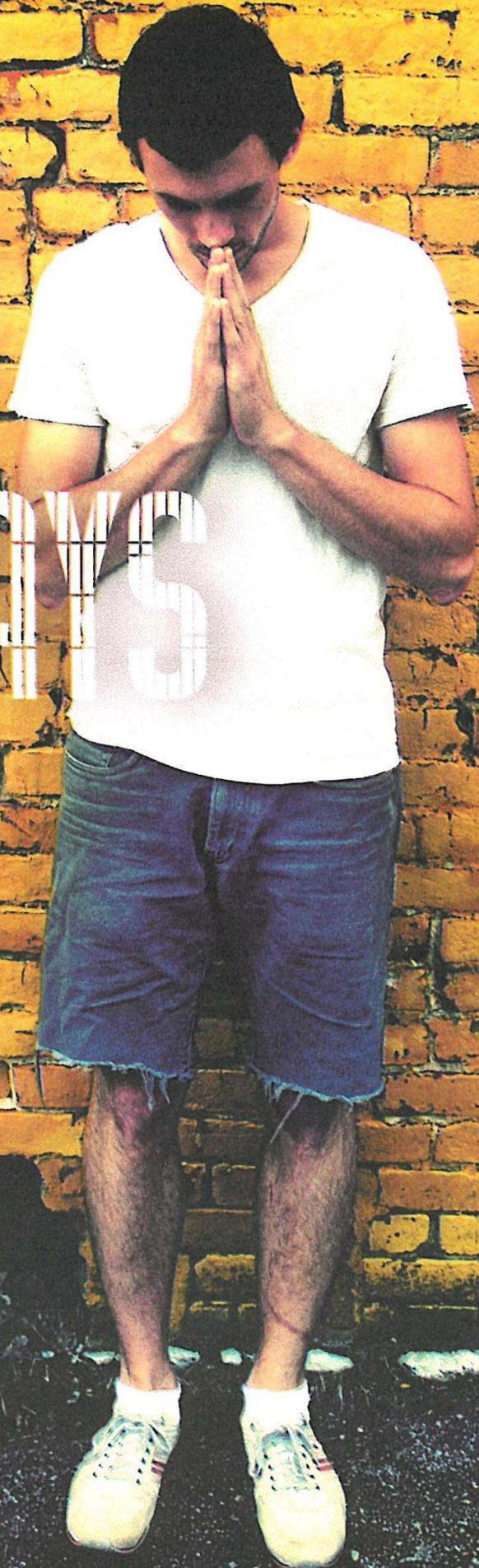



# PRAY ALWAYS

LUKE 18:1





+ The 19th Sunday After Pentecost +

**October 15-16, 2022**

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**AS WE GATHER**

How shall we pray? That question is the focus of today's Readings. With Jacob as a model, our prayer might seem to be a struggle with God's will. And Jesus' parable teaches that prayer is a long-term effort. But prayer is more than a monologue; the Epistle reminds us that God started the conversation with His Word. The Spirit has used Word and Sacrament to awaken and guide our faith. Within that relationship, prayer is a conversation begun by God and continued each day. In worship, we do that with our brothers and sisters in Christ, moving from individual concerns to those of the Body of Christ, the Church. And in worship, we take the time to listen as God accuses and then excuses us by grace for Jesus' sake. So let us pray and worship together.

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**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

*Please rise.*

## Invocation Hymn..... "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"



1 Breathe on me, breath of God; Fill me with  
2 Breathe on me, breath of God, Un - til my  
3 Breathe on me, breath of God; So shall I



life a - new, That I may love all  
heart is pure, Un - til with You I  
nev - er die, But live with You the



that You love And do what You would do.  
will one will To do and to en - dure.  
per - fect life Of Your e - ter - ni - ty.

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# 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** ..... *“Create in Me”, #956*

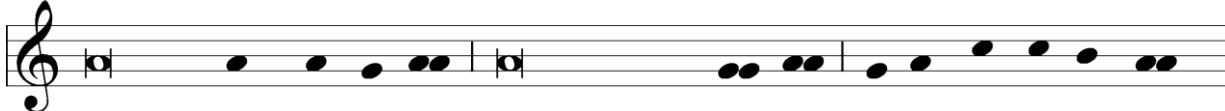
The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion; and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.



