



Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

EIGHT SUNDAY AFTER PENECOST

AUGUST 3, 2025

10:15 A.M.



Pastor

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Audra Ogrodwicz

Ushers

Ian Schroeder
Mike Schroeder
Shane Schroeder
Trenton Schwartz

Acolyte

Norman Krieg

Greeter

Theresa Kettler

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025 – 10:15 AM

Divine Service: Setting I with Holy Communion

Order of Service: *Lutheran Service Book, pp 151-166*

Pre-Service Music



Representing God's Love
To our Congregation,
Community, and the World

August Bible Verse

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

James 5:16

Our Mission Statement

Representing God's Love to Our Congregation, Community, and the World!



COMMUNION STATEMENT

In Light of 1 Cor. 11:23-26, Bethlehem Lutheran Church maintains the historical practice of "closed" communion in the belief that the Sacrament requires faith in Christ's words that His body and blood are truly present. Furthermore, participation in the Sacrament is a sign of our unity in the faith with all those who join us at the altar. *For that reason, we ask that those visitors desiring to commune be members in good standing of a congregation of the LCMS and speak to the pastor or an elder before the beginning of the service.* Our denial of admission to those who are members of another confession is not a judgment upon their faith but a recognition that we hold to different confessions concerning God, salvation, and the Sacrament itself. Such individuals are invited to speak with the pastor following the service.

Ringing of the Church Bell

ENTRANCE HYMN

Praise the Almighty

LSB 797



1 Praise the Al - might - y, my soul, a - dore Him!
2 Trust not in rul - ers; they are but mor - tal;
3 Bless - ed, oh, bless - ed are they for - ev - er
4 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,
△ 5 Praise, all you peo - ple, the name so ho - ly



Yes, I will laud Him un - til death; With songs and
 Earth - born they are and soon de - cay. Vain are their
 Whose help is from the Lord Most High, Whom from sal -
 Par - don and peace from Him ob - tain; Ev - er the
 Of Him who does such won - drous things! All that has



an - thems I come be - fore Him As long as
 coun - sels at life's last por - tal, When the dark
 va - tion can noth - ing sev - er, And who in
 wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, Their faith - ful
 be - ing, to praise Him sole - ly, With hap - py



He al - lows me breath. From Him my life and
 grave en - gulfs its prey. Since mor - tals can no
 hope to Christ draw nigh. To all who trust in
 God He will re - main. He helps His chil - dren
 heart its a - men sings. Chil - dren of God, with



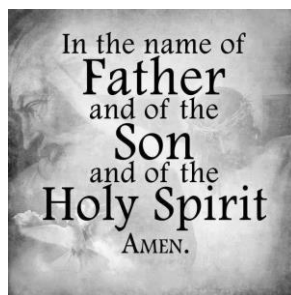
all things came; Bless, O my soul, His ho - ly name.
 help af - ford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.
 Him, our Lord Will aid and coun - sel now af - ford.
 in dis - tress, The wid - ows and the fa - ther - less.
 an - gel host Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann Daniel Herrnschmidt, 1675–1723; tr. Alfred E. R. Brauer, 1866–1949, alt. Tune: New-vermehrte Christliche Seelenharpf, 1665, Ansbach
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand.



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

C Amen.

CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, 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.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 49:7-8, 13-14a, 15; antiphon: vv. 1-2

Hear this, all peoples!

**Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
both low and high,
rich and poor together!**

Truly no man can ransom another,
or give to God the price of his life,
for the ransom of their life is costly
and can never suffice.

This is the path of those who have foolish confidence;
yet after them people approve of their boasts.

Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol;
death shall be their shepherd.

But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,

for he will receive me.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hear this, all peoples!

Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
both low and high,
rich and poor together!

KYRIE

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let
us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast



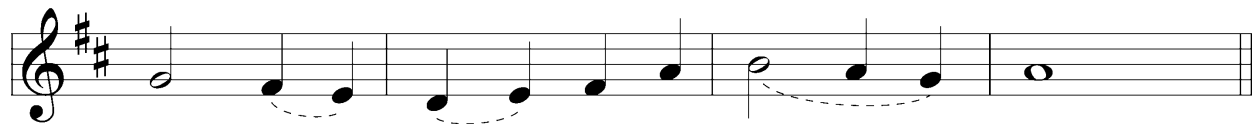
C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

C **O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

Sit.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26

²Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

¹⁸I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

²⁴There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Colossians 3:1-11

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.

