

Born of water and Spirit

JOHN 3:5





+ The Holy Trinity +
May 30, 2021

AS WE GATHER

On this Holy Trinity Sunday, we do not so much explain God as confess Him. We testify to Him who has revealed Himself to us. To the mind in search of reasonable answers, God will always be a question or riddle to be solved. But to the empty heart, the Holy Spirit leads us to see with faith the God whose majesty has worked for our salvation and whose mercy has rescued us sinners from sin and the grave. Like Nicodemus of old, we want to know how, yet our Lord gives us not the how, but the who; not the explanation, but the mystery of mercy big enough to save us. We come today confessing with those who formulated the three Ecumenical Creeds (the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian), singing "Holy, Holy, Holy," and rejoicing in the God who is bigger than we are, but who becomes one of us to save us.

REGARDING COMMUNION

*When we gather at the Lord's Table, the cup of blessing we receive is a sharing in the blood of Christ; the bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. We who are many are one bread and body in Christ (1 Cor. 10:16-17). As a people baptized into the life of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to us in this holy meal to renew us individually and together in our life of faith and following him. **Since Christian denominations have differing understandings of Holy Communion, if you are not a member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed here before, we ask that you speak with the pastor or elder prior to communing with us the first time. Those not communing are invited to cross their arms over their chests and approach the pastor for a blessing during the distribution. Also, if certain factors prohibit you from partaking of regular wine, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center circle of the tray. If you would like to begin sharing this sacred meal with us on a regular basis, please ask the pastor for a time of faith instruction and formation.***

Liturgical Color:

White is the color of purity and is associated with festivals of Christ and his Church

PreludeCody Clemons, Lorraine Miller

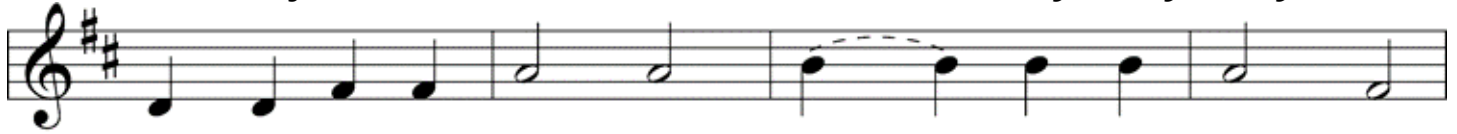
(*"Eternal Father Strong to Save"*, arr. by Lorraine Miller-flute)

(*"Amazing Grace"*, Cody Clemons-piano, Lorraine Miller-flute)

Welcome

Stand

Invocation Hymn..... *"Holy, Holy, Holy" #507*



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore Thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide Thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text and tune: Public domain

Divine Service, Setting One

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution.....page 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

Entrance Hymn..... "Baptized into Your Name Most Holy" #590 (1&3)



1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly



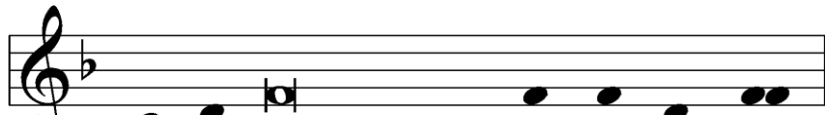
Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I



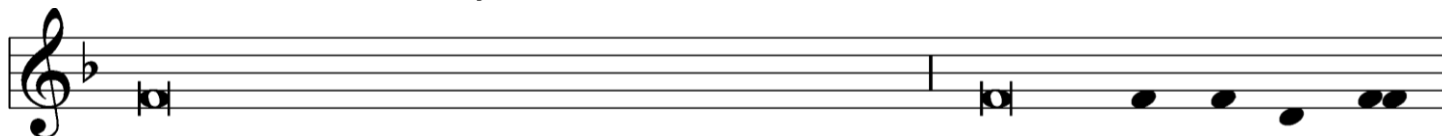
dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



