

January 12, 2025
Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Trusting in God's forgiveness, let us in silence confess our failings and acknowledge our part in the pain of the world.

Silence

P: Before God, with the people of God, I confess to turning away from God in the ways I wound my life, the lives of others and the life of the world

**C: In the name of Jesus, God forgives you, Christ renews you,
and the Spirit empowers you to grow in love.**

P: Amen.

**C: Before God, with the people of God, we confess to turning away from
God in the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others and the life of the
world.**

P: In the name of Jesus, God forgives you, Christ renews you,
and the Spirit empowers you to grow in love.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Here I Am Lord

ELW 574

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.

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 144:1-9

**L: ¹ I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.**

**R: ² Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

**³ Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.**

**⁴ One generation shall extol your works to another
and shall declare your mighty acts.**

**⁵ They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works I will meditate.**

**⁶ They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.**

**⁷ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.**

**⁸ The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**⁹ The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

Prayer of the Day

God of hope, you gave the disciples power over demons and illness. By your power, thousands were fed. Empower us and send us out to work for fulfillment of your mission. **Amen**

Gospel Reading - Luke 9:1-17

9 Then Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, **2** and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. **3** He said to them, "Take nothing for your journey: no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra tunic. **4** Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there. **5** Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them." **6** So they departed and went through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere.

7 Now Herod the ruler heard about all that had taken place, and he was perplexed because it was said by some that John had been raised from the

dead, ⁸ by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the ancient prophets had arisen. ⁹ Herod said, “John I beheaded, but who is this about whom I hear such things?” And he tried to see him.

¹⁰ On their return the apostles told Jesus all they had done. Then, taking them along, he slipped quietly into a city called Bethsaida. ¹¹ When the crowds found out about it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God and healed those who needed to be cured.

¹² The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said, “Send the crowd away, so that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside to lodge and get provisions, for we are here in a deserted place.” ¹³ But he said to them, “You give them something to eat.” They said, “We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people.” ¹⁴ For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” ¹⁵ They did so and had them all sit down. ¹⁶ And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke them and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. ¹⁷ And all ate and were filled, and what was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

Message

Hymn of the Day *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

ELW 674

Apostle's Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Exchange of Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you all

R: And also with you.

Please share the peace with one another

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you O God, Creator of the universe. You open your hand in blessing and all we have is a gift to you. Use these gifts and our abilities to serve your world. In your name we pray, **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Sending Prayer

L: Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that

your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Sending Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661

Dismissal

P: Go in peace to love God and your neighbor

C: Thanks be to God!

Announcements

Looking ahead:

- Zion's annual meeting is next Sunday, January 19. We will have a 10:45 worship start time to allow for Pr. Kris to attend the meeting
- Our own annual meeting will be January 26