

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

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 12, 2025 10:15 A.M.



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Acolyte
Dillion Nowicki

<u>Greeter</u> Shirley Ashorn

# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 12, 2025 – 10:15 AM

# Divine Service: Setting I

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

Pre-Service Music



#### October Bible Verse

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence.

2 Peter 1:3

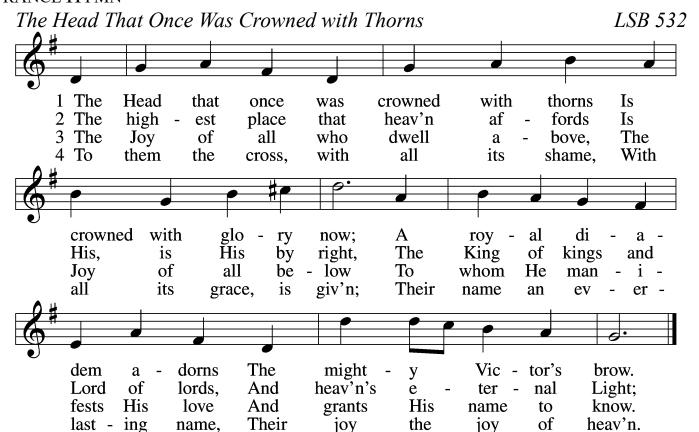
#### **Our Mission Statement**

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

# Ringing of the Church Bell



#### **ENTRANCE HYMN**



- 5 They suffer with their Lord below, They reign with Him above, Their profit and their joy to know The myst'ry of His love.
- 6 The cross He bore is life and health,
  Though shame and death to Him:
  His people's hope, His people's
  wealth,

Their everlasting theme.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855. Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707. 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.
- **©** 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.
- 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 34:2-4, 17; antiphon: Psalm 48:1a

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised

in the city of our God!

My soul makes its boast in the LORD;

let the humble hear and be glad.

Oh, magnify the LORD with me,

and let us exalt his name together!

I sought the LORD, and he answered me

and delivered me from all my fears.

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears

and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

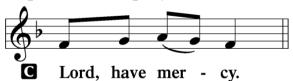
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised.

in the city of our God!

KYRIE LSB 152

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



**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.



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



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



Gloria in Excelsis LSB 154





**P** The Lord be with you.



- C And al so with you.
- **P** Let us pray.
- C Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant us always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and praise Your holy name; 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 READING**

Ruth 1:1-19a

<sup>1</sup>In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. <sup>2</sup>The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup>But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup>and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

<sup>6</sup>Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. <sup>7</sup>So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. <sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup>The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. <sup>10</sup>And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." <sup>11</sup>But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, <sup>13</sup>would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is

exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me." <sup>14</sup>Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

<sup>15</sup>And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." <sup>18</sup>And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

<sup>19</sup>So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

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

#### **C** Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Psalm 91:11; 103:1

He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

EPISTLE 2 Timothy 2:1-13

<sup>1</sup>You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup>and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. <sup>3</sup>Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup>No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. <sup>5</sup>An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. <sup>6</sup>It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. <sup>7</sup>Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

<sup>8</sup>Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, <sup>9</sup>for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! <sup>10</sup>Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. <sup>11</sup>The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him; <sup>12</sup>if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; <sup>13</sup>if we are faithless, he remains faithful—

for he cannot deny himself.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand.



HOLY GOSPEL Luke 17:11-19

Al-le-lu - ia.

al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the seventeenth chapter.



words of e-ter-nal life.

Galilee. <sup>12</sup>And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance <sup>13</sup>and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." <sup>14</sup>When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. <sup>15</sup>Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; <sup>16</sup>and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup>Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? <sup>18</sup>Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" <sup>19</sup>And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."



**SERMON** 

"Ruth's Road"- Ruth 1:1-19a

Stand.

APOSTLES' CREED LSB 159

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Sit.

CHILDREN'S HYMN

Seek Ye First

Children come forward during Children's Hymn LSB 712

1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God,And His righteousness.And all these things shall be added unto you!Allelu, alleluia!

- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, alleluia!
- 3 Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev'ry word That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia! Text: Karen Lafferty, 1948. Text: © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin.



#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### HYMN OF THE DAY



Stand.



OFFERING PRAYER

Sit.

**OFFERING** 

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

and forgive us our trespasses

LSB 162

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;

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.