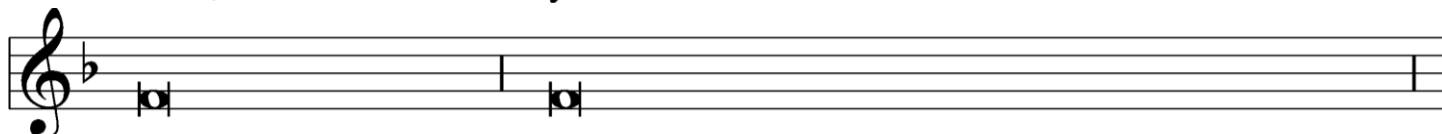
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



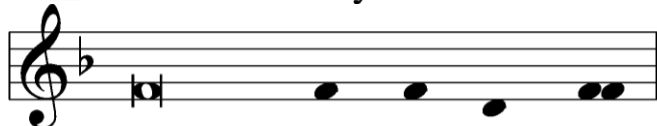
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



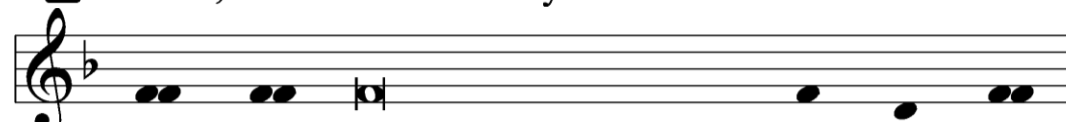
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

C A - men.

This is the Feastpage 155

Refrain

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.

Salutationpage 156

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Collect of the Day..... *(spoken in unison)*

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament **Isaiah 6:1-8**

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual *(spoken in unison)*

**Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.**

**On your wondrous works, I will meditate,
and I will declare your greatness.**

Second Reading..... Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
my flesh also will dwell in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.
You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.’

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

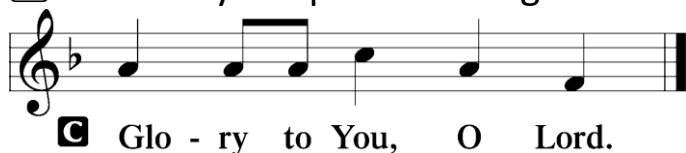
Alleluia and Verse.....page 156



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.

Gospel..... John 3:1-17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

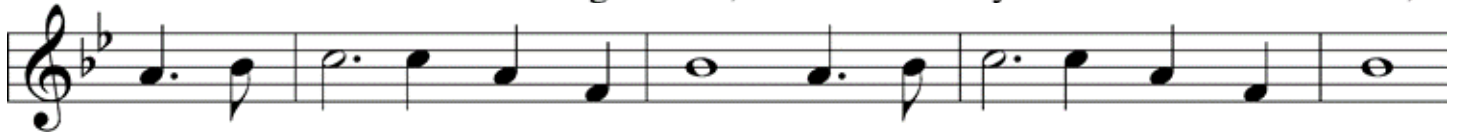


G Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day *“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” #761*



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg-ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

Tune and text: Public domain

Sit

Sermon..... *“Bathed for Life”*

Stand

Nicene Creed.....*page 158*

**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.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Offering

Offering plates are not being passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the west entrance.

“Through him (Jesus) then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:15-16)

