



BEHOLD THE NEW HAS COME! SUNDAY WORSHIP

affirming our baptism

Sunday, July 19, 10:00am

Esther Lutheran Church – Worship on the Lake
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

GREETING

SKIT *“Behold the New! – Seeing with a new lens.*

BEHOLD CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Triune God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Who was, who is, and who is to come.

All: Amen.

L: Holy God,

**All: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
Waters that make a people your own,
That restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.**

L: Baptized into you, O Living One,

All: Make us one as you are one.

L: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

**All: waters that strengthen the beloved
and give new life to servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.**

L: Baptized into you, O Living One,

All: make us one as you are one.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: Jesus, Jesus you are with me as I step into this day.

Let me hear you gently calling, “Precious Child, walk this way.”

Jesus Jesus when I hear you calling me to follow you,

In that hour give me grace to love my neighbor like you do. Amen.

GATHERING SONG ELW 451 *We Are Baptized In Christ Jesus*



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit - ness, in the break - ing of the bread,
3 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread - ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re - sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

SCRIPTURE

First Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

*From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.** All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Second Reading - Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Being the Light of Christ in the World*

MESSAGE *Behold!, God Is In This Place*

Interactive Sermon

BISHOP BILL TESCH



BEHOLD
the new has come

HYMN OF THE DAY *ELW 456 Baptized in Water*

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM *Adapted from ELW*

L: In the early church, baptism was a time to reflect on our connection with Christ in his death and resurrection. It is appropriate that we remember that we are connected to “those of every time and place,” including those in the early church. Today, we affirm our baptism as part of our worship time together. Affirming our baptism remind us of our promise to remain in the light as the followers of Jesus.

L: Let us profess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed.

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

**All: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will
come to judge the living and the dead.**

**All: 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.**

L: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism?

All: Yes, we ask God to help and guide us:

- to live among God's faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

L: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of you Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

SHARE THE PEACE

OFFERING - *Esther Harmony Choir*

OFFERATORY PRAYER

L: Heavenly Father,

All: All that we have comes from your hand, and all that we are is a gift of your grace. Bless these gifts and use them for your glory, that they may serve your kingdom, help those in need, and spread your love in this world. Teach us to give with joy, to serve with humility, and to trust you with all that we have and all that we are. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace, holding fast to the promises made at your baptism. Remember that you are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own forever. As you leave this place, may your daily work be a continuation of the mission of Jesus, Serving with love, humility, and justice. The one who calls you is faithful, and He will do it.

SENDING SONG *We Are The Church*

Piano

A B E A B E

We are the church. The Bo-dy of our Lord.

Detailed description: This system shows the first six measures of the piano accompaniment. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Chord symbols A, B, and E are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Pno.

5 A B C#m A B E

We are all God's chil - dren and we have been re-stored .

1.The
2.The
3.Well
4.The

Detailed description: This system shows measures 5 through 8. The melody continues in the treble clef. Chord symbols A, B, C#m, A, B, and E are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. On the right side, there are four numbered options for the word 're-stored': 1.The, 2.The, 3.Well, 4.The.

Pno.

9 E A E

Church is not a build - ing where peo-ple go to pray. It's
chru-ch is not a bus - ness a com-mit-tee or a board. It's
you can go to wor - ship but you can-not go to church . You
church it is the peo - ple liv - ing out their lives.

Detailed description: This system shows measures 9 through 12. The melody continues in the treble clef. Chord symbols E, A, and E are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Pno.

13 E

not made out of sticks and stones and it's not made out of clay .
not a cor - por - a - tion for the busi-ness of our Lord .
can't find a build - ing that's a live no mat - ter how you search .
Called! Enlightened! Sanctified! for the work of Je - sus Christ !

Detailed description: This system shows measures 13 through 16. The melody continues in the treble clef. Chord symbol E is placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Written by Jay Beech © 1988 Jay Beech