BENEDICTION LSB 166

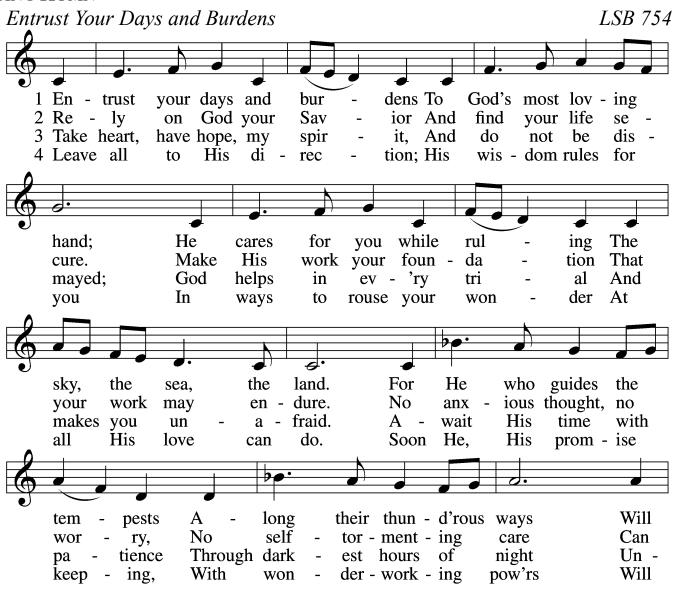
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

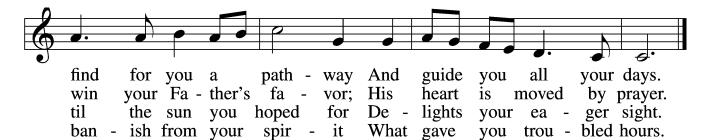
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



Sit.

#### **CLOSING HYMN**





5 O blessèd heir of heaven,
You'll hear the song resound
Of endless jubilation
When you with life are crowned.
In your right hand your maker
Will place the victor's palm,
And you will thank Him gladly
With heaven's joyful psalm.

6 Our hands and feet, Lord, strengthen;
With joy our spirits bless
Until we see the ending
Of all our life's distress.
And so throughout our lifetime
Keep us within Your care
And at our end then bring us
To heav'n to praise You there.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; (sts. 1–5): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (st. 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006. Tune: Stephen R. Johnson, 1966
Text (sts. 1–5): © 1982 Concordia Publishing House; (st. 6): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: © 2002 Stephen R. Johnson. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 11000501



#### **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.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

<u>Congregation</u>: for Edith Erwin, healing, for Donna Hinze, who is recovering from back injury, give her peace and healing in the days and weeks ahead; for Lisa Kettler (JR Kettler's mother), for continued healing from sickness; for Tom Hayden's recovery after surgery and

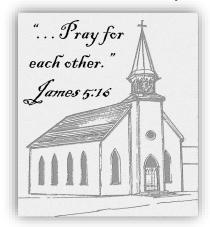
continued healing; for Adeline Platt's health; for health and healing for Lathel Norris; for Milton Schwartz, Blake Powers, Edith Erwin, and Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Lathel Norris, Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church.

<u>Community</u>: 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.

<u>World</u>: 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:

- Carroll Cody, Raellen
- Crabb Brian, Leslie, Haleigh, Tucker, Whitley, Tate
- Kettler Robert, Jessica, Madison, Michael
- Kettler Pauline
- Schomburg Bradley, Cindy, Braylee, Colin
- Schramme Chad, Lori, Addison, Wyatt

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

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## This Week's Schedule October 12 - 19

Today: Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

**10:15 AM** Divine Worship: Setting I

Acolyte: Dillion Nowicki Greeter: Shirley Ashorn

Ushers: Craig Kankel Clinton Kettler

Caleb Kettler Matt Kettler

Tuesday 6:00 PM Men's Club Meeting
Thursday: 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study
Saturday: 8:30 AM Sisters in Christ

Next Sunday: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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

Acolyte: Winston Krieg
Greeter: Vickie Ashorn

Ushers: JR Kettler Michael Kettler

Robert Kettler Wayne Klussmann

# Serving in October: Elder – Charles Meyer/Trustee – Doyle Dahmann

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 Melvin and Shirley Ashorn



October 12 – (Proper 23) – Nearly all of Jesus' contemporaries would have been taught that lepers justly suffered the consequences of their own sinful decisions and were unworthy of

God's compassion. Jesus, whose works are always "faithful and just" (Psalm 111:7), shows us that there is no one who is unworthy of His care and compassion. Every single person, regardless of their size, condition, or past decisions, is loved by God, precious in His sight, and covered by His redeeming grace.

