

Whoever welcomes
one such child
in my name
welcomes
me

MARK 9:37



+ The 17th Sunday After Pentecost +

September 18-19, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Jesus’ disciples did not understand the prophecy about His death and resurrection. They focused, instead, on their personal greatness. So, He inverted their viewpoint, using a child to explain that true greatness is in humble servanthood, in welcoming even children (then considered to be without status). But our inner passions rebel and war against such servanthood, as James explains in the Epistle. Fortunately, by the gracious gift of faith, in place of personal struggles, we can rely on God, as Jeremiah does in the Old Testament Reading and David in today’s psalm. Our Lord is the humblest and therefore greatest Servant, and by His death and resurrection He has proclaimed that God’s grace knows no bounds. Confidently, we can follow Him in humble servanthood each day.

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 Gary Moege (Sat) Schmillerburchs (Sun)

Welcome

Invocation Hymn..... "Lamb of God" #550

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have

sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a
brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and

sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!

O wash me in His pre - cious blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

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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 *"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"* #849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
 3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
 gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
 in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
 With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
 That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
 wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
 glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
 Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
 praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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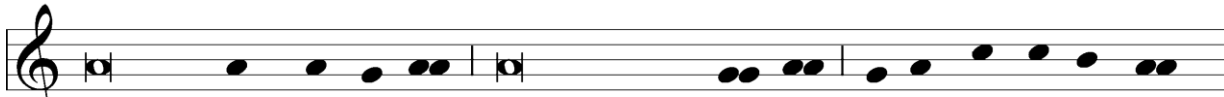
Kyrie.....*pages 168-169*



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



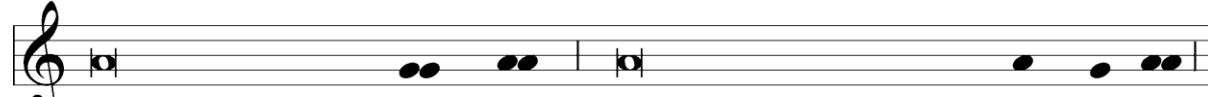
C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



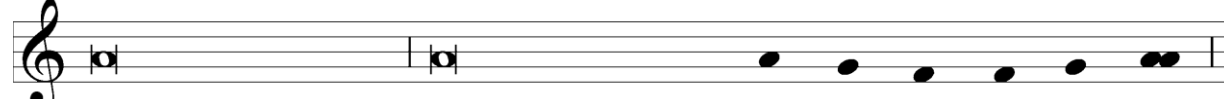
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



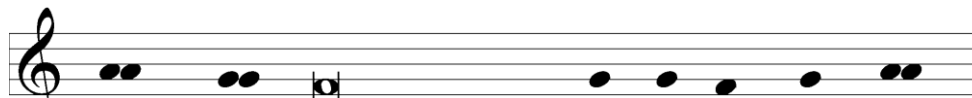
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



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

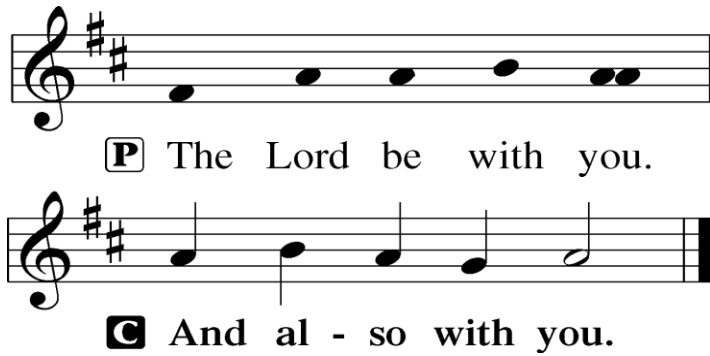


God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



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.
C And al - so with you.

Collect of the Day (*spoken in unison*)

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; 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 **Jeremiah 11:18-20**

The Lord made it known to me and I knew;
 then you showed me their deeds.
 But I was like a gentle lamb
 led to the slaughter.
 I did not know it was against me
 they devised schemes, saying,
 "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
 let us cut him off from the land of the living,
 that his name be remembered no more."
 But, O Lord of hosts, who judges righteously,
 who tests the heart and the mind,

let me see your vengeance upon them,
for to you have I committed my cause.

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.**

Epistle..... **James 3:13-4:10**

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

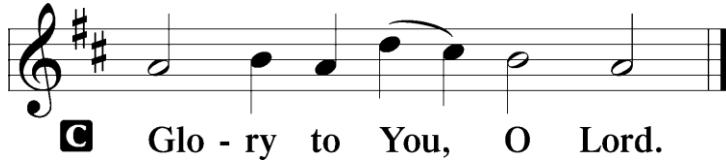
Stand



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

Holy Gospel Mark 9:30-37

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



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day..... "Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way" #857



1 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -
 2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, But
 3 No gold - en scep - ter but a towel You
 4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride Nor
 5 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -



ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
 pow'r You laid a - side. You lived Your years in
 place with - in the hands Of those who seek to
 count our - selves a - bove The low - est place, the
 ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -



get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.
 ser - vant - hood; In low - li - ness You died.
 fol - low You And live by Your com - mands.
 mean - est task That waits the gift of love.
 get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.

