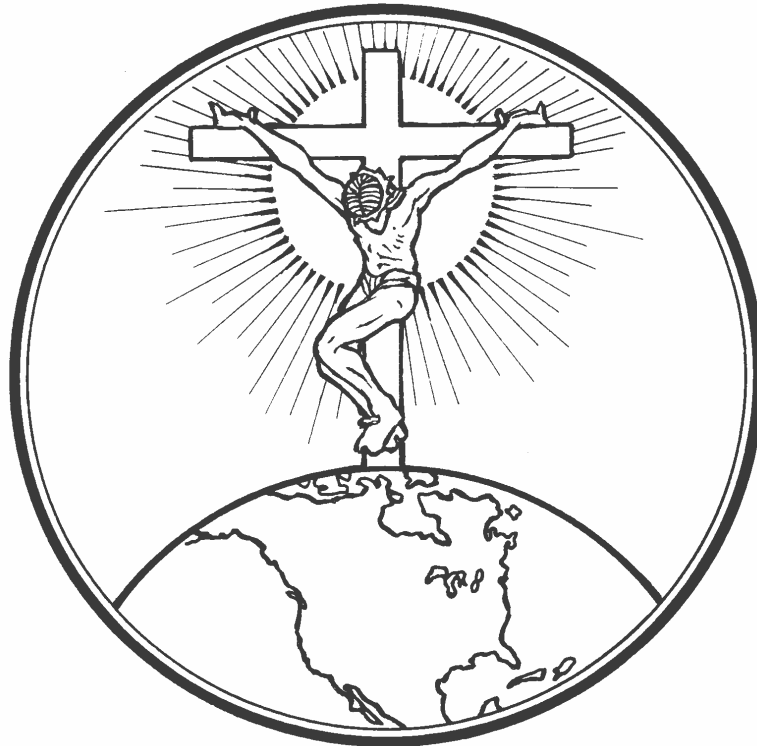




*Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn  
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*

## **HOLY CROSS DAY**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2025  
10:15 A.M.**



Pastor

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Organist

Ann Sommer

Ushers

Jason Ashorn  
Kaisen Ashorn  
Melvin Ashorn  
Erik Berglund

Acolyte

Michael Hinze

Crucifer

Norman Krieg

Greeter

Dorcas Schroeder

***Holy Cross Day***  
***Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost***  
***September 14, 2025 – 10:15 AM***

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***Divine Service: Setting I with Holy Communion 1***

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.

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***Ringling of the Church Bell***

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

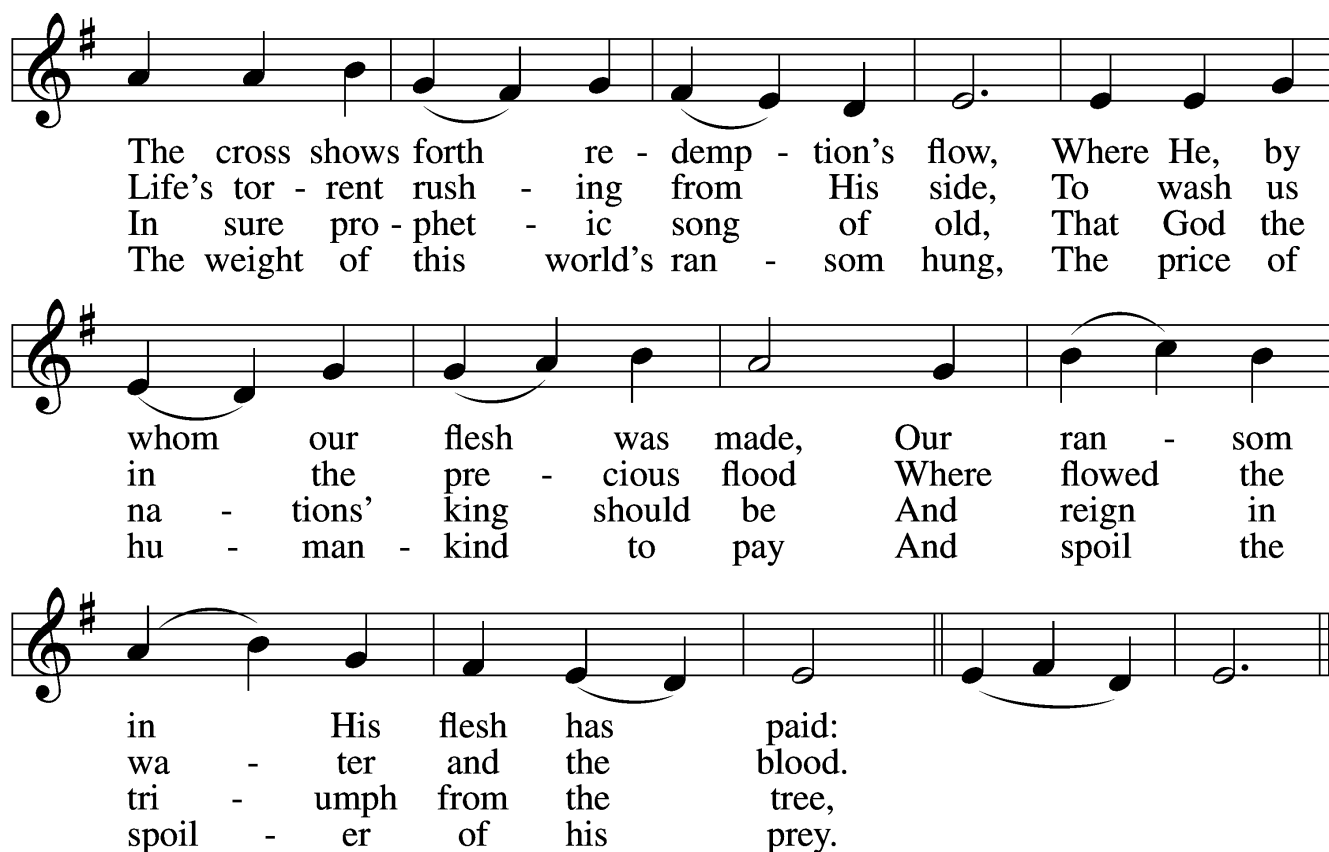
**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

