



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

165TH ANNIVERSARY OF BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH — WILLIAM PENN

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
10:15 A.M.**



165th Anniversary Service
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 7, 2025 – 10:15 AM

Divine Service: Setting I with Holy Communion

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

Pre-Service Music



September Bible Verse

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”
Hebrews 13:8

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.

Ring of the Church Bell

Stand and turn to face the Cross for the Processional Hymn.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LSB 904



1	Bless - ed	Je - sus,	at	Your Word	We	are	gath - ered
2	All	our knowl - edge,	sense,	and sight	Lie	in	deep - est
3	Gra - cious	Sav - ior,	good	and kind,	Light	of	Light, from
△ 4	Fa - ther,	Son,	and	Spir - it, Lord,	Praise	to	You and

all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,

Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to
Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your
Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -

sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.
Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.
low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

Text (sts. 1–3): Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; (sts. 1–3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 4): Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein, 1707, Berlin; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt. Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Stand.

INVOCATION

LSB 151

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

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

1 Chron. 29:10b, 11, 13: antiphon: Ps. 26:8

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
and the place where your glory dwells.

Blessèd are you, O LORD, the God of Israel
our father, forever and ever.

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty,

for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

Yours is the kingdom, O LORD,

and you are exalted as head above all.

And now we thank you, our God,

and praise your glorious name.

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.

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
and the place where your glory dwells.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

LSB 155



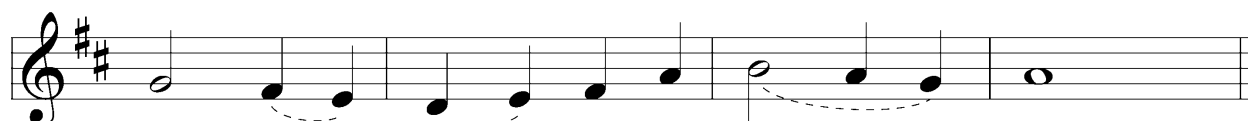
C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



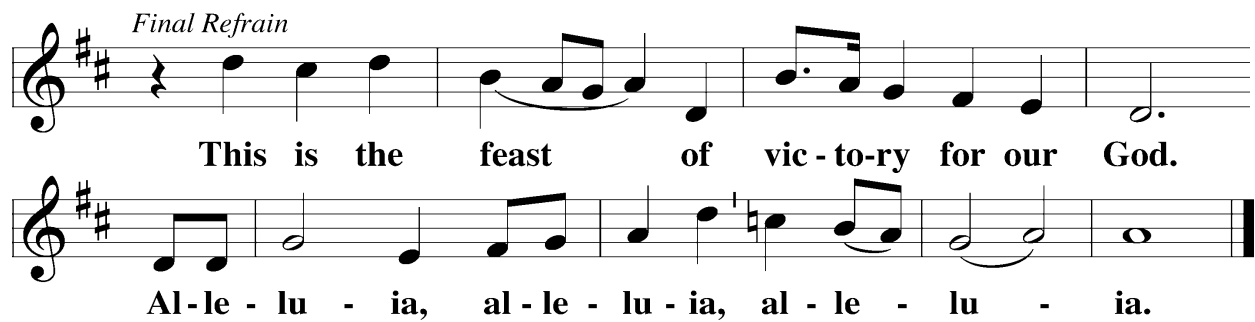
1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb — who was slain has be -



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*



COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

C Almighty God, You have promised to be with Your Church forever. We praise You for Your presence in this place of worship and ask Your ongoing blessing upon 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 forever. Amen.

Sit.

OLD TESTAMENT

Deuteronomy 7:6–11

⁶“For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, ¹⁰and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face. ¹¹You shall therefore be careful to do the commandment and the statutes and the rules that I command you today.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 100

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

²Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

HAND BELLS

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

EPISTLE

2 Timothy 3:10–17

¹⁰You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. ¹²Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.

