

August 29, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Today we see the importance of God's Word in our lives. God's Word is what kept the Israelites as they entered the Promised Land. God's Word is the sword of the Spirit, a portion of the armor of God we are given and told to put on. God's Word leads us, protects us, and helps us fight against the evil one.

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.

Welcome

Please stand for the last verse (in praise of the Trinity), as indicated by the triangle.

Invocation Hymn......"Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear" #908



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Divine Service, Setting Two Confession and Absolution

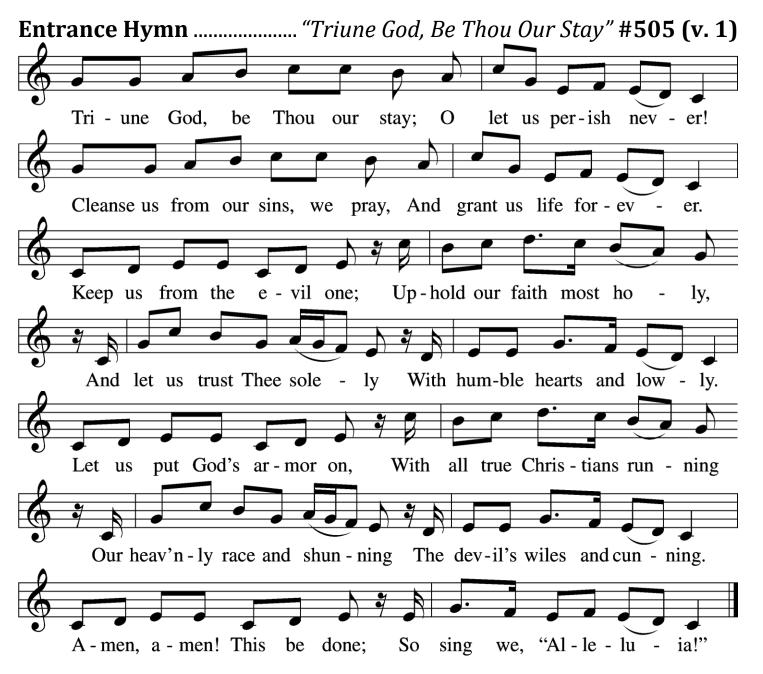
The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution.....page 167

- 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.
- 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.
- 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



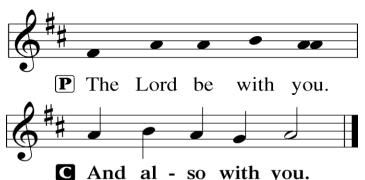
Text and tune: Public domain



Hymn of Praise "This Is the Feast" page 171 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu ia. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood free to be peo-ple of God. set us Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength bless-ing His. and hon or and glo - ry are is the feast vic-to-ry for our God. of This Al - le all Sing with the peo - ple of lu ia. and join of all cre - a - tion: God, in the hymn Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. \mathbf{A} men. the feast of for is vic - to-ry **This** our God, who was slain for the Lamb has be - gun His reign.



Salutation *page 172*



Collect of the Day(spoken in unison)

O God, the source of all that is just and good, nourish in us every virtue and bring to completion every good intent that we may grow in grace and bring forth the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

"Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the just decrees that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you. . . .

Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? And what great nation is there, that has statutes and just decrees so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

"Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children."

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

Gradual (spoken in unison)

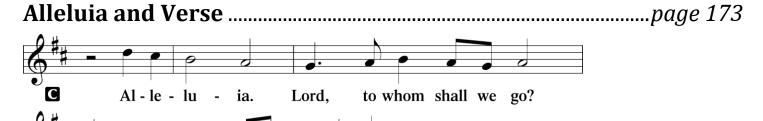
Fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all. Amen.