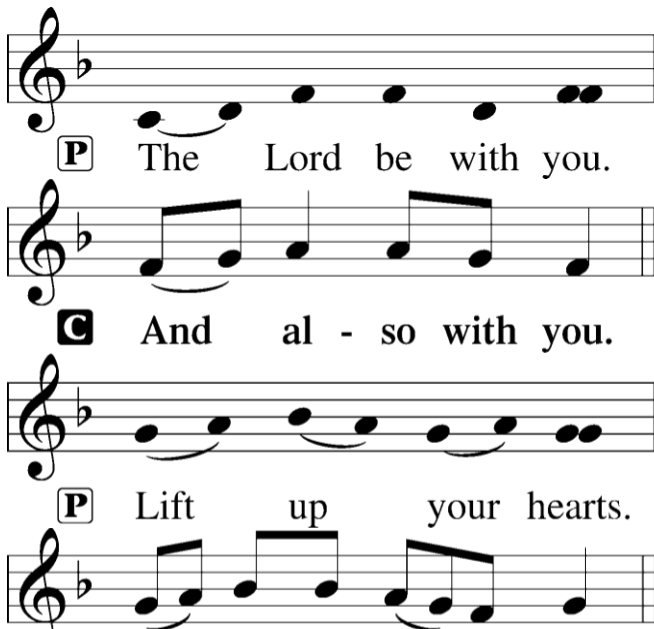
Offertorypages 159-160



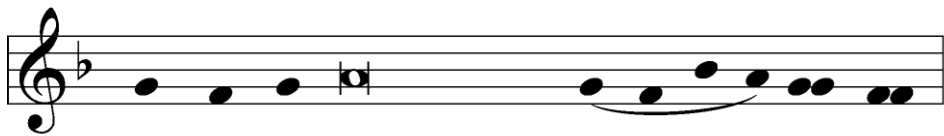
C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple,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

Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgypages 160-162



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 beneficial . . . evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus.....*page 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.

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth . . .
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.

Lord's Prayer.....*page 162*

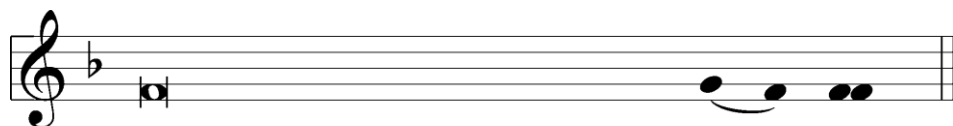
P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

The Words of Our Lordpage 162

Pax Dominipage 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

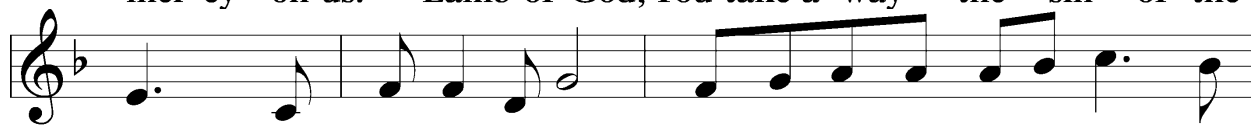
Agnus Deipage 163



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



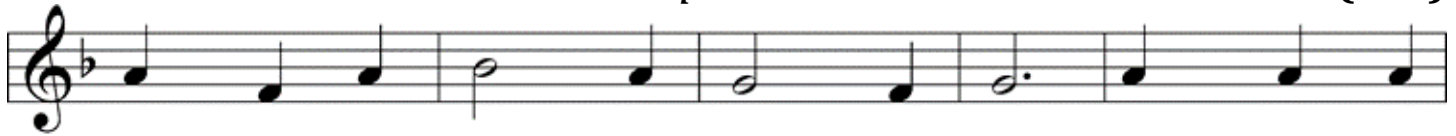
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Distribution

Sit (until motioned to rise and proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing). We have returned to the Altar Rail after more than a year of standing, continuous distribution. The chalice will be available again, along with individual cups.

Communion HymnsInstrumental
 ("What a Friend We Have in Jesus"), arr. by Lorraine Miller

"Baptismal Waters Cover Me" #616 (1-3)



1 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me As I ap -
2 I look to Christ up - on the tree, His bod - y
3 Lord, may Your wound - ed hand im - part Your heal - ing



proach on bend - ed knee; My Fa - ther's mer - cy
bro - ken there for me; I lay be - fore Him
to my bro - ken heart; Your love a - lone can



here I plead, For griev - ous sins of thought and deed.
all my sin, My dark - est se - crets from with - in.
form in me A heart that serves You joy - ful - ly.

