

# PRAISE & THANKSGIVING ORDER OF SERVICE



## RE-DEDICATION OF BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH 7 NOVEMBER 2021

*I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"*

Psalm 122:1



---

Welcome to the re-dedication service of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. A very warm welcome to any visitors we have with us. We pray that the Lord would serve us today, as we gather to thank and praise Him for His goodness to us.

Due to ongoing covid restrictions, in order to have 100% seating capacity, we are required via a ticket system to record the names and phone numbers of all who attend. Therefore, you will find a ticket on each seat. PLEASE fill out the ticket and leave in the box at the back of the church when you leave.

Thank you.



**PLEASE, FOR OUR ELDERLY OR FRAIL GUESTS, DO NOT FEEL COMPELLED TO GATHER OUTSIDE WITH US! IF YOU WOULD MUCH PREFER, THE USHERS WILL LET YOU IN THE CHURCH WHERE YOU CAN FIND A SEAT**

## **THE OPENING OF THE DOORS**

*The congregation and minister gather outside the church*

P: Let the doors of this church be opened for the preaching of the saving Word of God in accordance with the confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, for the administration of the holy Sacraments according to the institution of Christ, and for offering to God the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

*The doors are opened*

P: Peace be to this house and to all who enter here in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

*As we enter the church the choir sings "Sanctus".  
Remain standing.*

## **THE BLESSING OF THE CHURCH**

P: Beloved in the Lord, Christ Jesus is present wherever His holy Word is taught purely, and the holy Sacraments are administered according to His institution. As the Lord said through Moses, "*In every place where I make My name known I shall come to you and bless you*" (Exodus 20:24b).

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, though You are not contained in houses built by human hands, we pray that You will be pleased to dwell with us here and to make known to us Your glory. Be present in this place where we are gathered to receive Your forgiveness, hear Your holy Word, and praise Your holy name. Graciously hear the prayers we shall offer to You; bless the marriages to be solemnised; comfort those who will mourn; and let

harmony and peace rest upon all in this place. Bring us at last to the heavenly Jerusalem, where the Lamb is the Temple, that we may unite with all the saints and angels in His praise; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

P: The Lord Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this church building. **C: Amen.**

*The congregation sits*

## **THE BLESSING OF THE PARAMENTS AND PULPIT**

While some of our furnishings have travelled with us from the church at Troys Road and have already been consecrated, the paraments and pulpit are new and will now be consecrated to the Lord.

### **BLESSING OF THE PARAMENTS**

P: The psalmist declares, *“The LORD reigns. He is robed with majesty. The LORD is robed. He has fastened on strength as His belt.” “Splendour and majesty are before Him. Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.”*

Psalm 93:1; 96:6

Let us pray.

P: Lord God Almighty, You instructed Moses Your servant to make hangings and fine linens for use in Your tabernacle. We implore You to sanctify these paraments for the adornment of Your Church; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

P: The Lord Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless these paraments. **C: Amen.**

### **BLESSING OF THE PULPIT**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ preached and taught repentance and the forgiveness of sins, and after His resurrection, sent His disciples out, saying: *“Go into the entire world and preach the Good News to the whole creation!”* Mark 16:15

Let us pray.

P: O Lord God, Your Son stepped into Simon Peter's boat and from it taught the crowds, thus making it a pulpit. Bless this pulpit that from it Your saving and merciful Word may be proclaimed and many may be brought to eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

P: The Lord Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this pulpit. **C: Amen.**

HYMN 468

**O PRAISE YE THE LORD**

1

O praise ye the Lord!  
Praise Him in the height;  
Rejoice in His Word,  
Ye angels of light;  
Ye heavens, adore Him  
By whom ye were made,  
And worship before Him,  
In brightness arrayed.

2

O praise ye the Lord!  
Praise Him upon earth  
In tuneful accord,  
Ye sons of new birth;  
Praise Him who hath brought you  
His grace from above,  
Praise Him who hath taught you  
To sing of His love.

3

O praise ye the Lord,  
All things that give sound;  
Each jubilant chord,  
Re-echo around;  
Loud organs, His glory  
Forth tell in deep tone,  
And sweet harp, the story  
Of what He hath done.

4

O praise ye the Lord!  
Thanksgiving and song  
To Him be outpoured  
All ages along.  
For love in creation,  
For heaven restored,  
For grace of salvation,  
O praise ye the Lord!

## THE SERVICE

*The congregation stands*

### THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### THE CONFESSION

P: Dear friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

*Remain standing*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord. **C: He made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord. **C: Then He forgave the guilt of my sin.**

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to You that by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: Most merciful God, You have given Your only Son to die for us: Have mercy on us, and for His sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By Your Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of You and Your will, and make us obedient to Your Word, so that by Your grace we may come to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our

sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the right to become the children of God and has given them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.

*The congregation remains standing to read the Introit*

### THE INTROIT

**How lovely is Your dwelling-place, O LORD of hosts!**

**My soul has been deeply longing, — indeed, it has been yearning, for the courts of the LORD. My heart and my flesh are shouting for joy to the living God.**

**Even a sparrow has found a home, and a swallow a nest for herself, where she has settled her young, near Your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.**

**Blessed are those who dwell in Your house! They are constantly praising You.**

**Blessed are the people whose strength is in You! Your paths are in their hearts.**

**As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they turn it into a place of springs. The early rain also covers it with blessings.**

**They go from strength to strength. Each one appears before God in Zion.**

**O LORD, God of hosts, hear my prayer! Listen, O God of Jacob!**

**Look at our shield, O God! Look on the face of Your anointed one!**

**For one day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather lie at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

**For the LORD God is a Sun and a Shield. The LORD will give grace and glory. He will not hold back anything good from those whose conduct is honest.**

**O LORD of hosts, blessed is the person who trusts in You!**

THE GLORY TO THE FATHER

**ALL: Glory to the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be for evermore. Amen.**

THE LORD HAVE MERCY

P: Lord, have mercy.                   **C: Lord, have mercy.**  
P: Christ, have mercy.               **C: Christ, have mercy.**  
P: Lord, have mercy.               **C: Lord, have mercy.**

THE GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

P: Glory to God in the highest.

