

*Come and
lay your hand on her,
and she
will live*

MATTHEW 9:18



+ The 2nd Sunday After Pentecost +

June 11, 2023

AS WE GATHER

One of the three sung table graces included in Lutheran Service Book is “Be Present at Our Table, Lord” (LSB 775). The first part of the text, from around 1740, was written to be used before a meal began. It asks the Lord’s presence be at the dinner table. The text also has a parallel verse to be spoken or sung at the close of a meal:

We bless Thee, Lord, for this our food,
But more for Jesu’s flesh and blood;
The manna to our spirits giv’n,
The living bread sent down from heav’n;
Praise shall our grateful lips employ,
While life and plenty we enjoy;
'Till worthy, we adore Thy name,
While banqueting with Christ, the lamb.

The English author John Cennick thoughtfully ties together our daily eating at our home tables with our being together at the Lord’s Table at worship. Wherever our tables may be, the Lord is there with His blessing! and love.

“Thou spreadst a table in my sight” (LSB 709:5). With poetic words, English hymn writer Henry W. Baker puts into verse one of the most beloved images of Psalm 23. The table that the Lord sets for His people is one of generosity and grace. The first time a table is mentioned in the Bible is in conjunction with the great reunion that the ruler Joseph in Egypt has with his estranged brothers who had come from their home in Canaan to ask for help in a time of famine. The Book of Genesis records that Joseph not only welcomed his brothers and saw to it that they were fed but also directed that “portions were taken to them from Joseph’s table, . . . And they drank and were merry with him” (Genesis 43:34). The Lord’s Table is a place for rejoicing—especially since, as we gather there, we are given a foretaste of the feast to come in our Lord’s eternal kingdom.

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:

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. **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.)

Gathering Hymn..... "Today Your Mercy Calls Us", #915



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

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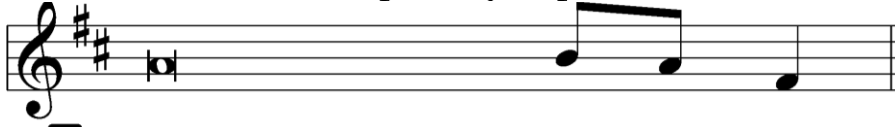
Please rise

Matins

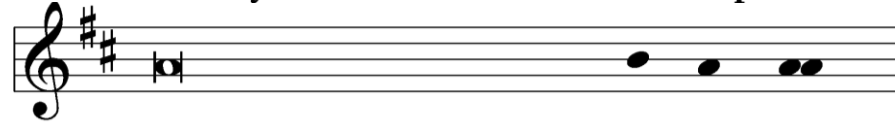
Opening Verses..... page 219



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

Psalmody

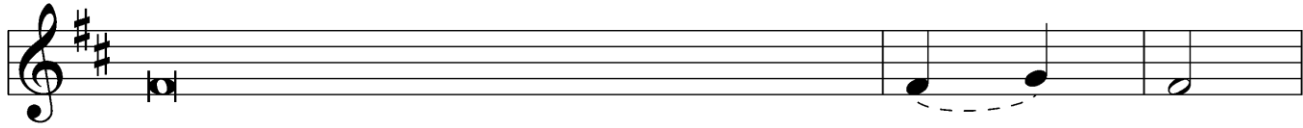
Antiphon page 220



L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.

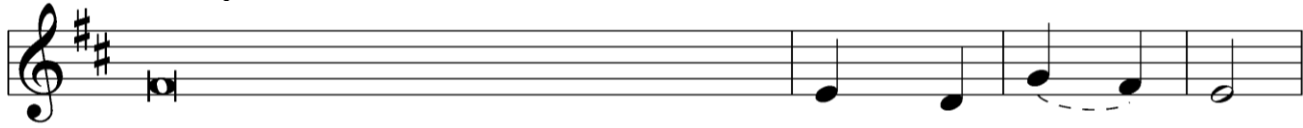


C O come, let us wor - ship Him.



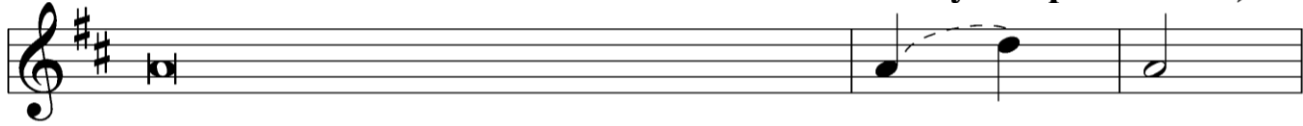
- C** 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a great God
- 3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

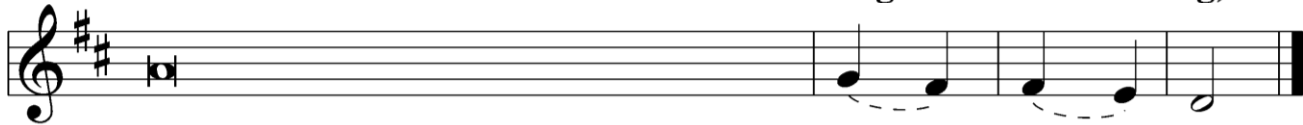


- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and His hand formed the dry land.