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"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #425



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text and tune: Public domain

"Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship" #949



1 Heav'n-ly hosts in cease-less wor-ship "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly" cry;
2 All cre-a-tion, all re-demp-tion, Join to sing the Sav-ior's worth;



"He who is, who was and will be, God Al-might-y, Lord Most High."
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us, Kings and priests, to reign on earth.



Praise and hon-or, pow'r and glo-ry, Be to Him who reigns a-lone!
Wealth and wis-dom, pow'r and glo-ry, Hon-or, might, do-min-ion, praise,



We, with all His hands have fash-ioned, Fall be-fore the Fa-ther's throne.
Now be His from all His crea-tures And to ev-er-last-ing days!

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Stand

Post Communion Canticle *"Thank the Lord" page 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



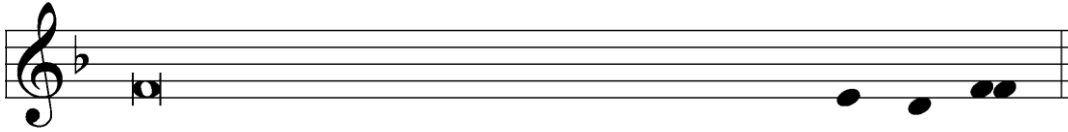
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Post Communion Collect *page 166*

P Let us pray.

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

Benediction.....page 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.

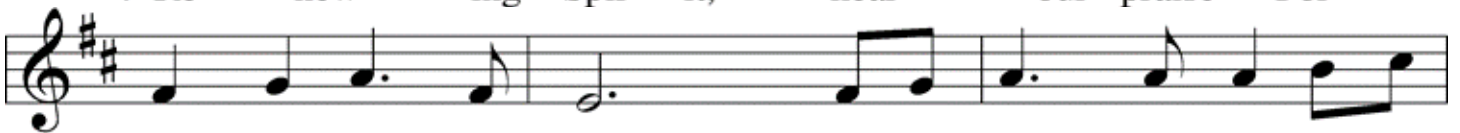


C A - men.

Sending Hymn....."This Is the Spirit's Entry Now" #591



1 This is the Spir - it's en - try now: The
 2 This mir - a - cle of life re - born Comes
 3 Let wa - ter be the sa - cred sign That
 4 Re - new - ing Spir - it, hear our praise For



wa - ter and the Word, The cross of Je - sus
 from the Lord of breath; The per - fect Man from
 we must die each day To rise a - gain by
 Your bap - tis - mal pow'r That wash - es us through



on your brow, The seal both felt and heard.
 life was torn; Our life comes through Christ's death.
 His de - sign As fol - l'wers of His way.
 all our days; Lord, cleanse a - gain this hour.

Dismissal..... (Bethlehem's Mission)

P Grow in Christ,

C Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude..... Lorraine Miller ("America the Beautiful", arr. by Lorraine Miller-flute)

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Next week's readings:

OT: Genesis 3:8-15; EP: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

Attendance Last Saturday: 28

Total Offering: \$4,106.57

Home Use: \$3,114.57

Attendance Last Sunday: 98

Missions: \$300.00

Benevolences: \$692.00

Serving us today:

Elders.....Jack Easterwood (Sat), Caleb Thomas, Jeremy VanWey (Sun)

Musicians Cody Clemons

Altar Committee..... Sheree Moody (Chair), SueAnn Carter,
Erika Freeman, Peggy Hoyer

Flower Committee Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase

This Week's Schedule

Monday-31

Memorial Day-Office Closed

Tuesday-1

12:00 p.m.

Braille in Concordia

Wednesday-2

9:30 a.m.

Exercise Class

10:30 a.m.

Bible Study—1 Peter

7:00 p.m.

Midweek Devotional Communion Service

Thursday-3

1:00 p.m.

Card Group

7:00 p.m.

Zoom Bible Study—"Psalms-Poetry on Fire"

Friday-4

9:30 a.m.