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Sermon..... “Like a Humble Child”

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

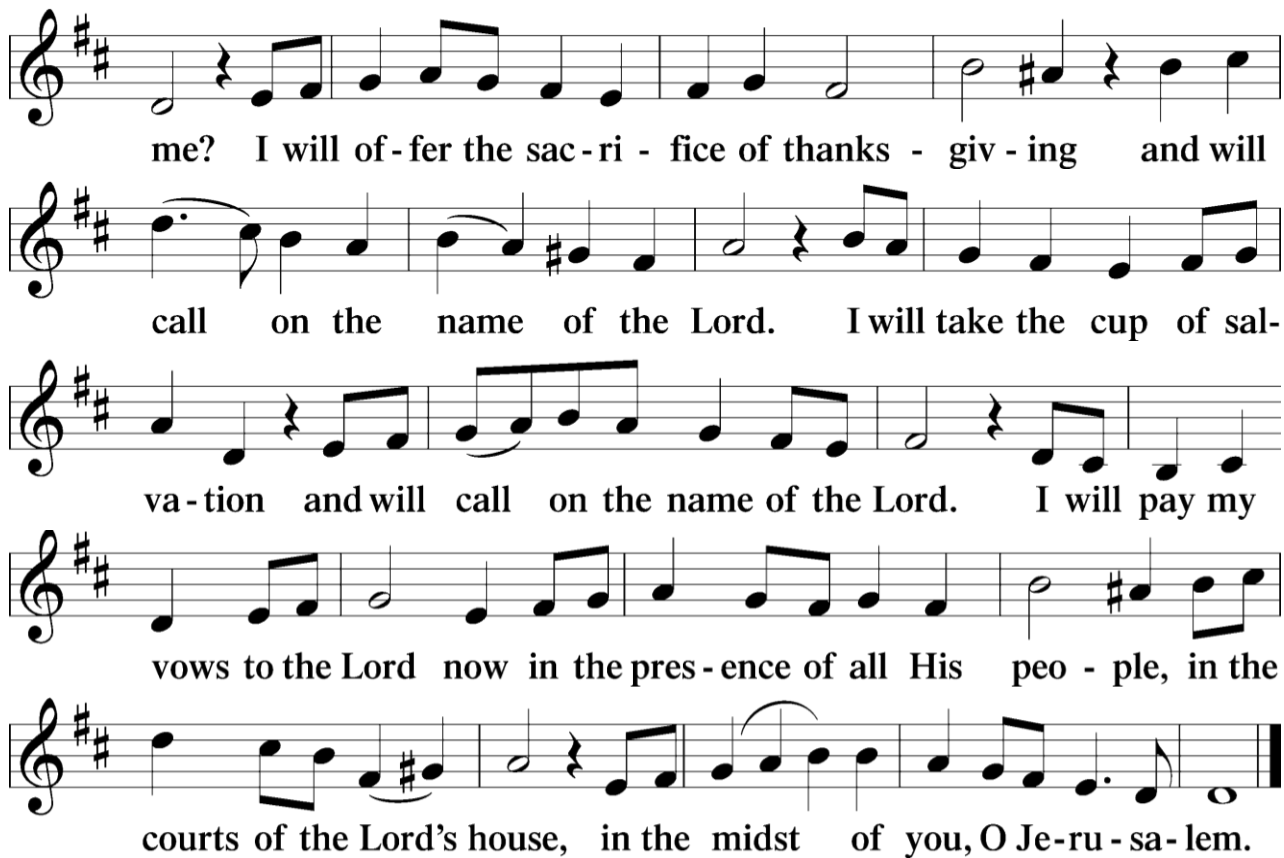
Offering plates are not being passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the west entrance.

