

July 16-17, 2022

#### **AS WE GATHER**

Our prayers are filled with "just one more thing" that we ask of God. Crowded into the prayers of God's people are the manifold concerns and burdens of this mortal life. But from another perspective, it is not one more thing but one thing only. In the Gospel for today, we see the contrast between the many things occupying the attention and creating stress upon Martha and the one thing needful, which her sister, Mary, has recognized. It is this one thing to which we are called today, and it is the key to finding our way through the stresses, burdens, and concerns that complicate our lives of faith.

#### REGARDING COMMUNION

After his resurrection, the crucified but now-living Jesus appeared to his disciples and said to Thomas (who had his doubts that Jesus could really be alive again): 'Touch my pierced hands and feel my wounded side; stop doubting and believe.'

We come to the Lord's Table with our own doubts and worries, fears and sorrows, often lingering on uncertainty and the realities we think are beyond change. Our Lord points us to his unchanging yet life-changing reality—he has died, he has risen, he will come again. His Holy Supper is the place where we encounter his saving, risen, and healing Body and Blood ... as he said: 'Those who feed on my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.' 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.



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#### Stand

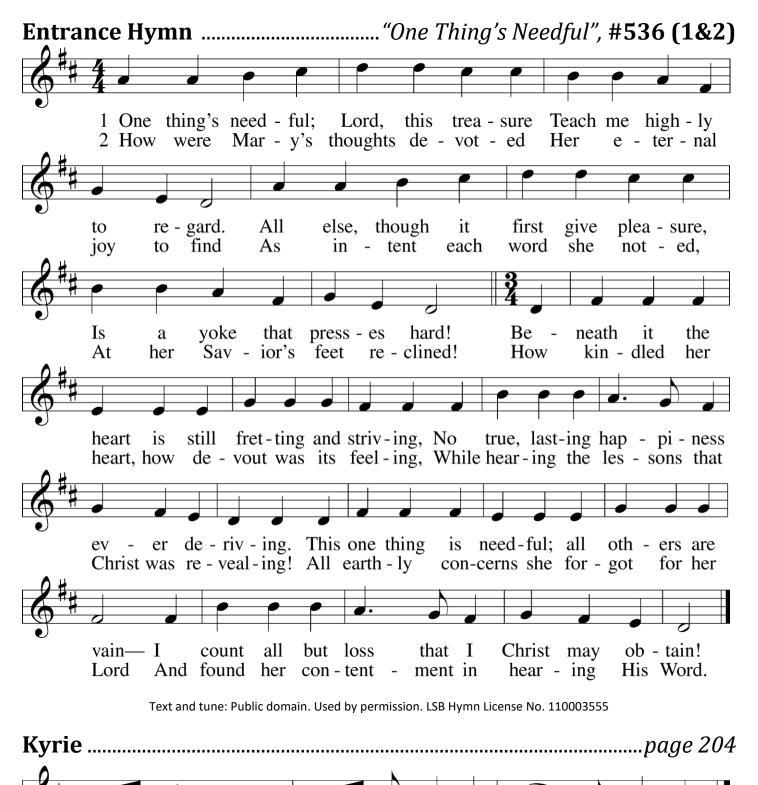
# Divine Service, Setting Four Confession and Absolution

P Since we are gathered . . .God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