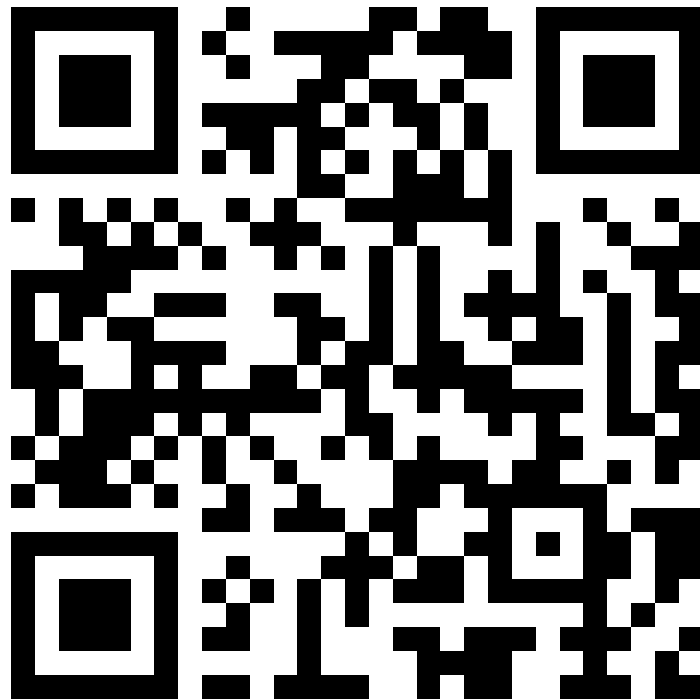
DISMISSAL

L: God our creator, you have given us work to do and call us to use our talents for the good of all. Guide us as we work, and teach us to live in the Spirit who made us your sons and daughters, in the love that made us sisters and brothers, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ***Amen.***

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8RGKX2F>

WHAT IS BEHOLD THE NEW HAS COME?

Your congregation has been invited and has already started to talk about what this means for you. So, what is the Behold the New Project? What does Behold the New mean? To behold something is to see it in a new way, with wonder and awe – often beholding the simplest thing and recognizing that it is perhaps more important than we realized.



Behold the New is about how we are beholding our faith and living the promises of our Baptism out in the world every day. It is about expanding our idea of church as more than a building, embracing the idea that the church is everywhere, every day. The goal of the Behold the New project is to work with congregations in NW MN as we ask the right questions to help us see and name the moments where we have opportunities to live out our promises and live out our faith in Christ.

What are the baptismal promises? There are five Baptismal Promises.

- 1. I will live among God's faithful people;**
- 2. I will hear the word of God;**
- 3. I will proclaim the good news of God in Christ;**
- 4. I will serve all people following the example of Jesus;**
- 5. I will strive for justice and peace.**

How are all of you already living out your baptismal promises even if you don't realize you are doing it. As you ask yourself the following questions, picture the answers in your mind.

1. In your home, at school or workplace – did you ask God for guidance this week in how to follow Christ's example? How many times?
2. In your home, at school or workplace (outside the church) – did you pray for or pray with anyone this week? How many times?
3. Did you see God working in the world through the people around you?
4. In the past month, did you live out your faith through helping folks in your neighborhood?
5. Did you ever speak up for someone who was being bullied or treated unfairly?

The Behold the New Project is a way of talking about our faith and our baptismal promises that challenges us to live out our faith in the world every day. At school. At home. At work. At the grocery store. When we are volunteering. When we are celebrating. When we are frustrated. When we feel alone. When we reach out to a stranger. In all times and in all places.

And your congregation is invited to join in the experience. You are invited to use the Behold the New has Come tools to keep our promises at the center of wherever we find ourselves. We are already living out our promises, but often times, we do not realize that we are doing this. Behold the New expands our understanding of baptism. Baptism isn't just a one-time event or a box to be checked. Parents, sponsors and the entire congregation are a part of the promises. And the promises are made to be ongoing – throughout our entire lives. Behold the New shines a light on how we are living out our faith together every day.

What's Next for Behold the New? We are in Year Two of the Behold the New Project. Year Two will be focused on engagement and excitement as we dive deeper into the Behold the New Has Come.

Watch for...RESOURCES!!!

- 1. Behold the New Weekly Devotions**
- 2. Fall Service Event Resources – God's Work Our Hands**
- 3. "Tell Me Your Story" – Living Baptismal Promises in the world**
- 4. Working with the Behold the New Vision Team**
- 5. Congregation Survey and Assessment – What did we learn?**
- 6. New Behold the New Podcast**
- 7. Resources for Children and Youth Programming**

Join us in fellowship and conversation after the worship as we continue in our Behold the New has Come Journey.

