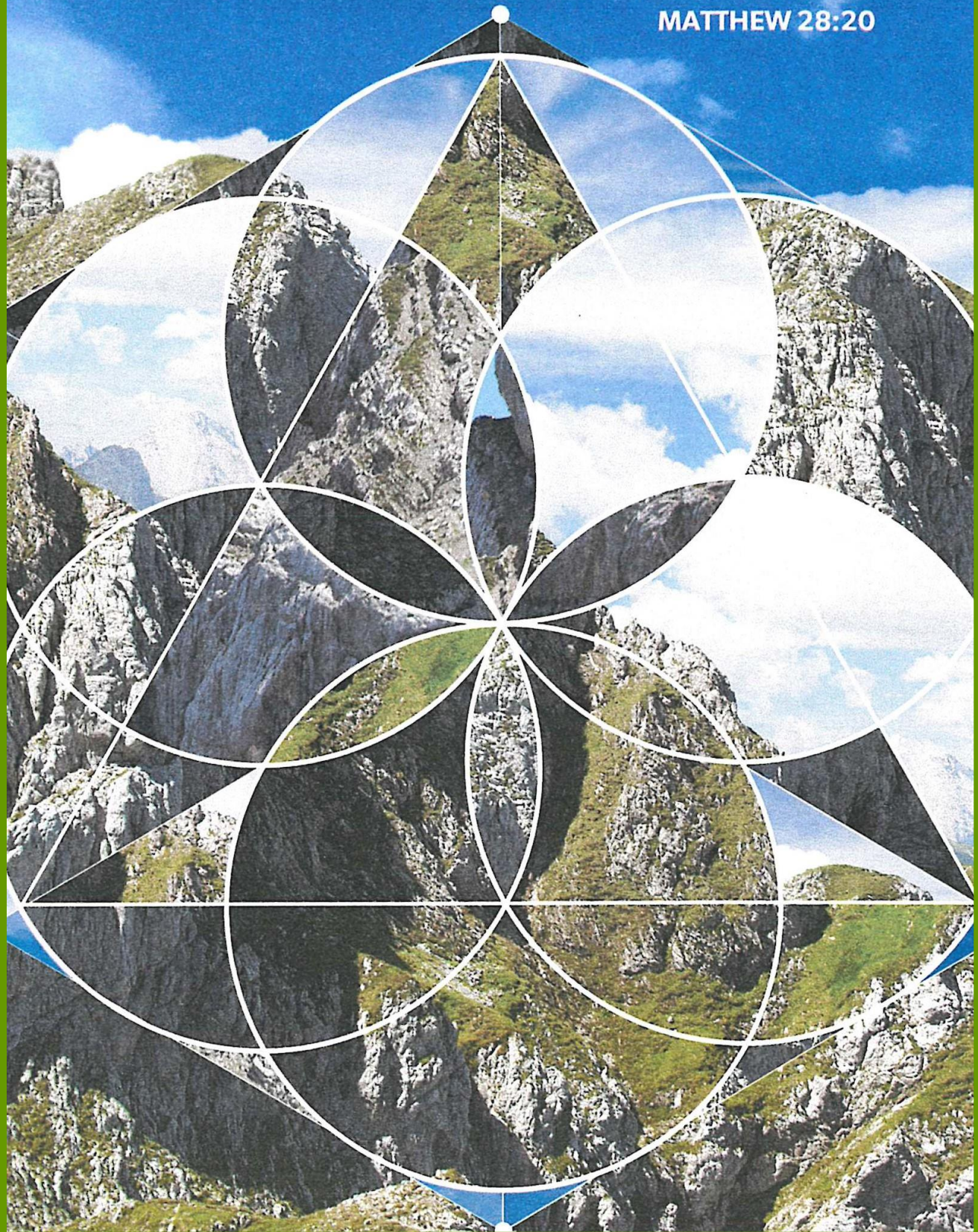


I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE END OF THE AGE

MATTHEW 28:20





+ The Holy Trinity +
June 4, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Preachers, poets, and others have shared many images to help the faithful understand the mystery of the Holy Trinity. One of the most lasting images has been that of the shamrock—a simple and sturdy plant with three leaves joined together on one stem. Saint Patrick, the famed Christian missionary to Ireland in the fifth century, used the shamrock to illustrate the concept of “Three in One” that is central to understanding the Trinity. The shamrock plant is closely associated both with the saint and with the Emerald Isle. Each shamrock is at its loveliest when it is in bloom—just as those who confess the Holy Trinity are at their most beautiful and most gracious when they show forth the presence of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in their lives.

