

他的汗

多

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友多子...

始加福音七

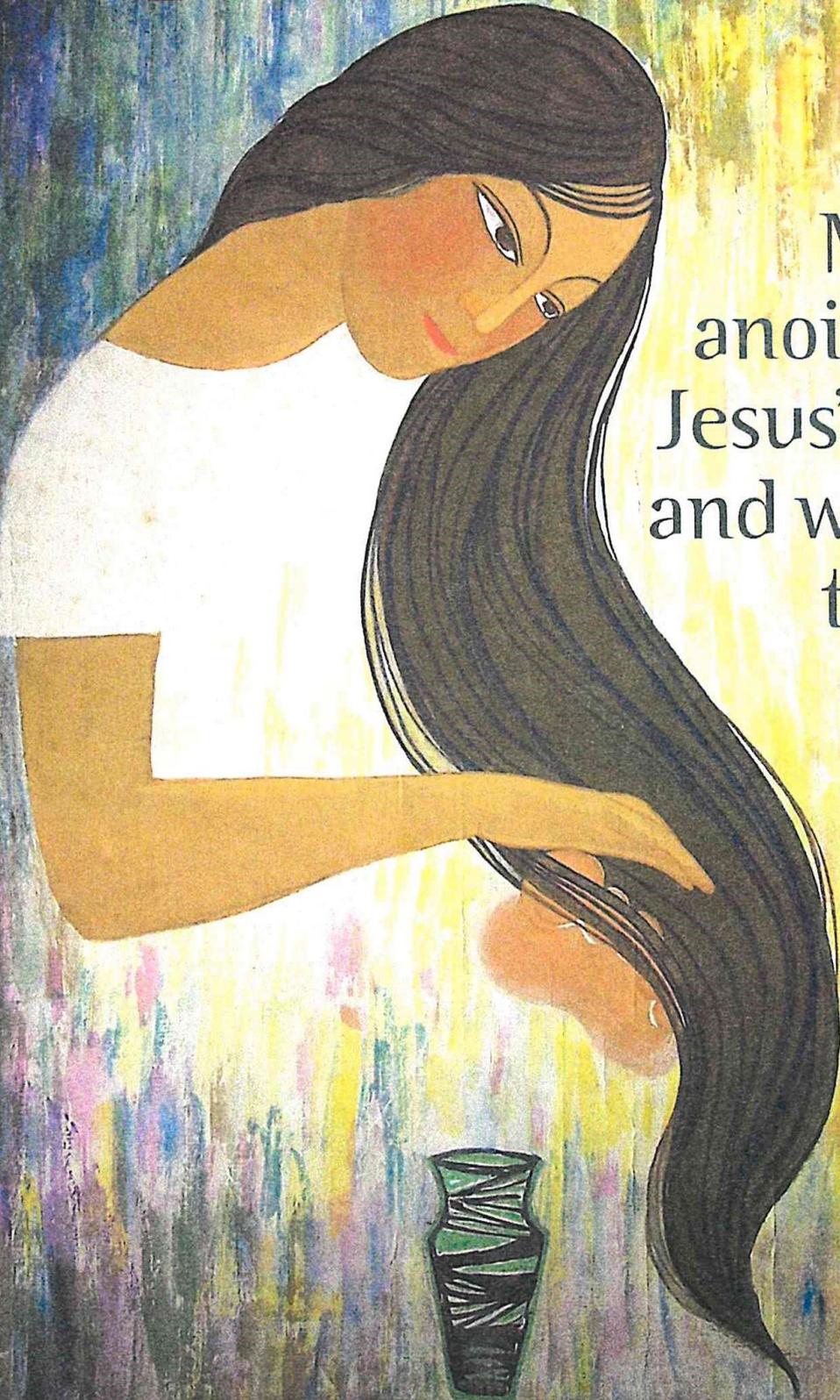
章三十七节

九八年一月



JOHN 12:3

Mary  
anointed  
Jesus' feet,  
and wiped  
them  
with  
her  
hair





+ Fifth Sunday In Lent +

**April 2-3, 2022**

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## **AS WE GATHER**

With the promise of mercy comes the warning of judgment. That is the message we have heard throughout this season of Lent. In the parable Jesus spoke, the mercy of God is lavish and entirely too generous to be reasonable. God is relentless in His pursuit of us, but those who reject His mercy are condemned to stand alone before the judgment seat. The promise and a warning go together and will always go together until the saving work of God is complete and we live in His presence on high forevermore.

