

All
generations
will
call me
blessed

LUKE 1:48



+ The 12th Sunday After Pentecost +

August 15, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Today we consider why we follow Jesus. In the Gospel, we see many people stop following Jesus because His words offend them. When Jesus asks the disciples if they want to stop following Him as well, Peter answers, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” Not only does Jesus have the words of eternal life, but He also gives us the food of eternal life—His body and blood. As we gather for worship, we gather around God’s Word and God’s Meal—the Lord’s Supper.

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 (I 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.

Prelude Cody Clemons
 (“Just As I Am, Without One Plea”, “How Great Thou Art”)

Welcome

Stand

Invocation Hymn..... "Church of God, Elect and Glorious" #646



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly
 2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to
 3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers
 4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own
 His most mar - v'ulous light; Brought His truth to
 to God's heart of love; But He brought you
 peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of
 life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to
 home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -
 swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,
 sight. Let your light so shine a - round you
 bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,
 sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that
 That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh
 Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may
 Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
 hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
 know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.
 joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

Divine Service, Setting Two

Confession and Absolution

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

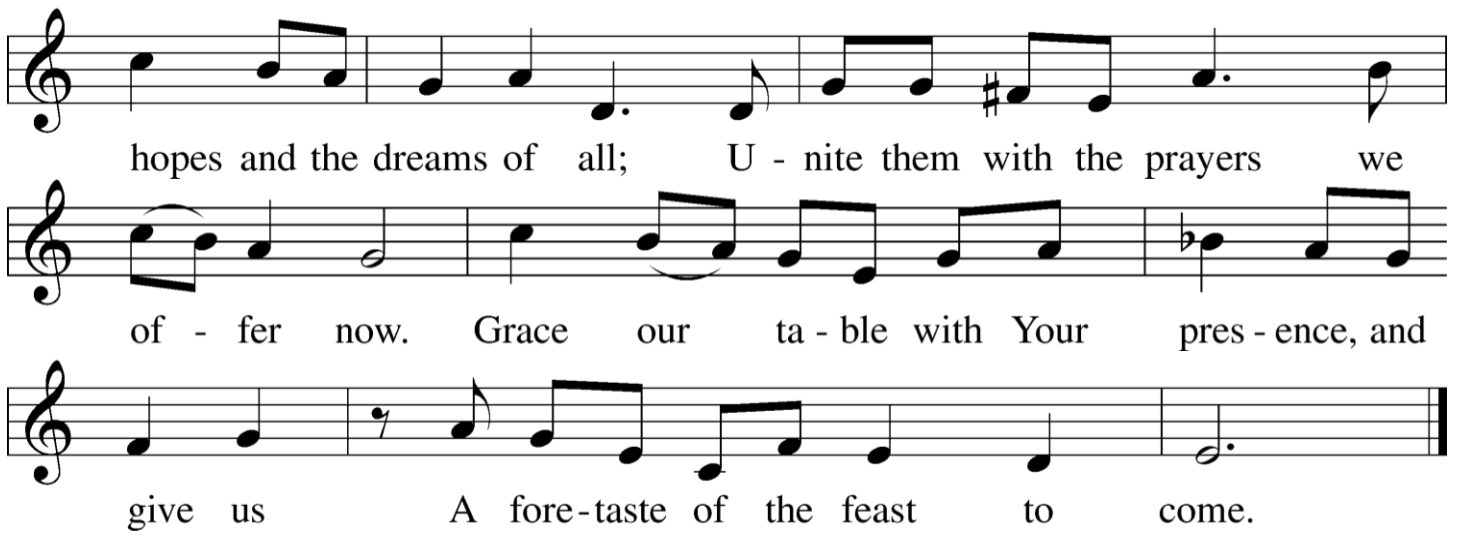
Confession and Absolution.....page 167

- 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 *“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”* #955

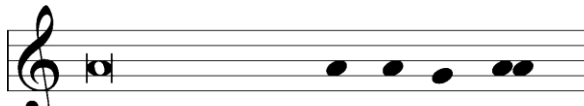
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the



hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

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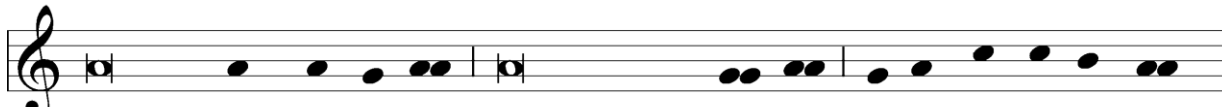
Kyrie.....pages 168-169



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.



