

RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

JOHN 20:22



+ The Day Of Pentecost +

May 28, 2023

**Youth Confirmation
(Memorial Day Weekend)**

AS WE GATHER

Pentecost proves for God's people that Jesus remains at work in our midst. As we read the story of Pentecost in Acts 2, we see that the ascension departure of Jesus some ten days beforehand is not the end of His work in this world. Far from it! Jesus continues His saving work through the Spirit, whom He poured out upon the lives of His earliest followers. This same Spirit of Jesus enables us to carry His message into all the world. We are the messengers who spread the Good News of Him who was crucified for us, who rose again, who reigns on high, and who will one day return to this world in His full, heavenly glory. We listen to His message today as the Spirit brings it into our midst and are assured that as we are brought to faith in Christ, we receive the fullness of who we've been called to be.

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.***

*If you are in need of a gluten-free wafer for Communion,
please let Pastor or an Elder know.*

Liturgical Color:

Red is the color of lifeblood and is associated with the 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. **A cry-room for parents and children is just off from the front entryway, and there's a wonderful nursery downstairs at the end of the fellowship hall for you to make use of at any time.** Do you have any questions about anything here? Don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers or elders, or talk to the pastor.

Prelude

Pastoral Welcome

(Prayer request cards will be collected by an usher passing through the aisle.)

Please rise as invited to do so for the processional entrance of today's confirmands.

Processional Hymn "Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid", #500



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, by whose aid The world's foun - da - tions
2 O Source of un - cre - at - ed light, The bear - er of God's
3 Giv - er of grace, de - scend from high; Your sev'n - fold gifts to
4 Im - mor - tal hon - or, end - less fame At - tend the al - might - y



first were laid, Come, vis - it ev - 'ry hum - ble mind; Come,
gra - cious might, Thrice - ho - ly fount, thrice - ho - ly fire, Our
us sup - ply; Help us e - ter - nal truths re - ceive And
Fa - ther's name; The Sav - ior - Son be glo - ri - fied, Who



pour Your joys on hu - man - kind; From sin and sor - row
hearts with heav'n - ly love in - spire; Your sa - cred, heal - ing
prac - tice all that we be - lieve; Give us Your - self that
for all hu - man - kind has died; To You, O Par - a -



set us free; May we Your liv - ing tem - ples be.
mes - sage bring To sanc - ti - fy us as we sing.
we may see The glo - ry of the Trin - i - ty.
plete, we raise Un - end - ing songs of thanks and praise.

Divine Service, Setting One

Confession and Absolution

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

Confession and Absolution.....page 151

- 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 . . .
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn *"In Christ There Is No East or West", #653*



1 In Christ there is no east or west,
2 With God there is no tribe or race;
3 So, broth - ers, sis - ters, praise His name
4 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith,
5 In Christ now meet both east and west;



In Him no south or north, But one great fel - low -
In Him we all are one. He loves us as His
Who died to set us free From sin, di - vi - sion,
What - e'er your race may be; Who serves my Fa - ther
In Him meet south and north. All Chris - tian souls are

ship of love Through-out the whole wide earth.
 chil - dren through Our faith in His dear Son.
 hate, and shame, From spite and en - mi - ty!
 as His child Is sure - ly kin to me.
 one in Him Through-out the whole wide earth.

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Kyrie.....*pages 152-153*

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation 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 unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

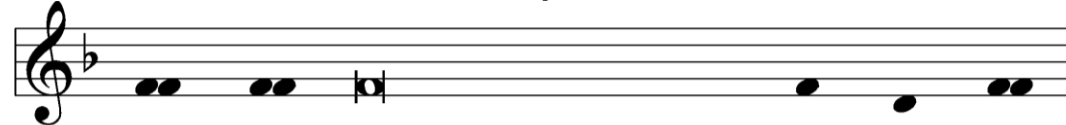
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

