



# **April 14, 2022**

#### **AS WE GATHER**

One of the enduring legends from medieval times relates to the cup used by our Lord at the supper He shared with His disciples in the Upper Room on this evening. Known as the Holy Grail, the cup was said to have been passed into the safekeeping of Joseph of Arimathea, who kept it safely somewhere. Locating it has become a lifelong quest for many people through the ages. Luke tells us simply what Jesus did at that meal: "Likewise [He took] the cup after they had eaten" (Luke 22:20). What eventually happened to that blessed cup, we do not know. But we do know that Jesus said, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood" (Luke 22:20). By His grace, that pouring out continues among us this day as we receive His blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins.

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.

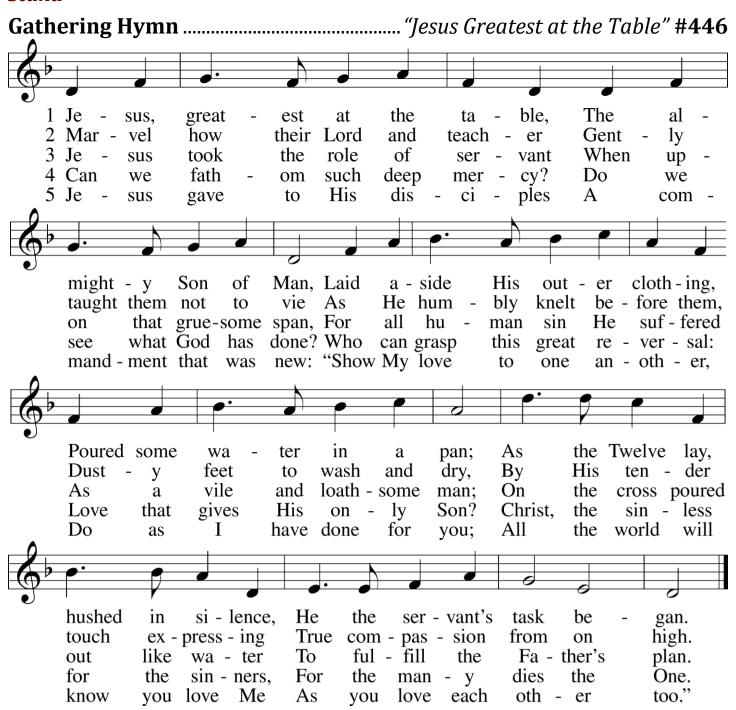
## **Liturgical Color:**

Scarlet is the color of blood—associated with the Lord's passion (suffering).

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!

## **▼ PREPARATION ▼**

#### Stand



### **Invocation**

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## **Opening Sentences**

- P I will go to the altar of God,
- to God, my exceeding joy.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.

### **Confession and Absolution**

- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- for with the Lord is plenteous redemption and the forgiveness of all our sins.
- P Let us then confess our sins unto our gracious Lord.
- Almighty God, Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us, kind Father, because of the obedience of our brother, Jesus Christ, Your Son. Forgive us all that is past and with the power of the Holy Spirit, move us to serve You faithfully. Set our feet upon the new path of life, and build Your kingdom here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- P God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. In His stead and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you to greater faith and obedience, and bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

## **Prayer**

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# ₩ WORD ₩

Old Testament ......Jeremiah 31:31-34

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

- **P** The Light shines in the darkness.
- and the darkness has not overcome it.

(Silence for meditation)

Gradual ..... (spoken in unison)

[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant,

so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

He sent redemption to his people;

he has commanded his covenant forever.

(Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a)

Epistle ...... Hebrews 10:15-25

The Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord:

I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,"

then he adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

- **P** The Light shines in the darkness.
- and the darkness has not overcome it.

#### Stand

Holy Gospel ......John 13:1-17

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

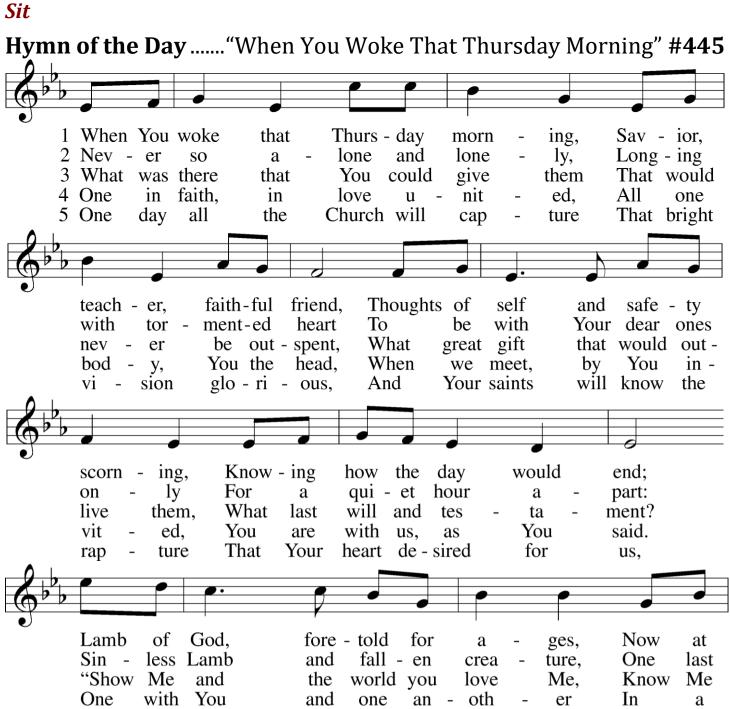
When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