“All good things come in three.” That proverb has existed through many ages, languages, and cultures. On Holy Trinity Sunday, the Christian Church celebrates the doctrine of the Trinity, which expresses the divine truth that God is Three in One and One in Three. How best do we celebrate that amazing doctrine? A hymn written by Scottish cleric Gilbert Rorison in the middle of the nineteenth century offers a guiding prayer:

Three in One and One in Three
Ruler of the earth and sea,
Hear us, while we lift to Thee
Holy chant and psalm.

Our worship becomes celebration as we express our faith in and love for the Holy Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

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.

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

Liturgical Color:

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

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

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

Invocation Hymn“Come, Thou Almighty King”, #905

Please rise for the last verse—as indicated by the triangle.

1 Come, Thou al - might - y King, Help us Thy
2 Come, Thou in - car - nate Word, Gird on Thy
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, Thy sa - cred
△ 4 To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal

name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all -
might - y sword; Our prayer at - tend. Come and Thy
wit - ness bear In this glad hour! Thou, who al -
prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign

glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 peo - ple bless, And give Thy Word suc - cess,
 might - y art, Now rule in ev - 'ry heart,
 maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see,

Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 And let Thy righ - teous - ness On us de - scend.
 And ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
 And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

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Divine Service, Setting Four **Confession and Absolution**

Invocation and Confession & Absolutionpage 203

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** who made heaven and earth.
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P** Since we are gathered . . . God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P** Almighty God, . . . through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn “*Spread the Reign of God the Lord*”, #830



1 Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spo - ken, writ - ten, might - y Word;
 2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,
 3 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, Who, to save our hu - man race
 4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,



Ev - 'ry - where His crea - tures call To His heav'n - ly ban - quet hall.
 How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.
 And to pay re - bel - lion's price, Gave Him - self as sac - ri - fice.
 Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work - ing both to will and do.

5 Enter, mighty Word, the field; 6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
 Ripe the promise of its yield. Rouse to action heart and mind;
 But the reapers, oh, how few Let the gath'ring nations all
 For the work there is to do! See Your light and heed Your call.

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Kyriepage 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis.....page 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation.....page 205

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.

Collect of the Day (*spoken in unison*)

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading.....**Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

These are the generations
of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem..... *“Order My Steps”*

Second Reading **Acts 2:14a, 22-36**

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
my flesh also will dwell in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One see corruption.

You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord,
 Sit at my right hand,
 until I make your enemies your footstool.’

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

Alleluia and Versepage 205



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



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

Holy Gospel**Matthew 28:16-20**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed page 206

**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.**

rid - ing up the heav'n - ly way, His
hand to guide, His shield to ward, The
ev - 'ry place and in all hours, A -
ter - nal Fa - ther, Spir - it, Word. Praise
com - ing at the day of doom,
Word of God to give me speech,
gainst their fierce hos - til - i - ty,
to the Lord of my sal - va - tion;
I bind un - to my - self to - day.
His heav'n - ly host to be my guard.
I bind to me those ho - ly pow'rs.
Sal - va - tion is of Christ the Lord!

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Please be seated

Sermon “Three Bound Together as One in Life”

Installation of CLF—Rebecca Holland-VanWey

Offering & Offertory

Please rise

Prayer of the Church

- P** Lord, in your mercy.
- C** Hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgy*pages 208-210*

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also 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.

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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Agnus Deipage 210



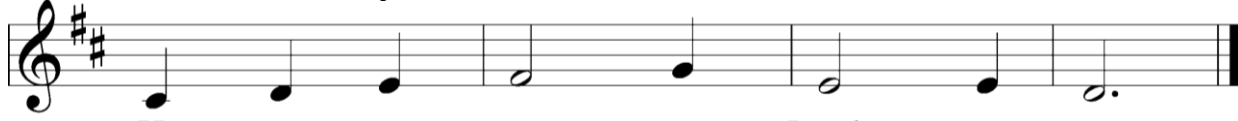
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

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

Instrumental

Communion Hymn "The Church's One Foundation", #644



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more
 And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
 O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
 That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face to face.

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Communion Hymn *"Father, We Thank Thee", #652*



1 Fa - ther, we thank Thee who hast plant - ed Thy ho - ly
 2 Watch o'er Thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, Save it from



name with - in our hearts. Knowl - edge and faith and life im -
 e - vil, guard it still, Per - fect it in Thy love, u -

mor - tal Je - sus, Thy Son, to us im - parts.
nite it, Cleansed and con - formed un - to Thy will.