***The Royal Banners Forward Go***

***LSB 455***



1	The	roy	-	al	ban	-	ners	for	-	ward	go;
2	Where	deep		for	us		the	spear		was	dyed,
3	Ful	-	filled	is	all		that	Da	-	vid	told
4	On		whose	hard	arms,		so	wide	-	ly	flung,



The cross shows forth re - demp - tion's flow, Where He, by  
Life's tor - rent rush - ing from His side, To wash us  
In sure pro - phet - ic song of old, That God the  
The weight of this world's ran - som hung, The price of  
whom our flesh was made, Our ran - som  
in the pre - cious flood Where flowed the  
na - tions' king should be And reign in  
hu - man - kind to pay And spoil the  
in - His flesh has paid:  
wa - ter and the blood.  
tri - umph from the tree,  
spoil - er of his prey.

5 O tree of beauty, tree most fair,  
Ordained those holy limbs to bear:  
Gone is thy shame, each crimsoned bough  
Proclaims the King of Glory now.

△6 To Thee, eternal Three in One,  
Let homage meet by all be done;  
As by the cross Thou dost restore,  
So guide and keep us evermore.  
Amen.

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, c. 530–609; (sts. 1–4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.; (sts. 5–6): tr. The Hymnal 1982 Tune: Paul D. Weber, 1949 Text: Public domain Tune: © 2003 Paul D. Weber. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013

*Stand.*

INVOCATION

*LSB 151*

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

**C** Amen.

**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 98:1, 4, 6; antiphon: v. 2*

The LORD has made known his salvation;

**he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

**His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

**break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

**make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

**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.**

The LORD has made known his salvation;

**he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

**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*

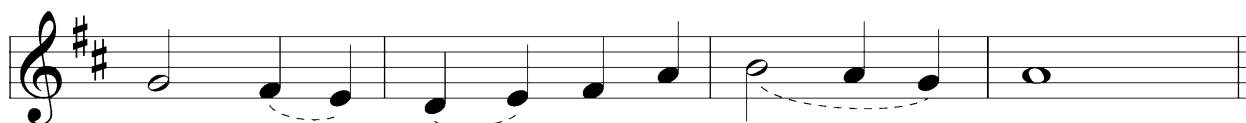
**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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*



*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** Merciful God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, was lifted high upon the cross that He might bear the sins of the world and draw all people to Himself. Grant that we who glory in His death for our redemption may faithfully heed His call to bear the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

*Sit.*

OLD TESTAMENT

*Numbers 21:4-9*

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

<sup>18</sup>The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

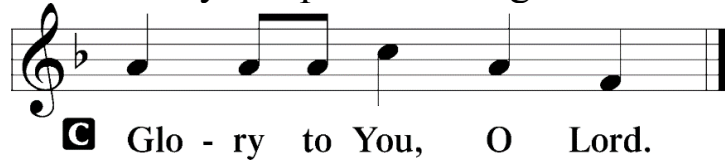
*Stand*



## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 12:20–33*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John the twelfth chapter.



