

October 30-31, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Jesus calls us to abide in His Word. To abide means to dwell or be at home. Are you at home in Jesus' Word? Is it the place where you long to be? Jesus' Word is the only place in all the world where we can find the absolute guarantee of sins forgiven, hope restored, and new life granted as children of God the Father. Today, Jesus mercifully calls us to come to Him, confess our sins, and be filled with His pardon and peace. He will renew us by His Word, strengthen us at His Table, and send us forth with His blessing to proclaim to all creation: "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36).

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.

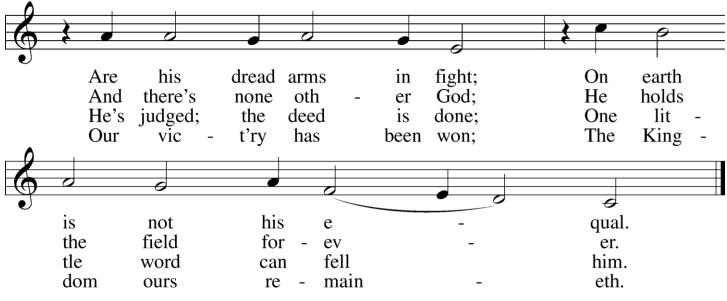
Liturgical Color:

Red is the color of lifeblood and is associated with the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

Stand





Tune and text: Public domain

Divine Service, Setting Two Confession and Absolution

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

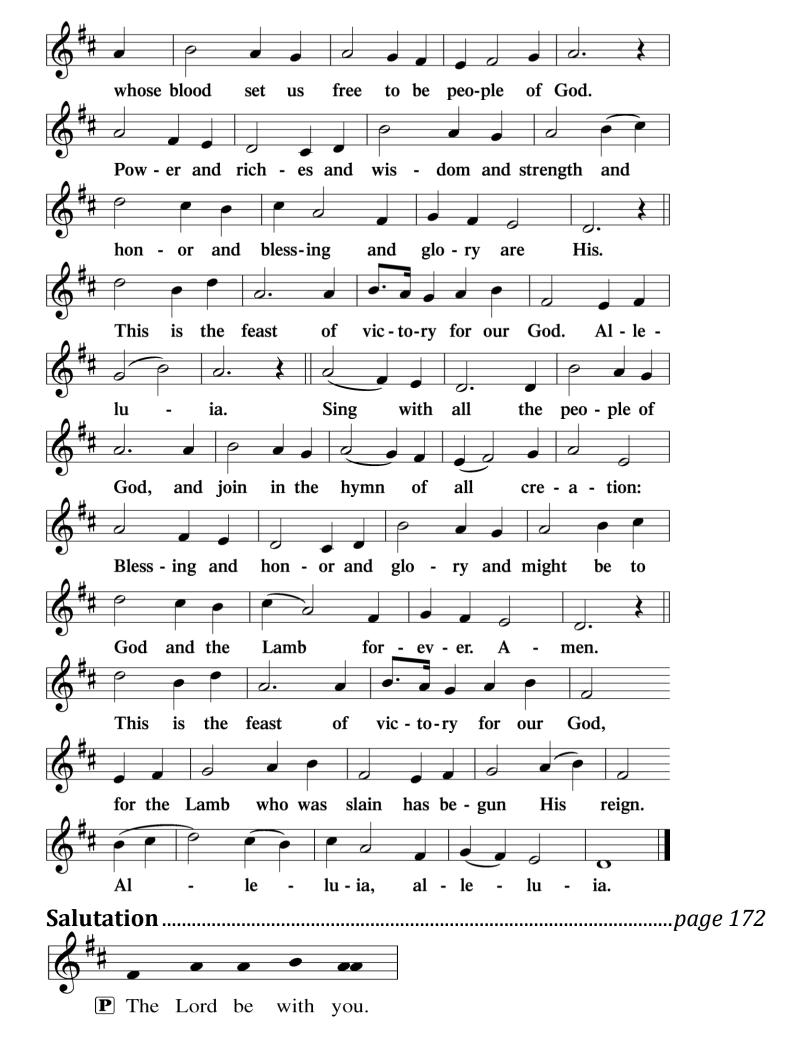
Confession and Absolution.....page 167

- 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.
- 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









Collect of the Day (spoken in unison)

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

First Reading.....Revelation 14:6-7

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

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

Gradual (spoken in unison)

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised

in the city of our God!

Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers,

consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels,

that you may tell the next generation

that this is God, our God forever and ever. (Psalm 48:1a, 12-14a)

Epistle......Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a

gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

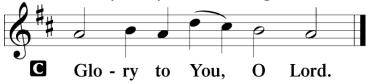
- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Versepage 173



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

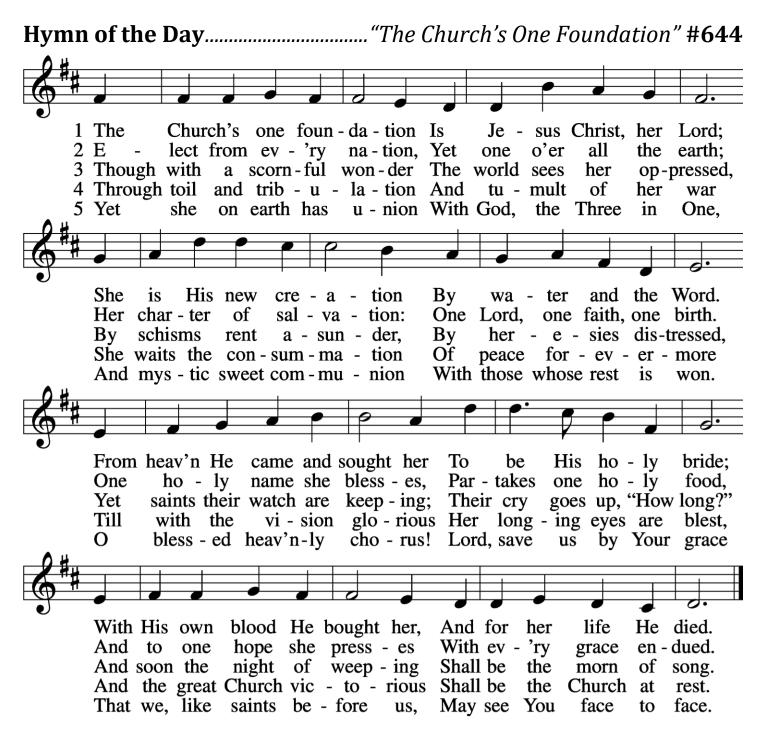


So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.





Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon......" "Formed in Love & Re-formed by Grace" **Stand**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

whose kingdom will have no end.

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

Sit

Offering

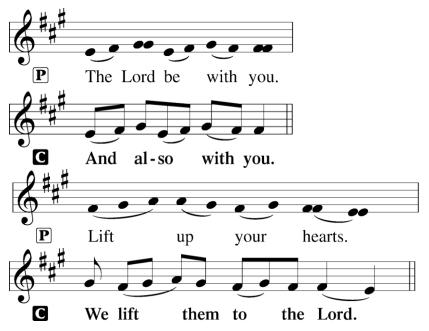
Offering plates are not being passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the west entrance.

"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)



Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgypages 177-178





.....page 178 ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Ho - ly, Lord, full of Your pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are glo ry. Ho - san - na in the high est. who Bless ed is He comes in the name

Prayer of Thanksgiving.....page 178

in

the

high

est.

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

 To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

of the Lord.

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

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

Ho - san - na

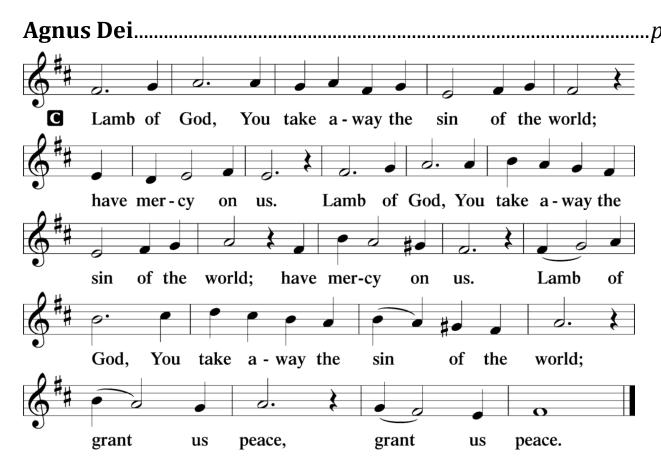
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread;