**C: And on earth peace, among men with whom He is pleased. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory, O Lord God, heavenly king, God, the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For You alone are holy, You alone are Lord, You alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.           **C: And also with you.**

**ALL: Almighty God, You have promised to be with Your Church for ever. We praise You for Your presence in this place of worship and ask for Your ongoing blessing on those who gather here. Dwell continually among us with Your holy Word and Sacraments, strengthen our fellowship in the bonds of love and peace, and increase our faithful witness to Your salvation; through Jesus**



**Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The congregation sits*

**THE FIRST READING**

*After the reading:*

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**THE SECOND READING**

*After the reading:*

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

**PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN**

*Choir to sing verses 1-3, congregation joins in with verse 4*

1

Praise, my soul, the King of  
heaven;  
To His feet your tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored,  
forgiven,  
Evermore His praises sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.

2

Praise Him for His grace and  
favour  
To His people in distress;  
Praise Him, still the same for  
ever,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Glorious is His faithfulness.

3

Father-like He tends and spares  
us;  
Well our feeble frame He  
knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Widely as His mercy flows.

4

*Angels, help us to adore Him;  
You behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down  
before Him,  
All who dwell in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.*

*The congregation stands for the Gospel*

## THE GOSPEL

*Pastor announces the Gospel, and the congregation responds:*

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

*After the Gospel:*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.      **C: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*The congregation sits*

**HYMN 440      SING PRAISE TO GOD, WHO REIGNS ABOVE**

1

Sing praise to God, who reigns above,  
The God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love,  
The God of our salvation;  
With healing balm my soul He fills  
And every pain and sorrow stills:  
To God all praise and glory!

2

The angel host, O King of kings,  
Thy praise for ever telling,  
In earth and sky all living things  
Beneath Thy shadow dwelling,  
Adore and praise their Maker's  
    might,  
Whose wisdom orders all things  
    right:  
To God all praise and glory!

3

What God's almighty power hath  
    made  
His gracious mercy keepeth;  
By morning glow or evening  
    shade  
His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth:  
Within the kingdom of His might  
Lo, all is just, and all is right:  
To God all praise and glory!

4

The Lord forsaketh not His flock,  
His chosen generation;  
He is their refuge and their rock,  
Their peace and their salvation.  
As with a mother's tender hand,  
He leads His own, His chosen  
    band:  
To God all praise and glory!

5

O ye who name Christ's holy  
    name  
Give God all praise and glory:  
All ye who own His power,  
    proclaim  
Aloud the wondrous story.  
Cast each false idol from His  
    throne,  
The Lord is God, and He alone.  
To God all praise and glory!

6

Thus all my gladsome way along  
    I sing aloud Thy praises,  
That men may hear the grateful song  
    My voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;  
Both soul and body bear your part:  
To God all praise and glory!

## SERMON

*Haggai 2:6-9 "In this place I shall give peace"*

*[The congregation stands for the apostolic greeting and the text, and sits for the sermon.  
After the sermon the congregation stands, and the minister says the apostolic blessing]*



Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum ("the Word of the Lord remains forever")

Isaiah 40:8; 1 Peter 1:24-25

HYMN 437

### **NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD**

(The collection is received during the hymn)

1

Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and  
voices,

Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

2

O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

3

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven:  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore,  
For thus it was, is now,  
And will be evermore.

## THE OFFERTORY

*The congregation stands*

**ALL: What can I offer to the Lord: for all His goodness to me?**

**I will lift up the cup of salvation: and call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving: and call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will keep my promises to the Lord: in the presence of all His people;  
In the courts of the house of the Lord: in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

## THE PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER:

**ALL: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

**P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, and give you peace.**

**C: Amen. Amen. Amen.**



1

God the Father, Son and Spirit,  
 Ever-blessed Trinity,  
 Humbly now our thanks we offer,  
 All unworthy though we be.  
 Freely Thou hast showered  
 blessings  
 Countless as the ocean sands,  
 Blessings rich and overflowing,  
 On the labours of our hands.

2

Thou didst guide our fathers'  
 footsteps  
 To this land we hold so dear,  
 Lengthening all the cords and  
 curtains  
 Of their habitation here;  
 Strengthening still Thy temple's  
 pillars  
 As Thou hast from age to age;  
 Giving us, their sons and daughters,  
 An abiding heritage.

3

Grant that we Thy Word may  
 cherish  
 And its purity retain.  
 Lord, unless Thou art the builder,  
 All our labour is in vain.  
 Keep us from all pride and  
 boasting,  
 Vanity and foolish trust,  
 Knowing that our work without  
 Thee  
 Soon will crumble into dust.

4

God of grace and love and  
 blessing,  
 Thine alone shall be the praise;  
 Give us hearts to trust Thee truly,  
 Hands to serve Thee all our days.  
 Lord, bestow Thy future blessing  
 Till we join the heavenly host,  
 There to serve and praise Thee  
 ever,  
 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

## TABLE GRACE

Great God, Thou giver of all good,  
 Accept our praise, and bless our food;  
 Grace, health, and strength to us afford,  
 Through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.