COMMON ALLELUIA

LSB 156

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

John 16:5–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the sixteenth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁵[Jesus said:] “But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

LSB 158

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

Ever Faithful, Great Creator

Written by Pastor Gil Franke for this Occasion



1. Ev - er faith - ful, great Cre - a - tor, You have blessed us all our days.
2. Ev - er faith - ful, dear Re - deem - er, You have bought us by Your death,
3. Ev - er faith - ful, Ho - ly Spir - it, You have turned our hearts to You,
4. Ev - er faith - ful, we Your peo - ple, safe a - bid - ing in Your care,

5



Heav'n - ly Fa - ther our Pro - tec - tor, hear our joy - ful hymn of praise.
Son of God our Lord and Sav - ior, claimed us with Your fi - nal breath.
Coun - sel - lor whom we in - her - it, teach - ing us God's prom - ise true.
Know Your mer - cy with - out e - qual, in the life of faith we share.

9



You have formed us in Your im - age, made us stew - ards of the earth.
Not with gold and not with sil - ver, with Your ho - ly, pre - cious blood
Here You gath - er all be - liev - ers in the bod - y of the Lord
Joined to Christ our ris - en Sav - ior, we will trust You all our days

13



With our lives we bring You hom - age for Your gifts of life and health.
You have washed our sins for - ev - er in Your soul - re - deem - ing flood.
'Til the day You will re - ceive us prais - ing God with one ac - cord.
In a faith that will not wa - ver while we sing e - ter - nal praise.

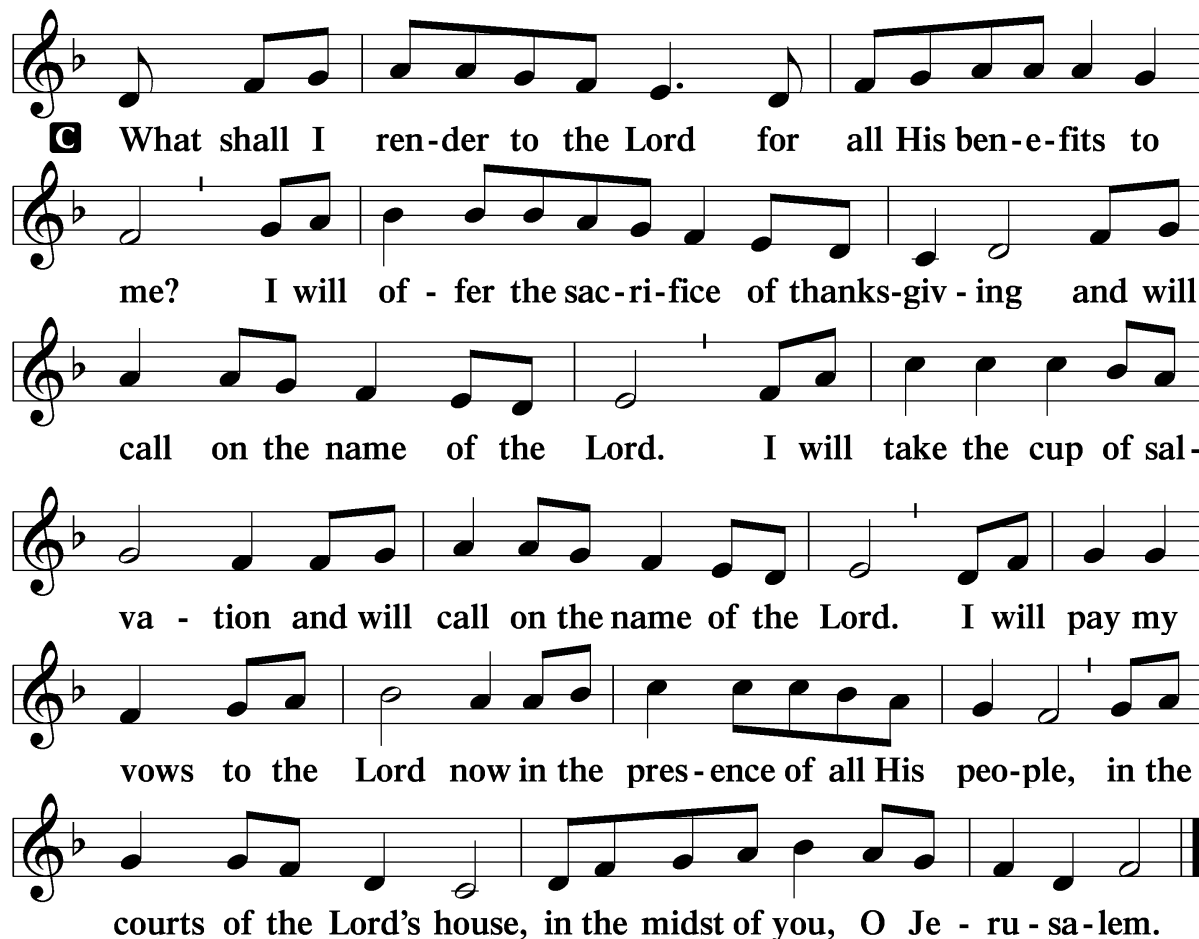
SERMON

“Faithful People of a Faithful God Forever!” – Psalm 100
Pastor Gil Franke

Stand.