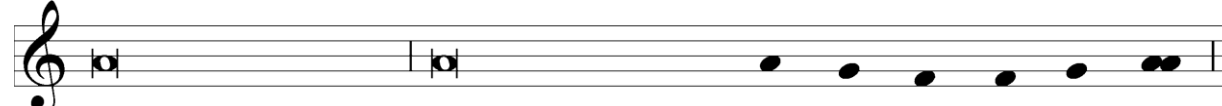
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



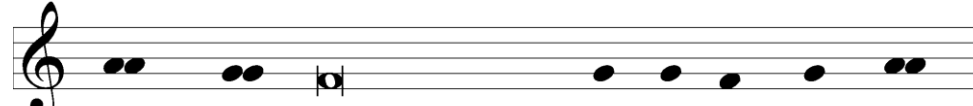
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



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.



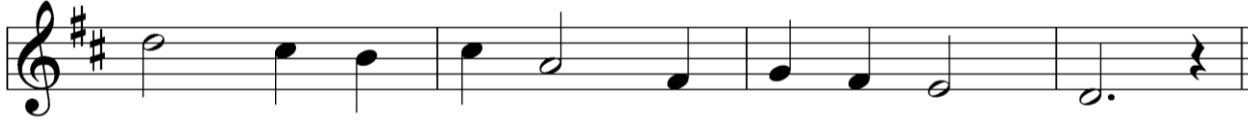
C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



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

Salutationpage 172

P The Lord be with you.
G And al - so with you.

Collect of the Day (*spoken in unison*)

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament **Proverbs 9:1-10**

Wisdom has built her house;
 she has hewn her seven pillars.

She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.

She has sent out her young women to call
from the highest places in the town,
“Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”

To him who lacks sense she says,
“Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.

Leave your simple ways, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”

Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse,
and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury.

Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.

Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

**Fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all. Amen.**

Epistle..... **Ephesians 5:6-21**

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not associate with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

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 6:51-69

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live

because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. So Jesus said to the Twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day..... *“You Are the Way; through You Alone” #526*



| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|---------|----------|----------|-------------|
| 1 | You | are | the | way; | through | You | a - lone | Can |
| 2 | You | are | the | truth; | Your | Word | a - lone | True |
| 3 | You | are | the | life; | the | emp - ty | tomb | Pro - |
| 4 | You | are | the | way, | the | truth, | the | life; Grant |



| | | | | | | | | |
|--------|------|-----------|---------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------------|
| we | the | Fa - ther | find; | In | You, | O | Christ, | has |
| wis - | dom | can | im - | You | on - | ly | can | in - |
| claims | Your | con - | qu'ring | And | those | who | put | their |
| us | that | way | to | know, | That | truth | to | keep, that |



God re - vealed His heart and will and mind.
 form the mind And pu - ri - fy the heart.
 trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.
 life to win Whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon..... “Attending”

Stand

Nicene Creed.....page 174

**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 Churchpage 175

- 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)

Offertorypage 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 beneficial. . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus.....page 178



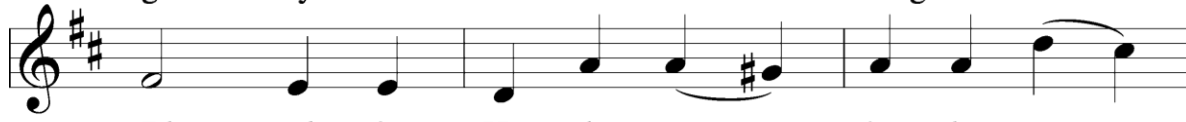
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



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



Prayer of Thanksgiving.....*page 178*

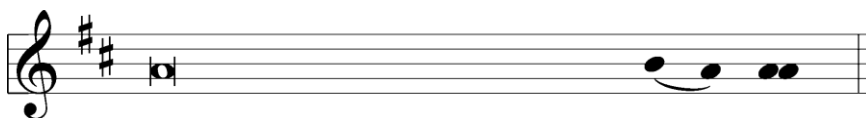
- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth . . .
To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

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.

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*

“Eat This Bread” #638

(Refrain-Congregation, verses 1-5-Choir)

Refrain

Eat this bread, drink this cup, Come to Him and nev-er be hun - gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, Trust in Him and you will not thirst.

