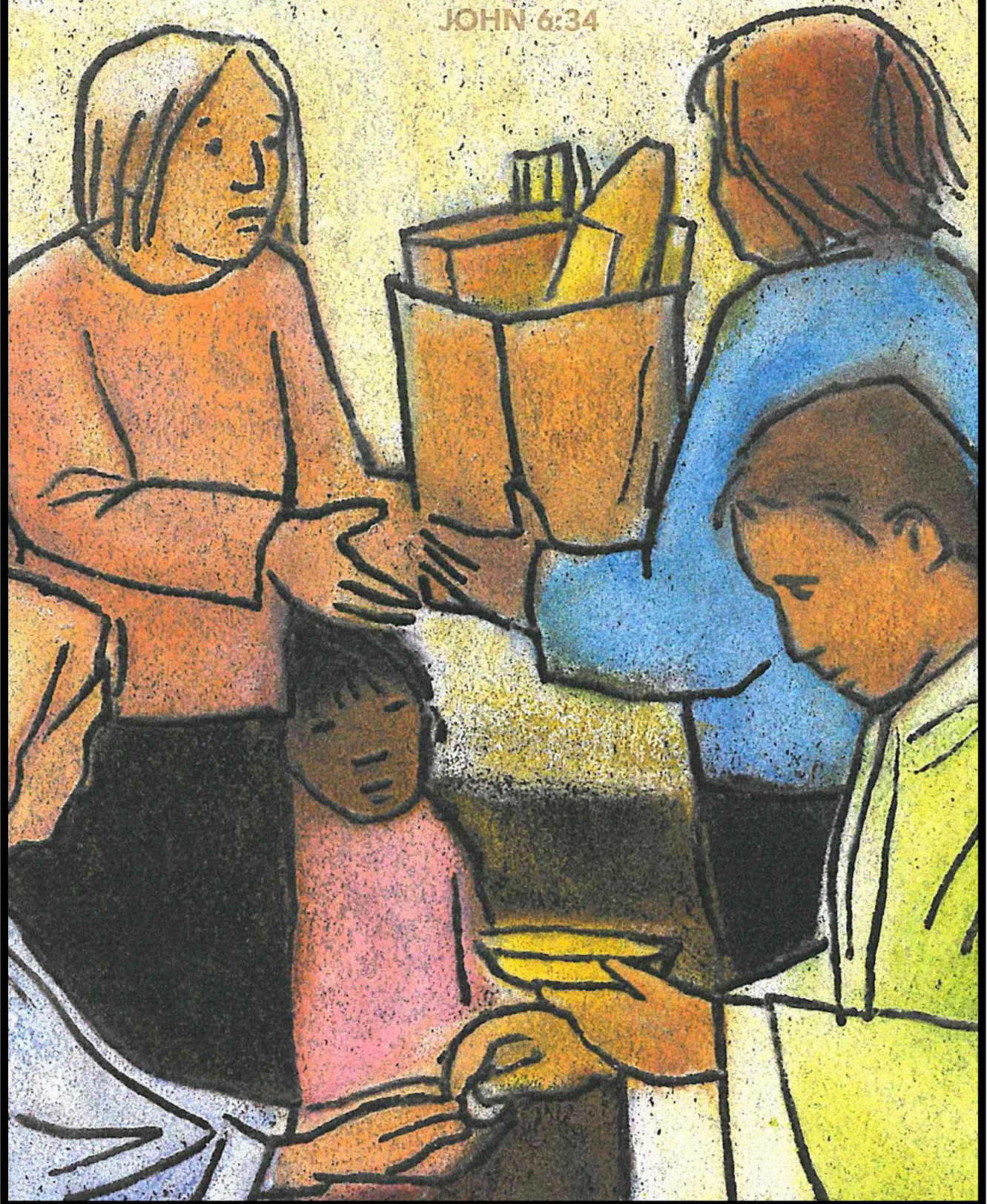


Give us this bread always

JOHN 6:34





+ The 10th Sunday After Pentecost +

August 1, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Bread, in one form or another, is a diet staple in most every culture. Though today we can be overwhelmed at the grocery store with countless types and styles, even in its simplest form, bread continues to sustain stomachs in a variety of ways. Bread, or the simplest form of manna, is what the Lord would use to sustain His people in the wilderness, and the image of bread is what He would use to help people understand the greater gift He came to give in His own Son. Yet, more than sustaining a diet for this body and life, Jesus, the bread of life, has come to serve us salvation, sustain our souls, and feed us with His forgiveness.