5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
- 4 For He is our God,
- 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
- 2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
- 5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Antiphon page 221



L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.



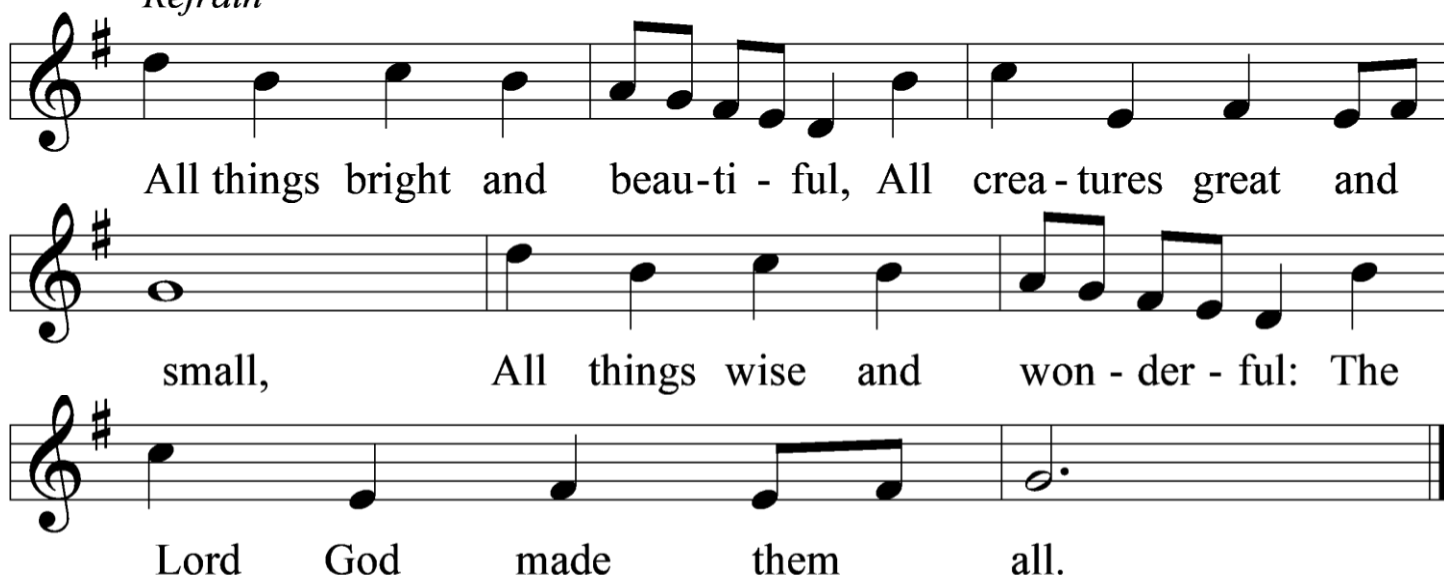
C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Psalm 119:65-72(front of hymnal, spoken responsively)

You have dealt well with your servant,
O LORD, according to your word.
Teach me good judgment and knowledge,
for I believe in your commandments.
Before I was afflicted I went astray,
but now I keep your word.
You are good and do good;
teach me your statutes.
The insolent smear me with lies,
but with my whole heart I keep your precepts;
their heart is unfeeling like fat,
but I delight in your law.
It is good for me that I was afflicted,
that I might learn your statutes.
The law of your mouth is better to me
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.
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 *“All Things Bright and Beautiful”*

Refrain



All things bright and beau-ti - ful, All crea - tures great and
small, All things wise and won - der - ful: The
Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, Each
 2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tains, The
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, The
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, And

lit - tle bird that sings, God made their glow - ing
 riv - er run - ning by, The sun - set, and the
 pleas - ant sum - mer sun, The ripe fruits in the
 lips that we might tell How great is God Al -

Refrain

col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
 morn - ing That bright - ens up the sky.
 gar - den: God made them, ev - 'ry one.
 might - y, Who has made all things well.

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Please be seated

Readings

Old Testament Reading.....Hosea 5:15—6:6

I will return again to my place,
 until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face,
 and in their distress earnestly seek me.

Israel and Judah Are Unrepentant

“Come, let us return to the Lord;
 for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
 he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

After two days he will revive us;
 on the third day he will raise us up,
 that we may live before him.

Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord;
 his going out is sure as the dawn;
 he will come to us as the showers,

as the spring rains that water the earth.”

What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?

What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Your love is like a morning cloud,

like the dew that goes early away.

Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;

I have slain them by the words of my mouth,

and my judgment goes forth as the light.

For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,

the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading **Romans 4:13–25**

The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Please rise

Holy GospelMatthew 9:9-13

As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory.....page 221



L 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep— it.
3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

Please be seated

Sermon....."Raised Up in Righteousness"

Canticle

Hymn of Dedication..... "Seek Where You May to Find a Way", #557



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



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



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



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



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

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Offering & Offertory

Please rise

Apostles Creed.....*back cover of hymnal*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

Announcement of Prayers

Prayer

Kyrie.....page 227



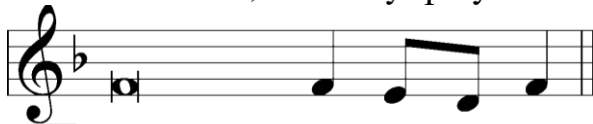
C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

Collects.....page 227-228



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day *(in unison)*

Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Additional Collects ending Amen.