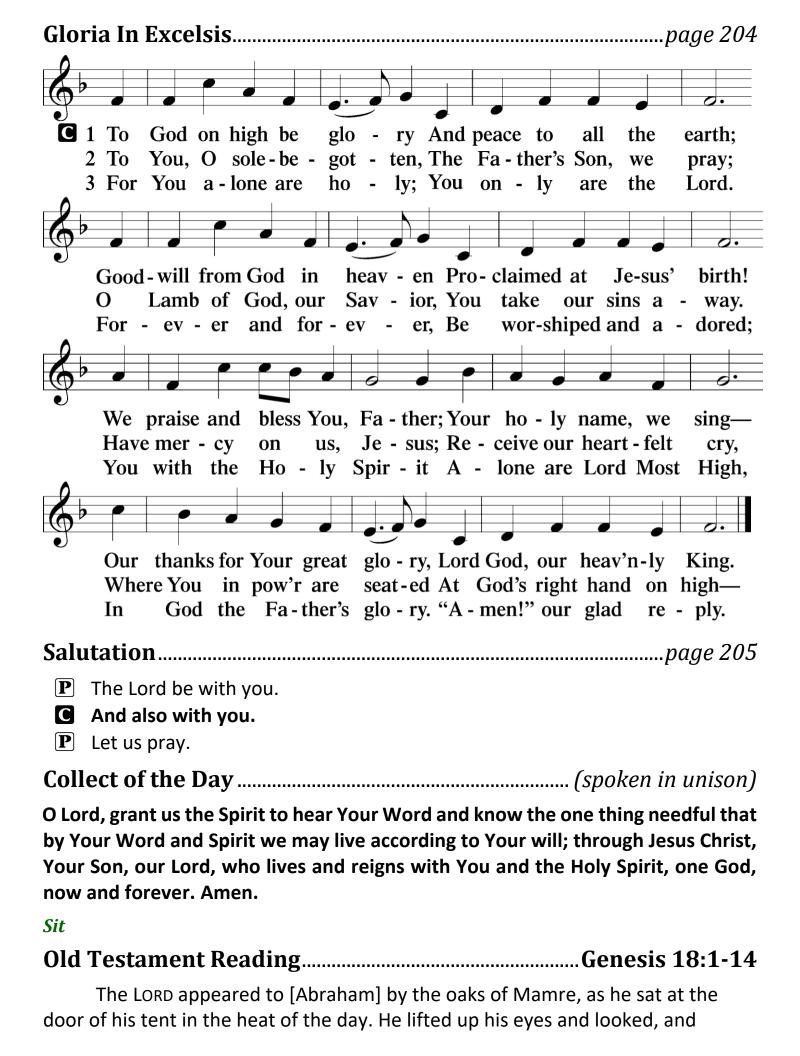
Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

- P Almighty God, . . .
- C Amen.

# Service of the Word



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.



behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth and said, "O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."

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

Gradual.....(spoken in unison)

How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news, who publish peace and bring good news of salvation.

Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world. (Romans 10:15b, 18b)

# Epistle Reading ......Colossians 1:21-29

You, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given

to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

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

Stand



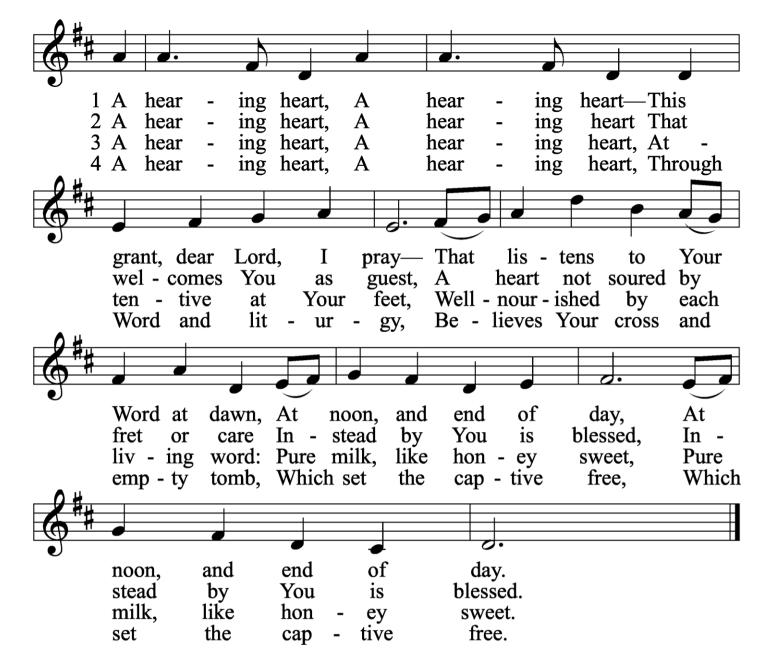
Holy Gospel ......Luke 10:38-42

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the tenth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

C Praise to You, O Christ. **Nicene Creed** ......*page 206* 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 ......""A Hearing Heart"

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



A hearing heart,
 A hearing heart
 Receives Your gifts divine:
 Rich blessings promised in Your
 Word
 With water, bread, and wine,

With water, bread, and wine.

6 A hearing heart,
A hearing heart,
When with Your heart is meshed,
Beats strong with mercy, truth, and grace,
Enlivened and refreshed,
Enlivened and refreshed.