OFFERTORY

LSB 159



C 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 (*Hand Bells – Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*)

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, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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, 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.
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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

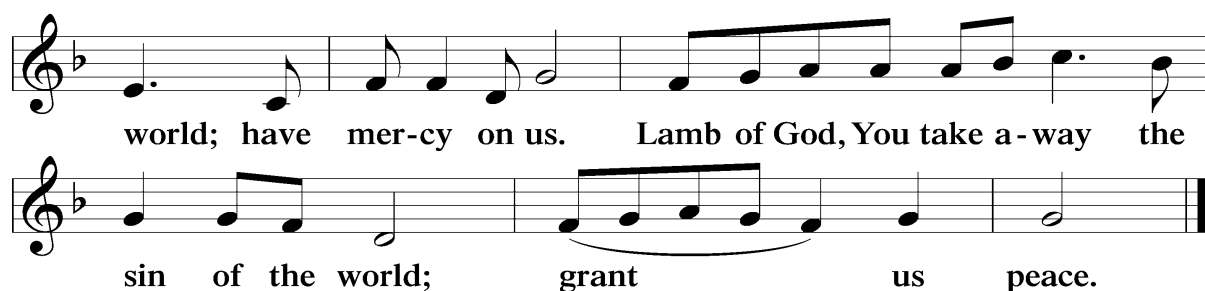
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI

LSB 163





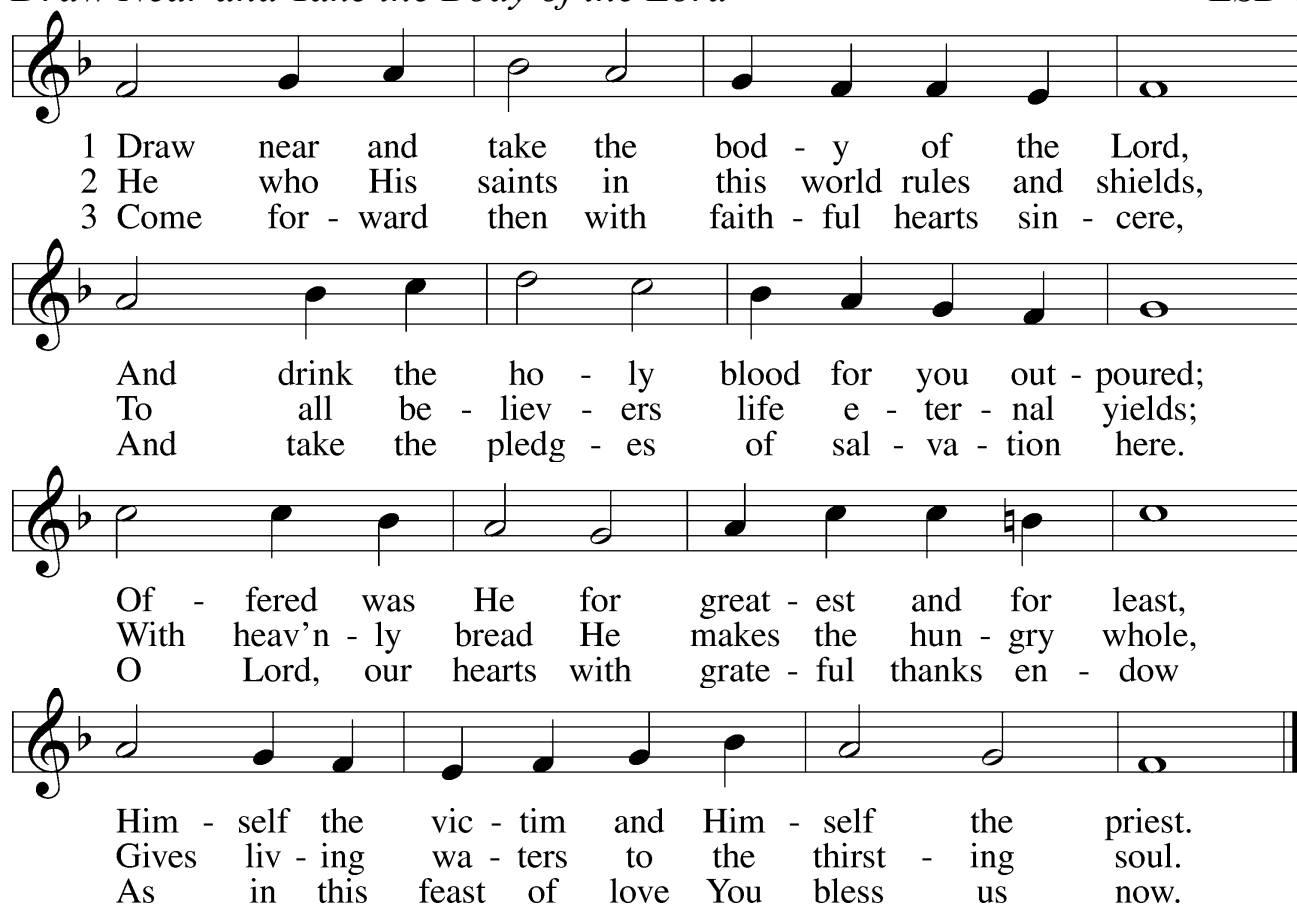
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