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:

Green is the color of life and growth in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

PreludeDr. Jerrode Marsh
(“Preambulem”: Heinrich Scheidemann, “Preludio”: J. G. Walther)

Welcome

Stand

Invocation Hymn.....“Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death”, #697



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And
2 To us on earth He came to bring From
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who
4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its
sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's
died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle
con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.
u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.
hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.
forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

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Divine Service, Setting Two Confession and Absolution

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

Confession and Absolution.....page 167

- 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 *"Father, We Thank Thee" #652*



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



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



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



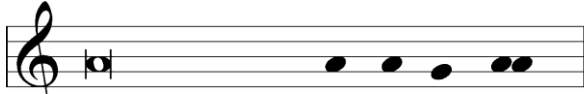
Thou, Lord, didst make all for Thy plea - sure, Didst
As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides, Was



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



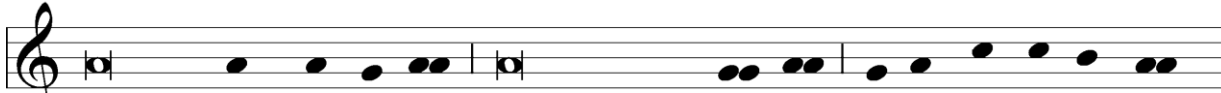
Bread e - ter - nal; Thine is the pow'r, be Thine the praise.
Church be gath - ered In - to Thy king - dom by Thy Son.



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



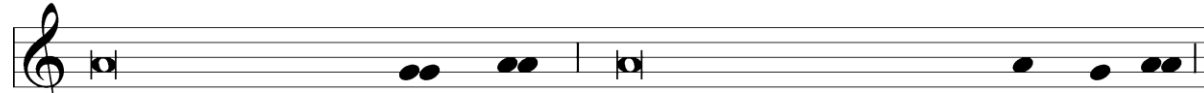
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



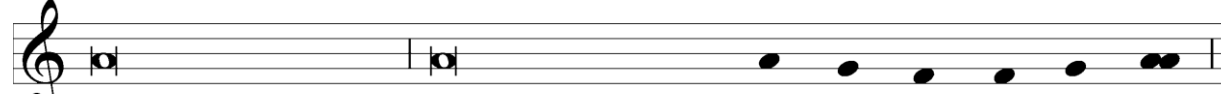
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



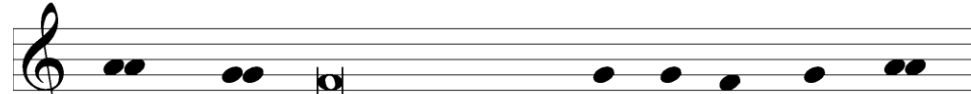
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise "This Is the Feast" page 171



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



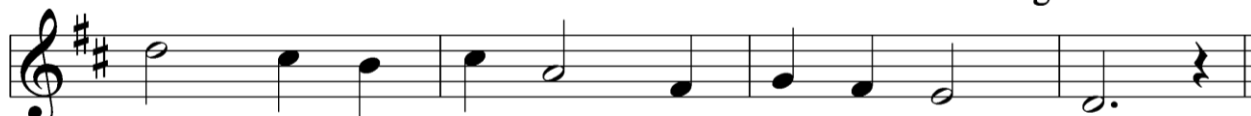
B Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



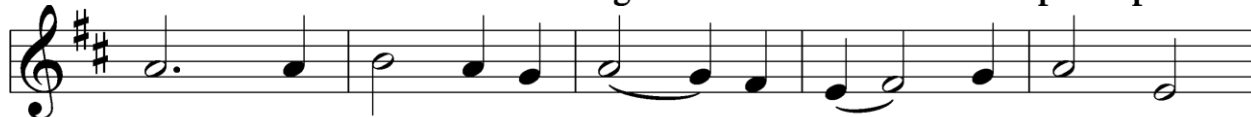
hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



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



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



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



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.