Epistle..... Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

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

Stand



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel Mark 7:14-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

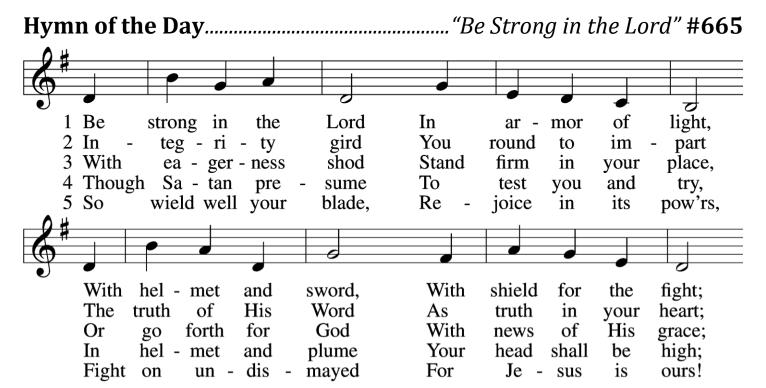


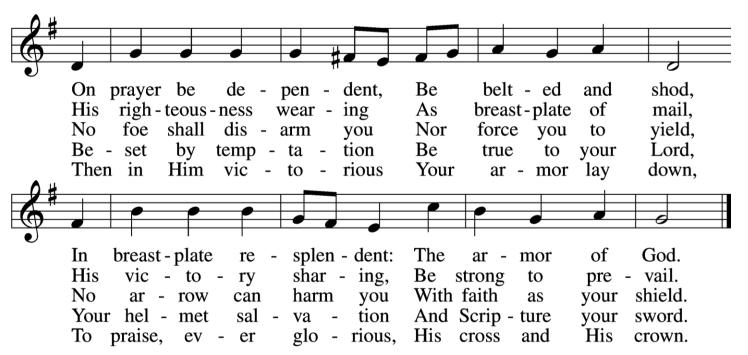
[Jesus] called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit





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Sermon....."Hearing & Doing"

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.

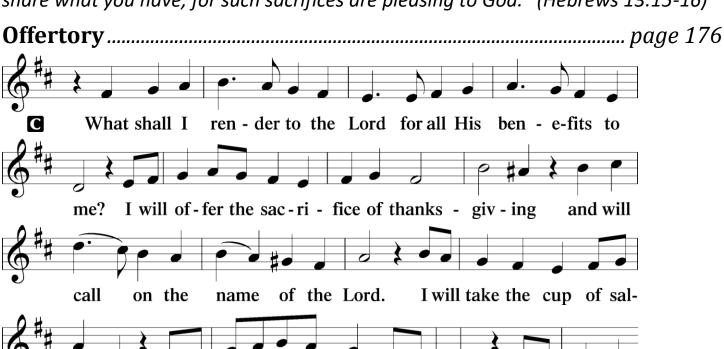
Prayer of the Church.....page 175

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy
- C hear our prayer.
- **P** . . . now and forever,
- C Amen.

Offering

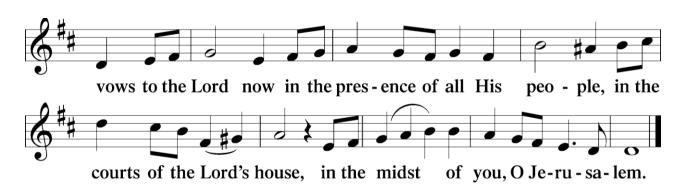
Offering plates are not being passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the west entrance.

"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)



I will pay my

and will call on the name of the Lord.



Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgypages 177-178 The Lord be with you. And al-so with you. \mathbf{P} Lift hearts. your up C We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C It is right to give Him thanks and praise. It is truly good, right, and beneficial. . . evermore praising You and saying: Sanctus.....page 178 ho - ly, ho - ly Ho - ly, God of Lord, Lord

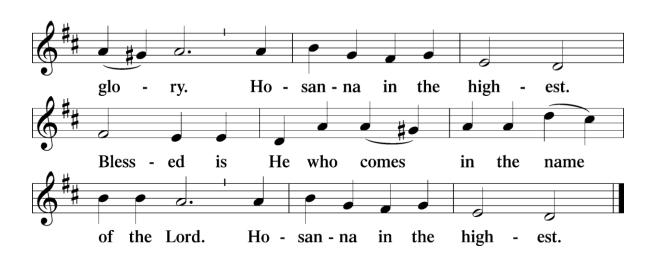
Heav'n and earth

full

are

of Your

pow'r and might:



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.