<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. <sup>27</sup>“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.





**☩ 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

*Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

*LSB 454*



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; Sing the end - ing  
 2 Tell how, when at length the full - ness Of the ap - point - ed  
 3 Thus, with thir - ty years ac - com - plished, He went forth from  
 4 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph, Be for all the  
 Δ 5 Un - to God be praise and glo - ry; To the Fa - ther



of the fray. Now a - bove the cross, the tro - phy,  
 time was come, He, the Word, was born of wom - an,  
 Naz - a - reth, Des - tined, ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing,  
 no - blest tree; None in fo - liage, none in blos - som,  
 and the Son, To the e - ter - nal Spir - it hon - or



Sound the loud tri - um - phant lay; Tell how Christ, the  
 Left for us His Fa - ther's home, Blazed the path of  
 Did His work, and met His death; Like a lamb He  
 None in fruit thine e - qual be; Sym - bol of the  
 Now and ev - er - more be done; Praise and glo - ry

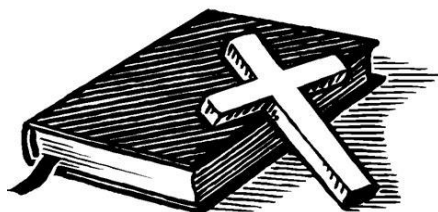


world's re - deem - er, As a vic - tim won the day.  
 true o - be - dience, Shone as light a - midst the gloom.  
 hum - bly yield - ed On the cross His dy - ing breath.  
 world's re - demp - tion, For the weight that hung on thee!  
 in the high - est While the time - less a - ges run.

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## SERMON

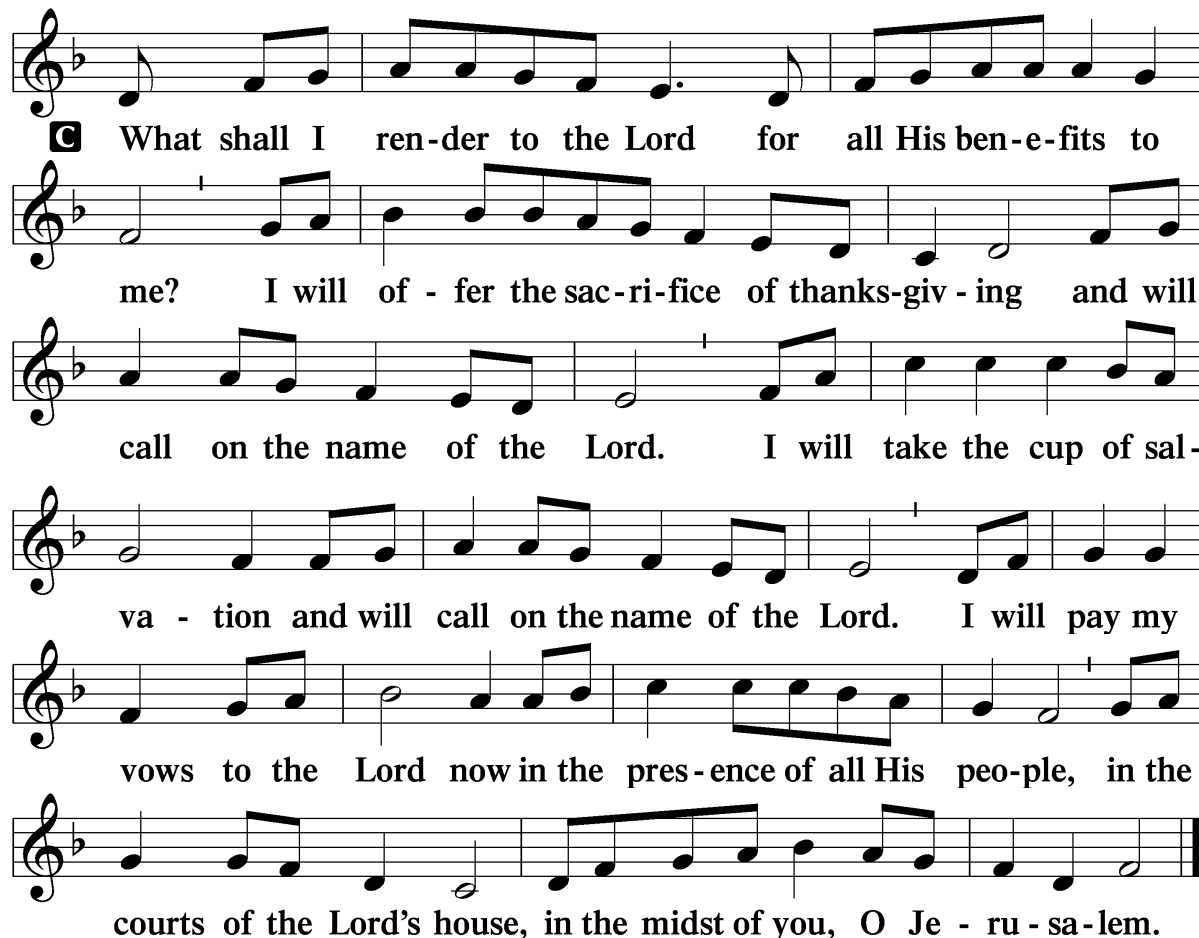
*"The Serpent, the Cross, and the Promise" – Numbers 21:4-9*



