The background is a textured surface of recycled paper, featuring a large, hand-drawn blue cross at the top. A path of colorful, textured paper (red, purple, yellow, and green) leads from the bottom towards the cross. The overall aesthetic is artistic and eco-friendly.

Carry the cross
and follow me

LUKE 14:27



+ The 13th Sunday After Pentecost +

September 3-4, 2022
Labor Day Weekend

AS WE GATHER

The first issue that naturally comes to mind to many Christians when hearing the phrase “Choose life!” is that of abortion, which chooses death, not life. And indeed, never should our witness to God’s gift of life be silenced! Beyond that, however, are all the other choices we make in our struggles between God’s good and gracious will for all and the universal disability of sin that constantly attempts to lead us away from God and His call to life. Today, God’s Word gives us the assurance that because our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has chosen to take our suffering and death into Himself by His cross, all who are baptized into His saving death are given the power of faith to love God and pursue His ways of life according to His good and gracious Law and Gospel. Blessed is the man whose “delight is in the law of the Lord” (Psalm 1:2).

REGARDING COMMUNION *When we gather at the Lord’s Table, the cup of blessing we receive is a sharing in the blood of Christ; the bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. We who are many are one bread and body in Christ (I Cor. 10:16-17). As a people baptized into the life of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to us in this holy meal to renew us individually and together in our life of faith and following him. **Since Christian denominations have differing understandings of Holy Communion, if you are not a member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed here before, we ask that you speak with the pastor or elder prior to communing with us the first time. Those not communing are invited to cross their arms over their chests and approach the pastor for a blessing during the distribution. Also, if certain factors prohibit you from partaking of regular wine, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center circle of the tray. If you would like to begin sharing this sacred meal with us on a regular basis, please ask the pastor for a time of faith instruction and formation.***

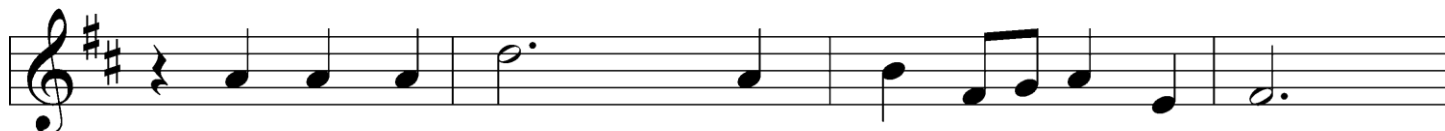
Liturgical Color:

Green is the color of life and growth in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

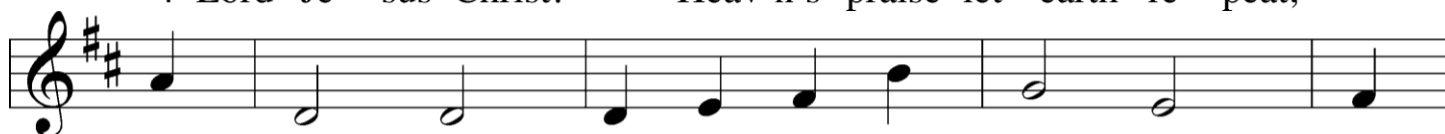
Visitors: We are glad you have chosen to be with us today! We would especially like to follow-up with you beyond today, so please take a moment to leave your best contact information in the guest books at each entrance/exit or in the Record of Fellowship books found on each pew. **Do you have basic questions about Bethlehem? Refer to the information sheet inside the Record of Fellowship books or ask. A cry-room for parents and children is just off from the front entryway and there is a nursery downstairs as well.**

Prelude

Invocation Hymn.... "The Saints in Christ Are One in Every Place", #838



1 The saints in Christ are one in ev - 'ry place
2 In chains for Christ! His pris'n - ers love to sing,
3 To live is Christ, for us, to die is gain;
4 Lord Je - sus Christ! Heav'n's praise let earth re - peat;



To serve the Gos - pel of His cost - ly grace;
For slaves and free re - joice to praise our King;
Where then shall be our hun - ger, dan - ger, pain?
The work that You be - gan, You will com - plete.



From those first days to this, our hope the same:
What though the Church on earth still suf - fers wrong?
Our joy to preach good news to rich and poor,
By grace let ev - 'ry foe be - come Your friend;



The love of Christ, one Lord, one sav - ing name.
The cross of Christ re - mains our pil - grim song.
Then be with Christ, to live for - ev - er - more.
Your day, O Christ, shall dawn and nev - er end.