Cantor or Choir

1 This is His bod - y giv - en for you; this is His blood that was shed for you.

2 As of-ten as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you show His death un-til He comes a-gain.



3 Eat His flesh and drink His blood, and Christ will raise you up on the Last Day.



4 An - y - one who eats this bread will live for - ev - er.



5 If we be-lieve and eat this bread, we will have e - ter - nal life.

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"O Living Bread from Heaven" #642



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, How well You
2 My Lord, You here have led me To this most
3 You gave me all I want - ed; This food can
4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened With heav'n - ly



feed Your guest! The gifts that You have giv - en
ho - ly place And with Your - self have fed me
death de - stroy. And You have free - ly grant - ed
food, while here My course on earth is length - ened,



Have filled my heart with rest. Oh, won - drous food of
The trea - sures of Your grace; For You have free - ly
The cup of end - less joy. My Lord, I do not
To serve with ho - ly fear. And when You call my



bles - sing, Oh, cup that heals our woes! My heart, this
giv - en What earth could nev - er buy, The bread of
mer - it The fa - vor You have shown, And all my
spir - it To leave this world be - low, I en - ter,



gift pos - sess - ing, With prais - es o - ver - flows.
 life from heav - en, That now I shall not die.
 soul and spir - it Bow down be - fore Your throne.
 through Your mer - it, Where joys un - min - gled flow.

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Post Communion Canticle..... page 181



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



He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks 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 -



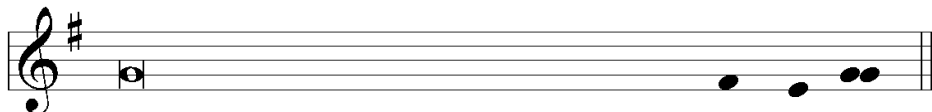
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post Communion Collect..... page 183

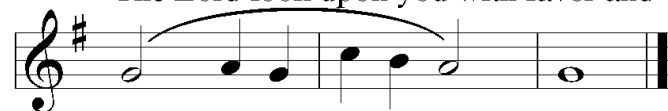
P Let us pray. . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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..... "Sing with All the Saints in Glory" #671



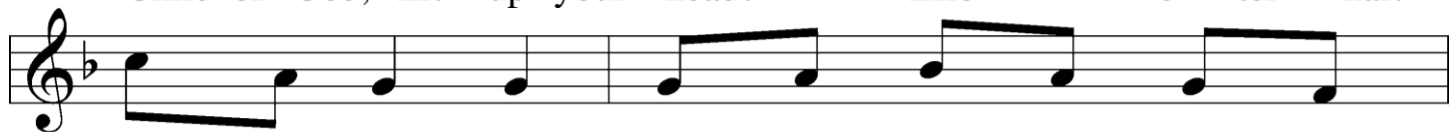
1 Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, Sing the res - ur -
 2 Oh, what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing All that eye has
 3 Life e - ter - nal! Heav'n re - joic - es: Je - sus lives who



rec - tion song! Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry,
 yet per - ceived! Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing
 once was dead. Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es!



To the for - mer days be - long. All a - round the
 Nev - er that full joy con - ceived. God has prom - ised,
 Child of God, lift up your head! Life e - ter - nal!



clouds are break - ing; Soon the storms of time shall
 Christ pre - pares it; There on high our wel - come
 Oh, what won - ders Crowd on faith; what joy un -



cease; In God's like - ness we a - wak - en,
 waits. Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it,
 known, When, a - mid earth's clos - ing thun - ders,



Know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.
 Christ has passed the e - ter - nal gates.
 Saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

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UCM Lutheran Student Center Welcome & Invitation

Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

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

Postlude Cody Clemons

(“Crown Him with Many Crowns”)

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Next week’s readings:

OT: Is 29:11-19; Epistle: Eph. 5:22-33; Gospel: Mark 7:1-13

Attendance: Last Saturday: 23

Total Offering: \$4,461.52

Home Use: \$4,074.00

Attendance Last Sunday: 60

Non-Offering: \$150.00

Benevolences: \$237.52

Serving us today:

Elders/Ushers..... Willie Crespo, Caleb Thomas

Musicians Cody Clemons

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-16 | 10:00 a.m. | Moms and Tots |
| Tuesday-17 | 6:00 p.m. | Mission Board Meeting |
| Wednesday-18 | 10:30 a.m. | Midweek Bible Study—I Peter |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Final Midweek Devotional Communion Service |
| Thursday-19 | 1:00 p.m. | Games and Card Group |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Fellowship Board Meeting |
| Friday-20 | 3:00 p.m. | Rummage Sale |
| Saturday-21 | 8:00 a.m. | Rummage Sale |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Trustees’ Meeting |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Children’s Message |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Outdoor Worship |
| Sunday-22 | 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/Mission Speaker |
| | 9:45 a.m. | Preschool/Elementary Sunday School/Mission Speaker |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service/Mission Festival |
| | 11:45 a.m. | Music Meeting |

Prayers

For Comfort and Strength to All Who Mourn, especially Kayla McCarter and her family on the sudden loss of her father. May Christ uphold them and be their peace!

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, Michelle Brown, 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, Ben Smith, Pat Strayhorn (friend of a member).

