



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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“Connecting People to Jesus”

VISITORS: Welcome! Please sign our Guest Book and introduce yourself to Pastor Mark Griesse.

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION 1st, 3rd & 5th SUNDAYS: Please see our Communion Statement on preceding page.

A NURSERY AND RESTROOM are located at the front of the sanctuary on the left-hand side.

ELEVATOR: We have an elevator for use as needed to get to the social hall. Please see an usher if you wish to use it.

The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 26, 2021

As We Gather

God’s grace is always abundant; it goes beyond the limits we might set. When seventy elders are supposed to report to Moses to help him, two remain in the camp. But the Spirit rests on them! In the Gospel, the disciples following Jesus on the way to Jerusalem complain. A non-disciple is able to cast out demons in His name! And Jesus tells them not to stop him. His grace even includes us despite our inability to do His will. Confident of our Lord’s return, the Epistle urges us to serve one another, healing, praying, cheering up, confessing, and forgiving. Jesus says we are as valuable as salt for one another, preserving our relationship to Him. “Have salt in yourselves,” He says, “and be at peace with one another.”



+PREPARATION+

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 104:33–34

P I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

C I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

P May my meditation be pleasing to Him,

C for I rejoice in the LORD.

LSB 816

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

st. 1

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Tune and text: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

James 5:7, 9, 12, 14, 16; Mark 9:50; Psalm 104:31, 35b

P We enjoy singing praises to God, but we truly need Him to look down on us in mercy. So often we fail to follow the directives for Christian living,

which we will read about in today’s Epistle. So James urges, “Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.” Let us ask God for grace and mercy.

Silence for reflection.

P James writes, “Be patient . . . until the coming of the Lord. . . . Do not grumble against one another, brothers. . . . Let your ‘yes’ be yes and your ‘no’ be no. . . . Is anyone among you sick? . . . Pray over him.”

C We confess our impatience, our lack of love for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and our words that do not always reflect the love You have for us. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. Heavenly Father, our only hope is in Your grace and mercy. Forgive us for Jesus’ sake.

P God has cured our sickness of sin by sending His Son to die in our place. He values us and calms our fears, saying, “Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

C may the LORD rejoice in His works.

Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

+WORD+

LSB 816

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

st. 2

2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are: "2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at - tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
 set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Tune and text: Public domain

Kyrie

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace from God and peace among our brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace among all who seek to serve Christ and support His Church, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who gather here to be strengthened in faith and encouraged in service, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hymn Sing (The Congregation Selects Hymns to Sing)

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Everlasting Father, source of every blessing, mercifully direct and govern us by Your Holy Spirit

C that we may complete the works You have prepared for us to do;

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29

⁴Now the rabble that was among [the children of Israel] had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, “Oh that we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. ⁶But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at. . . .”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,’ to the land that you swore to give their fathers? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. ¹⁵If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness.”

¹⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. . . .”

²⁴So 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. ²⁵Then 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.

²⁶Now 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. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, “My lord Moses, stop them.” ²⁹But 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!”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

R He will command His angels concerning you

C **to guard you in all your ways.**

R Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C **and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

Epistle

James 5:1–20

¹Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. ²Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. ³Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. ⁴Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. ⁵You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

¹²But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

¹³Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

¹⁹My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse

Mark 9:50b

P Alleluia. Have salt in yourselves,

C **and be at peace with one another. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Mark 9:38–50

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁸John said to [Jesus], “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰For the one who is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

⁴²“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. ⁴³And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better

for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸‘where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’ ⁴⁹For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn Sing (The Congregation Selects Hymns to Sing)

Sermon "The Healing Christ" Mark 1:40-41, James 5:13-20

Apostles' Creed

C **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.

Offering to the Lord's Work is Gathered

Hymn Sing (The Congregation Selects Hymns to Sing)

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Christian Church and for all people in their various needs.