LSB 637

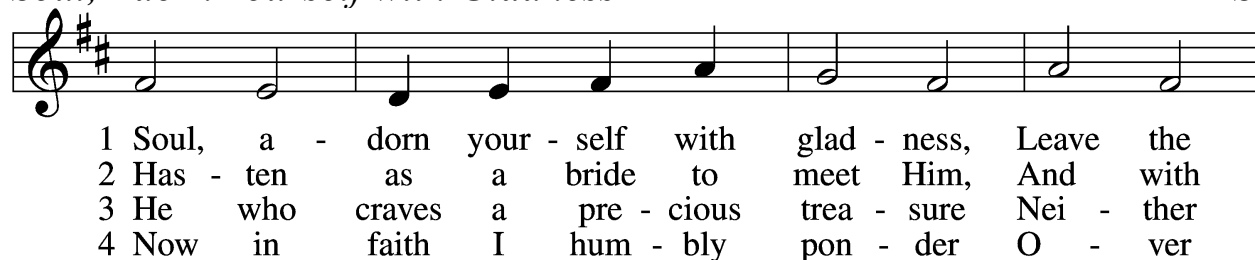


1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,
And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow
Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

LSB 636



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther
4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of
this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing
O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding,
Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You;
Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You
And, so favored, never leave You.

6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:

At Your feet I cry, my maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Your glory, given.

7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
 Let me gladly here obey You.
 By Your love I am invited,
 Be Your love with love requited;

By this Supper let me measure,
 Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
 Through the gift of grace You give me
 As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; (sts. 1, 4–5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2–3, 6–8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text (sts. 1, 4–5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013 Text (sts. 2–3, 6–8) and tune: Public domain