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## **REGARDING COMMUNION**

*Beginning on Ash Wednesday, the forty days of Lent mark off our journey to Easter. When we were baptized into the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the sign of the cross was made upon our foreheads and hearts to mark us as people redeemed by the cross of the Christ. We rose to newness of life through the resurrection of Jesus and began a life of pilgrimage in faith. The cross of ash made on our foreheads at the beginning of Lent reminds us that the Christian life is one of repentance (or change from wrongs done) ... a life of constant returning to our Lord's Table to be forgiven and renewed, for here we have the bread of Christ's Body and the wine of his Blood as strength for the journey. **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:**

***Purple is the color of humility and repentance.***

*Near the large cross by the pulpit is a basket with slips of paper, pencils, and tacks. Feel free to write down any of your burdens, worries, wrongs, and sins and tack them to the cross at any time during this season of Lent. They will not be read but removed on Good Friday and burned in the Easter Vigil fire on Holy Saturday. Our Lord takes our darkness and replaces it with his light!*

*Visitors: We are glad you have chosen to be with us today! We would especially like to follow-up with you beyond today, so please take a moment to leave your best contact information in the guest books at each entrance/exit or in the Record of Fellowship books found on each pew. A cry-room for parents and children is just off from the front entryway, and there's a wonderful nursery downstairs at the end of the fellowship hall for you to make use of at any time. Do you have any questions about anything here? Don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers or elders, or talk to the pastor.*

**Prelude** .....Rich Vanderburgh (Sat), Sheri Mattson (Sun)

## Welcome

*Stand*

**Invocation Hymn** ..... "Word of God, Come Down on Earth" #545



1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from  
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
 3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our  
 4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth  
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
 mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;  
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



Faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
 Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the  
 Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in  
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.  
 world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.  
 pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.  
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

# Divine Service, Setting Three

## Confession and Absolution

*(Saturday Only: Verses & responses are spoken, but longer portions are sung.)*

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

### Confession and Absolution.....pages 184-185

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.  
**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord.  
**C** who made heaven and earth.  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.  
**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.  
**P** Almighty God, . . . Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**C** O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your Grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.  
**P** Almighty God, . . . Grant this, Lord, unto us all.  
**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**.....*page 186*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**Salutation**

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day** ..... *(spoken in unison)*

**Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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 Reading.....Isaiah 43:16-21**

Thus says the LORD,  
    who makes a way in the sea,  
    a path in the mighty waters,  
who brings forth chariot and horse,  
    army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
    they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
“Remember not the former things,  
    nor consider the things of old.  
Behold, I am doing a new thing;  
    now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
    and rivers in the desert.  
The wild beasts will honor me,  
    the jackals and the ostriches,  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
    rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
    the people whom I formed for myself  
that they might declare my praise.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

**[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,**  
    **the founder and perfecter of our faith,**  
**who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,**  
    **and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2)**

**Epistle Reading .....Philippians 3:4b-14**

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. But whatever gain I had, I

counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Pastoral Chant** ..... *“This Gospel, How Precious”*

**Holy Gospel** ..... **Luke 20:9-20**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twentieth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus] began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written:

‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone’?

Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed.....page 191

**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.

Hymn of the Day ..... *“Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow #428*

1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,  
2 Here the King of all the a - ges,  
3 O mys - te - rious con - de - scend - ing!  
4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,

Where the blood of Christ was shed,  
Throned in light ere worlds could be,  
O a - ban - don - ment sub - lime!  
Where the blood of Christ was shed,

Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,  
Robed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,  
Ver - y God Him - self is bear - ing,  
Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,

Per - fect God on thee has bled!  
Cru - ci - fied by sin for me.  
All the suf - fer - ings of time!  
Per - fect God on thee has bled!