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Please rise.

Divine Service, Setting Two

Confession and Absolution

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

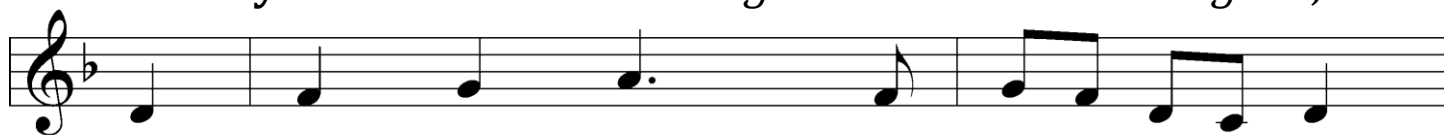
The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution.....page 167

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive", #843



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give,"
2 How can Your par - don reach and bless
3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls



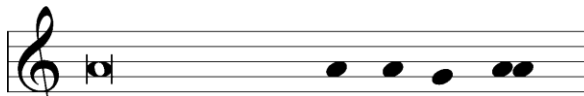
You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can
 The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
 And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in



grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owed to us, How great our debt to You!
 bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

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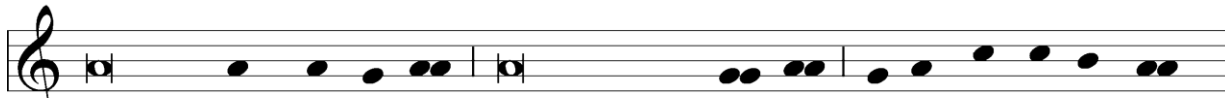
Kyrie.....pages 168-169



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



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



G Lord, have mer - cy.



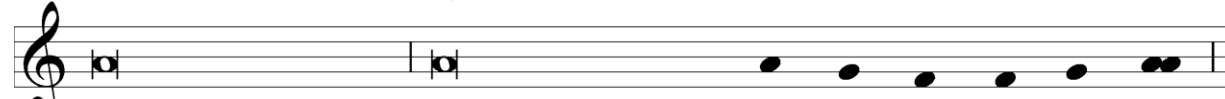
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



G Lord, have mer - cy.



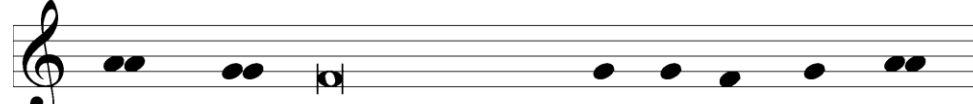
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Hymn of Praise..... *"This Is the Feast" page 171*



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



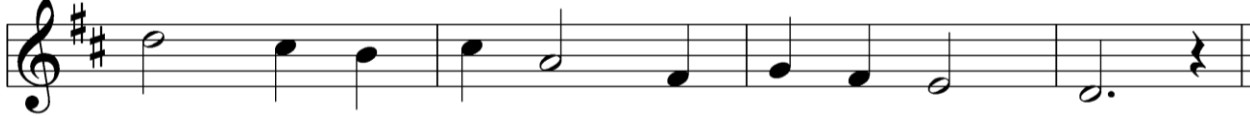
C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutationpage 172

P The Lord be with you.
C And al - so with you.

Collect of the Day *(spoken in unison)*

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament **Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will

bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken in unison*)

**Fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all. (Psalm 34:9, 19)**

Epistle **Philemon 1-21**

Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus
our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love’s sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. For this perhaps is why he was parted from

you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

Alleluia and Versepage 173

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a whole rest followed by a half note G, a quarter note A, a half note B, a quarter note C, a half note D, a quarter note E, a half note F#, and a quarter note G. The second staff begins with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a half note D, a quarter note E, a half note F#, and a quarter note G. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Holy Gospel **Luke 14:25-35**

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

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp). It begins with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a half note D, a quarter note E, a half note F#, and a quarter note G. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation

and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day..... “*Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ*”, #565



1 Thy works, not mine, O Christ, Speak glad - ness to this heart;
2 Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my bruis - ed soul;
3 Thy cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the crush - ing load
4 Thy death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ran - som due;
5 Thy righ - teous - ness, O Christ, A - lone can cov - er me;



They tell me all is done, They bid my fear de - part.
Thy stripes, not mine, con - tain The balm that makes me whole.
Of sins that none could bear But the in - car - nate God.
Ten thou - sand deaths like mine Would have been all too few.
No righ - teous - ness a - vails Save that which is of Thee.

