

Welcome to  
**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

*Loving God, Serving Others*  
**2nd Sunday after Pentecost**  
**June 2, 2024 - 9:30 am**



Deuteronomy makes clear that sabbath-keeping is meant for the welfare of all. God delivered the Israelites out of slavery, so they should observe this freedom with a day of rest. No one should work seven days a week; even slaves and foreigners should be able to rest. Yet human beings can turn even the most liberating religious practice into a life-destroying rule. Jesus does not reject sabbath-keeping, but defends its original life-enhancing meaning. Our worship and our religious way of life are to lead to restoration: the hungry being fed and the sick being healed.

**Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**1915 N First St DeKalb IL 60115**  
**(815) 758-3203**  
**Rev. Bob Hansen**  
**Michael Graddy, Musician**

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

God, our provider,  
**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:  
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

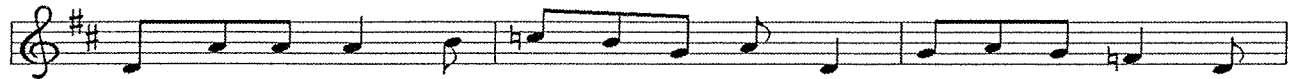
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN ELW 532

## Gather Us In



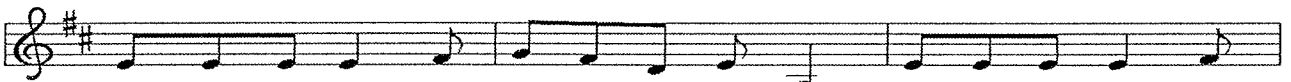
1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



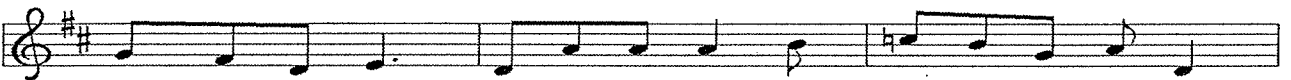
van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



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.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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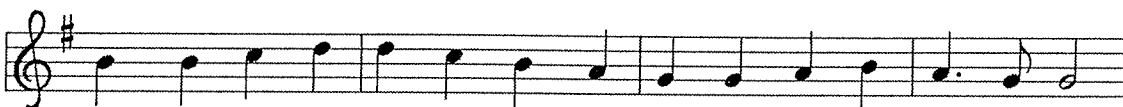
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The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
And also with you.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



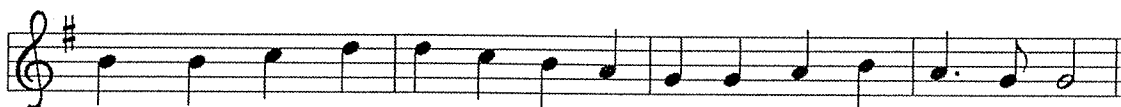
1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### **First Reading: Deuteronomy 5:12-15**

<sup>12</sup>Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. <sup>13</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>14</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. <sup>15</sup>Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

### **Psalm: Psalm 81:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Sing with joy to God our strength  
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>**Raise a song and sound the timbrel,  
the merry harp, and the lyre.**

<sup>3</sup>Blow the ram's horn at the new moon,  
and at the full moon, the day of our feast;

<sup>4</sup>**for this is a statute for Israel,  
a law of the God of Jacob.**

<sup>5</sup>God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, going out over the land of Egypt,  
where I heard a voice I did not know:

<sup>6</sup>**"I eased your shoulder from the burden;  
your hands were set free from the grave-digger's basket.**

<sup>7</sup>You called on me in trouble, and I delivered you;  
I answered you from the secret place of thunder and tested you at the waters of  
Meribah.

<sup>8</sup>**Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you:  
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

<sup>9</sup>There shall be no strange god among you;  
you shall not worship a foreign god.