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*Sit*  
**Sermon**..... *“Counting as Loss & Gain”*  
*Stand*

Offertory .....pages 192-193



**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

### Offering

*Worshippers may place their offerings in the plate located at the entrance.*

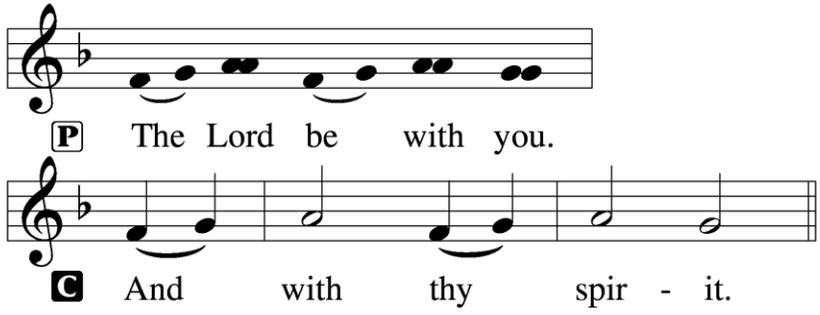
*“Through him (Jesus) then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:15-16)*

### Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- ...
- C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgy .....pages 194-197



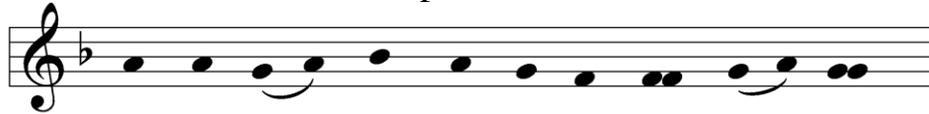
**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right and salutary . . . evermore praising You and singing:



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer..... *"Father in Heaven"*



1	Fa - ther in heav - en,	gra - cious God a - bove,
2	Your king - dom come, Your	rule of love with - in;
3	Give us this day our	dai - ly bread, we pray;
4	Lead us, O Lord, and	keep our foot - steps true
5	Yours, Lord, a - lone the	king - dom, pow'r, and praise;



Bold - ly we come be - fore Your throne of love:  
 Lord, by Your Spir - it turn our hearts from sin.  
 Thank You for all Your gifts to us each day.  
 When we are tempt - ed to a - ban - don You.  
 Your glo - rious reign shall last for end - less days . . .



Ho - ly Your name of tri - une maj - es - ty,  
 Your will be done in ev - 'ry place on earth,  
 For - give our debts, our debt - ors we for - give—  
 Keep us from e - vil, res - cue us from harm;  
 "Yes, yes, dear Lord!" With faith we say a - gain:



May all we do re - flect Your pu - ri - ty.  
 As it is done where an - gels sing Your worth.  
 Your mer - cy known, Your mer - cy we must live.  
 Lord, let Your love our fears at death dis - arm.  
 "So shall it be— A - men! A - men! A - men!"

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**Agnus Dei**.....*page 198*



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

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

## Communion Distribution

*You might want to use the prayers "Before communing" and "Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament" inside the front cover of the hymnal for your devotional meditation.*

(Sunday Only)

## Communion Hymn ..... "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" #435

1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined  
 2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -  
 3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -  
 4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -

by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain  
 out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,  
 tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,  
 new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er

Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -  
 From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and  
 Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain  
 Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -

pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.  
 make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.  
 will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.  
 deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