**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.



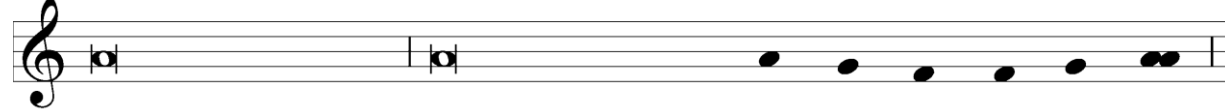
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



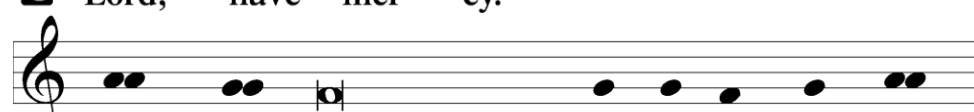
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



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.

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.



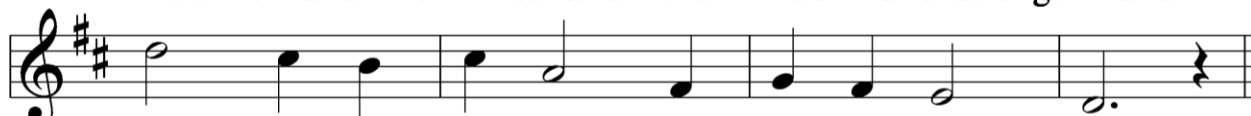
**C** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



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.



**Salutation** .....page 172



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

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

**O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your name; 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** ..... **Genesis 32:22-30**

The same night [Jacob] arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, “Let me go, for the day has broken.” But Jacob said, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.” And he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.” Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 121**..... *(front of hymnal, spoken in unison)*

**I lift up my eyes to the hills.**

**From where does my help come?**

**My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.**

**He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.**

**Behold, he who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

**The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.**

**The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

**The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.**

**The LORD will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time forth and forevermore.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Epistle**..... **2 Timothy 3:14-4:5**

As for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.



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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please rise.*

**Alleluia and Verse** .....page 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.

**Holy Gospel** .....**Luke 18:1-8**

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



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

Hymn of the Day..... "Within the Hour of Deepest Need", #615



1 When in the hour of deep - est need We know not  
2 Then is our com - fort this a - lone That we may  
3 For You have prom - ised, Lord, to heed Your chil - dren's  
4 And so we come, O God, to - day And all our



where to look for aid; When days and nights of  
meet be - fore Your throne; To You, O faith - ful  
cries in time of need Through Him whose name a -  
woes be - fore You lay; For sore - ly tried, cast



anx - ious thought No help or coun - sel yet have brought,  
God, we cry For res - cue in our mis - er - y.  
lone is great, Our Sav - ior and our ad - vo - cate.  
down, we stand, Per - plexed by fears on ev - 'ry hand.

5 O from our sins, Lord, turn Your face;  
Absolve us through Your boundless grace.  
Be with us in our anguish still;  
Free us at last from ev'ry ill.

6 So we with all our hearts each day  
To You our glad thanksgiving pay,  
Then walk obedient to Your Word,  
And now and ever praise You, Lord.

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Sermon..... "Prayer & Persistence"

*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. Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Now we pray to You Father for peace in the world  
For the right use of all You have given  
A respect for creation in us be restored

And we pray for the poor of the world everywhere  
And for all those who suffer from hunger and fear  
For those who are homeless – for those who need care

Now we pray for those close to us, those who have needs  
For the friends that we love and for all our families  
For these loved ones we pray Jesus grant them Your peace

And we pray for ourselves for forgiveness of sins  
For the evil around that is born from within  
And we ask You oh God that You heal us again

Now in closing we ask You dear Father on our knees  
Lord for mercy on all those we call our enemies  
So that all might be one in Your love and Your peace

## 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



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 Liturgy .....pages 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

**☐** 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** ..... *"Gracious Lord, I Am Firmly Believing", #635*

1 O gra - cious Lord, I firm - ly am be - liev - ing  
2 Lord, I have sinned, a thou - sand times of - fend - ing;  
3 You see my sin yet seat me at Your ta - ble;  
4 O Lamb of God, my faith - ful, lov - ing Sav - ior,  
5 Heav - en - ly Bread, my life and ben - e - dic - tion,



Your bound - less love will bless each faith - ful soul,  
 My thank - less thoughts and words and deeds e - raise,  
 Lord, as a guest, I sure - ly am the least:  
 You I em - brace in faith and ho - ly love;  
 This cup You give can take a - way each ill.