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

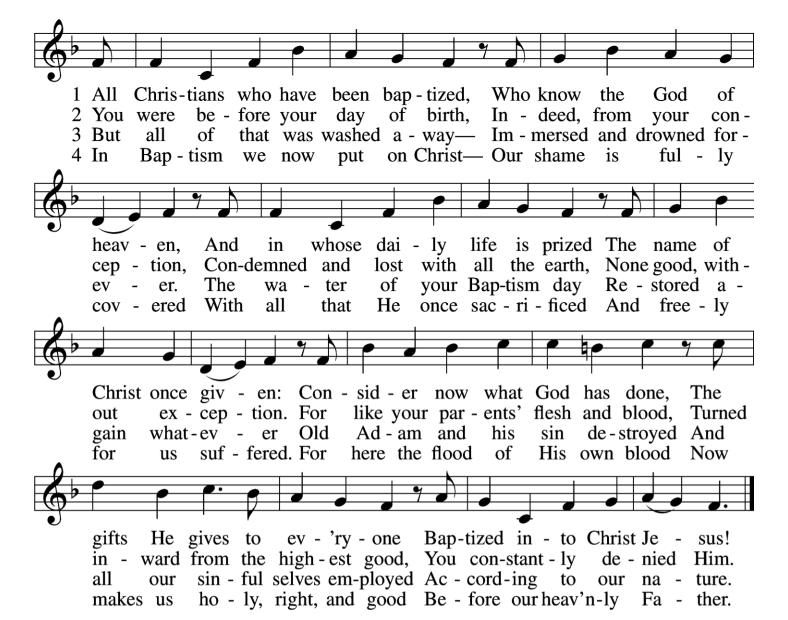
Pax Domini page 180

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



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

Communion Hymn"All Christians Who Have Been Baptized" #**596** (Sunday Only)



O Christian, firmly hold this gift And give God thanks forever! It gives the power to uplift In all that you endeavor.

When nothing else revives your soul, Your Baptism stands and makes you whole And then in death completes you. 6 So use it well! You are made new—
In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians, live and do
Within your own vocation,
Until that day when you possess
His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever!

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

P Grow in Christ,

C Live in Love and Share the Faith!

PostludeJerrode Marsh

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Next week's readings:

1st: Revelation 7:2-17; Epistle: 1 John 3:1-3; Gospel: Mark 5:1-12

Attendance: Last Saturday: 20
Total Offering: \$2,584.61
Home Use: \$2,077.00

Attendance Last Sunday: 53
Missions: \$0.00
Benevolences: \$507.61

Serving us today:

This Week's Schedule

Monday-1 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

10:00 a.m. Moms and Tots

6:30 p.m. Scouts

Tuesday-2 (Pr. Joel vacation day)

12:00 p.m. Braille in Concordia

Wednesday-3 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Faith Night—*Reforesting Faith*

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday-4	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Card Group
Friday-5	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
Saturday-6	5:00 p.m.	Holy Communion
	6:45 p.m.	Bible Study
Sunday-7	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
	10:00 a.m.	Choir Practice
	10:30 a.m.	Worship

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: Pr. Ricky Bertels, Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Sue Cottrill, Marion & Leona Droege, Paula and Jack Easterwood, Renae Ernesti (Charlene McCarter's niece), Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Roberta Kohler, Creed Kueker, Marty Lehn, Lynn Lowe, Bertina Markworth, Ron McComas, Johnny Nichol, Ron Niemeyer, and Jim Rudy.

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!

Annual Meeting

Bethlehem's Annual Meeting is set for Sunday, November 7, after the church service. Lunch snacks will be provided. You will be able to attend in person or online via Zoom. If you would like to attend via Zoom—please notify the office so we can send you the link.

Worship Services

Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. You can also watch Sunday's Service live on Facebook and YouTube, or go to it directly from the webpage at blchurch.com.

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School for PreK-12th **grade begins at 9:15 a.m**. in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great opportunity for children and youth to grow in knowledge of Scripture and in love toward the Lord and our neighbors, as Jesus said matters most!

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

Saturday Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew follows the evening service (from **6:45 to 7:30 p.m.** in the conference room) if enough people are present to have a class. Consider joining us as we explore the life and ministry of Jesus.

A New Sunday Bible Study will be starting on October 31st (Reformation Day & All Saints'/Hallows' Eve)—perfect for this ending time of the Church Year & start of the new one when we reflect on "last things." *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation* will clear up popular misconceptions and root you more firmly in believing and living through Christ's own life, death, and resurrection. Plan on joining us on that Sunday, and beyond, in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:10 a.m.

Zoom Bible Study

Thursday Zoom Bible Study will be taking a break until the Advent Season. We will be starting back on a 4-week series on December 2. Look for further details in the bulletins or Tidings as we get closer to starting time.

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—is the topic of our Faith Night sessions on the first Wednesday of each month through December; which makes the next session ("The Fruit of the Tree") on November 3rd from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Bring your own dinner and join the discussion. Everyone is welcome!

Fellowship

Exercise Class is 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.

Events & Opportunities

Holiday Arts and Crafts Show 2021. Saturday, November 6, 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Warrensburg Community Center, 445 E. Gay Street. Co-Sponsored by Mid-Missouri Artists and Warrensburg Parks and Recreation. Some of our members will be having booths at the show.

Honey Saturday and Sunday will be held this weekend. Purchase a bottle of honey: Change the life of a child. If you would like a bottle of honey, please fill out the designated form and turn it into the church office or mailbox. A suggested donation is \$10 per bottle. For more information or to order online go to dakotaranch.org/orderhoney. "How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" Psalm 119:103.

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



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

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 live streaming on the web, 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.