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## Instrumentals

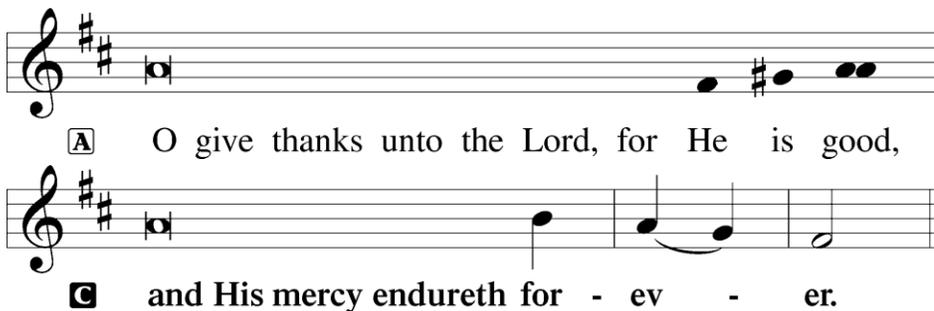
*Stand*

# Nunc Dimittis.....pages 199-200



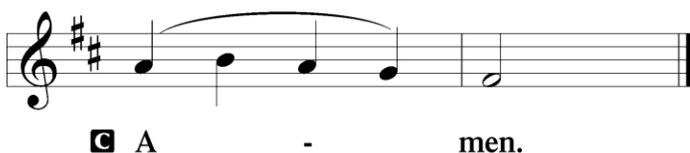
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

# Thanksgiving.....pages 200-201



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus ..... page 201

Benediction ..... page 202

Sending Hymn ..... "Not Unto Us" #558



1 Not un - to us, not un - to us be glo - ry,  
2 A - maz - ing grace— that chose us ere the worlds were  
3 O faith - ful love— that shep - herd - ed through faith - less  
4 Not un - to us but to Your name be glo - ry,



Lord; Not un - to us but to Your name be praise;  
made; A - maz - ing grace— that sent Your Son to save;  
years; For - giv - ing love— that led us to Your truth;  
Lord, For grace so rich, so wide, so high, so free.



Not un - to us but to Your name all hon - or be  
A - maz - ing grace— that robed us in Your righ - teous-  
Un - yield - ing love— that would not let us turn— from  
A - bide with us till trav - 'ling days are o - ver and



giv'n For match - less mer - cy, for - give - ness, and grace.  
ness And taught our lips to sing glo - ry and praise.  
You But sent us forth to speak par - don and peace.  
done, And pil - grim feet lead us home, Lord, to You.

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Dismissal ..... (Bethlehem's Mission)

**P** Grow in Christ,

**C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude ..... Rich Vanderburgh (Sat), Sheri Mattson (Sun)

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**Next week's readings:**  
**Deut. 32:36-39; Phil. 2:5-11; John 12:1, 9-19 & Luke 22:1-13**

**Attendance Last Saturday: 23**

**Attendance Last Sunday: 77**

**Attendance: Lent: 35**

**Total Offering: \$4,571.00**

**Missions: \$0.00**

**Home Use: \$3,370.00**

**Benevolences: \$1,201.00**

**Serving us today:**

Elders.....Jack Easterwood (Sat), Alan Miller, Willie Crespo (Sun)  
 Musician.....Rich Vanderburgh (Sat), Sheri Mattson (Sun)  
 Altar Committee.....Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Erika Freeman, Peggy Hoyer,  
 Lynn Lowe, Cindy Smith, Rebecca Stewart  
 Flower Committee ..... Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase

**This Week's Schedule**

Sunday	1:00 p.m.	Adult Catechesis
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
	6:30 p.m.	Scouts
Tuesday	12:00 p.m.	Braille in Concordia
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Faith Night— <i>The Lord's Prayer, Line by Line</i>
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Service
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	7:00 p.m.	Zoom-Lent Bible Study
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
Saturday	9:30 a.m.	Congregational Clean-Up Day
	5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
	9:00 a.m.	Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at <a href="http://www.blchurch.com">www.blchurch.com</a> , under the Sermons tab)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School, Adult Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship—Palm Sunday/Adult Confirmation
	12:00 p.m.	Elders' Meeting
	2:30 p.m.	Country Club Service

## Welcome

Bethlehem welcomes new member Melvin Bockelman who was transferred from Bethany Lutheran Church in Johnson County, Kansas. Melvin is a resident at the Missouri Veteran's Home.