Refrain



To whom save Thee, Who canst a-lone For sin a-tone, Lord, shall I flee?

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Sermon..... “*The Cross, Its Shadow, & Choices in Life*”

Please rise.

Nicene Creed.....*page 174*

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth**

and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Announcement of Prayers

Prayer of the Church (sung) *"Hear Our Prayer" (Bell & Howison)*

After each verse, the congregation sings the refrain:

Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Offering

An offering plate is located at the west entrance narthex. You may leave your monetary offering there either when coming or going. Remember that all of your life is to be an offering of gratitude to the Lord who gives us life and in service of those

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

Offertory page 176



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



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgypages 177-180



P The Lord be with you.



C And al-so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Sanctus.....*page 178*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

Agnus Dei.....*page 180*



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of

God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated, until motioned to rise & proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).

Instrumental

(Communion Hymns—Sunday Only)

Communion Hymn "Chief of Sinners Though I Be", #611

1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it

blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,

Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of

to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Communion Hymn "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart", #806



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give thanks to the



Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be - cause He's giv - en__ Je - sus



Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give



thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be - cause He's giv - en__



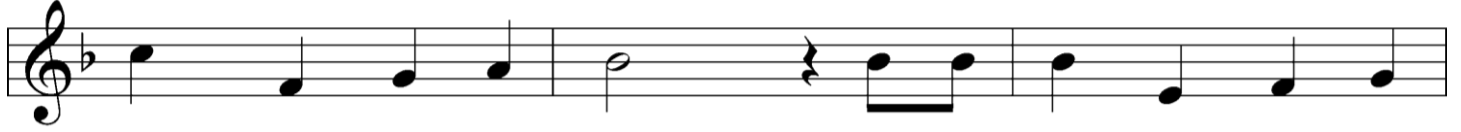
Je - sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am



strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," _____ Be - cause of



what the Lord has done for us. And now let the



weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am

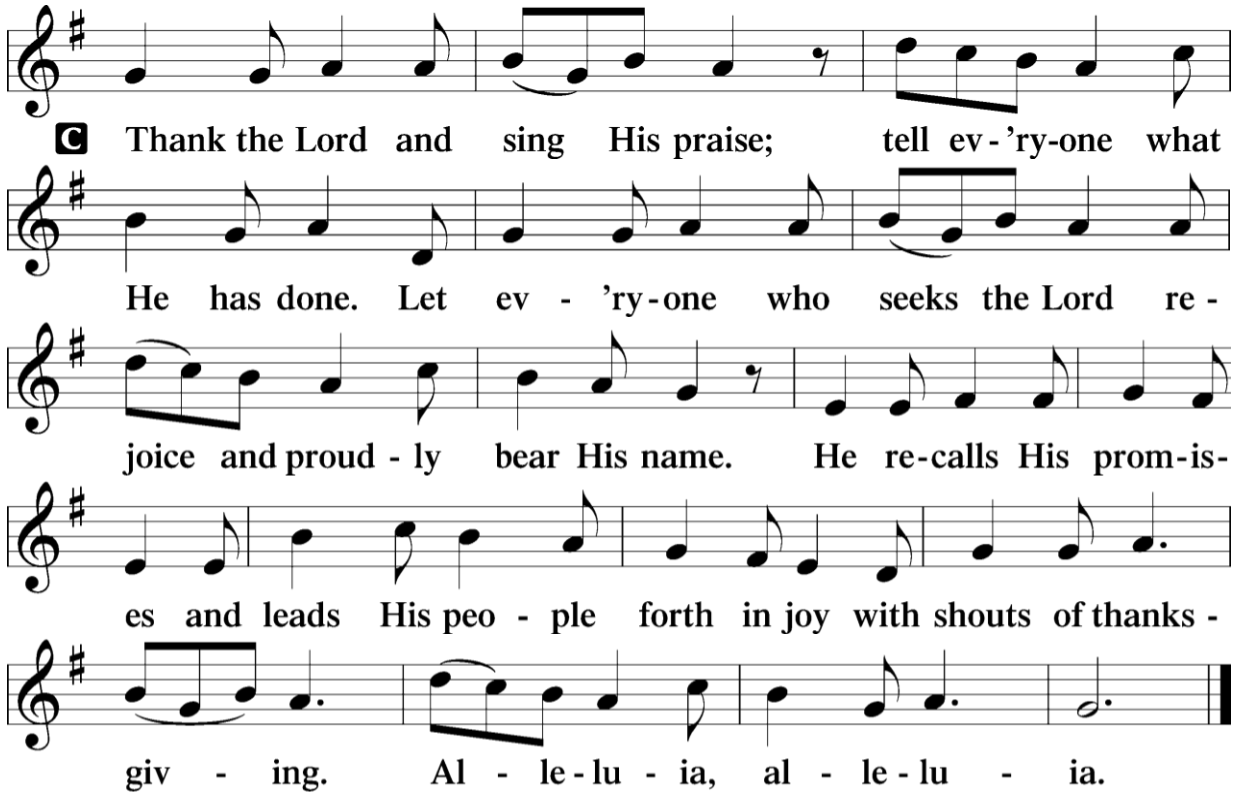


rich," _____ Be - cause of what the Lord has done for us.



