

Come  
to me,  
all you  
that are  
weary

MATTHEW 11:28





+ The 6th Sunday After Pentecost +  
**July 9, 2023**

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**AS WE GATHER**

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.” When we hear these words of the prophet Zechariah in the season of Advent, we are evermore ready to rejoice, especially as Christmas approaches. But to hear these words now in the middle of summer may strike us as a little more challenging. The pressures and doldrums of daily life can wear away momentary joys. In fact, the call to rejoice can seem pointless echoing against the hard walls of a prison of our own making. No matter how many Christmases we have celebrated, like the apostle Paul, we may continue to feel trapped by our unrelenting sinfulness. True joy comes only as we receive the comforting words of our Lord, “Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). Herein is the goal of Christmas. Here today by means of the Word of God and the receiving of His body and blood, God gives you faith to believe and to receive eternal salvation. By God’s Word, even today “it’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas.” For here is where true joy is found.

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**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..... *"Father Most Holy", #504*



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our  
 2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en, Good - ness un -  
 3 Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea - tures praise Thee; All for Thy  
 △ 4 Lord God Al - might - y, un - to Thee be glo - ry, One in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,  
 bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, Light of the an - gels,  
 wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; Now, as we al - so  
 per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



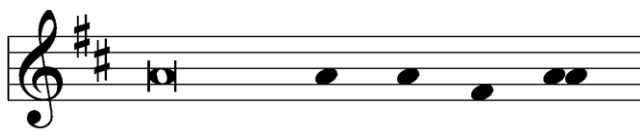
ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;  
 joy of those for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing,  
 wor - ship Thee de - vout - ly, Hear Thou our voic - es.  
 praise Thee and a - dore Thee, Now and for - ev - er.

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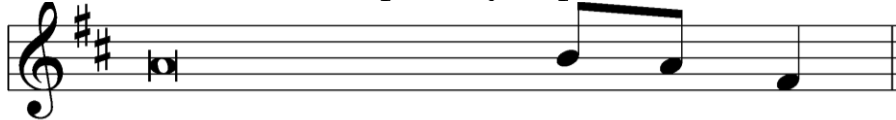
*Please rise.*

## Matins

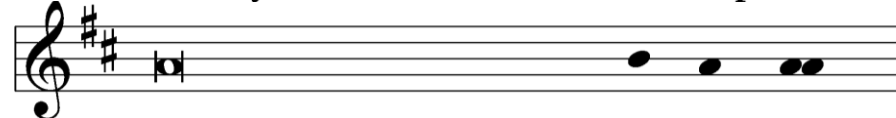
Opening Verses..... *page 219*



**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*

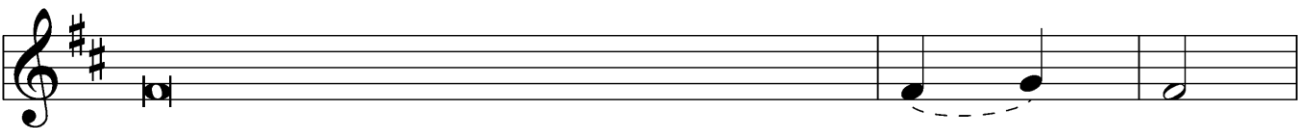


**L** Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.



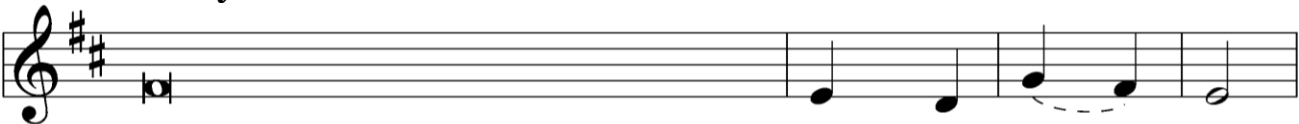
**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.

**Venite**..... *pages 220-221*



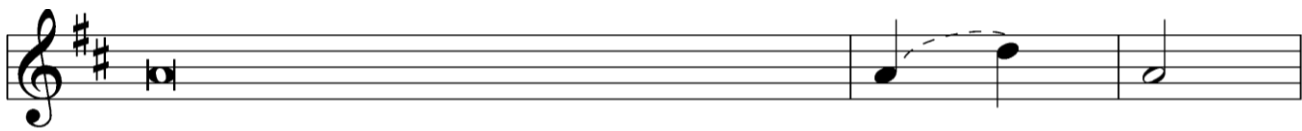
**C** 1 O come, let us sing . . . . . to the Lord,  
2 For the Lord is a . . . . . great God  
3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son

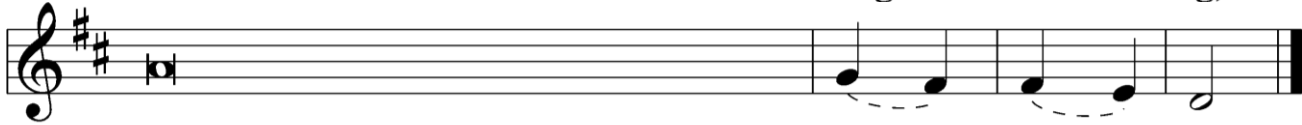


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.  
2 and a great . . . . . king a - bove all gods.  
3 and His hand . . . . . formed the dry land.