“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)

Offertory page 176



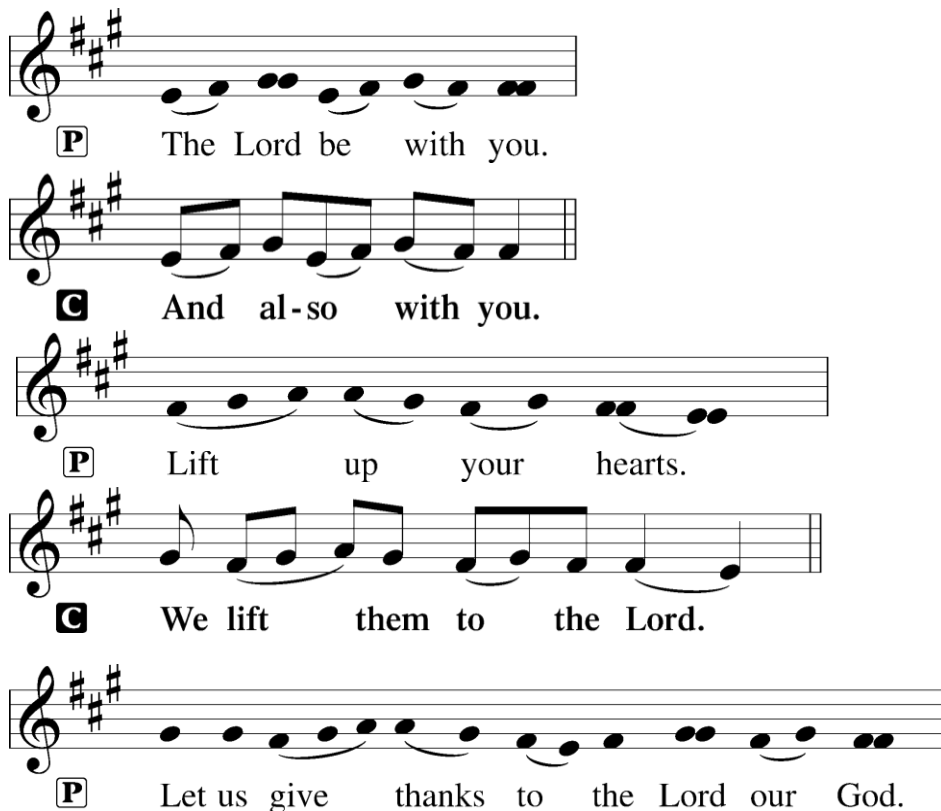
C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



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.

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.

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*

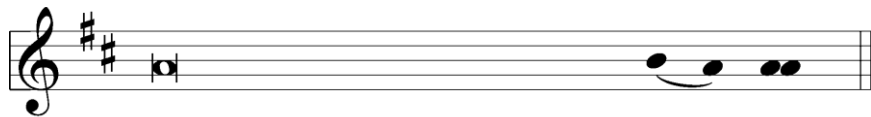
P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 Dominipage 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 HymnsInstrumental

"The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord" #634 (Sunday Only)



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
 2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment
 3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
 4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this



brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
 that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -
 sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly
 Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
 tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.
 Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
 as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

5 We dare not ask how this can be,
 But simply hold the mystery
 And trust this word where life
 begins:
 "Given and shed for all your sins."

7 But blest is each believing guest
 Who in these promises finds rest;
 For Jesus shall in love remain
 With all who here His grace obtain.

6 They who this word do not believe
 This food unworthily receive,
 Salvation here will never find—
 May we this warning keep in mind!

8 Help us sincerely to believe
 That we may worthily receive
 Your Supper and in You find rest.
 Amen! They who believe are blest.

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Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" #636 (Sunday Only)



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther
 4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
 cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of
 this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
 mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
 bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
 With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
 there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
 riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
 Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
 Peace beyond all understanding,
 Joy into all life expanding:
 Humbly now, I bow before You;
 Love incarnate, I adore You;
 Worthily let me receive You
 And, so favored, never leave You.

6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
 Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
 Jesus, joy of my desiring,
 Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
 At Your feet I cry, my maker,
 Let me be a fit partaker
 Of this blessed food from heaven,
 For our good, Your glory, given.

7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
 You once left Your throne in heaven
 On the cross for me to languish
 And to die in bitter anguish,
 To forego all joy and gladness
 And to shed Your blood in sadness.
 By this blood redeemed and living,
 Lord, I praise You with
 thanksgiving.

8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
 Let me gladly here obey You.
 By Your love I am invited,
 Be Your love with love requited;
 By this Supper let me measure,
 Lord, how vast and deep love's
 treasure.
 Through the gift of grace You give me
 As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

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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.

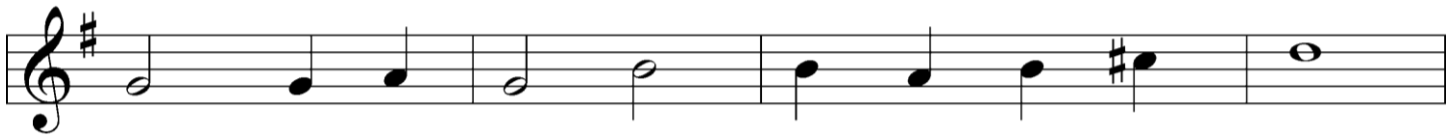


C A - - - men.