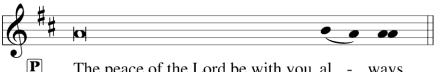
Amen.

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

- Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray: $|\mathbf{P}|$
- 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

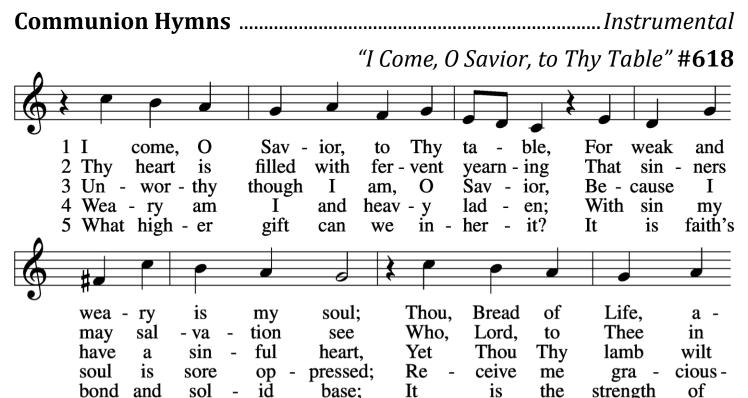


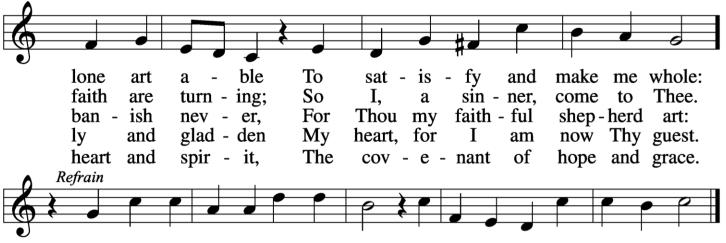
The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



Agnus Dei.....page 180 Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; Lamb of God, You take a-way the have mer-cy us. on sin of the world; have mer-cy Lamb of on us. sin the God, You take a - way the of world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

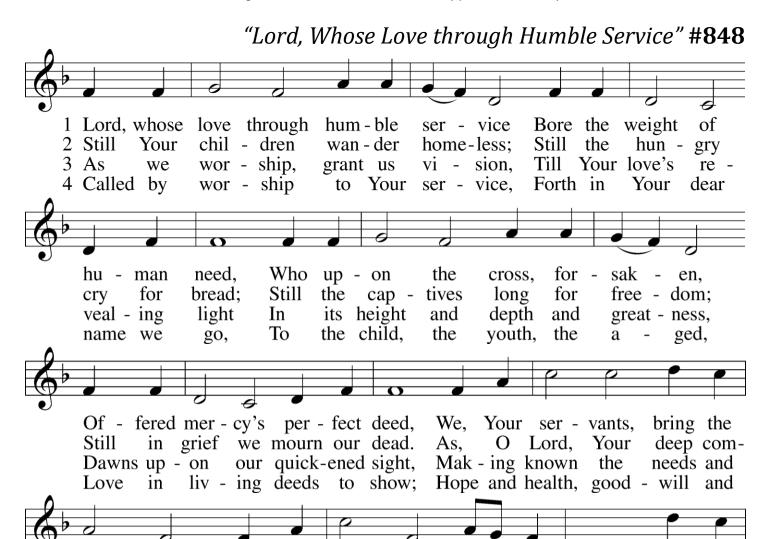
Sit (until motioned to rise & proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).





Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high-est good!