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 145:1-14**..... (front of hymnal, spoken in unison)

I will extol you, my God and King,  
 and bless your name forever and ever.  
 Every day I will bless you  
 and praise your name forever and ever.  
 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
 and his greatness is unsearchable.  
 One generation shall commend your works to another,  
 and shall declare your mighty acts.  
 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,  
 and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.  
 They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,  
 and I will declare your greatness.  
 They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness  
 and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.  
 The LORD is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
 The LORD is good to all,  
 and his mercy is over all that he has made.  
 All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,  
 and all your saints shall bless you!  
 They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom  
 and tell of your power,  
 to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds,  
 and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.  
 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
 and your dominion endures throughout all generations.  
 The LORD is faithful in all his words  
 and kind in all his works.  
 The LORD upholds all who are falling  
 and raises up all who are bowed down.  
 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** ..... *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say", #699*



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to Me and rest;  
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light.



Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up - on My breast."  
 The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down and drink and live."  
 Look un - to Me; thy morn shall rise And all thy day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, So wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream;  
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found In Him my star, my sun;



I found in Him a rest-ing place, And He has made me glad.  
My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in Him.  
And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav-'ling days are done.

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*Please be seated.*

## Readings

### Old Testament Reading .....Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation is he,

humble and mounted on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall speak peace to the nations;

his rule shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

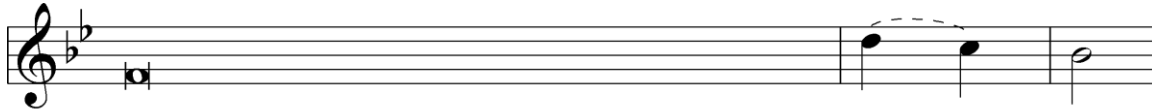
**C** Thanks be to God.

### Epistle Reading ..... Romans 7:14-25a

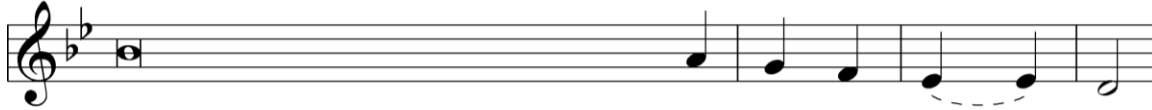
We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil



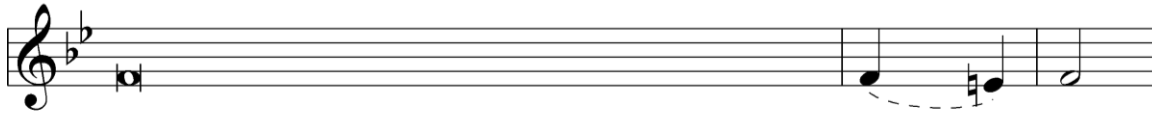




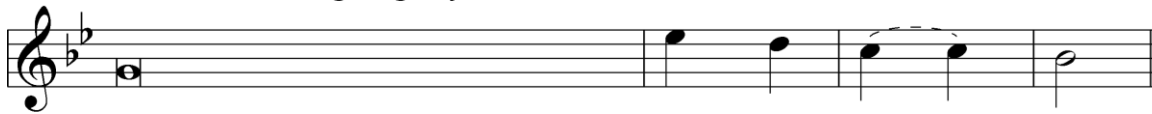
1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.  
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of . . . . . Sab - a - oth;  
3 The noble army of martyrs . . . . . praise — You.