*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

*Stand.*

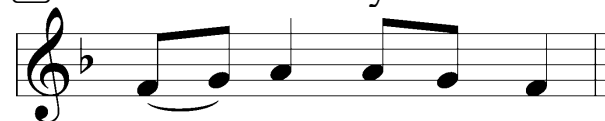
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

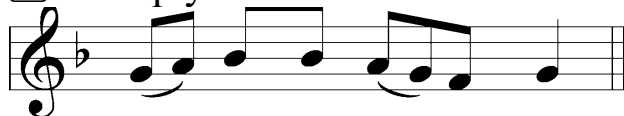
LSB 160

**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 accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. 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:

<b>C</b> 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.
--	--

#### 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."

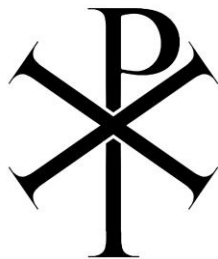
#### PAX DOMINI

*LSB 163*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

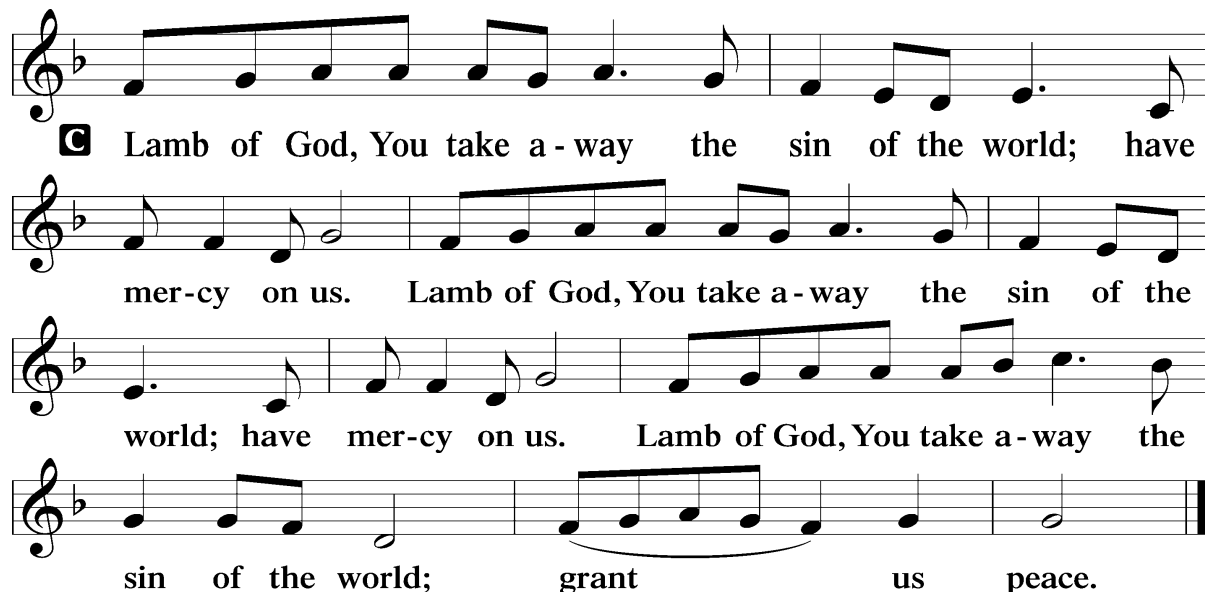


**C** A - men.



# AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



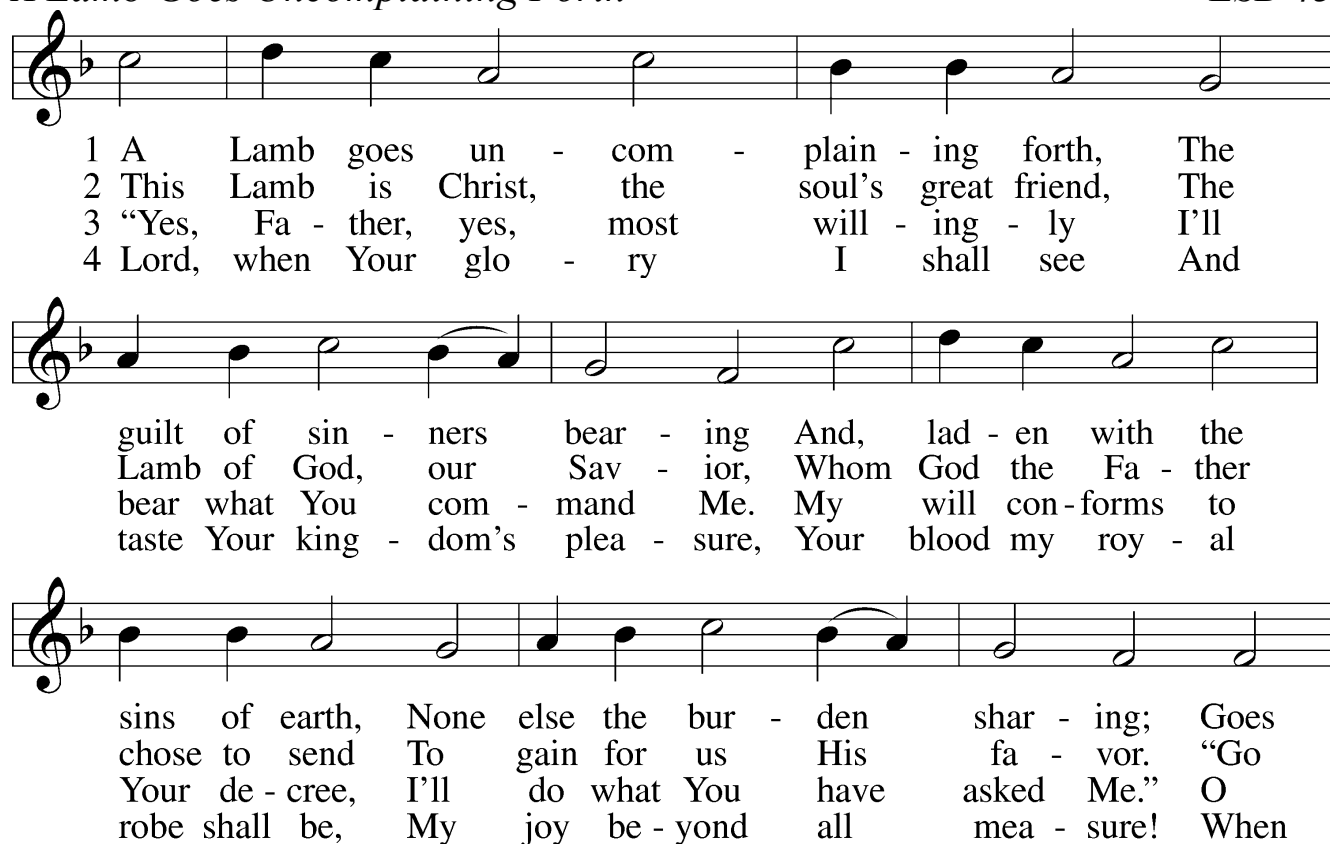
**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit.*

# DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

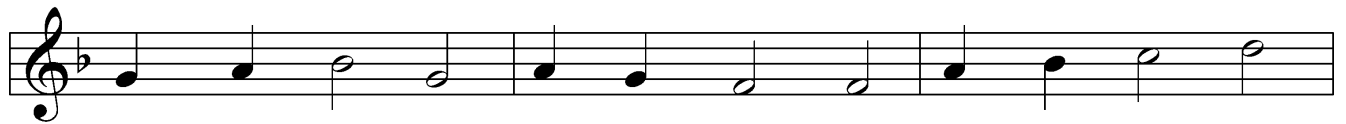
LSB 438



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The  
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The  
3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll  
4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And

guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the  
Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther  
bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to  
taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al

sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes  
chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go  
Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O  
robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -  
forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren  
won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers  
I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the  
from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and  
up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how  
be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and  
stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion  
strong You are to save! You lay the One in -  
gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."  
they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."  
to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.  
we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt Tune: Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013 Tune: Public domain

## *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

*LSB 420*



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a  
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might  
4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur - round Thee, Treat - ing Thee with

death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,  
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,  
shame - ful scorn And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned Thee.

To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,  
O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my  
Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of  
All dis - grace Thou, Lord, hast borne, That as Thine Thou

death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.  
might - est own me And with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.

Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise  
Thee,  
That from pain I might be free;  
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:  
Thence I gain security;  
Comfortless Thy soul did languish  
Me to comfort in my anguish.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall  
be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

6 Thou hast suffered great affliction  
And hast borne it patiently,  
Even death by crucifixion,  
Fully to atone for me;

Thou didst choose to be tormented  
That my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall  
be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

7 Then, for all that wrought my  
pardon,  
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,  
For Thine anguish in the Garden,  
I will thank Thee evermore,  
Thank Thee for Thy groaning,  
sighing,  
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,  
For that last triumphant cry,



And shall praise Thee, Lord, on  
high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; (sts. 1–2, 5, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 3–4, 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis. Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt. Text and tune: Public domain

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

LSB 709



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant  
love He sought me And on His shoul - der  
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.  
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77. Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

LSB 430



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to  
2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -  
3 Some-times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es  
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and

me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly  
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would  
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their  
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their

be. Oh, who am I That for my sake  
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,  
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,  
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these

My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
 Who at my need His life did spend!  
 And for His death They thirst and cry.  
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have  
 My dear Lord made away;  
 A murderer they save,  
 The Prince of Life they slay.  
 Yet cheerful He  
 To suff'ring goes  
 That He His foes  
 From thence might free.

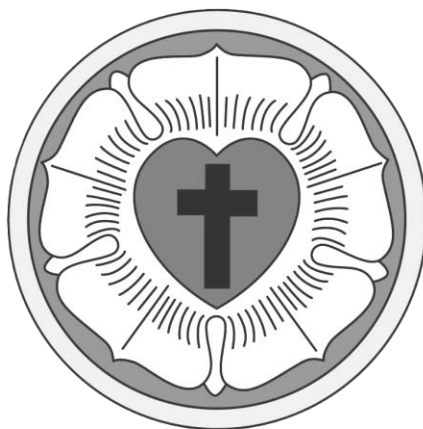
6 In life no house, no home  
 My Lord on earth might have;  
 In death no friendly tomb  
 But what a stranger gave.

What may I say?  
 Heav'n was His home  
 But mine the tomb  
 Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,  
 No story so divine!  
 Never was love, dear King,  
 Never was grief like Thine.  
 This is my friend,  
 In whose sweet praise  
 I all my days  
 Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683. Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962. Text: Public domain. Tune: © John Ireland Trust. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 1100050

*Stand.*



# POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

*Thank the Lord*

*LSB 164*



**C** 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*

**P** 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.*

*On My Heart Imprint Your Image*

*LSB 422*

On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,  
That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;  
Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt. Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758. Text and tune: Public domain



*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

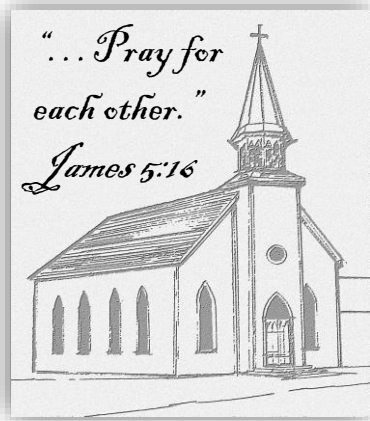
Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Lathel Norris, Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church