As from this al - tar we are here re - ceiv - ing  
 To me Your hand of mer - cy now ex - tend - ing,  
 Un - clean, un - fit, of wor - thy deeds un - a - ble—  
 Grant me the strength to show by my be - hav - ior  
 Come and re - lieve my soul from all af - flic - tion;



Your bod - y and Your blood to make us whole,  
 O God, my Sav - ior, I im - plore Your grace,  
 My heart pre - pare for this most ho - ly feast,  
 A life now hid - den in Your reign a - bove,  
 Calm ev - 'ry sigh un - til my heart is still,



Your bod - y and Your blood to make us whole.  
 O God, my Sav - ior, I im - plore Your grace.  
 My heart pre - pare for this most ho - ly feast.  
 A life now hid - den in Your reign a - bove.  
 Calm ev - 'ry sigh un - til my heart is still.

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**Communion Hymn** ..... *"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb", #740*



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at  
 2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
 3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the

heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
 Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,  
 Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
 In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He  
 By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me  
 day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
 bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
 to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

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**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 -  
 jice 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, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" #924



1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's  
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling



joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,  
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion  
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;  
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,  
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.  
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

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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: Genesis 4:1-15; Ep.: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Gospel: Luke 18:9-17**

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Attendance: Last Saturday: 34

Total Offering: \$5,350.00

Home Use: \$5,349.00

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Attendance Last Sunday: 56

Missions: \$250.00

Benevolences: \$115.00

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## Serving us today:

Elders.....Jack Easterwood (Sat), Willie Crespo, Caleb Thomas (Sun)  
Musicians ..... Rich Vanderburgh (Sat), Cody Clemons (Sun)  
Soloists ..... Penny & Abby Humphrey (Sat), Lorraine Miller (Sun)  
Altar Committee.....Teresa Hillsman (Chair), Mary Creswell,  
Lisa Gulick, Beryl Lindley, Susie Mills  
Flower Committee ..... Eunice Cobb (Chair), Penny Humphrey

## This Week's Schedule

Sunday	1:30 p.m.	Circuit Forum in Concordia (Pr. Joel & Head Elder)
	3:00 p.m.	<i>Down by the Riverside</i> Singing Saints Concert
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	2:00 a.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
	11:30 a.m.	The Lunch Bunch
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Card Group
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Board Meeting
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	LWML Concordia Zone Fall Rally (at Bethlehem)
	5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
	9:00 a.m.	Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at <a href="http://www.blchurch.com">www.blchurch.com</a> , under the Sermons tab)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School, Adult Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	3:00 p.m.	Youth Catechesis

## Altar Flowers

The beautiful altar flowers are in celebration of Jerry and Karon Harding's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary which was celebrated on Friday, October 14. In addition to their anniversary, they have a healthy baby grandson, Jackson Julius Basinger, who arrived on September 19<sup>th</sup>. God's blessing to all of them.

## 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, Mark 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, Betty Landers (Darlene Laubenstein's sister), Johnny Nichol, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, & Joe Zeman.

**For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers)**, especially Paige & Colin Hart (who are getting closer to December)! 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!

**Many Thanks** to all who participated in this year's parade whether riding, walking or handing out candy.

## Worship Services

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

## Sunday School and Christian Education

**Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings downstairs for ages Preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.** The children are regularly working on songs with the goal of singing in the Sunday service 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 GLEANINGS.** Continuing through the last Sunday of the Church Year (November 20), we're undertaking a study that surveys hunger and harvest, wasting, feasting, and sharing in Scripture and in our lives today. The New Testament sessions yet to cover 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 gets a personal study booklet—which includes all of the sessions. Prepared by the Society of St. Andrew (SOSA)—an organization which gleans 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](http://www.endhunger.org).

### Faith Discussion and Bible Study

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

**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!

### Opportunities to Help & Serve

**The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)** is celebrating their 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. In honor of this occasion. We have chosen to support our local Food Center by trying to **"Fill the Tote with 80" food items**. There are totes by each church entrance for you to use, so help us fill each of them with 80 items! **This challenge will end on Sunday, October 30** (Reformation weekend). Thanks for being as generous as you can!

