

The image features a decorative border of autumn-themed elements, including vibrant yellow and orange leaves and clusters of bright red berries, likely hawthorn or holly, arranged in a circular pattern around the central text. The background within the text box is a light, textured pattern of similar leaves and berries.

Thankful

*Just as you received
Christ Jesus as Lord,
continue to live your lives in him,
rooted and built up in him,
strengthened in the faith...
and overflowing with thankfulness.*

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7 (NIV)



+Thanksgiving Eve+
November 23, 2022

AS WE GATHER

The Day of Thanksgiving provides us a special time to pause, reflect, and give thanks to God for His countless blessings in our lives. From our early years, we have likely been told: “Count your blessings!” Can you do that today? As you think about the ways the Lord has blessed you in both body and soul, can you ever count them all? No way! God’s blessings are way too numerous! Nevertheless, as we name our blessings and number them, we pause at each one to say, “Thank You, Lord!” Even when we go through difficult and trying times—and perhaps *especially* when we go through difficult and trying times—it is vitally important for us to learn from the Word of God and, echoing what is recorded in its sacred pages, respond to the Lord in gratitude and worship. In today’s Epistle, we will see how Paul was taught by times of hardship how he could be content. Paul’s awareness of God’s ever-faithful provision led him to “abound” in thanksgiving! May we do the same today, abounding in thanksgiving to the God who “will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19)!

The pottery vessels on the altar remind us that although Holy Communion is not celebrated today, our Lord’s sacred gifts are still central to our life of faith. Holy Communion is celebrated every 1st, 3rd, and 5th weekend (and major festivals).

Liturgical Color:

White is the color of purity and is associated with festivals of Christ and his Church

Prelude Jerrode Marsh

Welcome

Compline

Please rise.

Gathering Hymn “What Shall We Bring to the Lord?” (von Kampen)



1 What shall we bring to the Lord for faith - ful - ly bless - ing our
 2 What shall we sing to the Lord for lov - ing - ly watch - ing our
 3 What shall we bring to the Lord for gra - cious - ly bless - ing our



days? We will bring Him the best of our gifts and our - selves
 ways? We will sing Him the best of our words and our tunes
 days? We will bring Him the best of our gifts, songs, and lives



As our of - f'rings of love, thanks, and praise.
 As our of - f'rings of love, thanks, and praise.
 As our of - f'rings of love, thanks, and praise.

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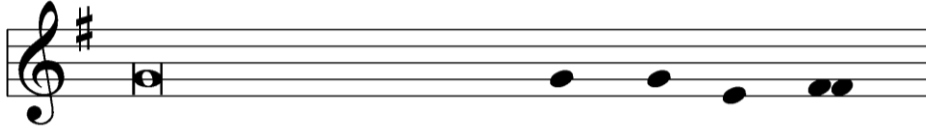
Opening Verses..... page 253



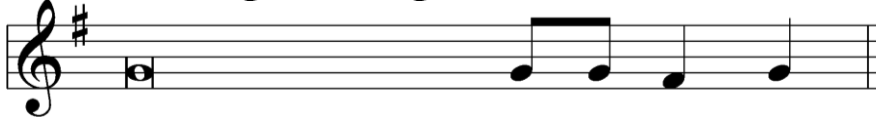
L The Lord Almighty grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



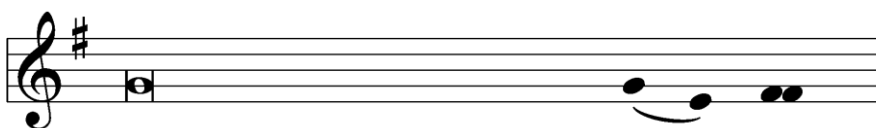
C A - men.



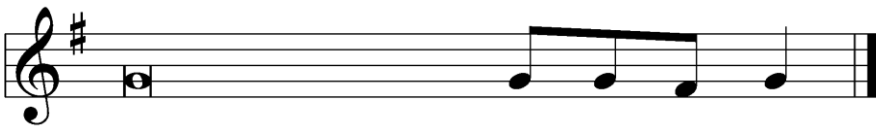
L It is good to give thanks to the Lord,



C to sing praise to Your name, O Most High;



L to herald Your love in the morn - ing,



C Your truth at the close of the day.

Confession *page 254*

- P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
- C** **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.**
- C** **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.
- C** **Amen.**

Psalmody

Psalm 67 (*front of hymnal, spoken responsively*)

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!
The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.

God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear him!
 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.

Office Hymn..... *"We Praise You, O God" #893*



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, Sing songs of love and praise;
 2 God makes the clouds rain good - ness, The des - erts bloom and spring,
 3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar The gifts His good - ness gave,



With joy - ful hearts and voic - es Your al - le - lu - ias raise.
 The hills leap up in glad - ness, The val - leys laugh and sing.
 The gold - en sheaves of har - vest, The souls Christ died to save.