# **Voters' Meeting**



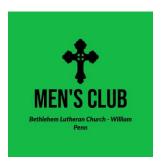
There is a quarterly **Voters' Meeting** next **Wednesday, October 22, at 7:30pm**. Please see the inserts for the treasurer's report and the agenda.

## Reformation Sunday Celebration—Sunday, October 26



Please join us for a Reformation Sunday Celebration on Sunday, October 26 after church. We will have lunch and Reformation festivities. *Please fill out the RSVP insert and place it in the basket in the narthex by Sunday, October 19*. We also ask the members of the congregation sign-up on the sheet in the Parish Hall to bring desserts to go with the meal. Join us as we give thanks to God for keeping us faithful to Him and His Word!

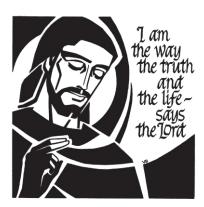
## **Men's Club Meeting**



Men of the congregation are invited to join us for our quarterly Men's Club Meeting on **Tuesday**, **October 14**, **at 6:00 p.m.** here at the church. After a time of dormancy, there has been renewed interest in getting the Men's Club up and running again! This meeting will be an opportunity to reconnect, share ideas, and plan for the future of this important ministry of fellowship and service. Whether you've been involved in the past or are brand new, we'd

love to have you join us as we work together to revitalize the Men's Club. Come, bring a friend, and help us get a fresh start!

# 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 "A Temple Cleansing – Jesus Clears the Temple." Merchants and money-changers fill the outer courts of the temple in preparation for the Passover. Jesus overturns the tables and drives out the animals in His zeal to restore the temple to its proper purpose. When the Jews question His authority, Jesus tells them,

"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:19). Only after His resurrection do the disciples realize that Jesus was referring to His body as the new temple. To reinforce this lesson with your kids, as a family, discuss, "The animal sellers and money-changers would have been found in the Court of the Gentiles. Why does it make sense that they were working there? Why would this have been the most distracting place for them to assemble? Why were the Jewish leaders so confused about Jesus' statement about rebuilding the temple? What did Jesus really mean? Jesus is the new temple. His death and resurrection eliminate the need for the repeated sacrifices that the people made to remove sin. Through His sacrifice, our sins are washed away." Also, parents, you can join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

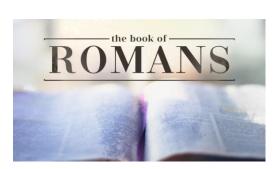
# High School Lesson

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.

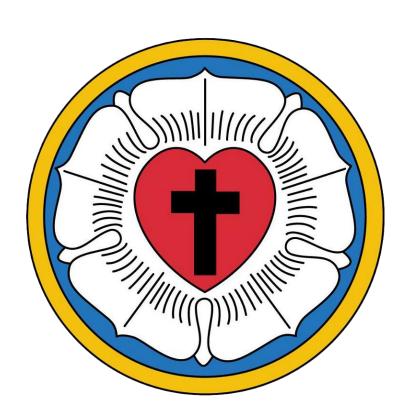


# Online Giving

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

**Last Week at Bethlehem** 

DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
Oct. 5	Sunday School	12	\$106.80
	Youth Bible Class	3	
	Adult Bible Class	30	
Oct. 5	Worship Service	109	\$7,698.83



# Bethlehem Lutheran Church Voter's Assembly Agenda October 22, 2025

Call to Order

Devotion

Roll Call

Reception of New Members - David and Cathy Hodges

Release of Members - Annelise Schroeder, Katrina Schroeder,

Shelby and Parker Adams

Minutes

Pastor's Message and Report

Treasurer's Report

Board of Elders - Policy for a Liturgy of Christian Burial

**Board of Trustees** 

Board of Education

**Old Business** 

**New Business** 

Nominating Committee and Budget Meeting on Thursday,

November 13, 2025.

#### Announcements

Reformation Celebration with dinner and New Member

Recognition on Sunday, October 26th.

Wreaths Across America

Adjournment with the Lord's Prayer