

YOU
CANNOT
SERVE
GOD



AND
WEALTH

LUKE 16:13



+ The 15th Sunday After Pentecost +
September 17-18, 2022

AS WE GATHER

God's people are sometimes called "the people of the Book." The written Word is central to our lives of worship. As John concluded his Gospel account of the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, he states that he could have written much more extensively than he had done. But as he reflects on what he has shared in his Gospel, he says, "but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31). The writings of John the Evangelist and of all the other biblical writers are there for us to read and reread and savor and share both as part of our worship and in our individual lives of faith. The written Word of the Lord is an essential part of our great and blessed heritage!

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 (1 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..... Rich Vanderburgh, Lorraine Miller

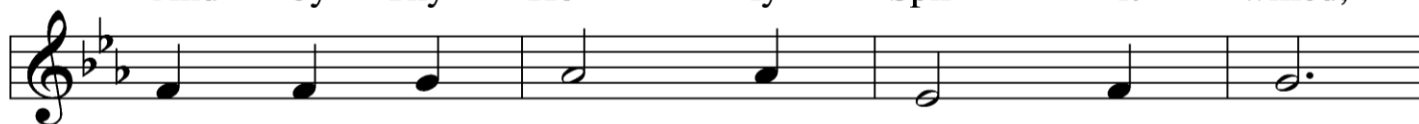
Invocation Hymn..... "Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace", #844



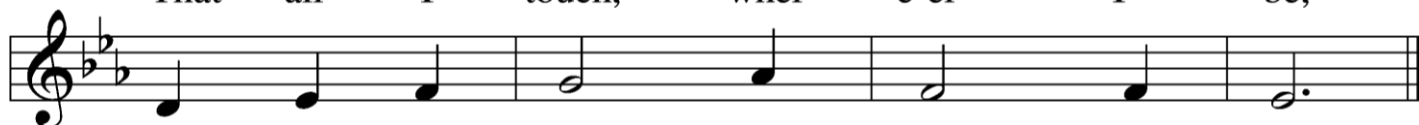
1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace
2 Break down the wall that would di - vide
3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred
4 Give me Thy cour - age, Lord, to speak
5 With Thine own love may I be filled



To love all peo - ple, ev - 'ry race;
Thy chil - dren, Lord, on ev - 'ry side.
By love - less act and thought - less word.
When - ev - er strong op - press the weak.
And by Thy Ho - ly Spir - it willed,



And in each per - son may I see
My neigh - bor's good let me pur - sue;
Make me to see the wrong I do
Should I my - self the vic - tim be,
That all I touch, wher - e'er I be,



My kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by Thee.
Let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
Will grieve my wound - ed Lord a - new.
Help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring Thee.
May be di - vine - ly touched by Thee.

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Tune: Public domain. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003555

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 *"We Give Thee But Thine Own", #781*



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive
3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,
4 To com - fort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!
And lambs for whom the Shep-herd bled Are stray-ing from the fold.
To tend the lone and fa - ther-less Is an - gels' work be - low.

5 The captive to release,
To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace,
It is a Christ-like thing.

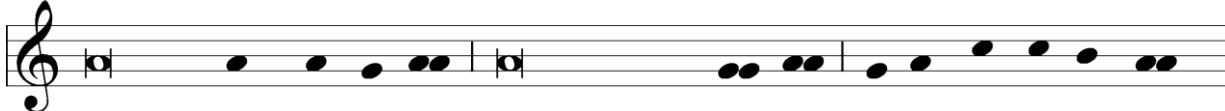
6 And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



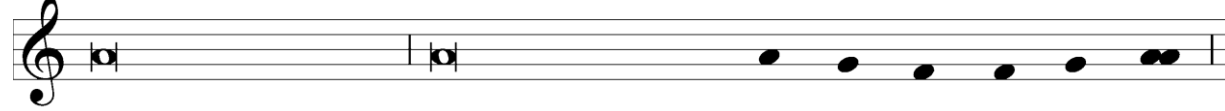
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



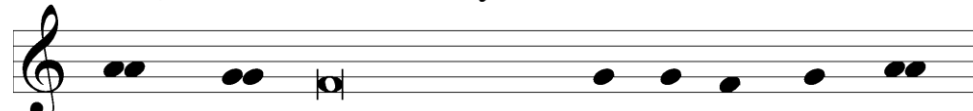
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



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.



Salutationpage 172



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

Collect of the Day (*spoken in unison*)

O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament **Amos 8:4-7**

Hear this, you who trample on the needy
and bring the poor of the land to an end,
saying, "When will the new moon be over,
that we may sell grain?"

