

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST 7, 2022

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word.

- **Restrooms** are located down the hallway directly opposite the entrance to the sanctuary and to the left.
- **There is a live video feed** of the service in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Prayer requests** – If you would like to request a special prayer to be said during the prayer of the church, please fill out one of the blue prayer cards found in the hymnal racks and place it in the offering plate.
- **The Sacrament of Holy Communion** – Please see the note on page 13 for instructions. Use page 156 in the front of the hymnal for personal preparation for the Sacrament.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Staff

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Little Stars of Bethlehem Early Learning Center

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Staff

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Holly Haley, Teacher

WORSHIP NOTES

THE SEASON OF PENTECOST

After reliving the great events of the life of Christ, the worshipping Church spends half a year focusing on the teachings of Christ. Following the red of Pentecost Sunday and the white of Trinity Sunday, the Church wears green during the season of Pentecost as the Spirit uses those teachings of Jesus to grow the faith of believers. The appointed lessons teach us the characteristics of the Holy Ministry, the Christian, the Church, our God, and the Christian life.



OUR THEME FOR TODAY

The believer hears the Word of God and listens with a trusting heart. So many things in this world can distract us from that simple privilege and duty of believers! Living according to God's will means giving the Word of God central place in our lives as the one thing needful.

THANKS TO GOD FOR THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Music	Lydia Wilde
Hospitality	Jacqui Wildfong
Ushers	Glen Krueger and Doug Vasquez
Elders	Glen Krueger and Jeff Krueger
Altar	Aimee Krueger and Lynnette Hupman
Cleaning	Lynnette Hupman and G. Krueger Family
Counters	Bernie Ziegler and Doug Vasquez

THE COMMON SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

CW HYMNAL #224, "GOD HIMSELF IS PRESENT"

INVOCATION

M(inister): In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

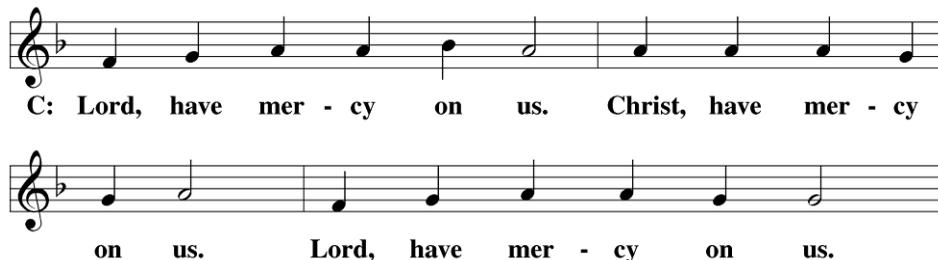


CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY (KYRIE)



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 18:1-14

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. ²Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. ³He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. ⁵Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant."

"Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

⁶So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread." ⁷Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

⁹"Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him.

"There, in the tent," he said.

¹⁰Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son."

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. ¹¹Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

¹³Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

¹⁵Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 119A¹



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Psalm tone



Blessed are they whose ways are blameless,
who walk according to the law of the LORD.

Blessed are they who keep his statutes
and seek him with all their heart.

You have laid down precepts
that are to be fully obeyed.

Refrain

Oh, that my ways were steadfast
in obeying your decrees!

Then I would not be put to shame
when I consider all your commands.

I will praise you with an upright heart
as I learn your righteous laws.

**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.**

Refrain

¹ **Refrain Tune:** Joyce Schubkegal. © 1993 Joyce Schubkegal (admin. Northwestern Publishing House). All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense.net #761716.

SECOND LESSON

COLOSSIANS 1:21-29

²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. ²⁵ I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— ²⁶ the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. ²⁷ To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

²⁸ He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

VERSE OF THE DAY

ISAIAH 55:11

M: Alleluia. My Word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Alleluia.



GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 10:38-42



³⁸ As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

⁴¹“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴²but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

CW HYMNAL #290, “ONE THING’S NEEDFUL”

THE SERMON

GENESIS 18:9-15

“DON’T LAUGH! GOD CAN DO IT!”