For the Church here and around the world, witnessing to the good news in Christ, that we see the worth within one another, the value our heavenly Father places on us, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy, and grant that nothing separate us from You and Your love for us in Christ.**

P For those who do not know Christ but support the work of the Church to meet people's physical, social, and spiritual needs, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy, and bless them according to Your abundant grace.

P For people who serve in positions of governmental authority among the nations, for those who raise crops and tend herds, and for all who connect resources with the needs of their fellow citizens, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy, and give them joy in serving.

P For all who struggle to put bread on the table and a roof over their families, those who face injustice and discrimination, and all who are denied human rights, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy, and give us hearts to help those in need.

P For all near and dear to us who call out to God in their distress, [*especially*], let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy, and bring about healing, comfort, and relief as fits Your gracious plans for them.

P For ourselves, that we recognize the gifts God has placed among us by which we may care for one another and our community, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy, and give us guidance and strength to serve in Your name.

P Grant us, heavenly Father, that what we ask for in faith we may obtain through Your unfailing mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

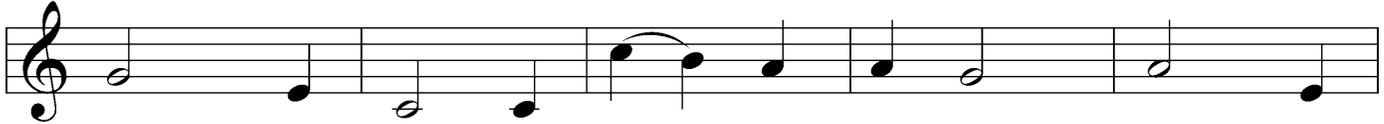
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

C Amen.

LSB 646

“Church of God, Elect and Glorious”



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly
2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to
3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers
4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own
His most mar - v'ulous light; Brought His truth to
to God's heart of love; But He brought you
peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of
life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to
home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -
swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,
sight. Let your light so shine a - round you
bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,
sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that
That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh
Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may
Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
 hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
 know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.
 joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

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Dismissal

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

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News and Notes for September 26, 2021

Events this week

Monday	9/27	LWML Board Meeting	1:00pm
Wednesday	9/29	Men’s Bible Study @ Gateway Hotel	7:00am
		Pastor’s Bible Study	11:00am
Thursday	9/30	Dual Parish meeting @ Bethlehem	11:00am
Sunday	10/3	Sunday Worship Joint Worship @ Peace	11:00am

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For the LWML meeting on October 6, please bring your Bethesda sock donations!

Intentional Interim Pastor – The call committee at their last meeting recommended that we apply for an intentional interim pastor to serve Peace and Bethlehem. David Reinke is the NW District Intentional Interim Ministry coordinator. He has agreed to meet with our congregations to explain the program. He will be at our **joint worship service at 10 am on October 3 at Peace.** Please note the time change for the service. A brochure is being distributed that explains it briefly. Please familiarize yourself with this and

bring any questions you might have to that meeting that will be immediately following the service.

The Human Care Committee is asking for donations for Love INC's pantry. In September we are asking for Peanut Butter and Cereal. It can be oatmeal or boxed cereal. You can put your donations in the shopping cart in the Narthex. Thank you!

<p><u>Today's Reader:</u> Bonnie Berndt</p>
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In Our Prayers we pray especially for:

- **Mel who is fighting pancreatic cancer.**
- **Laurie Alderman who is grieving the loss of her son, Chad.**
- **Lora Rutar who is starting her chemo therapy.**
- **A quick recovery and successful rehab for Dave & Doris Roth's niece, Holly.**
- **Ethel McKelheer who has surgery in Seattle on 9/29.**
- **Jane Smith's sister, Ina's son, Scott, who has cancer surgery on 10/13**

- **For our loved ones with cancer:** Karianna, Rudy, Becky, Scott, Debbie, Chris, Leah and Bob Van Dyke, Jim and Thresa Spurlock, Jan Pendleton, Lora, Shirley, Eugene, Mel

Birthdays 30 May Johnsen