And the Sabbath,
that we may offer wheat for sale,
that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great
and deal deceitfully with false balances,
that we may buy the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and sell the chaff of the wheat?"

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
"Surely I will never forget any of their deeds."

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..... **1 Timothy 2:1-15**

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

Alleluia and Verse *page 173*

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 C-clef and a common time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?' are written below the staff. The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.' are written below this staff.

Holy Gospel Luke 16:1-15

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. And he said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day..... "Seek Where You May to Find", #557



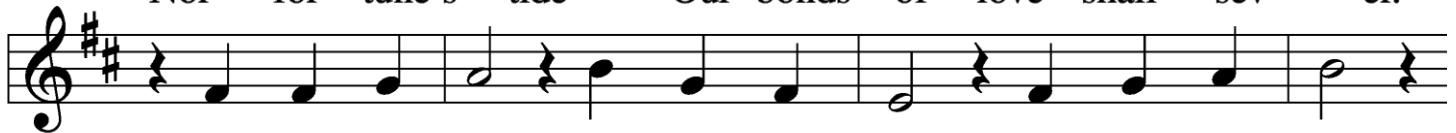
1 Seek where you may To find a way That
2 Seek whom you may To be your stay, None
3 Seek Him a - lone Who did a - tone, Who
4 My heart's de - light, My crown most bright, O



leads to your sal - va - tion. My heart is stilled,
can re - deem his broth - er. All help - ers failed;
did your souls de - liv - er. O seek Him first,
Christ, my joy for - ev - er. Not wealth nor pride



On Christ I build, He is the one foun - da - tion.
This man pre - vailed, The God - man and none oth - er,
All you who thirst For grace that fails you nev - er.
Nor for - tune's tide Our bonds of love shall sev - er.



His Word is sure, His works en - dure; He o - ver - throws
Our Ser - vant - King Of whom we sing. We're jus - ti - fied
In ev - 'ry need Seek Him in - deed; To ev - 'ry heart
You are my Lord; Your pre - cious Word Shall guide my way



All e - vil foes; Through Him I more than con - quer.
Be - cause He died, The guilt - y be - ing guilt - less.
He will im - part His bless - ings with - out mea - sure.
And help me stay For - ev - er in Your pres - ence.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Tune: Public domain. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003555

Sermon..... "Greedy or Giving Hearts & Hands?"

Please rise.

**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. 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 Hymn—Sunday Only)

Communion Hymn ... "Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower", #694



- 1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tow - er; Thee will I
- 2 Thee will I love, my life, my Sav - ior, Who art my
- 3 I thank Thee, Je - sus, Sun from heav - en, Whose ra - diance
- 4 O keep me watch - ful, then, and hum - ble; Per - mit me
- 5 Thee will I love, my crown of glad - ness; Thee will I



love, my hope, my joy. Thee will I love with all my
 best and tru - est friend. Thee will I love and praise for -
 hath brought light to me; I thank Thee, who hast rich - ly
 nev - er - more to stray. Up - hold me when my feet would
 love, my God and Lord, A - mid the dark - est depths of



pow - er, With ar - dor time shall ne'er de - stroy. Thee will I
 ev - er, For nev - er shall Thy kind - ness end. Thee will I
 giv - en All that could make me glad and free; I thank Thee
 stum - ble, And keep me on the nar - row way. Fill all my
 sad - ness, And not for hope of high re - ward, For Thine own



love, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.
 love with all my heart— Thou my Re - deem - er art!
 that my soul is healed By what Thy lips re - vealed.
 na - ture with Thy light, O Ra - diance strong and bright!
 sake, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.

Text and tune: Public domain. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003555

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..... "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service", #848



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
 2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
 4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
 cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
 veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
 name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
 Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
 Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
 Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
 pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
 bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
 com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
 love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
 us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
 ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

Text: © Oxford University Press. Tune: Public domain, Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003555

Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

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

Postlude Rich Vanderburgh, Lorraine Miller

Acknowledgements Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (*The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, 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: Amos 6:1-7; Ep.: 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Attendance: Last Saturday: 36

Total Offering: \$5,749.00

Home Use: \$4,944.00

Attendance Last Sunday: 60

Missions: \$225.00

Benevolences: \$580.00

Serving us today:

Elders.....Ricky Bertels (Sat), Alan Miller, Caleb Thomas (Sun)
Musicians Rich Vanderburgh, Lorraine Miller
Soloists Becky Limback (Sat), Penny and Abby Humphrey (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

Sunday	12:00 p.m.	Elder's Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	Thrivent Meeting
	3:00 p.m.	Youth Get-Together/Congregational Volleyball
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	2:00 p.m.	Moms and Tots
	6:30 p.m.	Scouts
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Mission Board Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	7:00 p.m.	Four Quarters on Christ— <i>The Influential Jesus</i>
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Saturday	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 & Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship

Prayers

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, 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, 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—as their due date gets closer! 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, feel free 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.