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

LSB 618

1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's

wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of

lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

Refrain

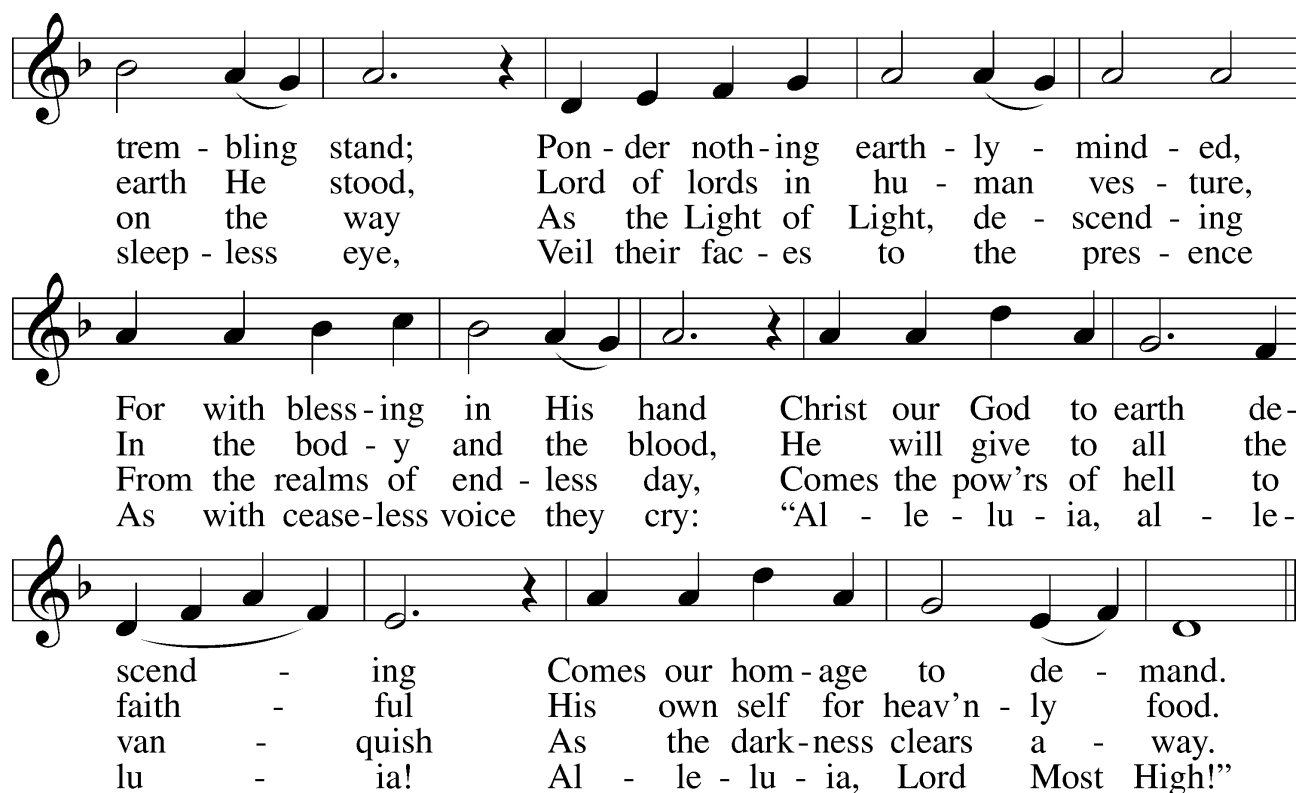
Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013 Tune: Public domain

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

LSB 621

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and
 2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard
 4 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing
sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence

For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -
In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to
As with cease-less voice they cry: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.
faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
van - quish As the dark-ness clears a - way.
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

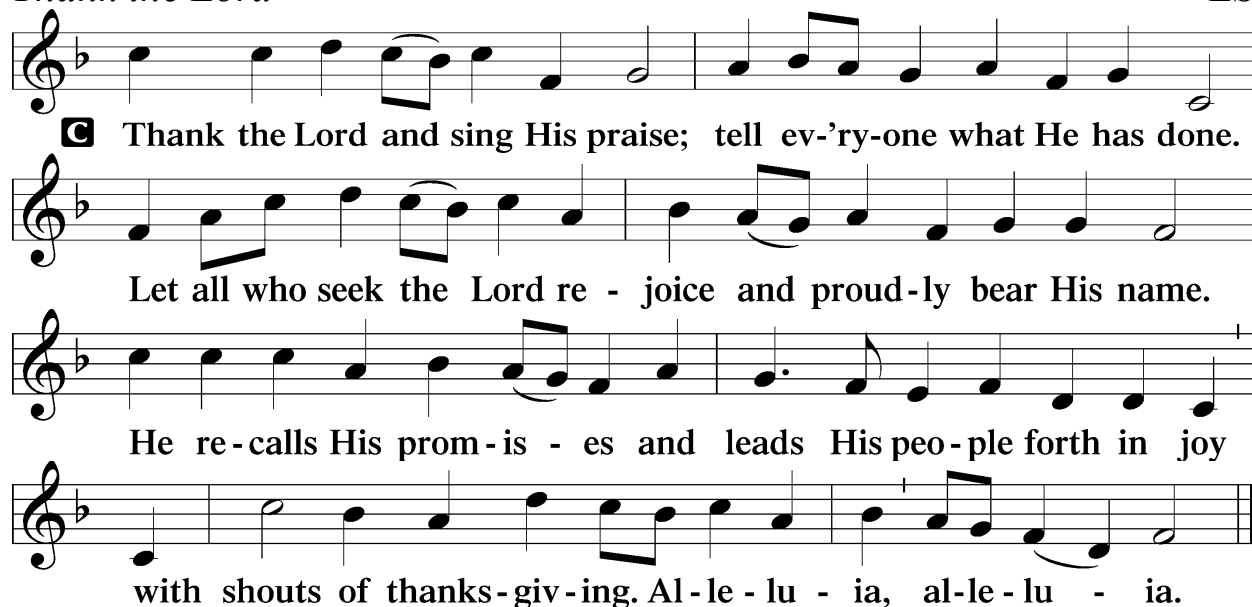
Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–85, alt.. Tune: French, 17th cent.. Text and tune: Public domain