COMMON ALLELUIA

LSB 156

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:13-21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the twelfth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard

against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”¹⁶ And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully,¹⁷ and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’¹⁸ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C 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 worshiped 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.**

Sit.

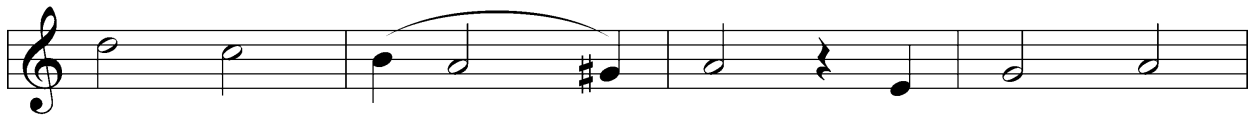
HYMN OF THE DAY

Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode

LSB 714



1 Who trusts in God A strong a - bode In heav'n and
 2 Though Sa - tan's wrath Be - set our path And world - ly
 3 In all the strife Of mor - tal life Our feet will



earth pos - sess - es; Who looks in
 scorn as - sail us, While You are
 stand se - cure - ly; Temp - ta - tion's



love To Christ a - bove, No fear that heart op -
 near, We shall not fear; Your strength will nev - er
 hour Will lose its pow'r, For You will guard us



press - es. In You a - lone, Dear Lord, we own Sweet
 fail us. Your rod and staff Will keep us safe And
 sure - ly. O God, re - new With heav'n - ly dew Our

hope and con - so - la - tion, Our shield from foes, Our balm for
 guide our steps for - ev - er; Nor shades of death Nor hell be -
 bod - y, soul, and spir - it Un - til we stand At Your right

woes, Our great and sure sal - va - tion.
 neath Our lives from You will sev - er.
 hand Through Je - sus' sav - ing mer - it.

Text: tr. Benjamin H. Kennedy, 1804–99, alt.; (st. 1): Joachim Magdeburg, c. 1525–after 1587; (sts. 2–3): Harmonia cantionum, 1597, Leipzig. Tune: Claudin de Sermisy, c. 1490–1562. Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Rich Towards God – Luke 12:13-21

Stand.

OFFERTORY

LSB 159

What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
 me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

OFFERING PRAYER

Sit.

OFFERING

Stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

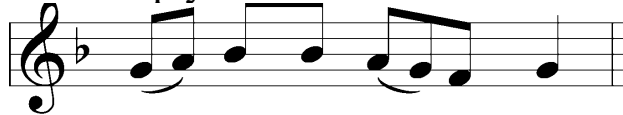
LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven,	as we forgive those
hallowed be Thy name,	who trespass against us;
Thy kingdom come,	and lead us not into temptation,
Thy will be done on earth	but deliver us from evil.
as it is in heaven;	For Thine is the kingdom
give us this day our daily bread;	and the power and the glory
and forgive us our trespasses	forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 162

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



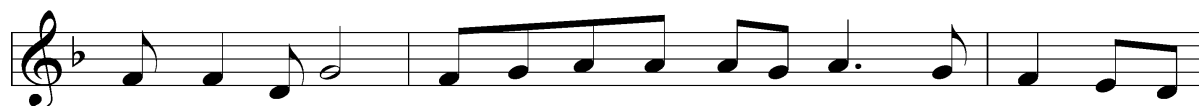
C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

LSB 611



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
 heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
 all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
 and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
 All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
 Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
 hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
 need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901. Text and tune: Public domain

Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

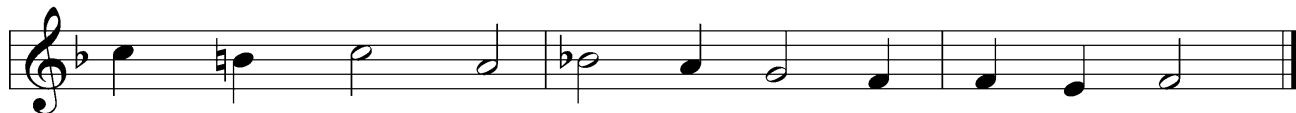
LSB 623



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray That we may
 2 Give us, who share this won-drous food, Your bod - y
 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the
 4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, Re - joic - ing
 5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us



feast on You to - day; Be - neath these forms of
 bro - ken and Your blood, The grate - ful peace of
 gift of love re - told; All that You are we
 in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim Your love un -
 stead - fast till that day When each will be Your



bread and wine En - rich us with Your grace di - vine.
 sins for - giv'n, The cer - tain joys of heirs of heav'n.
 here re - ceive, And all we are to You we give.
 til You come To bring Your scat - tered loved ones home.
 wel - comed guest In heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