Exercise Class

4:30 p.m.

Manna Harvest Meal Help

Saturday-5

5:00 p.m.

Children's Message

5:30 p.m.

Outdoor Worship

Sunday-6

8:00 a.m.

The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9

9:00 a.m.

Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at www.blchurch.com, under the Sermons tab)

9:15 a.m.

Bible Study and Jr. and Sr. Youth Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion

Prayers

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization, rehabilitation, and chemotherapy: Don Apprill (Cindy Schnell's dad), Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Denise (Penny Humphrey's sister), Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Sharon Hochsprung, Mary Johnson, Creed Kueker (Pr. Jesse Kueker's son—Trinity, Clinton), Marty Lehn, Marvin Logan (Nicole Clemons' father), Lynn Lowe, Kathy Marshall, Vivian Meyer (young daughter of Kaye Fair's close friend), Johnny Nichol, Jim Rudy, Bryan Tebbenkamp, and Jan Trahan (Kaye Fair's mother).

For Pregnant Mothers, especially Bridgette & Jonathan Sharp, Corinne & Jeremy Allison, Bekah & Chris Kelley, and Kara & JeVon Savage. May the Lord grant good health and joyful expectation!

For Military Members—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden, Ty Carter, Ethan Hillsman, Chance Hillsman and Logan LeBaige.

Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain and needing to talk and be encouraged in the living of life from day to day, don't hesitate to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty, and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

Worship Services

Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. You can also watch them live on Facebook or YouTube, or go to it directly from the webpage at blchurch.com.

Saturdays begin at 5:00 p.m. with a Children's Message, and services start at 5:30 out back under the cottonwood tree (through September 4th). In case of inclement weather, the service will be moved indoors. All of the Saturday services are a non-Communion devotional service, but Wednesday Communion services are being provided.

Wednesdays Communion Services are being held at 7:00 p.m. on the Wednesday following the 1st, 3rd or 5th Communion Sunday—**the next will be June 2nd.** These devotional services are focused on a different one of the nine fruits of the Spirit each time. Consider making this part of your spiritual growth this summer!

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

“Reading Romans” Study on Sunday Mornings! We’re working through the remaining chapters of this important biblical letter, and you’re more than welcome to join us in the conference room **from 9:15-10:10 a.m.** as we cover a lot of good ground yet together!

Sunday Youth Bible Study—Jeremy VanWey is currently leading a study that is exploring C.S. Lewis’s classic on the wily ways of evil, *The Screwtape Letters*. Make sure to make it, and spread the word to others so that a good group can work through it together!

New Zoom Bible Study starting June 3—“Psalms: Poetry on Fire”. Psalms 1-41 over the next 12 weeks. We will discuss poetry of praises, prayers, and laments. In each lesson, we will discuss: discover the heart of God, explore the heart of God, experience the heart of God, and share the heart of God. **This Zoom Bible study will begin Thursday, June 3 at 7:00 p.m.** We will be using “Psalms: Poetry on Fire” by Brian Simmons. If you are interested in this passionate Bible Study of the Psalms please contact Rebecca or Cindy.

Wednesday & Saturday Bible Studies—Wednesday’s 10:30 a.m.—12 noon study on 1 Peter will resume after a long hiatus on **June 2**; all are invited to join in this gathering in our conference room. It looks like Saturday Bible studies will resume in September, after Labor Day.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School (Outdoors)—Mark your calendars for **June 13-17** for VBS—**Rainforest Explorers: Jesus Leads the Way!** We will be serving a sack meal each night starting at **5:00 p.m.** The lessons and activities will run from **5:30-8:15 p.m.**

VBS Mission—VBS students will be collecting items for Orphan Grain Train Christmas Gift Boxes. If you would like to donate items, please see the lists of needed items at the collection points near the church entrances. The packing list for OGT boxes is specific and variations are not allowed. OGT is a Lutheran-based relief agency, headquartered in Norfolk, NE, that connects people (often children) with needed resources for the flourishing of life. To learn more about them, visit www.ogt.org.