7 A hearing heart,
A hearing heart—
This grant, dear Lord, I pray!
Bring forth the fruits of faith in me,
In all I do and say,
In all I do and say.

Sit

Sermon ......Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mekonen Mendedo

**Stand** 

# **Prayer of the Church**

- P Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

# Offering

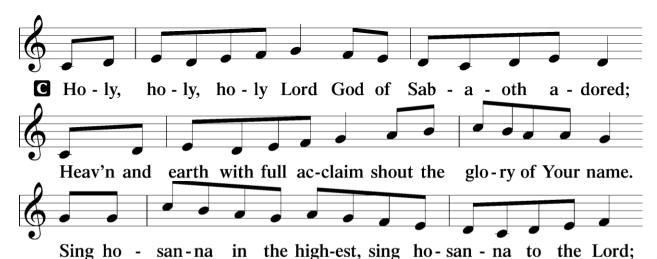
Offering plates are not passed for collection during the service. Worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the west entrance. Reflect on how we are to offer ourselves in thanksgiving to the Lord and in service to others:

"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 & to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (Hebrews 13:15-16)

# Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgy ......pages 208-210

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** 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.
- P It is truly good, right, and beneficial . . . evermore praising You and saying:





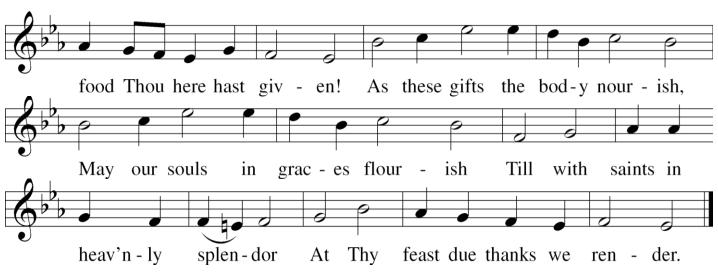
Prayer of Thanksgiving.....page 209 **Lord's Prayer** ......*page 209* The Words of Our Lord.....page 209 Christ, Lamb of God. sus true  $2^{\circ}$ Je -Christ, Lamb of sus true God, take You the sin of the world way; You take the sin of the world way; Christ, Je true Lamb of God. sus Have mer - cy Je sus Christ, on us, Have mer Lord, us, on we pray. And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## **Communion Distribution**

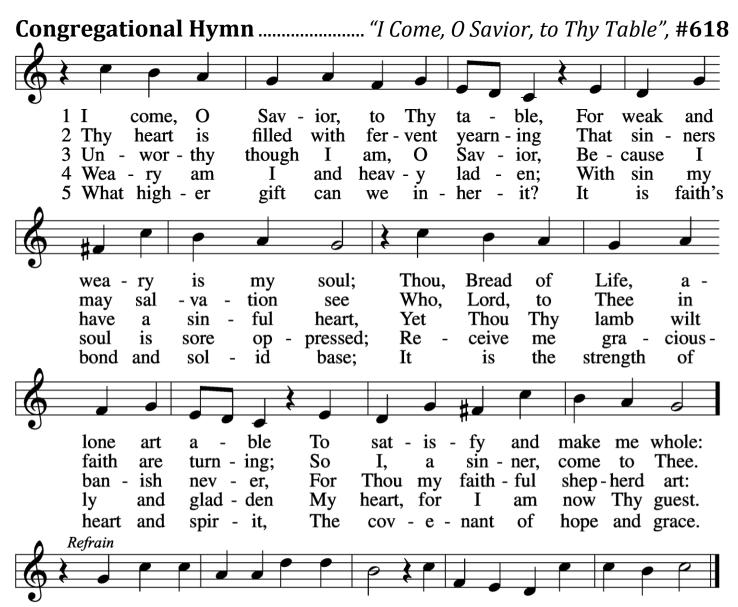
Sit (until motioned to rise and proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).