Text and tune: Public domain

Renew Me, O Eternal Light

LSB 704



1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, And let my
2 Re - move the pow'r of sin from me And cleanse all
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, That glad - ly
4 Grant that I on - ly You may love And seek those



heart and soul be bright, Il - lu - mined with the
my im - pu - ri - ty That I may have the
I o - bey Your Word. Let what You will be
things which are a - bove Till I be - hold You



light of grace That is - sues from Your ho - ly face.
strength and will Temp - ta - tions of the flesh to still.
my de - sire, And with new life my soul in - spire.
face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through Your grace.

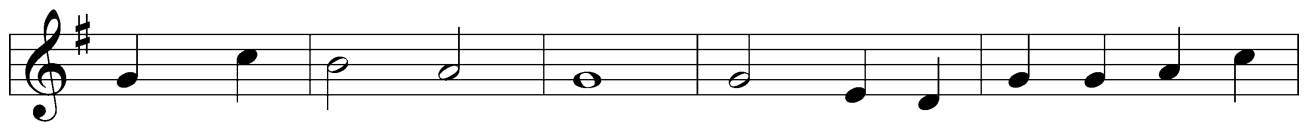
Tune and text: Public domain

Father, We Thank Thee

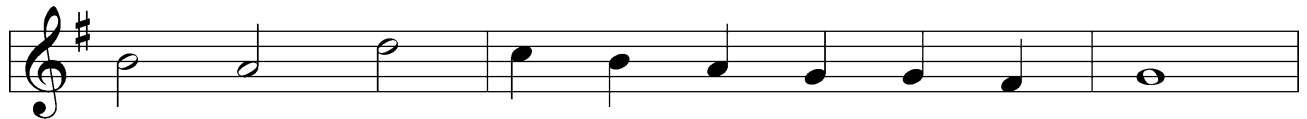
LSB 652



1 Fa - ther, we thank Thee who hast plant - ed Thy ho - ly
2 Watch o'er Thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, Save it from



name with - in our hearts. Knowl - edge and faith and life im -
e - vil, guard it still, Per - fect it in Thy love, u -



mor - tal Je - sus, Thy Son, to us im - parts.
nite it, Cleansed and con - formed un - to Thy will.



Thou, Lord, didst make all for Thy plea - sure, Didst
As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides, Was

give us food for all our days, Giv - ing in Christ the
 in this bro - ken bread made one, So from all lands Thy

Bread e - ter - nal; Thine is the pow'r, be Thine the praise.
 Church be gath - ered In - to Thy king - dom by Thy Son.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984. Tune: attr. Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–61. Text: © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: Public domain

Stand.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.

He re-calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy

with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB 166

☐ Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☐ Amen.

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

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 favor and ✠ give you peace.

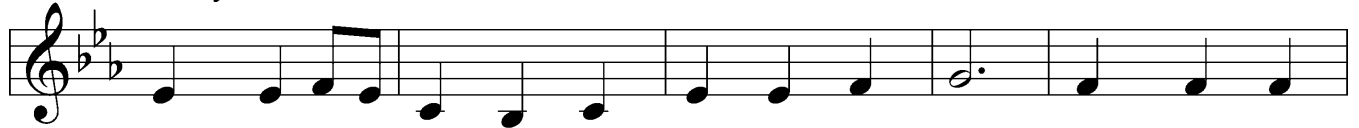


Sit.

CLOSING HYMN

Christ Be My Leader

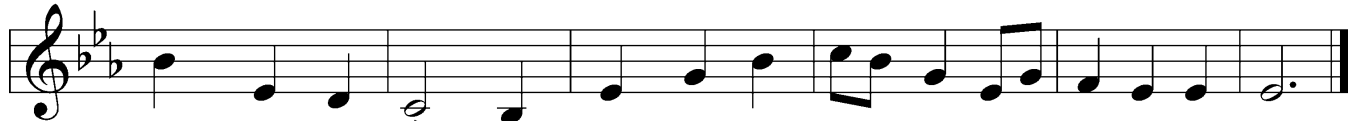
LSB 861



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

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POSTLUDE

*Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church,
where we worship in the name of the crucified
and risen Lamb of God, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Blessings to you as you worship with us today.*