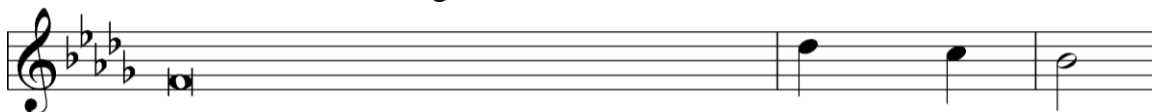
1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.  
2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.  
3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



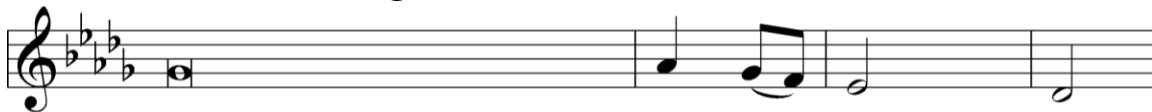
1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.  
2 The glorious company of the apostles . . . . . praise — You.  
3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;  
4 You are the king of glory, . . . . . O — Christ;



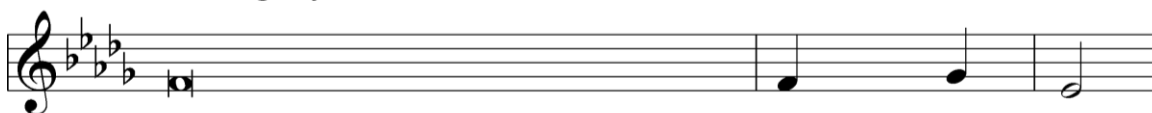
1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:  
2 The goodly fellowship of the . . . . . proph-ets praise — You.  
3 also the Holy . . . . . Ghost, the Com-fort - er.  
4 You are the everlasting Son . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



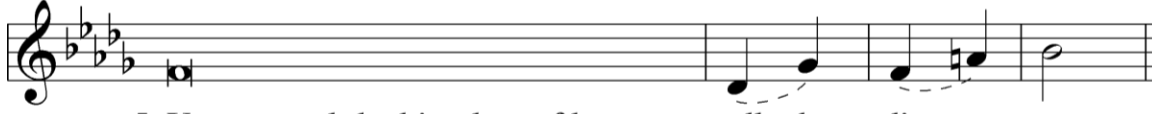
5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,  
6 You sit at the right . . . . . hand of God



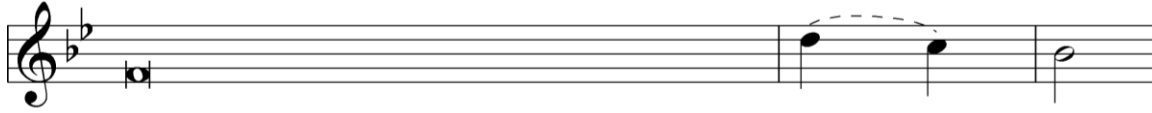
5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.  
6 in the glory . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



5 When You had overcome the . . . . . sharpness of death,  
6 We believe that . . . . . You will come



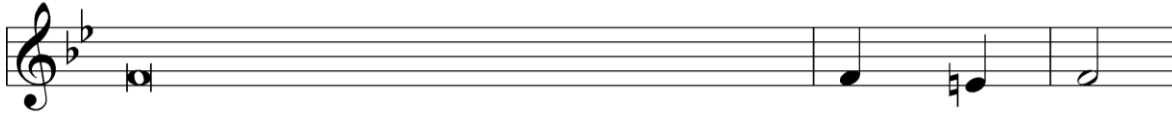
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
6 to . . . . . be — our — judge.



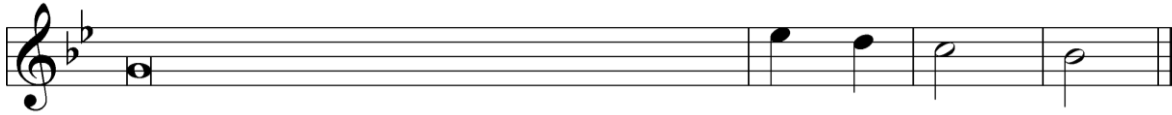
7 We therefore pray You to help Your . . . . . ser - vants,  
8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.  
9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out — sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.  
 8 Govern them and lift . . . . them up for - ev - er.  
 9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.



7 Make them to be numbered . . . . . with Your saints  
 8 Day by day we . . . . . magni - fy You.  
 9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory . . . . . ev - er - last - ing.  
 8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.  
 9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

## 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)*

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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**..... *"Come unto Me Ye Weary", #684*



- 1 "Come un - to Me, ye wea - ry, And I will give you rest."
- 2 "Come un - to Me, ye wan - d'ers, And I will give you light."
- 3 "Come un - to Me, ye faint - ing, And I will give you life."
- 4 "And who - so - ev - er com - eth, I will not cast him out."



