On-line giving is encouraged using this QR Code or through automatic transfer. (Forms are available online & the office.)



in the office. (218.387.2227)

Traveler Cards are available from BLC to members of the community that need to travel out-of-town for medical appointments. Contact the office.

Local Grocery cards are available from the BLCW to members and community folks who need emergent help with food security. Contact the office.

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Quilters are seeking more helpers, especially anyone that can make quilt tops! Every Thursday morning at 9 to 11:30am. No experience necessary. Work with the group or at home, whatever works best for you!

Quilts make great gifts! *All of the quilts on display in the Narthex are for sale. Ask about them during fellowship time.*

Summertime is Church Camp time! See the posters on the Narthex counter. Scholarships are available. Forms are on the counter and on the Youth Bulletin board.

Free Bibles: Help yourself to a large print English Standard Version Bible, on the counter in the Narthex.

Choir rehearsals: Sundays at 8:40 am. The choir generally sings on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

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