Salutationpage 172



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

Collect of the Day (*spoken in unison*)

Merciful Father, You gave Your Son Jesus as the heavenly bread of life. Grant us faith to feast on Him in Your Word and Sacraments that we may be nourished unto life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament **Exodus 16:2-15**

The whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.'" And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. And the LORD said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual..... *(spoken in unison)*

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are his judgments and how beyond scrutiny his ways!

For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be glory forever. Amen.

Epistle..... **Ephesians 4:1-16**

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it says,

"When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,
and he gave gifts to men."

(In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the

measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Versepage 173



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

Holy GospelJohn 6:22-35

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may

see and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

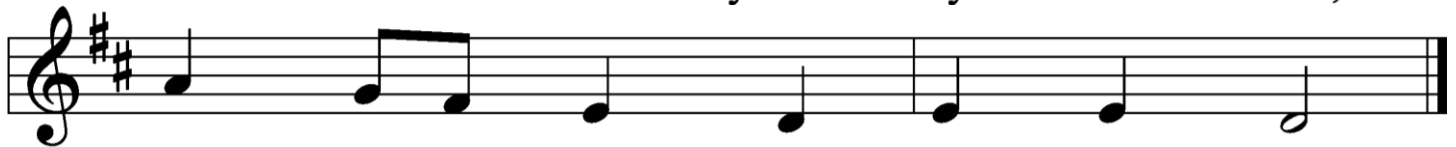
Hymn of the Day..... *"Blessed Jesus, Living Bread"*



1 Bless-ed Je - sus, liv - ing bread, By Your self our
 2 To the house of bread You came, There re - ceived Your
 3 Not by this world's bread a - lone Can our life be -
 4 We are in that crowd You fed With Your blest, a -



souls are fed: Give us all the eyes to see
 sav - ing name; From that low - ly man - ger bed
 come full - grown, But by ev - 'ry word that goes
 bun - dant bread. Moved by ev - 'ry hu - man care,



All that You were sent to be.
 All the dy - ing world is fed.
 From the mouth of God— one grows.
 Bless the bread we eat and share.

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Sermon..... *"Bread Again!"*

Stand

**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.**

- P** Lord, in Your mercy
- C** hear our prayer.
- P** . . . 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)

Offertory..... page 176



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 177-178



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. . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus.....*page 178*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. 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.

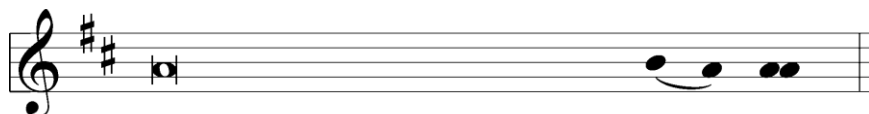
Lord's Prayer.....*page 179*

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 Lord..... *page 179*

Pax Domini*page 180*



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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei.....*page 180*



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, grant us peace.

Sit (until motioned to rise & proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).

Communion Hymns *Instrumental*

(“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”: J. S. Bach)

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”, #633

1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death’s dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal

our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael’s hosts tri - um-phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love

Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
 Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight,
 You have brought us life and light.
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,
 Newborn souls in You to be.
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
 Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise,
 And Your saints in You shall rise.
 Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.
 Alleluia

"Jesus Comes Today with Healing", #620



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my
 2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and
 3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the
 4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.
 wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,
 Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,
 me this hour In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His
 Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the
 Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter
 On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His



in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."
 pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.
 death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.
 grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

5

Let me praise God's boundless favor,
 Whose own feast of love I savor,
 Bidden by His gracious call.
 Wedding garments He provides me,
 With a robe of white He hides me,
 Fits me for the royal hall.

6

Now have I found consolation,
 Comfort in my tribulation,
 Balm to heal the troubled soul.
 God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
 Cleanses me from sin and error,
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.