## Prayers

**For Those Preparing for Baptism & Confirmation**—The forty days of Lent are preparation for the annual remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion and Easter resurrection, as well as a call to greater awareness of our baptismal life together "dying and rising" daily in Christ's newness of life. Throughout this season, keep in your prayers Kersten, Trevor, and Connor Thomas (who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil service), as well as Jeremy Allison, Noah Lipham, Jordan Martin, and Mike Rich (who will be confirmed on Palm Sunday). May the Holy Spirit lead us all to fuller life together as the Body of Christ!

**For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision**—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Leora Baack (Charlene McCarter's mother), Melvin Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Felisa Brown, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Barbara Compton, Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Marty Lehn, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Rose Steitz, Patsy Theroff (Melvin's niece), Linda Tomblinson and Joe Zeman.

**For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers)**, especially Samantha & Nathan Schultz (Mark and Felisa Brown's daughter & son-in-law). 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, Luke Lockard (the Limback's grandson) and 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

**Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m.** Sunday's Services are live on Facebook and YouTube and the webpage at [blchurch.com](http://blchurch.com).

**Take a Lenten Journey with Joseph**—The last thirteen of Genesis’s fifty chapters deal exclusively with the epic saga of Joseph. While his name means “he adds/increases,” for a long stretch it seemed nothing but unlucky—subtraction and decreasing to say the least! Nevertheless, Joseph’s life of being sinned against by others became a powerful demonstration of the Lord’s faithful mercy and freeing forgiveness. It’s really no surprise that surveying the pivotal events of his life helps us grasp more insightfully the suffering and saving life-work of Jesus. **Join us for the last Wednesday in Lent and Good Friday** as we conclude *A Lenten Journey with Joseph* and see how it all relates to the intersection of our lives with Joseph’s—and more, with the cross of Jesus. The themes yet to explore are *God Does Have a Plan & Forgiveness Finished*. **All services are at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary, with Holden Evening Prayer—except for Good Friday.**

### [Sunday School and Christian Education](#)

**Sunday School for PreK-12<sup>th</sup> 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!

### [Lenten Home Devotions](#)

**Reflecting on Jesus’ Cross (and Ours) this Lent**—A wooden cross and devotional card was handed out Ash Wednesday. An accompanying item is being given out each Wednesday as well. Set the cross in a prominent place within your home and reflect on the connected passages from Scripture (and each new item) throughout each week, then incorporate what you glean from that in your prayers and actions and share that with someone else who might need to hear that.

### [Faith Discussion and Bible Study](#)

**Sunday Bible Study** is working through the book *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation* (by Concordia Seminary faculty) and discussing our way through Scripture and personal experiences so that we can all be strengthened in believing and living through Christ’s own life, death, and resurrection. Plan to join us **in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:10 a.m.!**

**Wednesday Bible Study** is currently exploring the short book of the prophet Nahum. Join us **in the conference room from 10:30 to noon** as we see what we can learn for him long ago that meets us in the here and now.

**Thursday “Lent/Easter Zoom Bible Study is on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** We will be discussing God’s forgiving love for us in Christ Jesus. This Bible Study focuses on the scripture readings each Sunday. If you would like to join, please contact Cindy or Rebecca if you are interested in joining this class.

**New Faith Night Topic for 2022: *The Lord's Prayer, Line by Line!*** Come on **Wednesday, April 6**, by discussing what it means to pray and live the words “Holy Be Your Name.” Bring whatever you’d like to eat for a simple meal and conversation with others from **5:30-6:00 p.m.** in the fellowship hall, followed by our discussion from **6:00 to 6:45**. Any questions? Ask Pr. Joel.

### Opportunities to Help & Serve

**Church Clean-Up Day**—All are invited to come on **Saturday, April 9 at 9:30 a.m. to noon** (*come and go as you need to*), to help spring clean the inside of our church building. Adults, teens, and children are all encouraged to come and help make the interior look extra nice for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. We have lots of small jobs that anyone can help with, and it’s always better working together!