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings downstairs for ages Preschool through 12th grade. Our teachers for the fall are as follows: Rebecca Holland-preschool & kindergarten; Jack Easterwood-elementary; Rich Vanderburgh-junior & senior youth and Penny Humphrey-superintendent. The children will be working on songs with the goal of singing in church once per month. We invite all children of the congregation (and outside too) to come and be a part of this time growing together in Christ!

Sunday Bible Study—Steward the Harvest of Autumn with the GLEANINGS. Beginning on September 18 and continuing through the last Sunday of the Church Year (November 20), we’ll be undertaking a study that will survey hunger and harvest, wasting, feasting and sharing in Scripture and in our lives today. The Old Testament sessions are: 1) *Hospitality*, 2) *Trickery*, 3) *Obedience*, 4) *The Miraculous*, & 5) *Hunger*. The New Testament sessions are: 6) *Breakfast*, 7) *Lunch*, 8) *Dinner*, 9) *Midnight Snack*, & 10) *Party*. **Join us in the conference room at 9:15 a.m.** to find out what those titles are about and how they’ll take us further into Scripture and life. Each attendee will get a personal study booklet which includes all of the sessions. Prepared by the Society of St. Andrew (SOSA)—an organization which gleanes America’s fields to feed the hungry—this exploration and discussion will take you through the harvests of autumn to Thanksgiving with new awareness and generous stewardship. To learn more about SOSA, go to www.endhunger.org.

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 will focus on dwelling upon the Word of the Lord this week, **be off the following (the 28th)**, and then begin looking at the book of the prophet Haggai on **October 5th**. **Join us in the conference room from 10:30 to noon** for this time of study, growth, and exploration together.

Please join us in the sanctuary on **Thursday, September 22** (the first day of Autumn) from **7 to 8 p.m.** for the third installment of *Four Quarters on Christ—The Influential Jesus*. Thanks to the third part in John Stott's book *The Incomparable Christ*, we'll be surveying how Jesus transformed and compelled the lives of at least twelve inspiring people over the last several hundred years. Even if you didn't make the first two sessions, make sure to come to this one. Bring a quarter, if you can, as well!

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 Harvesters 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. *This has been a good year for peppers, tomatoes, and eggplant!* 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

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.

Bethlehem's Junior & Senior Youth will resume their **Third Sunday at Three** gathering on **September 18 with a volleyball challenge anyone in the congregation up for a game from 3:00-4:15 or so.** Following that time, the youth will remain and talk over plans for the fall, and have some time for faith conversation and sharing until 5:00.

September Sand Volleyball sounds good, doesn't it?! **Plan to join whoever else shows up on Wednesday, September 21st from 6:30 until 7:30 or so.** We'll even make a connection with St. Matthew's Day on changing sides. Let's take advantage of the newly restored court and cooler weather and enjoy some active and thoughtful time together!

This & That

The Singing Saints of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, Missouri will be presenting their annual "Down by the Riverside" concert on Sunday, October 16th at 3:00 p.m. at Eagle Bluff Ranch in Waverly, Missouri (31827 US-65, Waverly, MO 64096). The 62-voiced concert choir will present an outdoor concert featuring a program of songs about rivers, water, Baptism, and God's creation at a beautiful venue overlooking the Missouri River. The concert is free, but a free-will offering to help support the expenses of the spring choir tour are greatly appreciated. Fall-themed refreshments will be served after the concert.

Vendors wanted for the 3rd Annual Saint Paul Christkindlesmarkt! We are looking for people who hand-craft items such as jewelry, pottery, woodworking, ceramics, artwork, specialty food and drink, and more. We strive to keep our Christmas Market as authentically German as possible, so no direct sales companies are allowed. **The event will take place outdoors on Friday, December 9th from 4:00-8:00pm and Saturday, December 10th from 11:00am-7:00pm** on the 40-acre campus of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO. Nearly 3,000 guests and 50 vendors were welcomed in 2021 and we're planning for an even bigger event this year. Visit splhs.org/events for more information and the Vendor Application. Have questions? Email ChristmasMarket@splhs.org.

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

Contact Information

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

Our Mission

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

Our Vision

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



Rev. Joel R. Kurz

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am-5pm

Otherwise by appointment

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: pastor@blchurch.com

Website: www.blchurch.com Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](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.