**The Warrensburg Food Center is in need!** Harvesters is the primary source of food for our local food pantry. The Food Center currently serves 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 cart 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 & Greenspace Work**—The warm growing season has come to an end, but plenty of great produce has been shared again this year through our community vegetable garden, and there's still stuff to do this fall. Talk to Shawn Lindley or Pr. Joel if you're looking for a way to plug in and help in the process. Thanks!

## **Fellowship**

**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.

**LWML Concordia Zone Fall Rally** will be held here at Bethlehem on **Saturday, October 22.** The guest speakers will be the directors of our local shelters/homeless housing agencies Journey Home and Refuge on Ming: Erica Collins & Melissa Werner and Jacquie West. The theme for the morning is *Finding Home*, with Pr. Joel leading a devotional reflection on that topic. Come and join us for this special gathering of women from a wide area! **Registration and breakfast begin at 8:30 a.m., and the program starts at 9:00.**

**The Lunch Bunch** will be meeting on **Thursday, October 20 at 11:30 a.m.** Invite a friend and bring your own lunch; dessert will be provided. Enjoy this time of conversation with other women and being built up in Christian sisterhood!

**Exercise Class** happens 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 are needed. Bring your own lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

## This & That

**Survival House's Annual Ghouls Night Out**—will be held on **October 21, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.** at the Johnson County Fairgrounds. For \$5 you will get a hayride, hot dog, chips and a soda. Tickets for games will be 5 for \$1.00 and 30 for \$5.00.

**The Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Show** co-sponsored by Mid-Missouri Artists and Warrensburg Parks and Rec. is **November 4, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Look for several Bethlehem members in the show!

**American Heritage Girls** ([americanheritagegirls.org](http://americanheritagegirls.org)) is a Christ-centered group program for girls (ages 5-18). **AHG** was founded by a group of parents wanting a faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters in 1995. The AHG Program is dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country. AHG girls across the nation and the globe participate in badge programs, service projects, leadership opportunities, and outdoor experiences, all with an emphasis on Christian values and family involvement. AHG meets at Faith Lutheran Church in Knob Noster. For more information on dates and times contact Rebecca Holland (660) 441-1271.

**Trail Life USA** ([www.TrailLifeUSA.com](http://www.TrailLifeUSA.com)) is a Christ-centered outdoor adventure and character development program for boys (ages 5-18). Trail Life partners with churches to grow godly young men. Boys connect with friends, dads and mentors in a safe, encouraging, Christian Environment. Trail Life USA meets at Faith Lutheran Church in Knob Noster. For more information on dates and times contact Jeremy VanWey (660) 909-4765.

**Country Kitchen Cards**—We have 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](mailto:crespo6fam@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

# "Fill it with 80"

**Fill the totes at each entrance of the church  
with some of the following items.**

Canned Vegetables  
Diced Tomatoes  
Canned Fruit  
Canned Beans  
Tuna and Chicken pouches  
Pasta w/Meat  
Vienna Sausage, Spam  
Hamburger Helper meals  
Dry cereal (regular boxes)  
Pop Tarts  
Coffee (regular instant), no pods  
Juice pouches  
Gatorade type drinks  
Dish soap  
Toilet Paper  
Stick Deodorant  
Chapstick  
Bath Soap (bars)  
Laundry Soap  
Bleach

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **LWML CONCORDIA ZONE FALLY RALLY**

OCTOBER 22

8:30 A.M.-REGISTRATION

9:00 A.M.-RALLY BEGINS

(\$5.00 ENTRANCE FEE)

### **TREAT BAGS FOR THE CHILDREN**

OCTOBER 29 AND 30

AFTER SERVICE

### **REFORMATION WEEKEND**

OCTOBER 29 AND 30

### **ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN-CONCORDIA**

NOVEMBER 5

9:30 A.M.

### **MMG BRUNCH**

NOVEMBER 12

9:30 A.M.

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

NOVEMBER 13

LUNCH AT 12 (PROVIDED BY FELLOWSHIP)

MEETING TO FOLLOW



## Contact Information

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

### **Our Mission**

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

### **Our Vision**

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



#### **Rev. Joel R. Kurz**

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

Otherwise by appointment

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: [pastor@blchurch.com](mailto:pastor@blchurch.com)

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

#### **Office Manager:**

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am–5pm

660-747-6742

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

#### **Bookkeeper:**

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am–11am

Thursday: 9am–11am

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

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for live streaming on the web, viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.