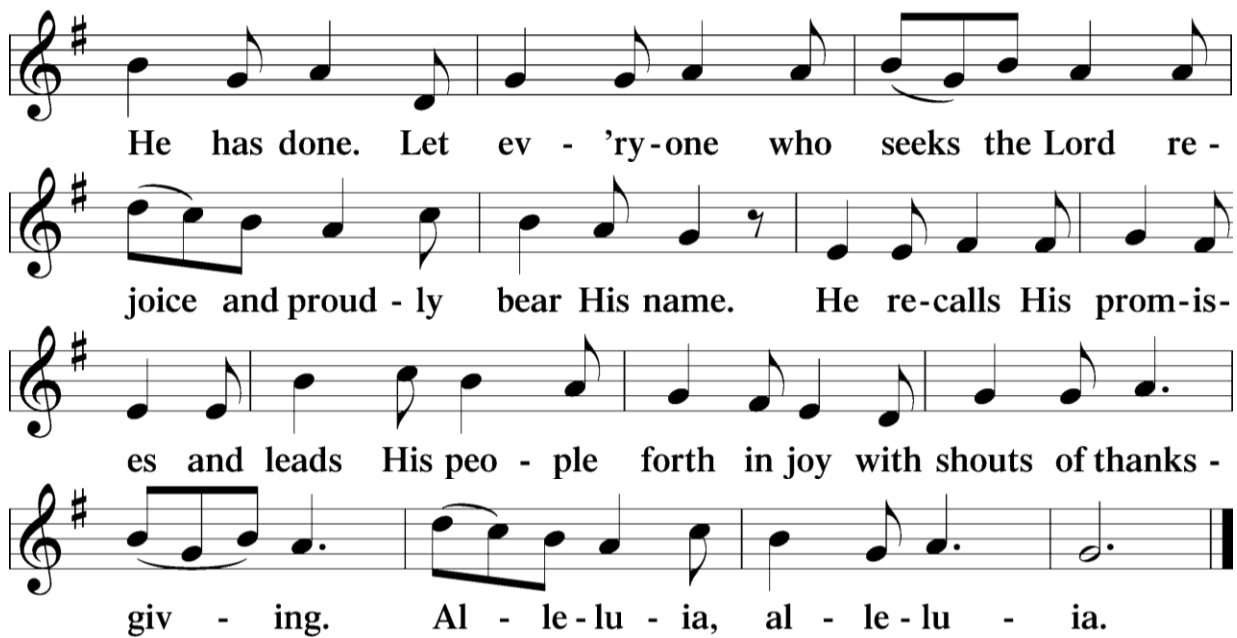
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Stand

Post Communion Canticle..... page 181



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



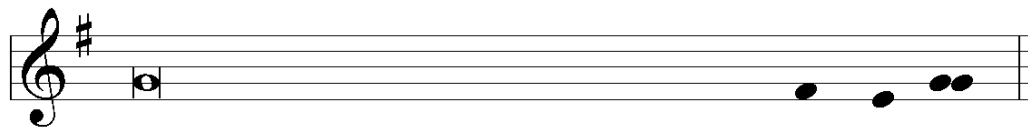
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -
 joyce and proud - ly bear His name. He re - calls His prom - is -
 es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
 giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post Communion Collect..... *page 183*

P Let us pray. . . .who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction..... *page 183*



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..... *"Guide Me, Oh Great Thou Redeemer", #918*



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,
Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,
bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to
more;
shield;
Thee;
Feed me till I want no more.
Be Thou still my strength and shield.
I will ev - er give to Thee.

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

- P** Grow in Christ,
- C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude Dr. Jerrode March
(*"Toccata"*: J. Speth)

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Next week's readings:

OT: 1 Kings 19:1-8; Epistle: Eph. 4:17 - 5:2; Gospel: John 6:35-51

Attendance: Last Saturday: 17
Total Offering: \$3,315.00
Home Use: \$2,895.00

Attendance Last Sunday: 48
Non-Offering: \$20.00
Benevolences: \$40.00

Serving us today:

Elders/Ushers.....Willie Crespo, Jeremy VanWey
MusiciansDr. Jerrode Marsh
Altar Committee.....Cindy Schnell (Chair), Diana Hoemann, Judy Schache
Samantha Schnell, Stephanie Schumaker, Lauryn Schumaker
Flower Committee Karen Haase (Chair), Lana Vanderburgh

This Week's Schedule

Monday-2	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
Tuesday-3	12:00 p.m.	Braille in Concordia
Wednesday-4	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Midweek Bible Study—I Peter
	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Devotional Communion Service
Thursday-5		<i>Pastor on Vacation</i>
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Card Group
Friday-6		<i>Pastor on Vacation</i>
	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Saturday-7	5:00 p.m.	Children's Message
	5:30 p.m.	Outdoor Worship
Sunday-8	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.	Jr. and Sr. Youth Sunday School
	9:45 a.m.	Preschool/Elementary Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service

Altar Flowers

Lloyd and Charlene McCarter have given the lovely flowers on the altar in honor of their 56th wedding anniversary. May the Lord bless them with many more years to come!