Give thanks, _____ give thanks. _____

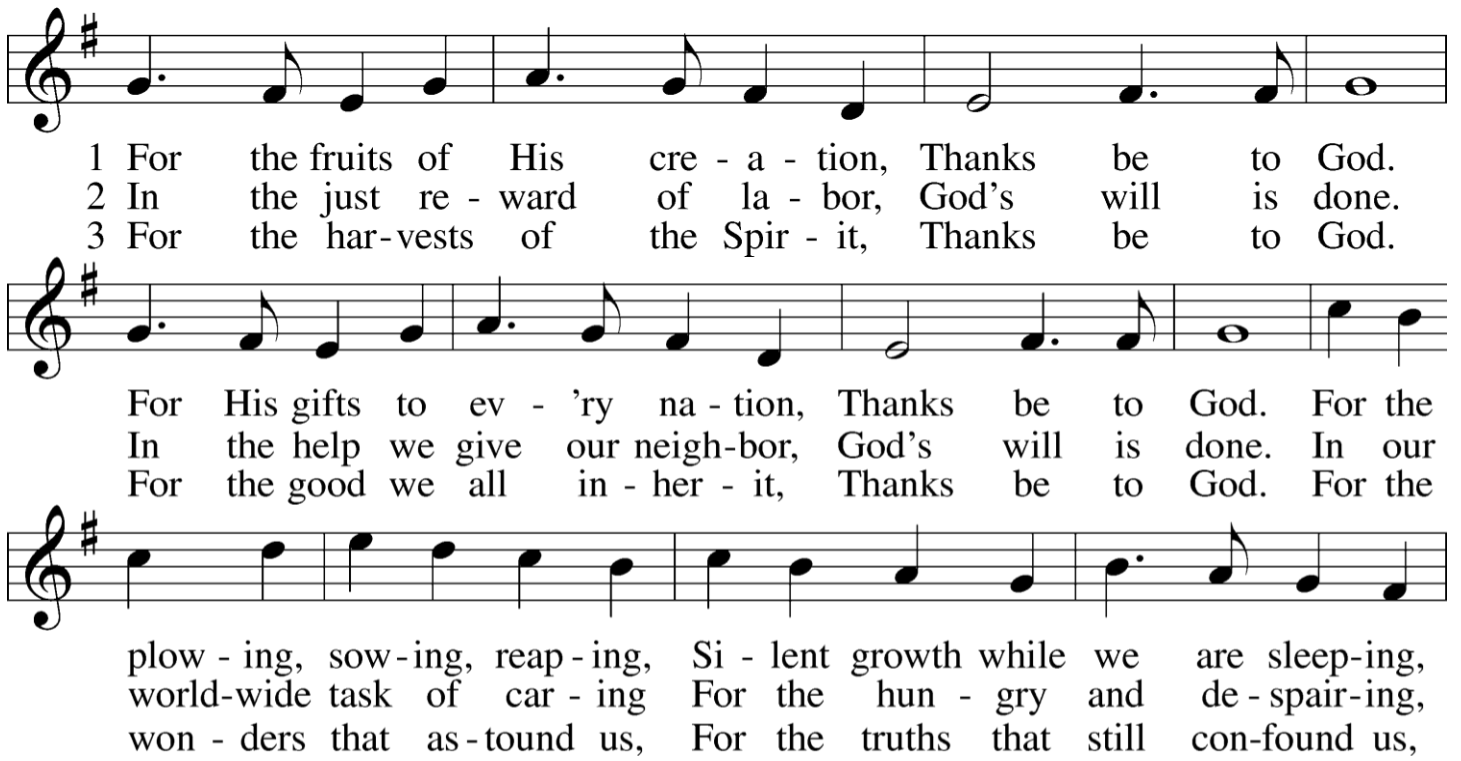
Post Communion Canticle..... page 181



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-
joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-
giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Benediction..... page 183

Sending Hymn..... "For the Fruits of His Creation", #894



1 For the fruits of His cre-a-tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re-ward of la-bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har-vests of the Spir-it, Thanks be to God.

For His gifts to ev-'ry na-tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in-her-it, Thanks be to God. For the
plow-ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, Si-lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
world-wide task of car-ing For the hun-gry and de-spair-ing,
won-ders that as-tound us, For the truths that still con-found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
 In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

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

Postlude

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Next week's readings:

OT: Ezekial 34:11-24; Ep.: 1 Timothy 1:5-17; Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Attendance: Last Saturday: 29

Total Offering: \$5,780.00

Home Use: \$4,755.00

Attendance Last Sunday: 76

Missions: \$0.00

Benevolences: \$1,025.00

Serving us today:

- Elders.....Jack Easterwood (Sat), Ricky Bertels, Willie Crespo (Sun)
- MusiciansGary Moege (Sat), Gary Moege & Jerrode Marsh (Sun)
- Soloists Lorraine Miller (Sat), Jerrode Marsh (Sun)
- 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 Labor Day—Office Closed
- Tuesday *Pastor's Labor Day Off*
- 12:00 p.m. Braille in Concordia
- Wednesday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class
- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- 5:30 p.m. Faith Night—Dinner & Discussion
- Thursday 1:00 p.m. Games and Cards Group
- 4:00 p.m. Get the Red Out-UCM
- Friday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Worship—Fall Mission Festival
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 & Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship—Fall Mission Festival
	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Meeting regarding roof replacement
	2:30 p.m.	Country Club Care Center Service

Congregational Meeting

Our Church Building's Roof—There will be a short congregational meeting immediately following the morning service on **Sunday, September 11**, to hear about and vote on the urgent need of replacing our building's roof.

Thank You

The family of Ralph Hein want to thank Pr. Joel and those that sent cards, memorials, flowers, food, visits and prayers to comfort us. We pray God's bountiful blessings on you as you have blessed our family.

Much grateful appreciation from Pr. Joel for the words expressed, beautiful & delicious cake made, cards given and gifts shared on his combined anniversary celebration this past Sunday! You are all a loved and valued family in Christ.

Prayers

For Comfort in Loss to Mel Bockelman on the recent death of his daughter Diane. Pr. Joel will be having her graveside burial this week. May the Risen Christ comfort and uphold all mourners with his love and abiding grace!

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: Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Felisa Brown, Ben Burd (friend & coworker of Jeremy VanWey), Ray & Mary Carstensen, Bob & Barbara Compton, Donna Cuellar (Betty Weinberg's daughter), Marion Droege, Nathan Frerking (Phil Frerking's brother), Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Wanda Kreisel, Johnny Nichol, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, & Joe Zeman.

For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers), especially Colleen & Jeremiah Murrell. The Lord's good provision to all parents in the daily welcome and care 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 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.

Bethlehem's Fall Mission Festival will be observed on the weekend of **September 10 & 11. Saturday evening**—following the service—those who would like to join the guest speakers, Rudy & Dorothy Schaser, for dinner out are welcome to do so, but let Pr. Joel know in advance. **Sunday morning—from 9:15 to 10:10**—the Adult Bible Class and Sunday School will have a combined Christian Education hour in the Fellowship Hall, during which we will hear from the Schasers about the work of With God's Little Ones. *A light breakfast will be served! Please plan to come, and invite others.* (See the end of the bulletin for more information on With God's Little Ones).