This is the Feastpage 155



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



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



- 1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



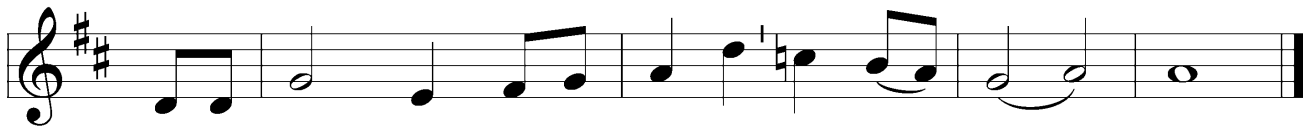
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



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



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutationpage 156



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Collect of the Day (*spoken in unison*)

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; 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.

Presentation on Baptism & the Creed.....Neil Tebbenkamp

Presentation on the 10 Commandments.....Aedan Pederson
and Confession & Absolution

Old Testament.....**Numbers 11:24-30**

Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.

Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, "My lord Moses, stop them." But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual..... *(spoken in unison)*

I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.

With the heart one believes and is justified,
and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. *(Acts 2:17b; Romans 10:10)*

Second Reading..... **Acts 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

"And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams;
even on my male servants and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

And I will show wonders in the heavens above
 and signs on the earth below,
 blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;
 the sun shall be turned to darkness
 and the moon to blood,
 before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.
 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord
 shall be saved.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

Alleluia and Versepage 156

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

Holy GospelJohn 7:37-39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”, #650

1 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er dwell - ing In the ho - liest
 2 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er liv - ing As the Church's
 3 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er work - ing Through the Church's

realms of light; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood - ing
 ver - y life; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing
 min - is - try; Quick - 'ning, strength - 'ning, and ab - solv - ing,

O'er a world of gloom and night; Ho - ly Spir - it,
 Through us in a cease - less strife; Ho - ly Spir - it,
 Set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free; Ho - ly Spir - it,

ev - er rais - ing Those of earth to thrones on high; Liv - ing,
 ev - er form - ing In the Church the mind of Christ: You we
 ev - er bind - ing Age to age and soul to soul In com -

life - im - part - ing Spir - it, You we praise and mag - ni - fy.
 praise with end - less wor - ship For Your gifts and fruits un - priced.
 mu - nion nev - er end - ing, You we wor - ship and ex - tol.

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Presentation on the Lord's Prayer.....Morgan Holmberg

Presentation on Holy Communion.....Anna Florida

Sermon..... "Living the Life We're Given"

Confirmation Hymn..... *"Have No Fear, Little Flock", #735*

1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a -
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to

flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To
 flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In
 bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up -
 God, For He stays close be - side you, In

give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!
 all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

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Rite of Confirmation

Anna Claire Florida

Joshua 1:9

Morgan Averie Holmberg

Psalms 27:1

Aedan Randall Pederson

Proverbs 16:9

Neil Jacob Tebbankamp

Ephesians 2:10

Please rise.

Nicene Creed.....*page 158*

**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.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

Offering

Please rise.