Thou, Lord, didst make all for Thy plea - sure, Didst
As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides, Was

give us food for all our days, Giv - ing in Christ the
in this bro - ken bread made one, So from all lands Thy

Bread e - ter - nal; Thine is the pow'r, be Thine the praise.
Church be gath - ered In - to Thy king - dom by Thy Son.

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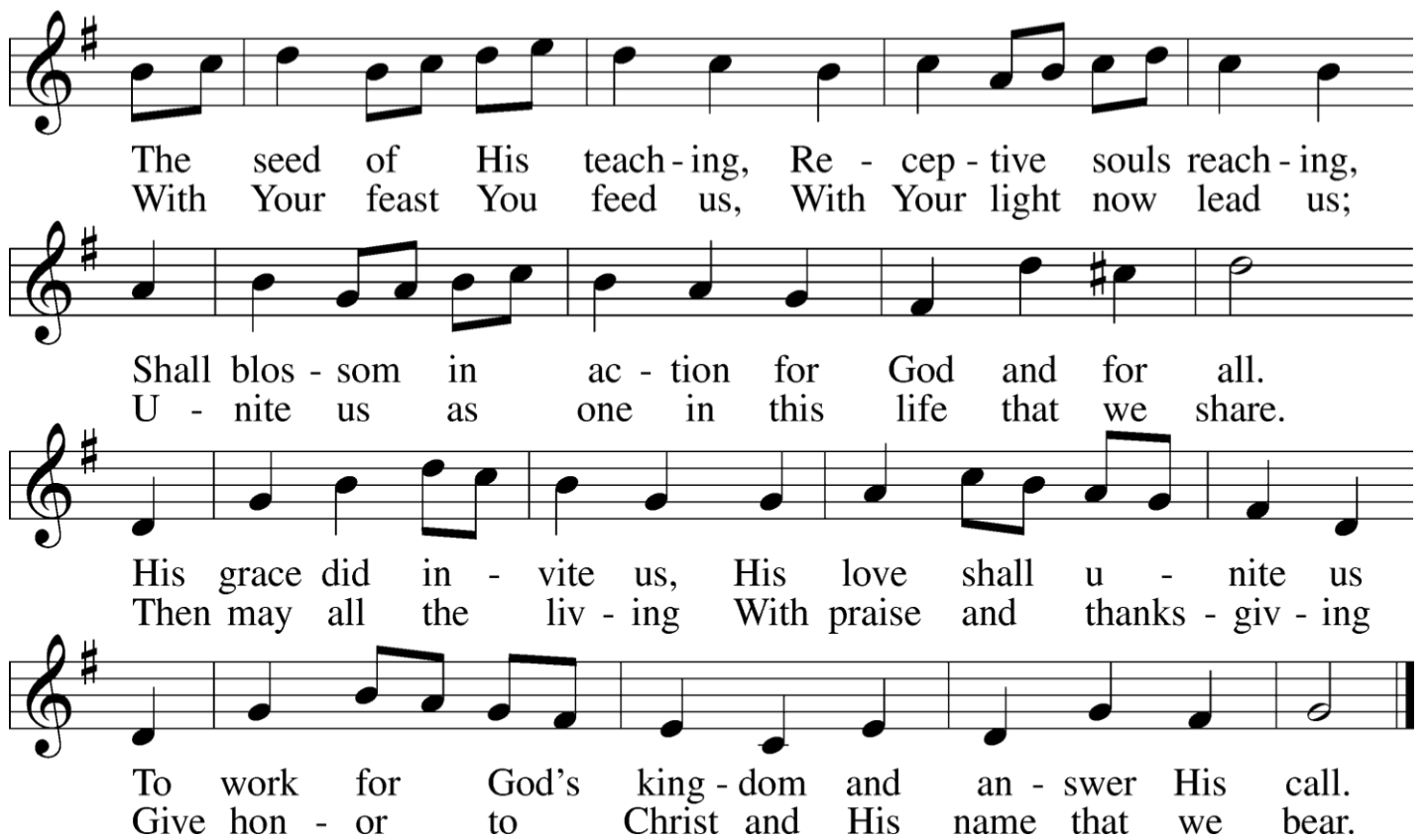
Communion Hymn "Sent Forth by God's Blessing", #643

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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Please rise

Post Communion Canticle..... *“Nunc Dimittis”* page 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect..... page 212

Benedicamus and Benediction..... page 212

Sending Hymn “*Holy, Holy, Holy*”, #507

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore Thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide Thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

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: Hosea 5:15-6:6; EP: Romans 4:13-25; Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13

Attendance Last Saturday: 36

Total Offering: \$4,918.23

Home Use: \$4,245.00

Attendance Last Sunday: 86

Missions: \$632.00

Benevolences: \$41.23

Serving us today:

Elders Willie Crespo, Alan Miller

Musicians Jerrode Marsh

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

Monday

9:30 a.m.

