

# Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church

*Loving God, Serving Others*  
**8th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 14, 2024**



When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.

**Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**1915 N First St, DeKalb IL 60115**  
**(815) 758-3203**  
**Rev. Sharon Rogers**  
**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.**

## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



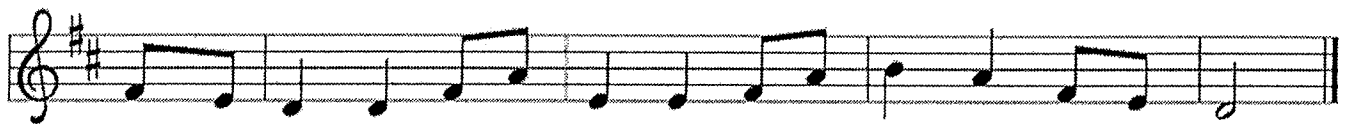
- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

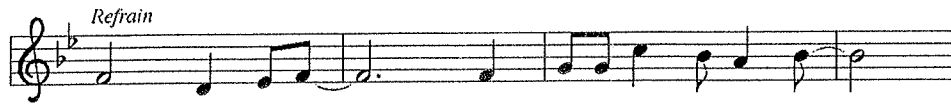
Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.




Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

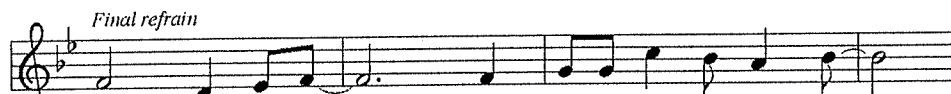


3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

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

### **First Reading: Amos 7:7-15**

<sup>7</sup> This is what [the Lord God] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. <sup>8</sup> And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line  
in the midst of my people Israel;  
I will never again pass them by;

<sup>9</sup> the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,  
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,  
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

<sup>10</sup> Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. <sup>11</sup> For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,  
and Israel must go into exile  
away from his land.’”

<sup>12</sup> And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; <sup>13</sup> but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

<sup>14</sup> Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, <sup>15</sup> and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

**Psalm: Psalm 85:8-13**

<sup>8</sup> I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup> **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup> Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup> **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup> The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup> **Righteousness shall go before the Lord  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14**

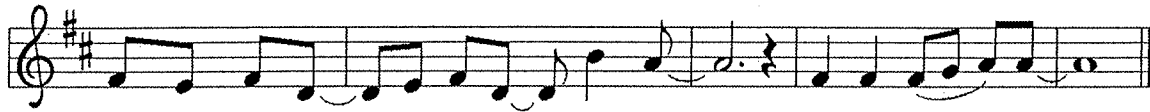
<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

### **Gospel: Mark 6:14-29**

<sup>14</sup> King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup> But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said; "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." <sup>16</sup> But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

<sup>17</sup> For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. <sup>18</sup> For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." <sup>19</sup> And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, <sup>20</sup> for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. <sup>21</sup> But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. <sup>22</sup> When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." <sup>23</sup> And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." <sup>24</sup> She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." <sup>25</sup> Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." <sup>26</sup> The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. <sup>27</sup> Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, <sup>28</sup> brought his head on a platter, and

gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.<sup>29</sup> When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

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

MESSAGE

Rev. Sharon Rogers

*HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 805*

Lead On, O King Eternal!



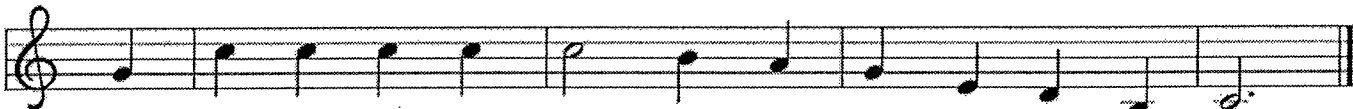
1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;  
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.  
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;  
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,  
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.  
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917  
Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879



## APOSTLES' CREED

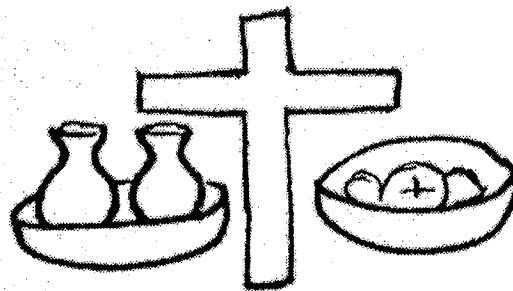
I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