For Pregnant Mothers (and Fathers) 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, Chance Hillsman.

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 and 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.

The Last Wednesday Communion Service will be held on August 18th at 7:00 p.m. We'll focus on the last of the fruit of the Spirit: self-control. Join us if you can!

Our Fall Mission Festival will be celebrated the weekend of **August 21-22**. The guest speaker on 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 are 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.

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School Kickoff will be on September 12th at 9:15 a.m. We will have donuts and other goodies to celebrate.

Show Me Christian Youth Home—On August 22nd, **Chris Ruhnke from Show-Me Christian Youth Home** will be speaking during Sunday School (9:15 for Junior/Senior Youth, 9:45 for pre-K thru elementary). We will have the **Backpack Blessing** during the church service that day as well. Bring your backpacks to church so they can get blessed before everyone returns to school.

Orphan Grain Train Packing Party—Also, we will have an Orphan Grain Train Christmas box packing party during Sunday School on **August 29th** to fill the remaining 46 boxes before delivering them to the Concordia warehouse the following week.

Youth Catechesis (ongoing faith formation in preparation for Confirmation) will be resuming next month. If your child is in 7th/8th grades and you haven't been contacted Pastor Joel yet, let him know so that you can be on the planning list for when to start next month.

Pastor's Faith Exploration Sessions (which focus on the basics of the Christian faith through the Lutheran lens—especially for those wanting to learn more and possibly pursue church membership)—will start **next Sunday, the 22nd, from 1-2:15 p.m. in the conference room.** Let him know if you're interested but haven't been contacted.

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!

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 meets in the conference room. Saturday Bible studies will resume in September—after Labor Day.

Reforestation Faith: What Trees Teach Us About the Nature of God and His Love for Us—a recent book by medical doctor and conservationist Matthew Sleeth—will be the topic of our Faith Night sessions on the **first Wednesday of each month** from September through December (**5:30-6:45 p.m.** in the fellowship hall). Keep your eyes open for more details soon. Everyone is welcome!

Opportunities to Serve

Music Meeting for Everyone—The Elders and Music leaders of BLC would like to invite you to attend a short meeting after service on **Sunday, August 22**. We know that by working together, we can continue to provide a great music ministry during service. I know that many of us miss the wonderful choir that we have grown accustomed to for many years. We are looking for congregations input for our music ministry and are open to ideas. **WE HOPE YOU CAN BE THERE!**

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, it will get its final overhaul as an Eagle Scout project. Also, the garden cart has returned to the north entrance so that whoever passes by can help themselves to whatever's been recently harvested.

Fellowship

UCM Lutheran Student is located at 215 S. Holden Street and is a place on campus for students to gather for fellowship. They have a dinner and Pastor Jon-Michael Schweigert leads them in a bible study every night starting at 5:00 p.m. Their contact number is 660-747-7603 and email at ucmlutherans@gmail.com.

Dinner with Martha Friedmeyer has been rescheduled for **Friday August 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.** For comfort, we will meet at a restaurant of Martha's choosing to have fellowship and dinner. Please contact Sheree Moody if you are able to attend. Martha will be extremely pleased to see us. I look forward to getting together with as many of you ladies as possible. Best on this busy day Our Father has made.

Church Picnic—The annual church picnic is set for **Sunday, August 29, immediately following the church service**. The Men's Club will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers. The Fellowship Board will be providing sides, drinks and dessert. All you need to do is bring some play clothes and a lawn chair if you wish. Games will be available for adults and children.

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 Set-up—Set up will start this **Sunday afternoon at 1:00 p.m.** and run through the time of the sale. Help is needed with lifting, carrying, arranging and pricing items. You may come in at any time during the week to help get things ready for the sale.

Bethlehem's Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, August 20 from 3-7 p.m. and Saturday, August 21 from 8am-1pm. Drop off of items place them in the Preschool room downstairs. Please sign up to help work the sale on the bulletin board by the mailboxes. Contact call Peggy Hoyer or Barb Chasar with any questions.

Country Kitchen Cards are back. You can get 10 buy-one, get-one meal **FREE** coupons for just **\$10.00**. All proceeds go towards helping the youth group. See a youth member, or you can stop by the office and purchase one.

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



ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, August 29, after church

**Burgers, Hotdogs, Sides,
Dessert & Drinks
will be provided**

**Games for adults
and children**

**Bring lawn chairs
and play clothes**

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

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: pastor@blchurch.com

Website: www.blchurch.com Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](https://www.facebook.com/blcwarrensburg)

Office Manager:

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am–5pm

660-747-6742

officemanager@blchurch.com

Congregational Life Facilitator:

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.