Musician Welcome!

We are thankful to have **Dr. Jerrode Baker Marsh** playing for the worship service and accompanying our singing for the first time today! Dr. Marsh is the Director of Music at St. Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, so you might have seen her directing the Singing Saints when they've been here or elsewhere over the past six years. This fall, she will also begin as the Conductor and Artistic Director of the

Sedalia Symphony Orchestra. We thank her for using her gifts among us to the praise of Christ and for the building up of His people!

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 and rehabilitation: Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Denise (Penny Humphrey's sister), Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Creed Kueker (the young son of Trinity— Clinton's pastor & his wife), Katie Kurz, 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, Pat Strayhorn (friend of a member) and Bryan Tebbenkamp.

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, Gabe Crespo, 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 it 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 non-Communion devotional services.

Wednesday 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 August 4th. 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, even if you only make the last two!

Sunday School for Preschool/Elementary

Children's faith lessons are held each **Saturday at 5:00 p.m.** near the cottonwood tree out back, half an hour before the Saturday service. **Sunday's faith lessons** are happening **at 9:45 a.m.** in the fellowship hall downstairs. These are great opportunities for your children to grow in knowledge of Scripture and in trust toward their Savior!

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

Reforesting Faith—This book study/discussion group will be making a return this late summer and into the fall. Only two people joined Pr. Joel for the first couple of sessions last year, and then it was decided to table it 'til this year. At least some of it will be outdoors, but that will depend on who'll be participating. If that's you, **let Pr. Joel know a day or time that works best**—otherwise he'll select what seems a good window. Based on Dr. Matthew Sleeth's book of that name (subtitled "What Trees Teach Us About the Nature of God and His Love for Us"), this is a great way to get a better understanding of created life, Scripture, and faith more clearly through the lenses of stewardship, salvation, and restoration.

"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!

Zoom Bible Study—"Psalms: Poetry on Fire" will be taking a break during the month of August. We will start back up after the Labor Day weekend.

Wednesday & Saturday Bible Studies—Wednesday's 10:30 a.m.—12 noon study on 1 Peter has resumed; all are invited to join in this gathering in our conference room. Saturday Bible studies will resume in September, after Labor Day.

Opportunities to Serve

Our Fall Mission Festival will be celebrated the weekend of **August 21-22**. The guest speaker will be Chris Ruhnke from the Show-Me Christian Youth Home (located in LaMonte, MO). He will speak during Sunday School and the church service on

Sunday. It is inspiring to hear how they provide homes and strong families for children who have come from unhealthy situations. **We will plan on having an in-gathering of paper goods for the home that weekend.** If you would like to contribute, please place your items in the containers provided at the entrances of the church. Items could be: paper towels, paper plates and toilet paper.

Bethlehem's Vegetable Garden was converted to raised beds this year and is growing well amid the summer heat and rains. We're glad to have a neighboring family helping out with everything and growing a box of their own! Plus, the garden cart has returned to the north entrance so that whoever passes by can help themselves to whatever's been recently harvested.

Fellowship

Merry Widows/Friends group will be meeting on **Thursday, August 12 at 11:30 a.m.** in the church basement. This is a week earlier due to the rummage sale being held the following week. Bring a sack lunch and a friend. Dessert will be provided.

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, men or women. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

The Games and Card Group meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone, men and women are welcome to come and play board games or cards. Bring a game and a friend. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

Miscellaneous

Rummage Sale, Friday, August 20 from 3-7 p.m. and Saturday, August 21 from 8am-1pm. Drop off of items will begin on Monday, August 2nd. Place items in the Preschool room downstairs. **Do not bring big items until the week of the sale.** The sale will be held on Further details about the sale and a work schedule will be coming in the near future. Contact call Peggy Hoyer or Barb Chasar with any questions.

Offerings

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

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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Rebecca Stewart

Tue & Thurs: 8am–4pm

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.