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 - joice 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.

C 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.



C A - men.

Stand and face the cross for the Closing Hymn.

CLOSING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

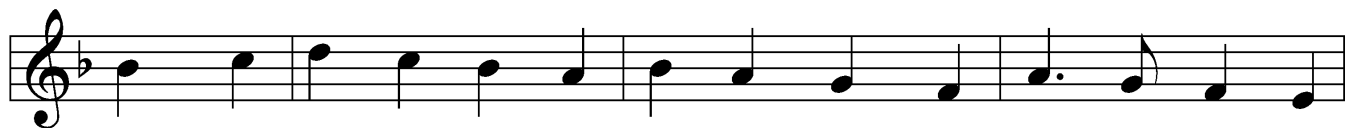
LSB 922



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
 2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
 3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My
 I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
 heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
 Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.
 Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy - ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

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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 Lisa Ketter (JR Kettler's mother, for healing from sickness; 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

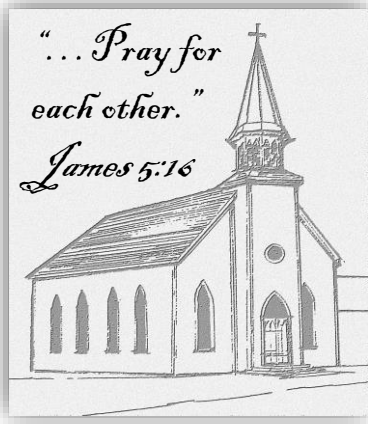
Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Lathel Norris, Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church.

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:

- Berglund – Erik, Kristen
- Berglund – Claire
- Holle – Mildred
- Holtkamp – Benjamin
- Norris – Lathel
- Nowicki – Dustin, Heidi, Hannah, Taylor, Dillon

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A special thank you to all who made this day possible:

- God, Father, Son, Holy Spirit
- Pastor Gil Franke
- The 165th Committee: Billy and Vickie Ashorn, Diane Jaehne, Matt and Ashley Kettler, Robert and Jessica Kettler, Peggy McDonald, Charles Meyer, Brad and Tricia Molitor, and Sandra Schwartz
- The Bethlehem Brass: Dale Schroeder, Laura Fisher, Annelise Schroeder, Hannah Nowicki, Ian Schroeder, Cheryl Schroeder, Collin Schroeder
- Organist: Ann Sommer
- The Grace Lutheran High School Hand Bell Choir: director Audra Ogrodowicz; Giuliana Krieg, Maja Stephens, Monica Colanter, Augustine Colanter
- Food: Gary Goebel and *Goebel Catering*
- All the faithful pastors who have served over the past 165 years at Bethlehem.
- All the members who are committed to the truth of God's Word and the well-being of the congregation as they contribute their time, talents, and treasures.