**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 healing for our country and world, in the aftermath of political assassination and the anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>; 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 – Lillian
- Boecker – Fred
- Huber– Keith
- Jaehne– Don, Allison, D.J., Allan
- Pazderny – Janice
- Perez– Jessica

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **This Week's Schedule September 14 – September 21**

**Today:**

#### ***Holy Cross Sunday***

**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

Blane Ashorn

Westin Ashorn

**11:30 AM**

Shekel Store

**Wednesday:**

**4:30 PM**

Confirmation

**Saturday: 8:30 AM Sisters In Christ**

**Next Sunday: *St. Matthew, Apostle***

**9:00 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class**

**10:15 AM Divine Worship: Setting III with Holy Communion**

Acolyte: Norman Krieg

Crucifer: Michael Hinze

Ushers: Brian Crabb Daryl Dahman

Doyle Dahmann Tyler Gandy

**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 Janice Pazdeerny Honor of Brad and Tricia Molitor's birthdays*



**Baked Potato Lunch Today**

Don't forget to pick up your potato after church today. All money goes towards the Youth League for their outings throughout the year.

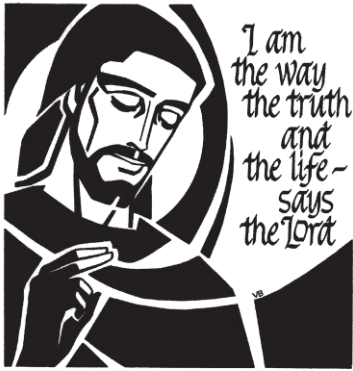


**Life Thoughts from Lutherans for Life**

**September 14 – Holy Cross (Proper 19C)** – Jesus made His cross a decidedly public proclamation, lifted up and appealing to everyone (John 12:32).

Christianity knows nothing of private convictions and personal choices. We get to speak openly, courageously, and compassionately that no other deliverance exists (Psalm 40:10), not even abortion or assisted suicide. Every human life belongs to Him alone, who has drawn all unto Himself

## *Sunday School*



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 "Silence Before a Son – John is Born." Doubting the angel's announcement of his coming son, Zechariah finds himself silenced until the boy's birth. Upon writing, "His name is John," Zechariah regains his voice and prophesies concerning his son's work. To

reinforce this lesson with your kids, as a family, discuss, "God's people have been waiting a very long time for the promised Messiah. Why would they need to get ready? Shouldn't they already be ready? Do you sometimes need somebody to help you get ready? Who are the people that help us get ready for Jesus? Can you be that person for someone else? Being visited by an angel is a big deal. Most of the time, angels start their conversation with the words "Fear not." Why do you suppose that is? How would you react to seeing an angel? How does God send us His message today? Zechariah had doubts, even when an angel came directly from God. We might have doubts too, but God forgives us for Jesus' sake. Regardless of how we feel or what doubts we have, God's Word is true. His forgiveness is real. What can we do when we have doubts about God's love for us?" And don't miss out on next week's exciting lesson as we continue our Fall quarter lessons with "The Temple Testimonies – Jesus' Birth and Presentation." Also, parents, you can join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

## *High School Lesson*

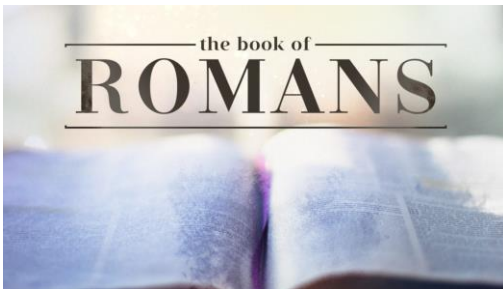
The high school youth have begun a new study focused on the Word of God. This study will help the kids gain a better understanding of the accuracy and reliability of the text we use today as the inspired Word of God. Over the next nine lessons, the students will focus on the following:

- 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
- Biblical Types, Symbols, and Poetry
- Recognizing False Teaching

- Bible Translations

Today, our high school class studied the lesson, *Biblical Types, Symbols, and Poetry*. This lesson focuses on how God's Word includes types, symbols, and poetry. These elements of literature give Scripture a richness in meaning and, like the rest of the Bible, point us to Christ Jesus, the way of salvation.

## *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
Sept. 7	Sunday School	17	\$105
	Youth Bible Class	2	
	Adult Bible Class	25	
Sept. 7	Worship Service	165	\$6,640.80
Memorial	James Schoenemann		\$225.00