- This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

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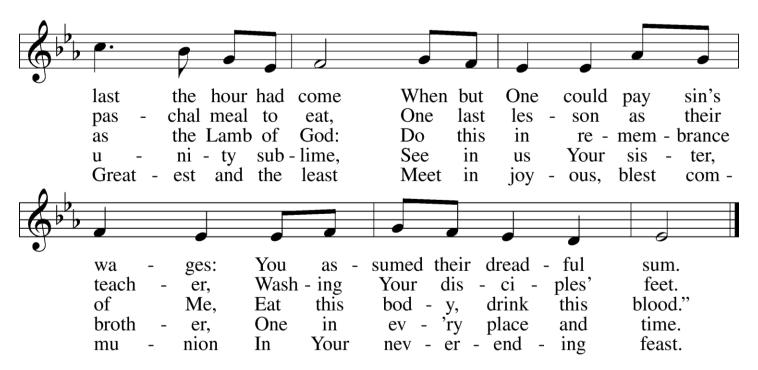
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#### Stand

Nicene Creed......(back cover of hymnal)

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

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**

Pastor will say the prayer aloud, and all say **Amen** together at the end.

## **Offering**

Worshipers may place their offerings into 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)

# **★ SACRAMENT ★**

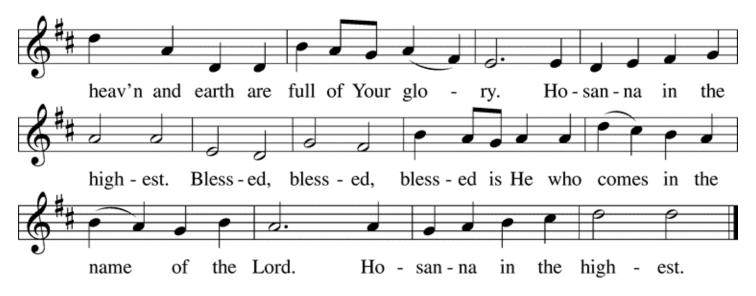
## **Preface**

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## **Proper Preface**

It is truly good, right, and beneficial . . . evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus..... Ho-ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Sab - a - oth: ly



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## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

- P Blessed are You, O Lord our God . . . who takes away the sin of the world.
- C Amen.

## The Words of Our Lord

#### **Proclamation of Christ**

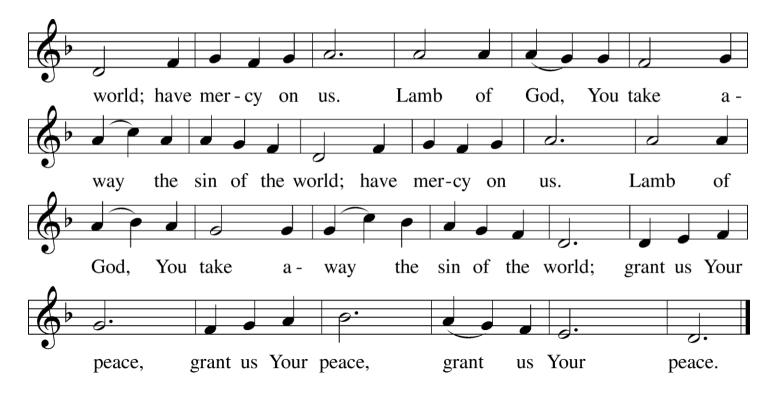
- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

# Lord's Prayer

## Pax Domini

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.





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

### **Communion Distribution**

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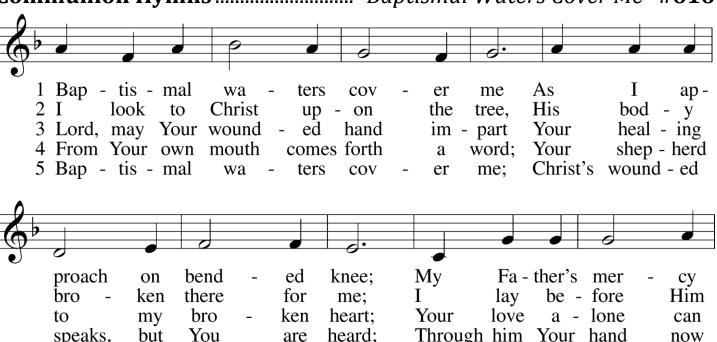
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You might want to use the prayers "Before communing" and "Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament" inside the front cover of the hymnal for your devotional meditation.