# **Instrumental Music**





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

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Post Communion Canticle......" "Nunc Dimittis" page 211 Your  $\mathbf{C} 1 \mathbf{0}$ Lord, let vant De now ser 2 All All glo - ry the Fa ther, to part in heav'n - ly For the peace, Ι have seen All glo - ry to the Son, glo - ry the to Ŏf glo Your deem - ing ry re grace: **Spir** it, For er Three in One; ev tiles light to lead the Gen Un For in the be as gin ning, Is Your hill, The ho - ly glo - ry of Your to now, shall God's tri - une name re ev - er be, Your cho peo ple, Is sen el. Through sound - ing all ter ni e tv. Post-Communion Collect...... page 212 Benedicamus and Benediction......page 212 Sending Hymn ......"Lord of All Hopefulness," #738

1 Lord

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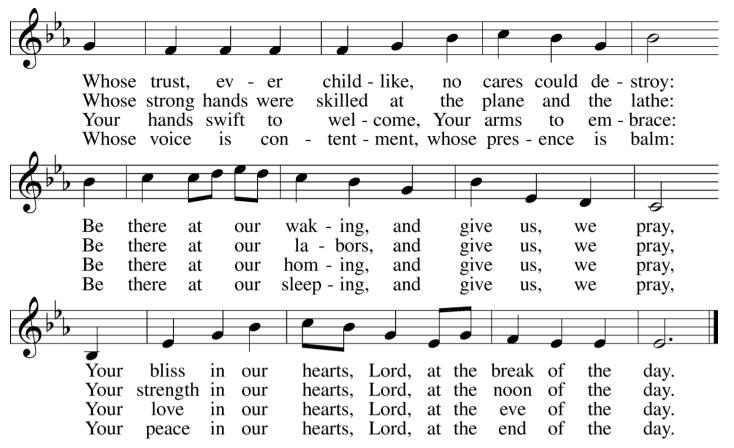
all

joy,

faith,

grace,

calm.



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

P Grow in Christ,

C Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude ...... Jerrode Marsh (Sat), Rich Vanderburgh (Sun)

**Acknowledgements** Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV<sup>®</sup> Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version<sup>®</sup>), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

# Next week's readings:

**OT:** Genesis 18:17-33; Epistle: Colossians 2:6-19; Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Attendance Last Saturday: 27Attendance Last Sunday: 47Total Offering: \$5,725.00Missions: \$200.00Home Use: \$4,975.00Benevolences: \$550.00

## Serving us today:

Elders	Ricky Bertels (Saturday), Alan Miller (Sunday)
Musicians	Jerrode Marsh (Saturday), Rich Vanderburgh (Sunday)
Altar Committee	Cindy Schnell (Chair), Judy Schache, Samantha Schnell
	Lauren Schumaker, Stephanie Schumaker
Flower Committee	Lana Vanderburgh (Chair). Karen Haase

#### This Week's Schedule

Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots at the Park
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Class
Thursday	11:30 a.m.	The Lunch Bunch
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Board Meeting
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Volleyball Court Workday
	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
		www.blchurch.com, under the Sermons tab)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Adult Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Esther Keseman's Reception

## **Absence/Presence**

**Pr. Joel will be on vacation through July 18**—visiting Alaska with his family. If you need anything during his absence, please contact your elder, head elder Willie Crespo or Pastor Bertels.

We welcome Rev. Dr. Tilahun Mekonen Mendedo who will be preaching for Pastor Joel this weekend. He serves as the Executive Development Officer of Lutheran Bible Translators. Tilahun was born and raised in Ethiopia. He knows firsthand the value of the heart language to communicate God's promises.

Dr. Mendedo spearheaded the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus effort to develop a strong, accredited training system. The effort utilizes many local Bible schools and training institutions the church has throughout Ethiopia. He served as the seventh President of Concordia University in Selma, Alabama from 2010–2016. He has spoken at District, Synodical, LWML, LCMS conventions and NYG events.

Tilahun draws on his experiences and relationships in Ethiopia and the USA. He is delighted to serve God by making His Name known to those who have never had the Bible in a language they understand.

#### **Prayers**

**For Seminarian Jonathan Sharp** as he finishes his vicarage at Bethlehem (in Florida)! We look forward to having him, his wife (Deaconess Bridgette), and son David here next month on their way back to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

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: Amanda Atkins (friend of the McComases), Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Felisa Brown, Ben Burd (friend & coworker of Jeremey VanWey), Ray & Mary Carstensen, Barbara Compton, Donna Cuellar (Betty Weinberg's daughter), Marion Droege, Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Marty Lehn, Lynn Lowe, Georgia Luker's sister and brother, Deb Matson (Ellen Pederson's mother), Johnny Nichol, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, and Joe Zeman.