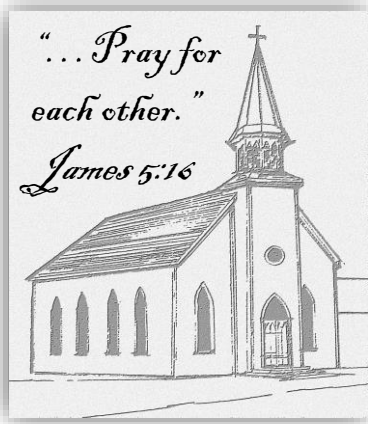
Congregation: For Tom Hayden's recovery after surgery and continued healing; for Adeline Platt's health; for health and healing for Lathel Norris; for Milton Schwartz, Blake Powers, Edith Erwin, and Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee

Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Lathel Norris, James Schoenemann, Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church

Community: may our Lord continue to deliver to us favorable weather; for Brenham Pregnancy Center and those whose lives they touch; Faith Mission; families and individuals cared for by Child Protective Services

World: for all those suffering through war, may God watch over and protect His children, and by His Holy Spirit, may they all come to know Christ as their Savior and thus enjoy eternity with Him, for those who have been led astray into false belief; for those facing crisis pregnancies, that they would find the strength to choose life for their unborn child; for the leaders of the nations, that they would make godly decisions for their people and countries

Bethlehem at Prayer



Prayer is a vital part of our life together in Christ. To that end, *Bethlehem at Prayer* is a means to encourage more intentional prayer for one another. This is an opportunity for us to support one another in faith, lifting up each household by name before our gracious God. While members can always request prayers at any time, this effort ensures that every family at Bethlehem is prayed for regularly. We invite you to join us in encouragement and intercession, praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ each week.

Please remember these families in your prayers this week:

- Adams – Andy, Shelby, Parker, Lyla, Peyton
- Ahasan – Ron, Tina, Joshua, Aliyah, Henry
- Harrington – Kevin, Nancey (McClure)
- Hayden - Tom, Lillian, Alyssa, Javier Reyes
- McDonald – Peggy
- Medve, Travis, Samantha, Tessa, Tripp

May the Lord bless and strengthen them in faith and life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations and God's blessings on Christian, Megan, Madison, and Hadley as they welcome Walker Vance Fridye into their family, born July 9th. May God bring him safely and quickly to the waters of Holy Baptism

Promotion Sunday

On Sunday, August 24, 2025, we will celebrate Promotion Sunday to wrap up our 2024-2025 Sunday School year. Awards will be presented to Sunday School students as they promote to the next grade level. A fried chicken meal will be served after the church service. RSVP by returning the insert in the bulletin to the basket located in the church narthex by Sunday, August 17, 2025. There will be water activities for Sunday School age children following the meal sponsored by the Board of Education. At this time, the Board of Education is looking for Sunday School teachers for the upcoming Sunday School year - September 2025 through August 2026. The sign-up sheet is located in the Parish Hall.

Help Wanted

We are also looking for someone interested in serving as the secretary of the Sunday School program for the upcoming Sunday School year. This position helps support the Board of Education by assisting with all Board activities, maintenance of financial records and performing secretarial duties in support of the Sunday School programs. If you would like more details about this position, please see one of the Board of Education members – Sheryl Schroeder, Sharon Schwartz, and Tracy Searle.

Thank You From the LWML

Thank you to the congregation for your generous donations to the LWML Disaster Relief. We sent 18 health kits, seven completed buckets, 6 Blankets, and various cleaning items for those affected by severe weather events.

Free Shirts

In the parish hall, there are Thrivent t-shirts. We receive free shirts when we apply for a grant of \$250.00. The sizes range from adults small to adults extra-large in light blue or gray. Please feel free to take one home for your family.

This Week's Schedule

August 3 – August 10

Today:

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

10:15 AM Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Norman Krieg

Ushers: Doyle Dahmann Michael Dieterich

Landon Duckett Tyler Gandy

11:30 AM Youth League Meeting & Bible Study

Tuesday:

7:00 PM LWML Social

7:30 PM LWML Meeting

Wednesday:

6:00 PM Life with God—New Member Class

Next Sunday:

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

10:15 AM Divine Worship: Setting I

Acolyte: Charlotte Sommer

Ushers: Delwin Gaskamp Kevin Goessler

Connor Gresham Ryan Gresham

Serving in August: Elder - Clinton Kettler/Trustee - Kevin Harrington

If you have a question or thought concerning spiritual care or the church property, please contact the appropriate elder or trustee.