Offertorypages 159-160



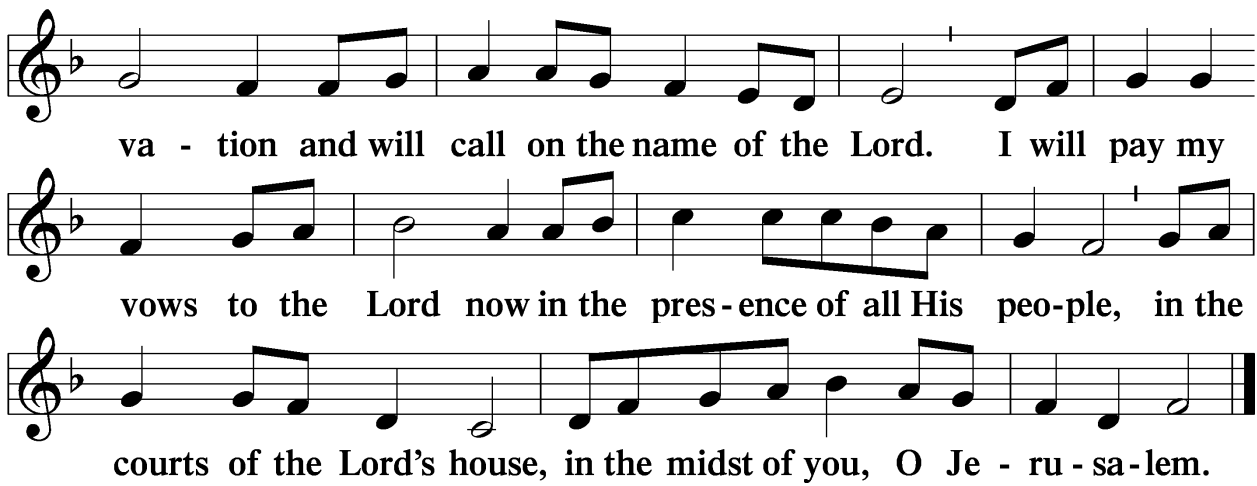
C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



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



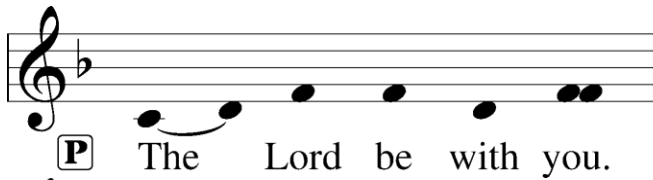
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



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

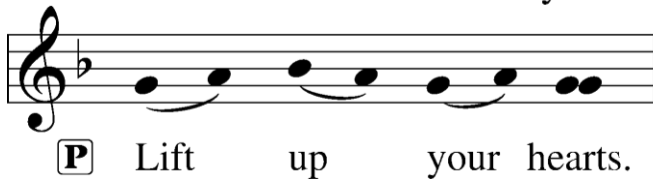
Communion Liturgy*pages 160-163*



P The Lord be with you.



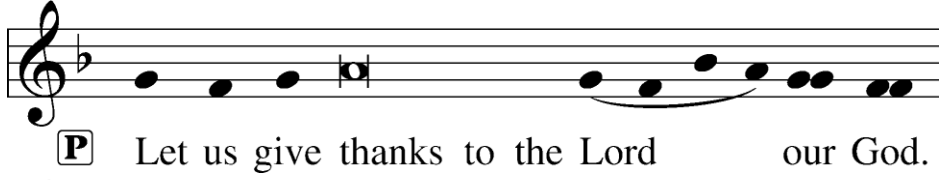
G And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



G We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and beneficial . . . evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus.....*page 161*

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving.....*page 161*

- P** Blessed are You . . . one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini.....*page 163*

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
C A - men.

Agnus Dei.....*page 163*

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.

Communion Distribution

*Sit until motioned to rise and proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing.
The confirmands will be partaking Holy Communion first as a group.*

Instrumental

Communion Hymn "Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy", #774

Feed Thy chil - dren, God most ho - ly; Com - fort sin - ners
poor and low - ly. O Thou Bread of Life from heav-en, Bless the
food Thou here hast giv - en! As these gifts the bod-y nour - ish,
May our souls in grac - es flour - ish Till with saints in
heav'n - ly splen - dor At Thy feast due thanks we ren - der.

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Communion Hymn "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart", #641

Refrain
You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart With gift of fin-est wheat.
Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.



1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, They know and
 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to You Our praise and
 3 Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of
 4 The mys - t'ry of Your pres - ence, Lord, No mor - tal
 5 You give Your - self to us, O Lord; Then self - less



heed his voice; So when You call Your
 grat - i - tude That You should count us
 Christ out - poured? Do not one cup, one
 tongue can tell: Whom all the world can -
 let us be, To serve each oth - er



fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - joice.
 wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.
 loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?
 not con - tain Comes in our hearts to dwell.
 in Your name In truth and char - i - ty.