For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers), especially Colleen & Jeremiah Murrell ... and may the Lord grant glad provision to all parents in the daily welcome of their children!

**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 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 <a href="block">block</a> block of block of block of the webpage at <a href="block">block</a> block of block of the webpage at <a href="block">block</a> and <a href="block">bl

# **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!

#### **Faith Discussion and Bible Study**

**Sunday Bible Study** is currently exploring the last section ("Bodily Life in God's Heavenly Creation") of the book *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation* but will be on temporary break from that until the **24**<sup>th</sup>. Sunday's guest pastor will lead a topical study **in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:10 a.m.** during Pr. Joel's absence.

**Wednesday Bible Study** finished the book of Habakkuk and will begin looking at Zephaniah on the **20**<sup>th</sup>. **Join us in the conference room from 10:30 to noon** for this time of study and growth.

## **Opportunities to Help & Serve**

The Warrensburg Food Center is in need of the following items: canned vegetables (no corn or green beans), beans, diced tomatoes, Hamburger Helper, coffee (regular instant, not pods), dry cereal (regular boxes), tuna and chicken pouches, Vienna sausages, Spam, Pop-Tarts, juice pouches, Gatorade type drinks with electrolytes, stick deodorant, chapstick, small body lotions, bath soap bars, laundry soap, bleach, dish soap, toilet paper and grocery bags. (No mac and cheese or dry beans). 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.

Sand Volleyball Court Restoration—Bill Hillsman, whose earthly life ended in late March, installed the volleyball court here more than a couple of decades ago for his Eagle Scout project. Memorial funds are being used to restore this court in time for the First Annual Bill Hillsman Volleyball Game/Tournament, which will be held at our congregational picnic. Let Shawn Lindley or Pr. Joel know if you'd like to help in any way with the work required to make it happen ... and your help is needed! Workdays will happen on three Saturdays in a row, with the bulk of the prep work happening on Saturdays July 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Finishing work will happen on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to noon as well, and that will be a Thrivent Action Team Day (so shirts and pizza will be provided). Thanks in advance for helping to make this a reality!

**Garden Work**—There's not only plenty to do in our community vegetable garden and greenspace, but also much joy to be found in the gifts of Creation and the sharing of its abundance with others. Talk to Shawn Lindley or Pr. Joel if you're looking for a regular way to plug in and help in the process. Thanks!

#### **Fellowship**

You are invited to a reception in honor of Esther Keseman and the late Charles Keseman after service on Sunday, July 24th. Sponsors for this reception are The Mary Martha Guild and the Thrivent Group The congregation will have the opportunity to thank Esther for all the years of service she and Charles have given the people of Bethlehem and the members of the Warrensburg community. They have certainly demonstrated their love of Christ and his people through their actions. Please join us for this special occasion!

**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.

#### **This & That**

Rummage Sale—Drop off of items will begin on Monday, August 1st. Items can be placed in the Sunday School room downstairs. Do not bring big items until the week of the sale. The sale will be held on Friday, August 12 from 10am-7pm and Saturday, August 13 from 8am-1pm. Further details about the sale and a work schedule will be coming in the near future. Please call Peggy Hoyer or Barb Chasar with any questions.

The Warrensburg Senior Center needs Volunteer Drivers to deliver meals to the Homebound. Deliver one day a week or five. Delivery will be safe and contactless to older adults. Pair up with a friend or you can volunteer on your own. Call Care Connection for Aging Services at 660-747-2624 if you are interested and can help out with this. Thanks!

# 2022 Elders

Willie Crespo (last name begins A-D) 660-679-8121, <a href="mailto:crespo6fam@gmail.com">crespo6fam@gmail.com</a>
Ricky Bertels (last name begins E-H), 660-262-8080, <a href="mailto:rick1janice2@gmail.com">rick1janice2@gmail.com</a>
Jack Easterwood (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, <a href="mailto:easter.egg2380@gmail.com">easter.egg2380@gmail.com</a>
Alan Miller (last name begins Mc-R) 660-909-1764, <a href="mailto:alorrmiller@aol.com">alorrmiller@aol.com</a>
Caleb Thomas (last name begins S-Z) 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@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: <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.