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The new calendar year will kick off for both on **Sunday, September 11** with the Fall Mission Festival combined Christian Education time mentioned above!

Sunday Bible Study is finishing the last section ("Bodily Life in God's Heavenly Creation") of the book *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation*. **Join us in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:10 a.m.** as we begin a new topic of discussion on **September 18**.

Youth Catechesis—If you or your youth will be going into 7th or 8th grades and haven't been contacted by Pr. Joel yet, let him know. Due to busy schedules this September, there will be an at-home assignment for the month, then we'll aim to start meeting in person for classes in October—the 2nd & 4th Sundays being our class times in the afternoon.

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

Wednesday Bible Study has begun looking at the book of the prophet Zephaniah. **Join us in the conference room from 10:30 to noon** for this time of study, growth,

and exploration together.

Faith Night resumes in September! Join others in the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, September 7 from 5:30-6:00 p.m.** for a simple meal (bring something simple you'd like to share) and conversation, followed by a discussion from **6:00 to 6:45**. Faith Night happens on the first Wednesday of every month, and we're continuing our discussion *The Lord's Prayer, Line by Line* by exploring the fourth petition ("Give us this day our daily bread").

UCM Students—The UCM Lutheran Student Center is located at **215 S. Holden Street** and is a place on campus for students to gather for fellowship. The Student Center has a meal and Bible study every **Thursday, starting at 5:00 p.m.** Their contact number is 660-747-7603 and Facebook @UCMLutherans. You are also invited to gather with us at Bethlehem for worship, Scripture study, faith discussion, and projects at any time. We welcome you to grow and serve alongside us here at Bethlehem!

LSC Meal Support—Those who would like to help provide meals at the Lutheran Student Center can send a check directly to them or put it in your offering with a note in the memo line "LSC Meals." The suggested cost to cover a meal is \$35. As an alternative you can also come cook and serve the meal to the students. Contact Pastor Schweigert if you would like to do this. (660) 747-7603.

Opportunities to Help & Serve

Migrant Farmworkers—The Mission Board will deliver supplies to the Migrant Farmworkers in Lexington MO on **September 26**. These families come to that area each year to harvest the delicious apples from the orchards. The Migrant Farmworkers Assistance Fund was established to work with these Farmworkers when they first arrive at the orchards in late summer. That includes assistance with medical and dental needs as well as completion of school enrollment for their children. The MSAF continues to work with them for their critical needs until they migrate elsewhere. Some of those critical needs are food and clothing. We, at Bethlehem, have contributed to these needs for many years, as have other churches in the area, and we plan to do so again this year. **We will have a container at the northeast entrance to the church to collect white rice (not instant) and dry pinto beans.** Please consider helping, as you can, by placing your contributions there by **noon on Monday, September 26**. We will deliver them that afternoon. Thank you for your consideration.

The Warrensburg Food Center is in need! As you may have seen on the news or heard on the radio lately, Harvesters are struggling. Harvesters is the primary source

of food for our local food pantry. In the past our local pantry received 11 pallets of food twice monthly. The last delivery was 3 pallets and very little meat. Donations are down to Harversters and they are facing staffing issues as are many businesses. Harvesters contacted the local food pantry last week and told them they would need to begin to source their food locally. Several groups in the community have committed to food drives, but the need is great as they are currently serving over 400 families monthly and the number grows every time they are open as new families sign up for assistance.

Anything you can donate, either in the form of food items or cash, will be put to very good use! Our pantry is supplemental, which means we only try to give food for a week and the families must fend for the rest of the month. **There is a list of needed items on the bulletin board in the north foyer, and there is a donation barrel as well.** You can leave cash donations at the church office or mail to the Food Center, P.O. Box 872, Warrensburg, MO 64093, or put it in Sue Cottrill's or Pastor's mailbox. Thank you for helping to lessen food insecurity in our county!

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

Mary Martha Guild will resume our meetings, after a summer break, on **Monday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m.** We are looking forward to our program that evening which will be presented by Julie Crespo, Penny Humphrey, and Jeremy VanWey. They will talk about their experiences regarding "Christianity in the Workplace". Everyone is invited. We hope to see you there!

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.

Bethlehem's Junior & Senior Youth will aim to resume their **Third Sunday at Three** gathering on **September 18**—which will last until **five p.m.** We'll aim to look ahead at plans for fall, have some faith conversation and sharing, and hopefully play some volleyball!