O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, Which comes to hearts op-pressed!  
O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, Which comes to cheer the night!  
O cheer - ing voice of Je - sus, Which comes to aid our strife!  
O pa - tient love of Je - sus, Which drives a - way our doubt,



It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, Of par - don, grace, and peace,  
 Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, And we had lost our way;  
 The foe is stern and ea - ger, The fight is fierce and long;  
 Which, though we be un - wor - thy Of love so great and free,



Of joy that hath no end - ing, Of love that can - not cease.  
 But Thou hast brought us glad - ness And songs at break of day.  
 But Thou hast made us might - y And strong - er than the strong.  
 In - vites us ver - y sin - ners To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

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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: Isaiah 55:10–13; Epistle: Romans 8:12–17; Gospel: Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23**

**Attendance Last Saturday: 30**  
**Total Offering: \$5,713.00**  
**Home Use: \$5,667.00**

**Attendance Last Sunday: 62**  
**Missions: \$0.00**  
**Benevolences: \$45.00**

**Serving us today:**

- Elders.....Willie Crespo
- Musicians .....Jerode Marsh
- Altar Committee..... Peggy Hoyer (Chair), Mary Creswell,  
 Stephanie Schumaker, Lauryn Schumaker
- Flower Committee .....Penny Humphrey (Chair), Diana Holland

**This Week’s Schedule**

- Sunday 2:30 p.m. Country Club Service
- 4:00 p.m. Book Study (*Potluck at VanWey’s house*)
- 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
	7:00 p.m.	LCMS Convention 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	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

### Absence/Presence

**While Pr. Joel is on sabbatical this month,** Pr. Ricky Bertels and Pr. Jeffrey Kuddes will be leading worship and preaching for the weekend services. If a need arises, please contact your elder or the head elder, Willie Crespo. The Lord blesses us and keeps us, upholding us by His grace!

### Prayers

**For Pastor-Elect Jonathan & Deaconess Bridgette Sharp** as he will be ordained and installed as Associate Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Springfield, Illinois, on Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m. May their lives in service to our Lord and His people flourish there!

**For Roy & Judy Schache** as they are 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, Becca Estanek, Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Karon Harding, Abby Humphrey, Mary Johnson, Wanda Kreisel, Jeannie Peterson, Judy Pierce, Jennifer Pint, Brayden Rohner, 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**—Aedan Pederson-8<sup>th</sup>, Charles Fair-14<sup>th</sup>, **Anniversaries**—Jeremy VanWey and Rebecca Holland-10<sup>th</sup>.

### Worship Services

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

### Sunday School and Christian Education

Let's send our **Head Elder, Willie Crespo**, off to the LCMS convention in Milwaukee, July 29-August 3 with our collective support by engaging together in a 5-part bible study. The Participant Guide can be accessed digitally by visiting <https://www.lcms.org/convention/national/worship/bible-study>, or printed copies are available on the table by the mailboxes. Prompts for each part of the study will be published on our Facebook page on Mondays and Fridays to keep us moving through it. Face-to-face meetings will take place on Wednesdays, July 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:00pm in the Conference Room.

**Wednesday Bible Study**—This weekly study will be taking a hiatus for July as Pr. Joel is on sabbatical! Plan on joining us when we resume in August and start working our way through a different book of the Bible.

**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 & 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 4<sup>th</sup> thru September 3<sup>rd</sup>**, 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. *We're currently gearing up for and exploring the VBS theme—God's Living Water!*

**Book Study: *The Spiritually Vibrant Home***—Jeremy VanWey and Rebecca Holland will be hosting a book study on **the second and fourth Sundays of each month from 4-7 p.m.** at their home in Warrensburg **starting in July**. Resources from Lutheran Hour Ministries' "Households of Faith" kit will be used for the study. *Each evening will include a potluck meal.* Children are welcome and the chaos that shall ensue is

just an average day around our house. Please RSVP to Rebecca (660-441-1271) if you are interested in attending any or all meetings so that she can order an appropriate number of books.

### Opportunities to Serve

**How Do Our Gardens Grow?** Well, but better with your help! **Come help with our gardens and greenspaces on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of July from 9:00 a.m. until noon or so** and enjoy the stewardship and harvest of the Lord's bounty here. Keep an eye for those soon-to-be ripe plums and blackberries out back that will be perfect for picking, eating, and sharing!

### 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.

**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.

**Lunch Bunch**—The Lunch Bunch will be taking a break during July and August and will get back together on the third Thursday in September.

### 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! **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.**

**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 of 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](mailto:crespo6fam@gmail.com)

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

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

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

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

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

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

#### **Office Manager**

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

660-747-6742

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

#### **Congregation Life Facilitator**

Rebecca Holland-VanWey

Wednesday: 1pm-5pm

Thursday: 1pm-5pm

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

#### **Bookkeeper**

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am-11am

Thursday: 9am-11am

[thillsman@blchurch.com](mailto:thillsman@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.