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Communion Hymn "Go, My Children, with My Blessing", #922



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
 2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
 3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My
 I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
 heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
 Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.
 Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy - ful and free.
 Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

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Please rise.

Post Communion Canticle..... *“Thank the Lord”* page 164



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek 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.

Post Communion Collect..... page 166

☐ Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this beneficial gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction..... page 166

Sending Hymn..... *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”, #643*



1 Sent forth by God’s bless-ing, Our true faith con - fess-ing,
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing,



The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.

The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,

The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing

To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

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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 1:1-2:4a; Second: Acts 2:14a, 22-36; Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Attendance Last Saturday: 50

Total Offering: \$4,713.08

Home Use: \$4,089.08

Attendance Last Sunday: 60

Missions: \$0.00

Benevolences: \$624.00

Serving us today:

Elders..... Jack Easterwood, Willie Crespo

Musicians Lorraine Miller, Rich Vanderburgh

Altar Committee..... Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Erika Freeman, Mary Creswell

Peggy Hoyer, Lynn Lowe, Cindy Smith

Flower Committee Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Penny Humphrey

This Week's Schedule

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Pentecost/Holy Communion/Youth Confirmation

12:00 p.m. Confirmand Cake and Punch Celebration

Monday *Memorial Day-Office Closed*

Tuesday *Pastor's Holiday*

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday 1:00 p.m. Games and Cards Group

7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Friday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

Saturday 2:00 p.m. Darlene Laubenstein's 80th Birthday Party (2-4)

5:30 p.m. The Feast of the Holy Trinity/Holy Communion

Sunday 9:15 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. The Feast of the Holy Trinity/Holy Communion

Prayers

Prayers of Rejoicing for Our Youth Catechumens who are being confirmed this weekend: Anna Florida, Morgan Holmberg, Aedan Pederson, and Neil Tebbenkamp. May our Lord continue to strengthen them in their baptized faith and lead them forth in continued faith and life as followers of Christ!

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: Charlie Becker, Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Mark Brown, Carrie Brunkhorst, Holli Burge, Ray &

Mary Carstensen, Bob & Barbara Compton, Marion Droege, Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Karon Harding, Mary Johnson, Wanda Kreisel, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, & Joe Zeman.

For Military Members—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden and Ty Carter.

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!

Special Days for Members This Week

Birthdays—Darlene Laubenstein-27th; Hope Smith-27th, Sondra Privett-31st, Denniss Spanton-30th, MaryAnn Hein-1st. **Anniversaries**-Cody and Nicole Clemons-28th, Jeremiah and Colleen Murrell-31st.

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

Wednesday Bible Study continues to work its way through the book of the prophet Zechariah. Join us in the conference room from 10:30 to noon and be a part of this time growing in faith together.

Thursday Bible Study-Pastor Ricky is holding a Bible Study on the Old Testament book of Ezekiel on **Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited to attend and learn about the word of the Lord that Ezekiel prophesied long ago and its meaning for us still.

Combined Summer Sunday School & Bible Study/Faith Formation—From June 4th thru September 3rd, we will be having family-style Sunday School each Sunday morning at 9:15 in the church basement/fellowship hall. Whether you are part of a large family, small family, or are single, we hope you can join us for this opportunity to learn about God's love and grace in an intergenerational setting. The first two Sundays will be focusing on *Church Year* Connections—as we begin Trinity season.

Tell the Next Generation—Family Sunday School Kick-off Event—To kick-off the summer Sunday School season, please join us for **Family Discipleship Night on Tuesday, June 6th at 6:00pm.** We hope that families of all types can join us for resources and information on how to make time for family discipleship in busy

households. This is the current emphasis for Missouri District congregations of the LCMS. Dinner will be provided, so come and join us for this event! We need everyone's help to **tell the next generation!**

Vacation Bible School

Coming Soon! *God's Living Water* Vacation Bible School—From Friday, June 23rd thru Sunday, June 25th, Bethlehem Lutheran Church will hold a special Vacation Bible School for children in grades preschool (age 3+) thru sixth grade called *God's Living Water: Covered in Jesus' Grace*.