September Sand Volleyball sounds good, doesn't it?—especially after this past Sunday's first play on the new court and cooler weather on the way! Those who'd like to get in a regular/weekly game should call or text Pr. Joel on what works for them and/or keep their eyes and ears open for what gets announced.

This & That

Get the Red Out—Bethlehem will be participating in “Get the Red Out” (a university street-fair before the first home football game) at UCM on **Thursday, September 8, from 4:00-6:30 p.m.** If you are interested in helping by handing out brochures and other items, please let Pr. Joel know ASAP.

Show–Me Christian Youth Home (24302 Mahin Road, LaMonte, MO) will have an open house on **Saturday, September 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** There will be tours, free lunch, special programs, horse expo, kids' activities and performances. For more information you can go to their website at www.showmehelpingkids.com.

The Lady Saints Basketball Team of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO is putting on a **Basketball Camp** this fall for girls currently in 3rd-7th grade. The Lady Saints were 4th in State this past season. **The camp will take place on Sundays, September 18th, 25th & October 2nd, 9th from 1:30-3:15pm each day.** Players will work on improving their skills and each session will end with a devotion. Each camper will receive a customized Saints Basketball to take home and 2 free tickets to a selected Lady Saints game where campers will be recognized at halftime. Cost is \$40 per camper (or \$30 per camper for those who attended the summer basketball camp). Questions? Contact Lady Saints Head Coach Eric Gramenz at EGramenz@splhs.org. Go to tinyurl.com/LadySaintsBB to register.

Zion Lutheran Church in Corder, Missouri will be holding their **Annual Smorgasbord on Sunday, September 25 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** in the church fellowship hall. Adults are \$12, Children 6-12 are \$5 and under 6 are free. Menu will be turkey and dressing, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, corn, salads, rolls and desserts. All proceeds will be used in the renovation of the church property and/or mission projects.

Country Kitchen Cards—We have a new batch of Country Kitchen Cards. Stop by the office if you would like to purchase one. They are \$10 and you get 10 buy-one-get-one free meal deals. All proceeds go to the youth group. Thanks for your support!

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!

2022 Elders

Willie Crespo (last name begins A-D) 660-679-8121, crespo6fam@gmail.com

Ricky Bertels (last name begins E-H), 660-262-8080, rick1janice2@gmail.com

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

Alan Miller (last name begins Mc-R) 660-909-1764, alormiller@aol.com

Caleb Thomas (last name begins S-Z) 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@gmail.com

MISSION FESTIVAL WEEKEND—SEPTEMBER 10-11 WITH GOD'S LITTLE ONES

For 18 years, our modest non-profit organization has worked to bring help and encouragement to people experiencing tough times. Sadly, the past year has been particularly painful. **Ukraine**. We're sharing resources with skilled, compassionate German and Polish partners, as they serve both those who have fled the war and those still struggling in Ukraine. (*See our blog, [And You Took Me In.](#)*). We've been doing our best to reach hungry, hurting villagers in **Madagascar**, already-impooverished people hit by COVID, malaria, and pneumonic plague, by cyclone and drought. In **Cambodia**, we've launched a concerted effort to reach and assist vulnerable older folks in Kratie Province. We're also helping pay poor folks' hospital bills, bringing food and toys to single mothers alone in the big city, and providing food to orphans in remote villages.

Rudy & Dorothy Schaser are WGLO's Executive Director and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively. Dorothy grew up here at Bethlehem, and Pr. Joel grew up knowing her and Rudy as they served in the mission field of the Philippines with his parents. "Pr. Joel is blessed to serve as one of the members of the WGLO with them and the others."

Members of Bethlehem are invited to write personal notes to young students and their teachers in the hard-to-reach village of Kompong Kbeoung, on the Mekong in Sambo district, Cambodia. There are 70 students and three teachers divided into morning and afternoon groups. The school is hoping to use about 80% of the materials from the present building, plus purchase additional materials to construct a new facility. *Notes can be written in advance and brought for the Mission Festival, or you can write them that weekend as well.*

To learn more about the work of WGLO, go to their website: www.wglo.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

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Email: pastor@blchurch.com

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

Office Manager:

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

660-747-6742

officemanager@blchurch.com

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.