**Spring Garden Meeting!** Keep your eyes open for opportunities to help with the ongoing transformation of our Bethlehem Community Garden to raised beds, plus help with planting, cutting back the herb garden, and all sorts of other necessary and enjoyable tasks. If you want to make sure you know about work days and opportunities, let Pr. Joel or Shawn Lindley know so that we can make sure you’re aware of what’s happening and needs to be done.

**Bethlehem’s 2022 SHINE! Event**—Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 30**, from **10-noon** (plus early and after for set-up and take-down) as we host an outdoor community outreach event called *Grow Green—Glow & Glean*. The morning will focus on stewardship living which is rooted in the Lord’s Good Earth and known by growth, harvest, and generous sharing. Hopefully there’ll be workshops, hands-on planting, free seeds and free raffles, information to glean, plus an appearance by the Green Lantern (*if we have a volunteer who wants to take on that role*). This is our unique congregational effort, as part of the district-wide outreach initiative, so the more members who help—including in the planning and preparation—the better! Let the church office know if you’d like to help and in what way, *plus keep your eyes open for upcoming planning & preparation meetings*.

**Worship Readers/Lectors**—Please consider volunteering to assist in congregational worship by reading the first two Scripture passages during Saturday or Sunday services! There is a sign-up sheet on the board by the mailboxes, and the Scripture readings are listed by each date. Pr. Joel is available to provide suggestions for those who’d like to have some.

**The Warrensburg Food Center** is in need of the following items: smaller boxes of dried cereal, this time. Please throw in a few items when you are doing your grocery shopping to help the Food Center. You can place them in the basket by the bulletin board at the north entrance of the building for delivery to the Food Center.

## 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 Youth room downstairs. Anyone, men and women, are welcome to come. 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.

## This & That

**Women's Easter Breakfast**—The LWML of Immanuel, Higginsville is hosting an Easter breakfast on **Saturday, April 16 at 8:30 am** in the church basement. We invite all ladies of our community to join us for breakfast and fellowship as we share our faith and love for our Savior. Our guest speaker will be Linda Nielson who will present "His Miracle-Working Power in My Life". The offering collected will be given to Lutheran Family and Children Services and Senior Services. We hope you can join us!

**The Warrensburg Community Center** is blooming with art from Mid-Missouri Artists who are displaying results from their 2021 Art Challenge, "Flowers." Several BLC members have art in the show which can be viewed through **April 26**.

**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.

**Ongoing thanks** to those who generously give to the Bethlehem Emergency Fund, which enables Pr. Joel to assist members and certain people in the community who are in crisis situations. Much appreciation for your good support!

## Offerings

*Simply Giving* is the online program for donations and offerings. The website has changed a bit recently. If you need assistance, please let the office know and we will provide you with the steps to start it or help you change where you place your funds.

## 2022 Elders

**Willie Crespo** (last name begins A-D) 660-679-8121, [willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com](mailto:willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com)

**Ricky Bertels** (last name begins E-H), 660-262-8080, [rick1janice2@gmail.com](mailto:rick1janice2@gmail.com)

**Jack Easterwood** (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, [easter.egg2380@gmail.com](mailto:easter.egg2380@gmail.com)

**Alan Miller** (last name begins Mc-R) 660-909-1764, [alormiller@aol.com](mailto:alormiller@aol.com)

**Caleb Thomas** (last name begins S-Z) 660-441-2010, [calebthomas50@gmail.com](mailto:calebthomas50@gmail.com)

# THIS IS LOVE.

“We love because he first loved us” (1 JOHN 4:19).



*lcms.org*

## 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](mailto:pastor@blchurch.com)

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

#### **Office Manager:**

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am–5pm

660-747-6742

[officemanager@blchurch.com](mailto:officemanager@blchurch.com)

#### **Congregational Life Facilitator:**

Rebecca Stewart

Tue & Thurs: 8am–5pm

Thursday by appointment

[clf@blchurch.com](mailto:clf@blchurch.com)

#### **Bookkeeper:**

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 3pm–6pm

Thursday by appointment

[financial@blchurch.com](mailto: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.