This Week's Schedule
September 7 – September 14

Today:	<i>165th Anniversary Service</i>		
	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	
	10:15 AM	Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion	
	Acolyte:	Taylor Nowicki	
	Crucifer:	Norman Krieg	
	Ushers:	Billy Ashorn	Brian Ashorn
		Blane Ashorn	Westin Ashorn
Wednesday:	8:30 AM	Sonshine	
	4:30 PM	Confirmation	
	6:00 PM	Life with God—New Member Class	
Saturday:	7:30 AM	Men’s Breakfast and Bible Study	
	9:30 AM	Sunday School Teacher’s Quarterly Meeting	
Next Sunday:	<i>Holy Cross Day</i>		
	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	
	10:15 AM	Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion	
	Acolyte:	Michael Hinze	
	Crucifer:	Norman Krieg	
	Ushers:	Jason Ashorn	Kaisen Ashorn
		Melvin Ashorn	Erik Berglund
	11:30 AM	Youth League Meeting	

Serving in September: Elder – Brad Molitor/Trustee – Mike Schroeder

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
Matt and Ashley Kettler.*

Baked Potato Sale Next Sunday



Hate cooking lunch after church? Let the Youth League of Bethlehem do the cooking. Purchase a to-go BBQ Potato after church on Sunday, September 14th, for \$10. Fixings include: Potato, BBQ, sauce, butter, sour cream, and cheese. All funds go towards youth outings this year.

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 to 7:30 pm**. Classes are weekly, 10-12 sessions.

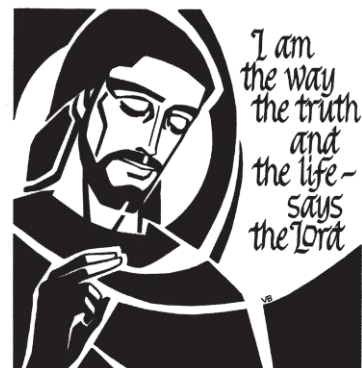


Life Thoughts from Lutherans for Life

September 7 – Pentecost XIII (Proper 18C)
– Funny how the Almighty Maker invites (orders?)

His people to choose life (Deuteronomy 30:19). By His creating, redeeming, and calling, life has already chosen us—and every single one of our neighbors—from fertilization to forever. Any dealings with death—like abortion and assisted suicide—diametrically oppose and dangerously depart from His express commandments.

Sunday School Corner



In our Fall unit, we begin our study of the New Testament, beginning with the announcement of Jesus' birth and continuing through the sending of the seventy-two. This morning, the kids studied the lesson "An Angel Announces – Jesus' Birth Foretold." Mary receives an angelic announcement telling her that, despite her virginity, she will give birth to the long-awaited Savior. The child in Elizabeth's womb leaps within her when the mother of the promised

Messiah approaches. Elizabeth rejoices in the reaction and welcomes Mary to stay with her for a time. Mary's song of praise, the Magnificat, resounds in the Church to this day. To reinforce this lesson with your kids, as a family, discuss, "Historically, this event has been called "the annunciation." The word annunciation means "announcement." How would you make this announcement if this event happened today? How do you think God would share the big news of Jesus' birth if it were happening now? Would He still do it in a quiet yet stunning way? What do you think Mary and Elizabeth talked about during their time together? Jesus' birth is still a big deal. How can we share this big news now? Mary was an unlikely person to be the mother of God. While they're probably not as dramatic, what are some unlikely things that God has chosen for you to do or might choose for you as you get older?" And don't miss out on next week's exciting lesson as we continue our Fall quarter lessons

with “Silence before a Son – John is Born.” Also, parents, you can join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

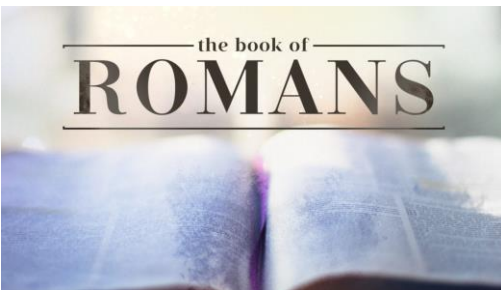
High School Lesson

The high school youth have begun a new study are 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:

- 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 scan the QR code to the left.

Last Week at Bethlehem

DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
Aug. 31	Sunday School	20	\$48.50
	Youth Bible Class	1	
	Adult Bible Class	24	
Aug. 31	Worship Service	121	General Fund: \$4,084.03

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Ushers

Billy Ashorn
Blane Ashorn
Brian Ashorn
Weston Ashorn

Acolyte

Taylor Nowicki

Crucifer

Norman Krieg

Greeter

Peggy McDonald