The altar bread being used tonight was made in our kitchen by parishioners in a prayerful workshop, as is our Holy Thursday tradition. It is similar to what Jesus likely used with his disciples.

Communion Hymns ..... "Baptismal Waters Cover Me" #616



free.

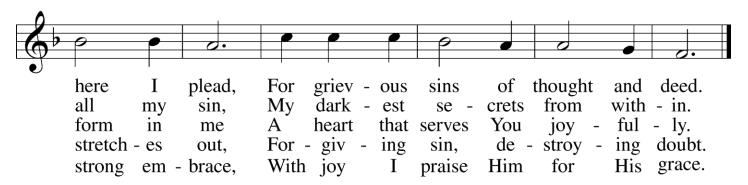
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## **Instrumental Music for Reflection**

## **Post-Communion Collect**

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# Stripping of the Altar

Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him," (John 13:31b) just after Judas had left to betray Him. Jesus, in His good time, washed the disciples' feet, inaugurated a new commandment to love one another, and instituted the Lord's Supper for the life of the Church; now the time for Jesus' death was drawing near. As we pray the psalm, which Jesus prayed and fulfilled on the cross, the guild members will remove all linens, vessels, and candles from the chancel—symbolizing the abuse and abandonment our Lord endured in the hours that followed that Passover Meal.

## Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,

and by night, but I find no rest.

Yet you are holy,

enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our fathers trusted;

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they trusted, and you delivered them.
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To you they cried and were rescued;

in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

## But I am a worm and not a man,

scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

All who see me mock me;

they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

"He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him;

let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

Yet you are he who took me from the womb;

you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

## On you was I cast from my birth,

and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

Be not far from me,

for trouble is near,

and there is none to help.

## Many bulls encompass me;

strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

they open wide their mouths at me,

like a ravening and roaring lion.

## I am poured out like water,

and all my bones are out of joint;

my heart is like wax;

it is melted within my breast;

my strength is dried up like a potsherd,

and my tongue sticks to my jaws;

you lay me in the dust of death.

For dogs encompass me;

a company of evildoers encircles me;

they have pierced my hands and feet—

I can count all my bones—

they stare and gloat over me;

they divide my garments among them,

and for my clothing they cast lots.

But you, O LORD, do not be far off!

O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

Deliver my soul from the sword,

my precious life from the power of the dog!

#### Save me from the mouth of the lion!

You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

## I will tell of your name to my brothers;

## in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

# For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,

and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

# From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!

# All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,

and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

# For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

## Posterity shall serve him;

## it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

## (All leave the sanctuary in silence.)

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2021 Concordia Publishing House. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version), copyright 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Building 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

## Serving us today:

Elder	Alan Miller, Caleb Thomas
Musicians	Jerrode Marsh
Altar Committee	Darlene Laubenstein (Chair). Erika Freeman, Peggy Hover

# This Week's Schedule

Friday	12:00 p.m.	Good Friday Noonday Prayer Service
	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Service (Service will be livestreamed)
Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt
	7:00 p.m.	Easter Vigil Service (Begins out front)
Sunday	6:30 a.m.	Greet the Rising "Sun/Son" Prayer Service (Out front)
	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Communion Service
	10:30 a.m.	Easter Celebration Communion Service
		(Service will be livestreamed)

Altar Rail Change—After some suggestions from parishioners, discussion by the Elders and Mary-Martha Guild, it was decided to remove the wooden cup holders from the altar rail; tonight will be the last time they will be used. Since we use baskets for the empty cups when doing standing Communion distribution, we'll be continuing that method from here on out after Easter Sunday—regardless of whether the mode is kneeling or standing.



## **Contact Information**

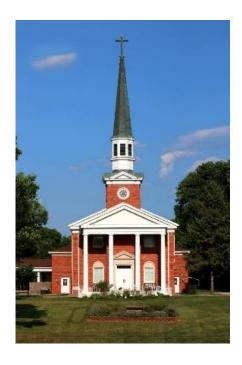
# Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093

#### **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: <u>www.blchurch.com</u> Facebook: <u>blcwarrensburg</u>

#### Office Manager:

Cindy Smith Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm 660-747-6742

officemanager@blchurch.com

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

Rebecca Stewart Tuesday: 8am-5pm Thursday 8am-5pm clf@blchurch.com

#### Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman
Tuesday: 9am-11am
Thursday: 9am-11am
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.