Benedicamus.....page 228

Benediction.....page 228

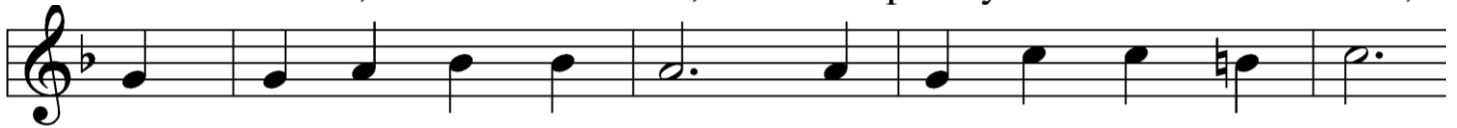
Sending Hymn..... "How Can I Thank You, Lord", #703



1 How can I thank You, Lord, For all Your lov - ing - kind - ness,
 2 It is Your work a - lone That I am now con - vert - ed;
 3 Lord, You have raised me up To joy and ex - ul - ta - tion
 4 Grant that Your Spir - it's help To me be al - ways giv - en
 5 O Fa - ther, God of love, Now hear my sup - pli - ca - tion;



That You have pa - tient - ly Borne with me in my blind - ness!
 O'er Sa - tan's work in me You have Your pow'r as - sert - ed.
 And clear - ly shown the way That leads me to sal - va - tion.
 Lest I should fall a - gain And lose the way to heav - en.
 O Sav - ior, Son of God, Ac - cept my ad - o - ra - tion;



When dead in man - y sins And tres - pass - es I lay,
 Your mer - cy and Your grace That rise a - fresh each morn
 My sins are washed a - way; For this I thank You, Lord.
 Grant that He give me strength In my in - fir - mi - ty;
 O Ho - ly Spir - it, be My ev - er faith - ful guide



I kin - dled, ho - ly God, Your an - ger ev - 'ry day.
 Have turned my ston - y heart In - to a heart new - born.
 Now with my heart and soul All e - vil I ab - hor.
 May He re - new my heart To serve You will - ing - ly.
 That I may serve You here And there with You a - bide.

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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: Exodus 19:2–8; Epistle: Romans 5:6–15; Gospel: Matthew 9:35—10:20

Serving us today:

Elders..... Willie Crespo, Alan Miller
MusiciansJerrode Marsh
Altar Committee.....Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Erika Freeman, Mary Creswell
Peggy Hoyer, Lynn Lowe, Cindy Smith
Flower CommitteeLana Vanderburgh (Chair), Penny Humphrey

This Week's Schedule

Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	2:00 p.m.	Moms and Tots at the Park
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Thursday	11:00 a.m.	The Lunch Bunch
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Ezekiel Bible Study
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	4-H Contest Event
	11:00 a.m.	Trustees' Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Christian Education
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion

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: 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—Duane Limback-10th, Lynn Johansen-11th, Ellen Pederson 11th, Barb Chasar-13th, **Anniversaries**-Dennis and Dorothy Anderson-10th, Justin and Lynn Lowe-13th, Jeff and Judy Florida-14th.

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.

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

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

Medical & Dental Care/Housing Assistance—Katy Trail Community Health continues to be in Warrensburg each Tuesday from **9am to 3pm**—in the basement fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church (located beyond The Food Center's back 137 E. Culton lot, where the mobile clinic unit is). A free lunch is served **from 11:30am-1pm**, plus case managers from Journey Home are present to help with housing and employment needs. All are welcome, and financial assistance for medical & dental treatment is available! **As of June 1st, the mobile dental clinic (a partnership of Compass & Katy Trail) is present every Thursday from 9am to 3pm as well, and lunch is served as well. Call 877-733-5824 to schedule an appointment.**

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.

Looking Ahead/Pastor's Sabbatical

In recognition of his 15 years at Bethlehem and 25 years of ordained ministry last year, Bethlehem graciously gave Pr. Joel a sabbatical month. He'll be taking that month off this July and will be traveling and working on writing projects. If you need to connect with him before he leaves, please do so sooner rather than later. Pr. Ricky Bertels and Pr. Jeffery Kuddes will be covering the weekend services during his absences.

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

GOD'S LIVING WATER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Friday-June 23 (5-8 p.m.)

(Free meal at 5 p.m.)

Saturday-June 24 (10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)

(Lunch and snacks)

Sunday-June 25 (9-11:30 a.m.)

(Potluck celebration after service)

(Main dish provided, bring a side dish)



**Lessons, music, crafts, snacks and activities that
explore God's abundant grace in Bible stories**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church-607 N. Maguire
660-747-6742 or blchurch.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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Office Manager:

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Monday–Friday: 8am–5pm

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officemanager@blchurch.com

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.