Be sure to join us from **5:00 to 8:00pm Friday, 10:00am to 4:30pm Saturday, and Sunday from 9:00am thru the 10:30 church service** for fun lessons, music, crafts, snacks, and activities that explore God's abundant grace in Bible stories that stretch from creation to the early Church.

A free meal will be served at 5:00pm Friday evening as well as snacks and lunch on Saturday. Parents and community members are invited to join us during Sunday's 10:30am service to get a glimpse what of we have learned. We hope you can also join us for a potluck picnic celebration in the yard out back after the service. The main dish will be provided; please bring a side-dish to share if you plan to attend.

Opportunities to Serve

Food Center Help—Bethlehem's month to staff the Food Center is June! We are responsible for **Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, starting at 12:30 p.m.** If you signed up to help and cannot make it for some reason please call Sue Cottrill.

Fellowship

The Fellowship Board will be serving cake and punch after Sunday's service in celebration of those confirmed in the faith this Pentecost Sunday. Everyone is welcome to join us after service in the fellowship hall downstairs!

Powell Gardens—**The Mary Martha Guild is inviting anyone from the congregation to come on a trip to Powell Gardens on Saturday June 10th.** We will meet at the church building at **9:00 a.m. and return sometime after 1:00 p.m.** You can bring your lunch or buy a boxed lunch there. Questions: contact Darlene Laubenstein.

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.

This & That

Birthday Party for Dick Luehrman. It's no secret, Richard August Luehrman, (Dick, Dad, Grandpa, Great-grandpa, Uncle Dick) turned 95 this last December!! He will be exactly 95 1/2 on June 10th so we are going to celebrate. You are invited to a party on Saturday, June 10 at 1:00 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Warrensburg). A light lunch and cake will be provided with options for gluten sensitive people and vegetarians. Cards and well wishes are all he desires. Please RSVP to one of his children: Mick at: mickluehrman@gmail.com; Jane at: janehillhouse@gmail.com and Jill at: cjred1@comcast.net

Medical & Dental Care/Housing Assistance—Katy Trail Community Health continues to be in Warrensburg each Tuesday, but for **May 30 & June 6** will not have a health provider ... yet will still be providing health assistance registration and making appointments that day from **10:30am to 1:00 pm**—in the basement fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church (located at 137 E. Culton). A free lunch is served **from 11:30am-1pm**. All are welcome, and financial assistance is available! As of **June 1st**, **the mobile dental clinic will be present in The Food Center parking lot (behind the Presbyterian church) every Thursday from 9am to 3pm. Call 877-733-5824 to schedule an appointment.**

Cross Camp at Emma. On June 6th, from 1-5, the first Cross Camp of the summer will be centered around the 1969 moon landing! We will have space-themed games and activities, and maybe dabble in some rocket science of our own. Learning from the Apollo 11 mission members, we will see how much we can accomplish when coordinating the talents that we have each been given. Most importantly, we will learn about God's amazing creation and how He has given us the curiosity and ability to work together to explore what He has made. Kids from going into 3-8th grades may register by calling the office (660) 463-7869 or visiting holycrossemma.org.

Mission Picnic at Holy Cross—Rev. Micah and Robin Wildauer are missionaries who serve the LCMS in the Central American country of Belize. They will be visiting Holy Cross, Emma on the evening of Thursday, June 8. Come out to the old basketball court behind the school building that evening for a cookout to support their work. Meat will be provided so bring a dish or dessert to share. The meal will begin at 5:30 but you are welcome to come before that. Pastor Micah will speak briefly about their work, but the evening will focus on enjoying being together and enjoy outdoor fun.

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 in shining the light of Christ! If you'd ever like to hear some of the stories from how these funds have been used, just ask Pr. Joel.

2023 Elders

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

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

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

Alan Miller (last name begins P-Z) 660-909-1764, alormiller@aol.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

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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.