<sup>10</sup>**I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.  
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.**

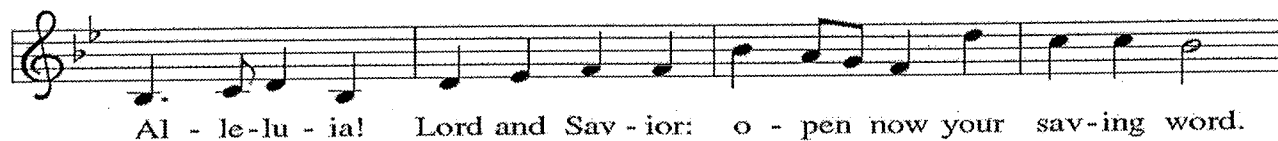
## Second Reading: Romans 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

<sup>5</sup>We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. <sup>8</sup>We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup>always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. <sup>11</sup>For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup>So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The gospel according to Mark.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Mark 2:23-3:6**

<sup>23</sup>One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. <sup>24</sup>The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" <sup>25</sup>And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? <sup>26</sup>He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; <sup>28</sup>so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

<sup>3:1</sup>Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. <sup>2</sup>They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. <sup>3</sup>And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. <sup>5</sup>He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. <sup>6</sup>The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

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

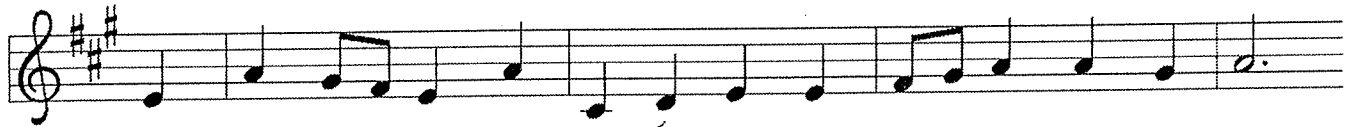
**MESSAGE**

**Rev. Bob Hansen**

## O Day of Rest and Gladness



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,  
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;  
3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n-ly man-na falls;  
4 New grac-es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:  
on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;  
to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum-pet calls,  
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.



on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,  
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;  
where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams  
We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une.  
and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three-fold light was giv'n.  
and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.  
the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833



## 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 OF INTERCESSION

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

*A brief silence.*

Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach your faithful people to be attentive to the spiritual, physical, and societal weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible acts of mercy and justice. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Provide wholeness and respite to all who are weary: those who struggle in any way and those who care for them. Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries and Little Free Pantries. Open both our hearts and our tables. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We remember the communion of saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self,  
and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal.  
Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.  
**Amen.**

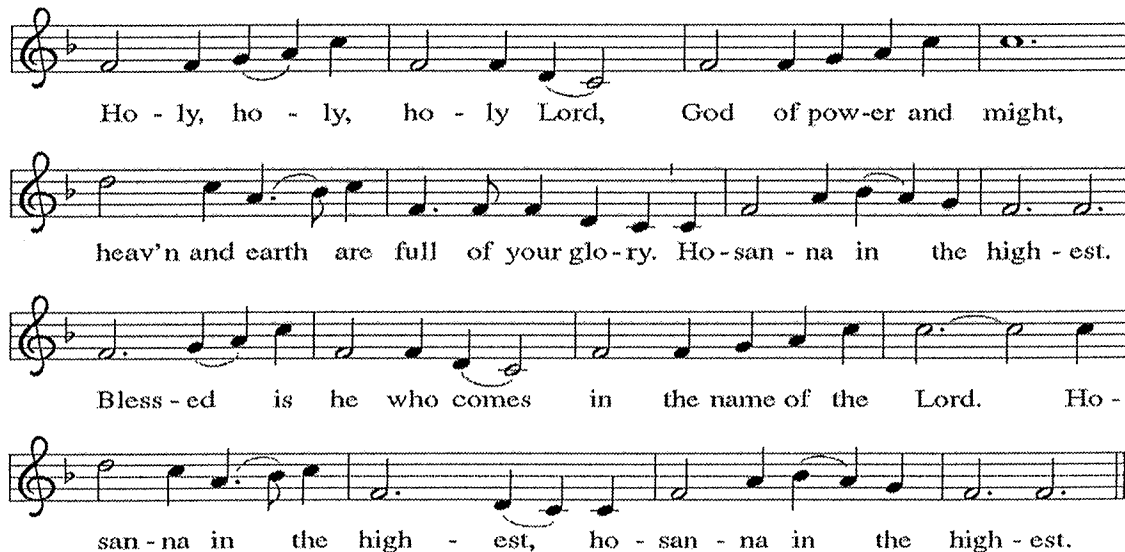
### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## *Words of Institution*

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all time and place, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

Come!