ESTHER WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN OUR PRAYERS

Jerry Anderson
Larry Sather
Dennis Rosenquist
Ricky Hart
Margaret Wehking

Kristy Fyhrie
Joan Burquest
Lois Rosenquist
Sara Skoglund

Leroy Olson – father of Becky Arvidson
Cheryl Farber – mother of Melissa Schlosser
Rev. Bruce Miller- father of Karin Wagner
Marg Peterson -friend of the Thoms
Dale Flemming – father of Laurie Ratajesak
Gary Borst – friend of the Andersons
Shirley Nesges – friend of the Thoms
Bev Lorine – mother of Mandy Arvidson
Joyce Muyres – friend of the Thoms
Bev Guse-Ohlrech – friend of the Pedersons
Allison Dotzler – friend of Kathy Mittag
Cadence Smith – friend of Mandy Arvidson
Becky Yttrie – friend of the Townsends
Kim Casavan – friend of Mandy Arvidson
Karen Schlosser – mother of Justin Schlosser
Pete Baugh – brother-in-law of Pr. Ken Bowman
Chris Clapshaw – step-brother of Mark Ratajesak

Family and Friends of: Sarah Pomeranz, David Anderson, Katie Jahnke, Colleen Burquest, Doug Tvedt, Alma Robinson, Jerry Pogose, Terry Burns, Wayne Lund, Bruce Carter, Inez Nelson, Gary Willie, Connie Pesta, Kathy Wilkins, Ivy Christensen, and Jim Schlosser

THIS WEEK AT ESTHER

Sunday, July 12th – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

10am – Worship by the Water at Rodney Peterson's Home led by NW MN Synod staff Bishop Bill Tesch, Pastor Laurie Skow-Anderson, and SAM Jody Johnson
2pm – Worship at St. William's

Friday, July 17th

4:30-7:30 pm - Joint Pork Chop Feed at Faith Lutheran in Miltona

Sunday, July 19th – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

10am – Worship with Holy Communion led by SAM Jewel Townsend
2pm – Worship at St. William's

Monday, July 20th

6 pm - Christian Education Planning Meeting at Church

Check out the Esther Calendar on our website to stay up to date on everything happening! Go to estherlutheran.com and click on "Esther Calendar."

NEWS AND NOTES

Thank you for worshipping with us! Thank you to Rodney Peterson for opening his home to us! Thank you to NWMN Synod staff Bishop Bill Tesch, Pastor Laurie Skow-Anderson, and SAM Jody Johnson for leading worship today!

The Pork Chop Feed is Friday, July 17th 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm at Faith in Miltona. Sign-up is on the Narthex table for workers and for making pans of bars for the event. There are also flyers available - please take a few and hang up around the community when you are out and about.

Bridal Shower for Susan Hart on Saturday, July 18th at 9 am - 12 pm at Sacred Heart Parish Hall in Urbank, MN. Please bring a recipe card to add to Susan's collection.

Christian Education Planning Meeting - Join us on Monday, July 20, at 6:00 pm at Esther for our Christian Education Planning Meeting! Whether you are currently involved or interested in helping with Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Confirmation, Youth Group, or Adult Education, we would love for you to be part of the conversation. Please come with open hearts, open minds, and your ideas as we collaborate, dream, and plan for the upcoming school year. Your gifts, insights, and enthusiasm can help us create meaningful opportunities for learning and growing in faith for all ages. We hope you'll join us as we work together to strengthen our Christian education ministry!

Ice Cream Social Sunday, July 26th! Worship will be at 10 am with the Ice Cream Social and Country Store from 11-3pm. Please help spread the word by sharing posts about the Ice Cream Social on Facebook.

- Naomi Circle will make ice cream
- Martha Circle will serve
- Ruth Circle will do the advertising

Vanco online giving platform is a great way to set up a scheduled giving plan for even when you cannot make it to church. Go online to estherlutheran.com, go to the tab “ways to support Esther Lutheran Church” and click on the link <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZP4R> or download the app Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Any questions please ask Mandy Arvidson.

You belong here. We believe that each person has unique gifts, are created in God’s image, and is a beloved child of God. We welcome you to join us each week to share in the community of faith at Esther - “Knowing Christ - making Christ known through faith, hope and love”. If you would like to become a member of Esther, please contact Mandy in the church office at 218-338-2171 or secretary@estherlutheran.net or Jewel Townsend at 320-760-2503 or jewellht17@gmail.com.

Esther Lutheran Church, ELCA

11019 625th Ave, Parkers Prairie, MN 56361

Telephone:218-338-2171 Website:estherlutheran.com

Email: secretary@estherlutheran.net

Facebook: facebook.com/estherlutheran/

Copyright Permission From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. NL Worship Resources Copyright © 2026 Clergy Stuff™. Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License # 738226A All rights reserved.” Permission to reproduce hymns obtained from ONE License 8 26 License #738226-A Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI, License # 2099169 All rights reserved.” Permission to reproduce hymns obtained from CCLI License # 20991626