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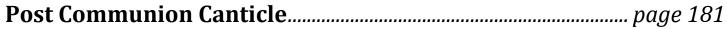


Not of voice lone, heart, Con - se wor - ship but a sion Healed the sick freed the Use and soul. the pas com - pas bids bur dens Your sion bear, Stir - ring us Coun - sel, That Your com - fort, aid, give, and peace we



to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You crat - ing im - part. love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still and make us whole. to save tire - less striv - ing, life to share. Your a - bun - dant to ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

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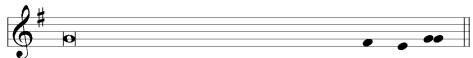




Post Communion Collect......page 183

- **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.



Sending Hymn......"Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds" #867



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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

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

PostludeRich Vanderburgh ("For the Beauty of the Earth")

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Next week's readings:

OT: Is 35:4-7; Epistle: James 2:1-10, 14-18; Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

Attendance: Last Saturday: 26
Total Offering: \$5,450.72
Home Use: \$4,940.72
Attendance Last Sunday: 46
Missions: \$100.00
Benevolences: \$410.00

Serving us today:

Elders/Ushers	Jeremy VanWey
Musicians	Rich Vanderburgh
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

Today	12:00 p.m.	Annual Church Picnic
Monday-30	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
Wednesday-1	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Midweek Bible Study—I Peter
Thursday-2	9:30 a.m.	Warrensburg Christian School Faith Time
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Card Group
	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Class-"Forgiveness"
Friday-3	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
Saturday-4	5:00 p.m.	Children's Message
	5:30 p.m.	Outdoor Worship (Last outdoor service)
Sunday-5	8:00 a.m.	The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
	9:00 a.m.	Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at
	0.15	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.	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 and rehabilitation: Don Aprill (Cindy Schnell's Dad), Paula Brewer, Michelle Brown, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Denise (Penny Humphrey's sister), Marion & Leona Droege, Renae Ernesti (Charlene McCarter's niece), John Kleindienst (Liz Fatka's brother), Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Pr. Jesse & Creed Kueker (the pastor of Trinity—Clinton & his young son as they prepare for & recover from kidney transplant surgeries), Katie Kurz, Marty Lehn, Marvin Logan (Nicole Clemons' father), Lynn Lowe, Kathy Marshall, Lloyd McCarter, Vivian Meyer (young daughter of Kaye Fair's close friend), Johnny Nichol, Christopher Pierce, Jim Rudy, Ben Smith, Pat Strayhorn (friend of a member), and Danielle Thomas.

For Pregnant Mothers (and Fathers) Corinne & Jeremy Allison, and Kara & JeVon Savage as they get closer to their due dates next month. 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 <u>blchurch.com</u>.

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.

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 resuming that time of faith formation together!

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.

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

Pastor's Rooted in the Faith 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). Let him know if you're interested but haven't been contacted.

"Reading Romans" Study on Sunday Mornings! We're working through the remaining two 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 on September 19.

Reforesting 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). Bring your own dinner and join the discussion. Everyone is welcome!

Opportunities to Serve

Food Center—September is Hunger Action Month. The Food Center is always in need of restocking. Please remember the following items as you shop and donate this month and throughout the year: canned vegetables and beans, Hamburger Helper mixes, toilet paper, deodorant and coffee. For the unsheltered: tuna or chicken in pouches, meat ravioli (pop tops), soft Nutri-Grain bars, Gatorade type drinks, water, chap stick, small body lotions and sunblock.

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

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.

Quilting—The Quilting Group meets on the **second and fourth Tuesday** of the month from **9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m**. (September through May). Anyone is welcome to help with this project. No special sewing skills needed. Bring your own lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

Miscellaneous

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, <u>willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com</u> Jack Easterwood (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, <u>easter.egg2380@gmail.com</u> Caleb Thomas (last name begins Mc-R) 660-441-2010, <u>calebthomas50@gmail.com</u> Jeremy VanWey (last name begins S-Z) 606-909-4765, <u>jeremy.vanwey@gmail.com</u>

A Student's Prayer for a New School Year

(www.scsba.ca)

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year! Amen.

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

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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.