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## COMMUNION BLESSING

### PRAAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, Bread of life,  
 we have received from your table  
 more than we could ever ask.  
 As you have nourished us in this meal,  
 now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.  
 In your name we pray.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in his mission to the world.*

### BLESSING

The blessing of God,  
 who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
 † be upon you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN (see page 14)

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Let Us Enter In



1 Let us en-ter in to the song of thanks - giv - ing and free - dom.  
2 Let us en-ter in to the place where our God has pre - ced - ed.  
3 Let us en-ter in to the heart of a world that is bro - ken.



Let us en-ter in to the long line of peo - ple in need.  
Let us en-ter in to the face of the fear and the pain.  
Let us en-ter in to the start of a hope we can share.



Let us en-ter in to the strong mind that God is still liv - ing.  
Let us en-ter in to the grace of the love when it's need - ed.  
Let us en-ter in to the part where we call one an - oth - er



Heal - ing, for - giv - ing— Let us en - ter in.  
Death is de - feat - ed! Let us en - ter in.  
sis - ter and broth - er. Let us en - ter in.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: LET US ENTER IN, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1983 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## The Week Ahead

Monday-6/3	12:30-Cut-Ups
Tuesday-6/4	3-5—Feed My Sheep Food Pantry
Wednesday-6/5	10:30-Pantry Pick-up
Thursday-6/6	8:30—Pantry Pick Up 9:30-11:30 -Feed My Sheep Food Pantry 10:30 -Martha's Sisters (zoom)
Saturday, 6/8	8:30/9:30—Pantry Pick up
Sunday, 6/9	9:30 am-Worship

### **SYNOD ASSEMBLY IN-KIND OFFERING**

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the ELCA World Hunger, the Synod Social Ministry committee encourages the congregations of the Northern Illinois Synod to have a food drive for your local food pantries during the time that an in-kind offering would have been collected for Synod Assembly. Bethlehem will collect donations of **cereal** for our Feed My Sheep Food Pantry. Please have these brought in by June 12th so we can send our photo to Pastor Mack before Synod Assembly, which is June 14-15. Thank you in advance for your donation for such a great outreach that our congregation supports.

*Our offering plate is located at the rear of the sanctuary.  
We give thanks to God for all of our gifts!*

### **Pastor Schedule for June**

**2-Pastor Bob Hansen**  
**9-Pastor Sharon Rogers**  
**16-Pastor Sharon Rogers**  
**23-Pastor Bob Hansen**  
**30-Pastor Bob Hansen**

## **Bethlehem's Church Council Communications**

- ◆ Sunday Worship Musician is Michael Graddy.
- ◆ Thank you to all our Volunteers who are offering to share their time and talent.
- ◆ Church Office Summer Hours are Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00am to 1:00pm.
- ◆ Serving Bethlehem's Office needs is Barb Luchsinger under the supervision of Sue Ann Brown.
- ◆ Sue Ann Brown is our Finance Administrator under the supervision of Aaron Bloyd.
- ◆ Feed My Sheep Pantry Hours are Tuesday 3:00pm to 5:00pm & Thursday 9:30am to 11:00am.
- ◆ Serving Bethlehem's Food Pantry needs is Karen Maciejewski under the supervision of SueAnn Brown.
- ◆ Club 55 Senior Services Hours are Monday through Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm.
- ◆ Serving Club 55 is Kate Sullivan, Coordinator, and Bethlehem's partnership liaison is SueAnn Brown.
- ◆ Facility maintenance, key control or other building concerns are managed by Church Council.
- ◆ Church Council Members are Aaron Bloyd, Tammie Farley, Dawn George, Bill Perian, and Andy Velez.
- ◆ Questions?? Please call the Church Office at 815-758-3203 to leave a message for a Council Member.