



# Welcome to Worship!

**Sunday, September 14, 2025 ~ 8:30 AM**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

1620 Milwaukee Ave NE, Aberdeen, SD

(605) 225-9740 † [www.bethlehemabern.org](http://www.bethlehemabern.org) office@bethlehemabern.org †

[www.facebook.com/BethlehemAberdeen](https://www.facebook.com/BethlehemAberdeen)

## GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* - Setting by Paul Manz

WELCOME & INVITATIONS

CENTERING TIME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

Many of our boats have propellers on them. We turn the motor on, ready at the helm, and thanks to the propeller, we can go wherever we want to go. If we're honest, we like to be at the helm, we like to have control over where we go in life. But the truth is, because of sin, we often propel ourselves off course. Instead of a motor boat with mechanical propellers, God calls us to get into a sailboat, and to trust that the Holy Spirit will propel us to where we are supposed to go. It's scary to give up control, and yet, when we do so, God moves us in amazing ways 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 forgive those who have hurt us.**

**Holy Spirit, give us the courage to live our lives as if we are in a sailboat, rather than a motor boat we can control, and to trust you as our propeller.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and remind us that no matter what, 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 help get you back on track, and 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

## *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  
 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,  
 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.  
 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  
 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,  
 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.  
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com), 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## 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

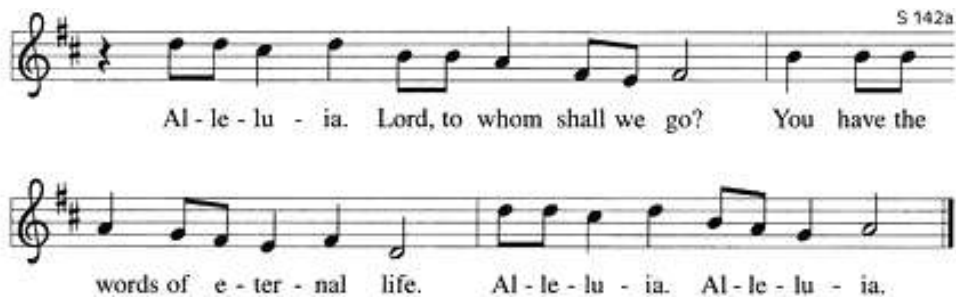
### WORD

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

## CHILDREN'S GOOD NEWS TIME

SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia*



SCRIPTURE

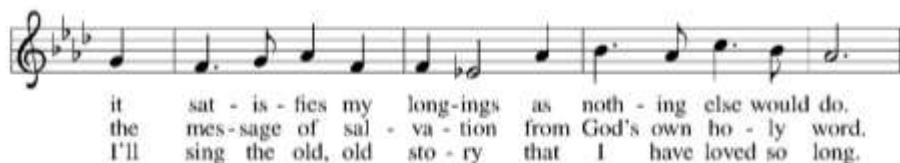
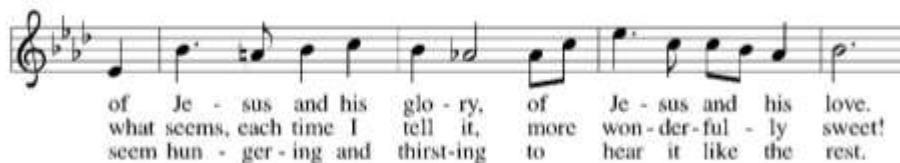
Acts 1:1-11

Red Pew Bible (page 884)

SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*I Love to Tell the Story*



## 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

*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



Bethlehem Prayer List

#### OFFERING MUSIC

*I Love to Tell the Story* - Setting by John Ferguson

#### 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 unto me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

#### OFFERING PRAYER

**Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our 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

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing* - Settings by Charles W. Ore, Michael Burkhardt

### Today's Ministers

Preaching.....	Pastor Jeff Whillock
Presiding .....	Pastor Matt Spoden
Assisting Minister .....	Vicci Stange
Musicians .....	Rebecca Christiansen & Darlyne Johnson
Visual Communications Tech .....	Kennadee Wagner
Livestream Camera Tech .....	Dan Richardt
Sound Techs.....	Hugh Dahme & 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 Lisa Sanchez.** Lisa was scheduled for a lumbar fusion on May 21st but the nurses realized that she was overdue for her mammogram. They told her that she had to have her mammogram before surgery, so it was quickly scheduled. It came back abnormal. She was then scheduled for a biopsy after her back surgery. She had her back surgery, which used up all of her vacation time. Everything went well. She had the biopsy done on June 26th and on June 30th she got the news that she had been diagnosed with Invasive Lobular Carcinoma, breast cancer. The last few months she was on short term disability, so her pay was very little. She had a double mastectomy. The pathology report came back and the lump was much larger than originally thought and the cancer has spread into her lymph nodes. So now it's stage 2 cancer. She is waiting for blood work to come back to decide on a treatment plan. The globe offering will assist with her travel and medical expenses.

---

## Give To Bethlehem!

1. Hover your camera app over the QR code on the side and tap the link to our simple, online giving portal.
2. From there, you can login to your account or simply give to a ministry you're passionate about directly from the portal.
3. Please consider enrolling for recurring giving by selecting a weekly, biweekly or monthly frequency.



It's the easiest and most convenient way to consistently support the ministries of Bethlehem. As always, thank you for your generosity. We couldn't do it without you!

Questions about your giving?

Contact Jeannie, Director of Administration at [jhaaland@bethlehemaberdeen.org](mailto:jhaaland@bethlehemaberdeen.org)