Sending Hymn..... "Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise" #917



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise
 2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;
 3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
 4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.
 Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.
 Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,
 Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
 From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;
 Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.
 That in this house have called up - on Thy name.
 For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.
 Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

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

Postlude Gary Moege (Sat) Schmillerburchs (Sun)

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Next week's readings:

OT: Num. 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Epistle: James 5:1-20; Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

Attendance: Last Saturday: 25

Total Offering: \$2,365.00

Home Use: \$1,793.00

Attendance Last Sunday: 55

Missions: \$572.00

Benevolences: \$0.00

Serving us today:

Elders..... Caleb Thomas (Saturday), Jeremy VanWey (Sunday)

Musicians Gary Moege (Saturday)

Rich Vanderburgh, Lorraine Miller, Roy Schache (Sunday)

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-20	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
	6:30 p.m.	Scouts
Wednesday-22	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Wednesday Bible Class
Thursday-23	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at WCS
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Card Group
	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Class-“Forgiveness”
Friday-24	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
Saturday-25	5:30 p.m.	Worship
	6:45 a.m.	Bible Study
Sunday-26	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.	Sunday School, Adult Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	2:30 p.m.	Youth Catechesis

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), Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Pr. Jesse & Creed Kueker (the pastor of Trinity— Clinton & his young son as they recover from kidney transplant surgeries), Marty Lehn, Marvin Logan (Nicole Clemons' father), Lynn Lowe, Kathy Marshall, Evan Martin, Vivian Meyer (young daughter of Kaye Fair's close friend), Johnny Nichol, Jim Rudy, Lori Sloan, and Danielle Thomas.

For those rejoicing in the birth of children, especially Corinne and Jeremy Allison on the birth of their new son, Harvey Allison and Kara and JeVon Savage on the birth of their new son, Kamari Anthony Bryant Savage. Much joy and goodness in the Lord!

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.

Saturday Services are at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School for PreK-12th grade begins at 9:15 a.m. downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Catechesis (ongoing faith formation in preparation for Confirmation) will be starting on **Sunday the 26th from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.** If your child is in 7th/8th grades and you haven't been contacted by Pastor Joel yet, let him know.

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) meets next on **Sunday the 19th at 1:00 p.m. in the conference room and via Zoom**. Let Pr. Joel know if you'd still like to make these sessions.

“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! *Sunday, September 12, Pastor Ricky Bertels will be leading the bible study on our Old Testament and Epistle lessons for the weekend.*

Zoom Bible Study—“Forgiveness-Making Peace with the Past” is taking place on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to join us, please contact the office so we can get you the study materials.

Saturday Bible Study (on the Gospel of Matthew) has resumed on Saturdays following the evening service—**6:45 to 7:30 p.m.**—in the conference room. Please join us as we explore the life and ministry of Jesus.

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

Migrant Farmworkers' Assistance Project will be performed during September by the Mission Board and a Thrivent Team Project Grant. During September collection boxes will be available to receive donations of Pinto Beans (dry), and White Rice (not instant) which will be delivered to the Lexington distribution center on **October 4, 2021**. We hope to provide six volunteers to deliver the donations and serve about three hours assisting the staff with preparing distribution sacks. **If you would like to volunteer to work with us on October 4 please let Larry Haase know by October 1.** We thank you for continuing to support our outreach activities.

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.

Front Sign Changer/s Needed—The couple who've done that faithfully for the past several years won't be continuing, so how about giving it a try! Congregational youth did it a number of years ago and really enjoyed it. Talk to Pastor Joel and he'll get you started (since he does it from time to time as needed).

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 is at 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.

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

Wedding Invite—Lloyd and Charlene McCarter would like to invite the congregation to the marriage of their granddaughter, Kala McCarter-Rogers to Eric Xie on **Saturday, October 9 at 2:30 p.m at Milestones Barn**. A reception will take place at 4:30 p.m. For more information or to RSVP you can go to their webpage at <https://www.zola.com/wedding/therexiegoes21>.

New Beginnings Life Walk 208 E. Gay Street—After a year of doing a virtual LifeWalk last year and a Virtual banquet—Let's come back home and gather again at New Beginnings to celebrate life and raise funds for the young women of our community. **Our 2021 LifeWalk is a family-friendly 5k run and a 1k walk the morning of October 9 at 9:00 a.m.** There will be prizes for runners for adults and kids. Free pair of shoes from Brown Shoe Fit for top fundraiser! We can't wait to see you. Registration can be found at nbwburg.org/partner or pick up a flyer at the church.

Country Kitchen Cards are available! 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

Migrant Farmworkers' Assistance Project



Please bring your beans and rice to church for the Migrant Farmworkers' Assistance Project. A drop off box is located at each entrance of the church.



**Pinto Beans
(dry)**



**White Rice
(not instant)**

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.