*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by
Theresa and Douglas Kettler*



Life with God New Member Class continues this Wednesday



Our adult information class covers the most important teachings of the Bible as they are believed, taught, and confessed here at Bethlehem, designed for anyone considering membership, new members, or any member of the congregation who would like a thorough review of basic

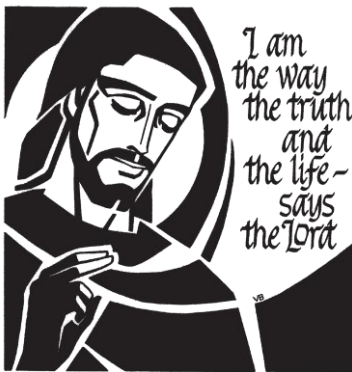
Biblical doctrine. Mark your calendar to join us **Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30pm**. Classes are weekly 10-12 sessions.



Life Thoughts from Lutherans for Life

Our Lord Jesus Christ has the courage to speak warning to His country's culture and communities (Luke 10:13-15). He whose eyes keep watch on national happenings (Psalm 66:7) knows no other way to restore ones He loves. Only abandoning evil allows anyone to embrace the Gospel's comfort (Isaiah 66:13, 15-16!) and joy (Luke 10:19-20). May our sanctity of life witness follow His lead! For more information, please visit <https://lutheransforlife.org/>.

Sunday School Corner



This summer, your students will explore biblical accounts that teach the biblical truths found in the Means of Grace: God's Word and the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. "Jesus Teaches about Forgiveness" was the Bible account for this morning. Jesus' message to His followers reminds us how God wants us to show love for and forgive those in our church family. After Sunday School, you could discuss, "What plan for dealing with forgiving others did Jesus explain? How can we learn to forgive those who have sinned against us?" Also, parents, you can join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

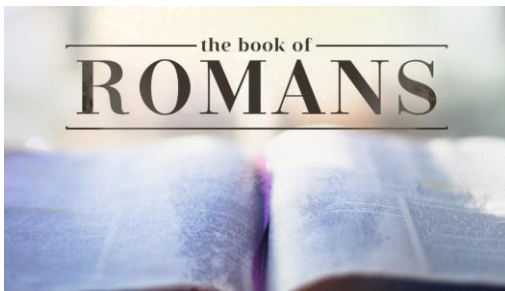
High School Lesson

The high school youth have begun a new study focused on the Word of God. This study will help the kids gain a better understanding of the accuracy and reliability of the text we use today as the inspired Word of God. Over the next nine lessons the students will focus on the following:

- Jesus Christ: The Center of the Bible
- The Holy Scriptures – God’s Word
- The Canon – God Preserves His True Word
- Understanding God’s Word
- Figurative Language – The Richness of Scripture
- Bringing the Good News of Salvation in a Magnificent Way
- Recognizing False Teaching
- Bible Translations

Today, our high school class studied the lesson, *Figurative Language – The Richness of Scripture*. This lesson focuses on how God desires His Word to speak to our heads and to our hearts. The figurative language used in Scripture helps to accomplish this and adds to our understanding of our great God and of His saving love for us.

Adult Sunday School Lesson



St. Paul’s letter to the Romans is often called the “chief part of the New Testament.” Romans clearly lays out the heart of the Christian faith: we are justified by grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone. In this rich epistle, Paul teaches on sin and righteousness, law and Gospel,

baptism, the struggle against the old Adam, and life lived in the freedom of the Gospel. Whether you’ve been attending or have yet to join us, this is a wonderful time to dig into God’s Word together and grow in our understanding of His mercy in Christ. Come and be strengthened in the faith that saves and learn how the Gospel shapes our daily lives. We look forward to studying this treasure of Scripture with you! If you could not attend today, please join us next Sunday during the Adult Bible Study hour before church, starting at 9 a.m. Now is the time to commit yourself to a deeper and more meaningful understanding of God’s Word and your relationship with Him. I hope to see you all next Sunday as we continue our studies.



Online Giving

You may give tithes and offerings online by clicking the “Give” tab on our website (<https://www.bethlehemwmpenn.org/>), or just scan the QR code to the left.

Last Week at Bethlehem

DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
July 27	Sunday School	7	\$78.00
	Youth Bible Class	2	
	Adult Bible Class	23	
July 27	Worship Service	100	General Fund: \$2,704.03