By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;
 God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;
 Your hearts lay down be - fore Him When at His feet you fall,



Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.
 He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.
 And with your lives a - dore Him Who gave His life for all.

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Please be seated.

Readings

Old Testament Reading..... **Deuteronomy 8:1-10**

“The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you

would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.”

Epistle Reading Philipians 4:6-20

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philipians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God

will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Stand

Holy Gospel Luke 7:36-50

One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

"A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Sermon..... "Complaining, Compline, & Completion"

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)***

Please rise.

Hymn..... *"We Praise You, O God", #785*



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide You have been.
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;
When per - ils o'er - take us, You will not for - sake us,
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
And with Your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

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Prayer

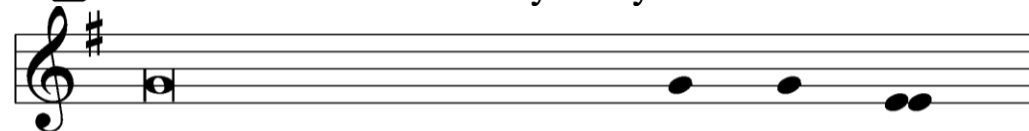
Prayer..... *pages 256-257*



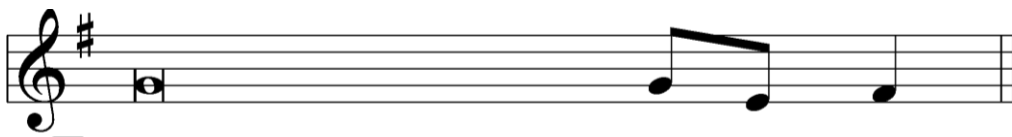
L Hear my prayer, O Lord;



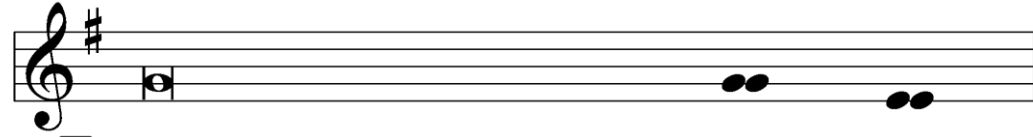
C listen to my cry.



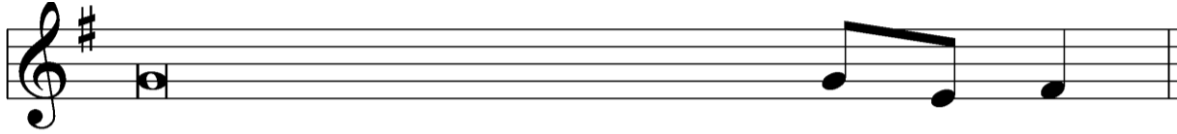
L Keep me as the apple of Your eye;



C hide me in the shadow of Your wings.



L In righteousness I shall see You;



C when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.

Lord's Prayerpage 257

Nunc Dimittispage 258



L Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, and guard us sleep - ing



that a - wake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.



C Lord, now You let Your ser - vant go in peace; Your word has been ful - filled.



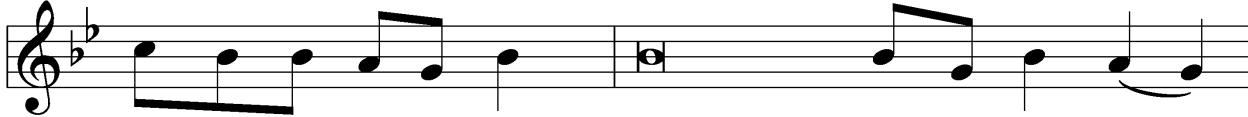
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have prepared



in the sight of ev - ry peo - ple: a light to reveal You to the na - tions



and the glory of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the



Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for -

Antiphon

ev-er. A - men. Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,
 and guard us sleep - ing that a - wake we may
 watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

Benediction.....page 259

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Fa - ther, the † Son,
 and the Holy Spir - it, bless us and keep us.

C A - men.

Sending Hymn..... "Come, Ye Thankful People Come" #892

1 Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His har - vest home,
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal har - vest home;

All be safe - ly gath - ered in Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;
 Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way,
 Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in, Free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
 There, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In Thy gar - ner to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; Raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.
 But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest home.

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

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

Postlude Jerrode Marsh

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Serving Us Today:

Elder Ricky Bertels
 Musician Jerrode Marsh
 Altar Committee Teresa Hillsman (Chair), Mary Creswell, Lisa Gulick,
 Beryl Lindley, Susie Mills
 Flower Committee Eunice Cobb (Chair), Penny Humphrey

This Week's Schedule:

Thursday		<i>Thanksgiving Holiday-Office Closed</i>
Friday		<i>Thanksgiving Holiday-Office Closed</i>
Saturday		<i>Advent Begins!</i>
	5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
	9:00 a.m.	Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at www.blchurch.com, under the Sermons tab)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School, Adult Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship

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

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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.