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

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

*A brief silence*

You gather your people into the body of Christ. Where your church is wounded, heal it. Where it is right, strengthen it. Where it is divided, reunite it. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

From before the foundation of the world, you are God. Revive ecosystems destroyed by human greed. Curb our desire to put wealth ahead of the health of all who call this planet home. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You establish equity and make justice. Within every nation, tribe, and land, cause laws to be written and customs to be observed that protect the most vulnerable. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

On the cross your beloved Son endured pain and death. Bring healing to those in need, hope to any in despair, and comfort to the dying. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You send your Spirit into this community of faith. Empower our ministries that serve and build up local communities with Bethlehem's Feed My Sheep Food Pantry. Nurture our partnerships with other community organizations as Club 55 makes their home in our home. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All peoples praise you, O God. We give you thanks and praise for the lives of our loved ones who now rest in you. In the fullness of time gather us with all your saints in light. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**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, Lord God of pow-er and might,  
heav - en 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.

### *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!

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.

## COMMUNION BLESSING

### PRAYER 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

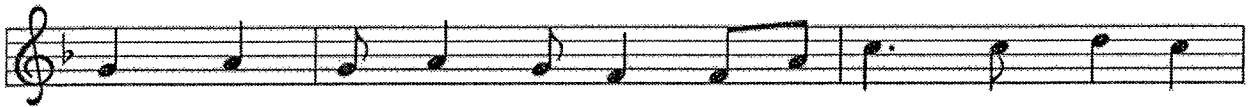
Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SENDING HYMN ACS 1091

## Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator



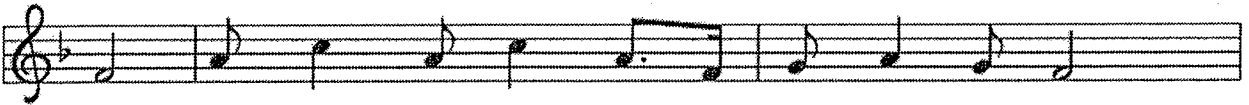
1 Hal - le - lu - jah! Sing praise to your Cre - a - tor, sun, moon, and  
2 Praise the Lord, all moun - tains and o - ceans, roll - ing thun - der and  
3 Give to God all glo - ry and hon - or. From the depths to the



stars and an - gels a - bove. Praise the Lord, whose word es -  
wind and storm clouds on high. Praise the Lord, your Mak - er,  
heights let prais - es re - sound to the Lord, the source of



tab - lished the heav - ens, who up - holds all the earth in pow - er and  
all liv - ing crea - tures, all the beasts in the fields and birds in the  
strength and sal - va - tion for all peo - ple on whom God's fa - vor is



love. God reigns on high, let the heav - ens re - joice! (Oh,  
sky. Both young and old, come and join in the song! (Oh,  
found. Praise God, you saints who are claimed as God's own! (Oh,



God reigns on high, let the heav - ens re - joice!  
Both young and old, come and join in the song!  
Praise God, you saints who are claimed as God's own!

Text: Tilly Lubis, 1925–2002, based on Psalm 148; tr. David Diephouse, b. 1947  
Music: NYANYIKANLAH NYANYIAN BARU, Batak melody; arr. H. A. Pandopo, b. 1935  
Text © 2009 Faith Alive Christian Resources  
Arr. © 1999 H. A. Pandopo

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## The Week Ahead

Monday-7/15	12:30-Cut-Ups
Tuesday-7/16	3-5—Feed My Sheep Open
Wednesday-7/17	10:30-Pantry Pick up Noon—VAC Lunch Served 7-8:30-Flute Choir
Thursday-7/18	8:30—Pantry Pick up 9:30-11:30 Feed My Sheep Open 10:30-Martha's Sisters (Zoom)
Saturday, 7/20	8:30/9:30—Pantry Pick up 10 am—Helen Ester Memorial Service at Anderson Funeral Home
Sunday, 7/21	9:30 am-Worship

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

### Pastor Schedule for July

**21-Pastor Bob Hansen**

**28-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.