



Welcome to Worship!

Sunday, October 12, 2025 ~ 8:30 A.M.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1620 Milwaukee Ave NE, Aberdeen, SD

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GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

We Were Baptized in Christ Jesus - Setting by Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME & INVITATIONS

CENTERING TIME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

If we're honest, we prefer our lives to be more like a motorboat rather than a sailboat. We can control a motorboat, unlike a sailboat that is propelled by wind. But the truth is, because of sin, we often propel ourselves off course. Instead of using a motor boat with mechanical propellers, God calls us to get into a sailboat, and to trust the Holy Spirit as the wind that guides our lives. It's scary to give up control, and yet, when we do so, God moves us to new horizons that are far greater than anything we can imagine.

Together, let us confess our sin, our desire for control, trusting that God will forgive us and propel us to where we need to go:

Holy God, we are sorry for taking control rather than trusting you. We are sorry for the ways we have hurt others, and help us to forgive those who have hurt us. Holy Spirit, give us the courage to trust in you as the wind-powered propeller of our sailboat, rather than get into a motor boat that we can control. Forgive us, renew us, and remind us you will always get us back on course because you love us so much.

Dear beloved children of God, receive this Good News, God forgives you of your sin. You are loved and claimed by God! God will always give you another chance to be propelled by the Spirit in ways that share God's goodness and love in the world. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions

live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as

hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -

Refrain
 Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 end to fear and dan - ger: All are wel - come,
 claim from floor to raf - ter:

all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
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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.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

CHILDREN'S GOOD NEWS TIME

SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION

Alleluia

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

SCRIPTURE

Acts 8:26-40

Red: Page 892-893; **Brown:** Page 1213; **Gray:** Page 1192-1193

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing;
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,



Refrain

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 THE PEOPLE

(Use QR code to access prayer list.)



Congregation Response: God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

THE 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.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

Lord, I Want To Be a Christian - Setting by Gordon Young

OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
And uphold me with your free Spirit.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

On Our Way Rejoicing

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain

On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,
hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

SENDING WORDS
Go in peace, propelled by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Hymn to Joy - Setting by Donald Busarow*

Today’s Ministers

Preaching..... Pastor Jeff Whillock
PresidingPastor Matt Spoden
Assisting Minister Crystal Swenson
Musician..... Darlyne Johnson & Bob Severson
Visual Communications Tech..... Wayne Hansen
Sound Techs.....Sophia Christiansen & Gabe Harmel

The Sanctuary & Chapel have a Hearing Loop to assist those with hearing loss. Activate the T-coil feature on your hearing aid or use a Loop Listening device (available from the usher). If you have questions, we'll be happy to connect you with another Hearing Loop user.

Radio Broadcast - Our Sunday 8:30 a.m. service is **broadcast** each Sunday morning at **10:45 on KGIM 1420 AM.**

The Globe Offering will go to Lutheran Braille Workers. Lutheran Braille Workers produces and distributes free Braille and Large Print Bibles to people who are visually impaired throughout the world. This offering will help send a Bible to a person who is visually disabled and make it possible for this person to “see” God and touch His promises.

The bulletin is sponsored ***in memory of*** Brynn Evenson.
Love - Mom, Dad, Rylan, Jordyn & Camden

Giving to Bethlehem

Scan the QR code for our simple, online giving portal. It’s the easiest and most convenient way to consistently support the ministries of Bethlehem. As always, thank you for your generosity.



Questions about your giving? Contact Jeannie, Director of Administration at
jhaaland@bethlehemaberdeen.org.