Calling all helpers—VBS needs you! Helpers are needed for the registration table, storytelling (this is a good role if you would like to help for just a night or two), team leaders (who will guide students from one station to the next and help them stay engaged), game helpers, packing sack meals, and decorating (this is a great option if you would like to help for just one day before VBS begins). **Please contact Ellen Pederson (Inpederson@gmail.com) if you would like to help.**

Opportunities to Serve

June is Bethlehem's month to staff the Food Center! We still need a few more volunteers for **Tuesdays & Thursdays in June from 12:30pm to 4:00pm**. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the mailboxes. Contact Sue Cottrill if you can help.

Bethlehem's Community Garden was converted to raised beds this year. Some has been planted already, but more is waiting to be done. Thanks to all who helped with the work day this past Saturday (optimistically at this Wednesday typing) and got some much-needed work done! *Would you like to be in the group of regular garden helpers? Talk to Shawn Lindley or Pr. Joel*, plus, pick up one of the new pamphlets to learn more.

Fellowship

Exercise Class is being held at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

The Card Group meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone is welcome to join in for some games, coffee and fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

Offerings

You can mail your offerings to Bethlehem and have pastor put it in the offering plate on the altar with a prayer of trust for you, or you can give through the online offering called "*Simply Giving*".

Miscellaneous

Bake Sale—Immanuel Lutheran Church (110 Main), Sweet Springs, MO on Saturday, June 12, from 8:00 am until sold out. The sale will be held in front of the Church on Main Street. Sponsored by the Ladies of the Congregation. All proceeds to support their projects—such as a new refrigerator. Thank you for participating!

St. Paul Lutheran High School Camps: **Registration forms with additional information for all camps can be found at www.splhs.org/events**

- **Girls Volleyball** (students entering 5th through 8th grade): Tuesday-Friday, June 1-4, 10:30am-12:00pm. Contact Coach Tom Lange for more information at TLange@splhs.org.

- **Girls Basketball** (students entering 4th through 8th grade): Monday-Thursday, June 14-17, 1:00pm-3:00pm. Contact Coach Eric Gramenz for more information at EGramenz@splhs.org. **This camp will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Grade School, 407 S Main Street, Concordia.

- **Boys and Girls Soccer** (students entering 1st through 8th grade): Monday-Friday, June 21-25, 8:00am-9:30am; (1st-4th grade), 8:00am-10:00am; (5th-8th grade). Contact Coach JT Toensing for more information at JToensing@splhs.org.
- **Spanish Camp** (Boys & Girls ages 5-11): Tuesday-Friday, July 6-9, 9:30am-11:00am. Contact Spanish Instructor Larin Payne for more information at LPayne@splhs.org.
- **Boys Basketball** (students entering 4th through 8th grade): Monday-Friday, July 19-23, 8:30am-10:00am. Contact Coach Monte Pitsch for more information at MPitsch@splhs.org
- **Boys Football Camp** (students entering 1st through 6th grade): Monday-Wednesday, July 26-28, 10:00am-12:00pm. Contact Coach CJ Gifford for more information at CGifford@splhs.org.

Elders

Willie Crespo (last name begins A-H) 660-679-8121, willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com
Jack Easterwood (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, easter.egg2380@gmail.com
Caleb Thomas (last name begins Mc-R) 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@gmail.com
Jeremy VanWey (last name begins S-Z) 606-909-4765, jeremy.vanwey@gmail.com



Contact Information

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093

Our Mission

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

Our Vision

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



Rev. Joel R. Kurz

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am–5pm

Otherwise by appointment

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Office Manager:

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am–5pm

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Congregational Life Facilitator:

Rebecca Stewart

MTW: 8am–2pm

Thursday by appointment

clf@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 3pm–6pm

Thursday by

appointment

financial@blchurch.com

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for the viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.