Cindy's Vacation (3rd – 10th)

Exercise Class

2:00 p.m.

Moms and Tots at the Park

Tuesday

11:30 a.m.

Braille in Concordia

6:00 p.m.

Family Discipleship Night (Dinner provided)

Wednesday

9:30 a.m.

Exercise Class

10:30 a.m.

Bible Study

Thursday

1:00 p.m.

Games and Cards Group

7:00 p.m.

Ezekiel Bible Study

Friday

9:30 a.m.

Exercise Class

Saturday

9:00 a.m.

MMG leaves for Powell Gardens

1:00 p.m.

Dick Luehrman's Birthday Party

5:30 p.m.

Worship

Sunday

9:15 a.m.

Christian Education

10:30 a.m.

Worship

Altar Flowers

The special flowers on the altar this weekend are in celebration of Abby Humphrey's birthday on June 6. We pray the Lord's ongoing blessing of her life and the use of her gifts!

Prayers

For Roy & Judy Schache as they are once again back in Papua New Guinea working with the brothers and sisters of the Gutnius Lutheran Church—until August.

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—Erich Kurz-3rd, Joe Zeman-4th, Pat Brasel-5th, Bertina Markworth-5th, Joshua Parten-5th, Olivia Basinger-5th, Abby Humphrey-6th, Mila Sullins-6th, Ava Basinger-8th, **Anniversaries**-Ken and Ellen Pederson-3rd, Rick and Susie Mills-4th.

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.

How Do Our Gardens Grow? Well, with the recent rain and attentive planting, but better your involvement cultivating, weeding, harvesting, and so forth as able! Let Pr. Joel or Shawn Lindley know if you'd like to help in any way over the next several months, and we'll do our best to plug you in. We have a raised bed community vegetable garden, a culinary herb garden, flowerbeds, and blackberry bushes that have been flowering and gearing up for fruiting. Many thanks for the extra work that Shawn and Ron Rode have been doing recently!

Fellowship

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 on Saturday, June 10, starting at 1:00 p.m. Cards and well wishes are all he desires. Please RSVP to one of his children if you have not done so: 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 **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.

New Beginnings Life Walk will take place on **Saturday, June 17 at 9:00 a.m.** at 208 East Gay Street. Flyers are located at each entrance of the church. You can also sign up at NBWCPARTNERS.ORG. Call 660-747-3593 if you have any questions.

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

REBECCA HOLLAND-VANWEY Congregational Life Facilitator



I am excited to get to work as the new CLF at Bethlehem! I have had my eye on this position ever since it was created, but my family life was too busy to jump in. Now that my baby is a baby no more, I'm ready to get to work! I have been a Bethlehem member since 2011, shortly after Jeremy VanWey and I were married. We have 5 children: Brady (19), Gracyn (16), Bryce (8), LauraBeth (6), and Delia (3). I homeschool the 3 youngest.

I have PhD and MS degrees in Human Development and Family Studies from Penn State. My Bachelor's in Child and Family Development is from UCM. I worked as a Research Analyst at the American Institutes for Research in Washington, DC after finishing my degrees, primarily providing technical assistance to state departments of education in special education and early intervention. After leaving DC, I came home to Missouri and did similar work with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as an independent contractor housed at UCM. I also taught classes such as Marriage and Family Development and Child Development for the UCM Child and Family Development program. My career in the education world left me feeling disconnected from the people and relationships that brought me to my field. I thought the broad reach of policy work would be fulfilling, but it turns out that individuals and their relationships with each other are what I understand best and truly desire to impact with my work.

As Bryce came along and I stepped back from full-time work, I opened an arts and crafts business that morphed over the years into a mobile paint-party business. I enjoyed being a part-time entrepreneur as the kids came along, but by the time Delia was a toddler I lost my enthusiasm for it. This also coincided with getting Bryce started with schooling and thinking about faith development as a part of my children's education. And that is the story of how I ended up here, excited to use my training and expertise to contribute to our mission to Grow in Christ, Live in Love, and Share the Faith.

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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Congregation Life Facilitator:

Rebecca Holland-VanWey

Wednesday: 1pm-5pm

Thursday: 1pm-5pm

clf@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.