

August 30, 2026 | 8:30am



Bethlehem

LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost



18865 SW Johnson St. | Aloha, OR 97003 | 503-649-3380 | www.BLCFAMILY.org

Order of Worship

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost | 8:30 am | August 30, 2026

*Music for the Divine Service III liturgy is not in the blue hymnal.
If you would like music for the liturgy, please see an usher.*

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Worship

(Please Stand)

Opening Hymn

Draw to the Cross, Which You Have Blessed

LW #356

Drawn to the cross, which You have blessed
With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in You my life, my rest,
Christ crucified, I come.

How well You know my griefs and fears,
Your grace abused, my misspent years!
Yet now to You with contrite tears,
Christ crucified, I come.

Wash me and take away each stain;
Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing, though it be through pain,
Christ crucified, I come.

Then all that You would have me do
Shall such glad service be for You
That angels wish to do it too.
Christ crucified, I come.

Invocation and Confession

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

L: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Hebrews 10:22

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth. Psalm 124:8

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Psalm 32:5

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

L: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

L: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

L: Glory be to God on high:

C: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

L: Let us pray.

C: Faithful Father, we know that You are in control and that Your plans are better than ours. Through Your Holy Spirit, teach us to surrender our lives to You and to trust in Your ways. Help us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Strengthen us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and walk by faith in Him, the author and perfecter of our faith. It is in His name we pray. Amen.

First Reading

(Please Sit)

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance take me not away;
know that for your sake I bear reproach.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of revelers,
nor did I rejoice;
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail?

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD:
 "If you return, I will restore you,
 and you shall stand before me.
 If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
 you shall be as my mouth.
 They shall turn to you,
 but you shall not turn to them.
²⁰ And I will make you to this people
 a fortified wall of bronze;
 they will fight against you,
 but they shall not prevail over you,
 for I am with you
 to save you and deliver you,
 declares the LORD.
²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
 and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Alleluia 🎵 page 6

(Please Stand)

C: **Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel 🎵 page 6

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C: **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸ Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for *us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(* "us men" means "all people")

Children's Message

(Please Sit)

Eric Oswald, DCE

Hymn of the Day

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus

LW #381

Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus and with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; where He is there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, we shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy shall give way to mirth here-after.
Jesus, here I share Your woe; help me there Your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction, give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion that would lead us into sin;
Then by grace we all may win untold fruits of His creation.
Jesus, unto You I die, there to live with You on high.

Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, since You are our head,
We are Your own living members; where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly, living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me.

Sermon

Finding Life in Jesus' Steps (from www.lhm.org)

Bob Baker

Gathering of our Tithes and Offerings

Bringing tithes and financial gifts to the Lord is an act of worship. These offerings help to accomplish ministry both here at Bethlehem and around the world. May God bless your response of faith.

Please join our members in signing the Red Friendship Register. Thank you!

Prayers of the Church

Lord's Prayer

(Please Stand)

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.

Benediction page 15

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn

In the Cross of Christ, I Glory

LW #101

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

Sending

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Drawn to the Cross, Which You Have Blessed

Text: Genevieve Irons, b. 1855, alt.
Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838-96
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 1788
Music: Public domain Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

In the Cross of Christ, I Glory

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. Peer O. Stromme, 1856-1921, alt.
Tune: Johann B. König, Harmonischer Liederschatz, 1738
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