CREATE IN ME



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

THE OFFERING

Members of Bethlehem have joined together to spread God's message both in our community and around the world. Guests and visitors, you are welcome to give an offering, but please do not feel obligated to participate. You enrich us simply by being here, and we thank God for the chance to share God's Word with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord of power and grace, whose eyes are on the righteous and whose ears are open to their cry, hear the prayers of your people as we come now in thankfulness for the mercies that you pour down on us anew each day.

We thank you for the gifts of your mighty providence. Make us mindful, O Lord, that you have provided us with life, breath, and being and are the source of our daily bread.

We praise you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be the Savior of the world. Grant that we may believe in him with all our hearts, learning from him the great truths of the kingdom to which he bore faithful witness.

Grant us your Holy Spirit, that we may produce the fruits of righteousness. May he endow us with unwavering faith, that we might always be ready to do your will.

We pray for the nations of the earth. Subdue terror and tyranny everywhere, and call forth leaders who acknowledge that you are Lord over all the earth. Bless our own land. May it ever follow that which is good and turn from all that which is wicked, that our people may prosper in uprightness and integrity.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SANCTUS)



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

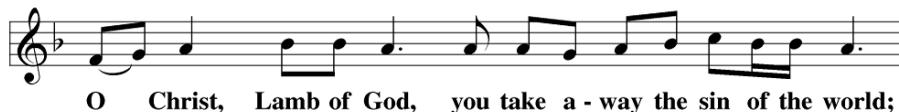
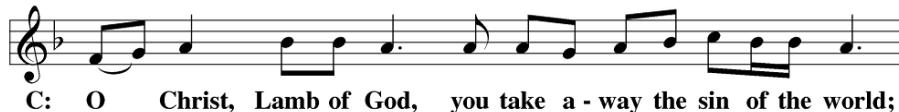
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)



THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

To our guests and visitors: Holy Communion is an expression of our oneness as a body of believers. Members of Bethlehem join to receive the body and the blood of the Lord and commune with our God, expressing the same faith as God has taught in the Scriptures. Following God's Word, we ask that those who are not yet members of Bethlehem refrain from taking the Lord's Supper until they are ready to profess that oneness with us. Thank you for respecting our practice.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

CW HYMNAL #313, "JESUS CHRIST, OUR BLESSED SAVIOR"

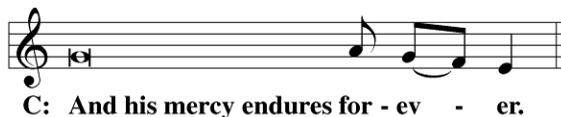
THANKSGIVING

SONG OF SIMEON (NUNC DIMITTIS)



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

PRAYER

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

THE LORD'S BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

CW HYMNAL #462, "OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUIDE MY WAYS"



1 God him - self is pres - ent— Let us now a - dore him
 2 God him - self is pres - ent— Hear the harps re - sound - ing;
 3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Pu - ri - fy my spir - it,



And with awe ap - pear be - fore him.
 See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing.
 Trust - ing on - ly in your mer - it.



God is in his tem - ple— All with - in keep si - lence,
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly"— Hear the hymn as - cend - ing,
 Like the ho - ly an - gels, Wor - ship - ing be - fore you,



Hum - bly kneel in deep - est rev - 'rence.
 Songs of saints and an - gels blend - ing.
 May I cease - less - ly a - dore you.



He a - lone On his throne Is our
 Bow your ear To us here: Hear, O
 Let your will Ev - er still Rule your



God and Sav - ior; Praise his name for - ev - er!
 Christ, the prais - es That your Church now rais - es.
 church ter - res - trial As the hosts ce - les - tial.

Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835, and John Miller, 1756–90, alt.

Tune: WUNDERBARER KÖNIG (668 668 33 66) Joachim Neander, 1650–80, alt.



1 One thing's need - ful; Lord, this trea - sure Teach me high - ly
 2 How were Mar - y's thoughts de - vot - ed Her e - ter - nal
 3 Wis - dom's high - est, no - blest trea - sure, Je - sus, can be



to re - gard. All else, though it first give plea - sure,
 joy to find As in - tent each word she not - ed,
 found in you. Let me find in you my plea - sure;



Is a yoke that press - es hard. Be - neath it the
 At her Sav - ior's feet re - clined. How kin - dled her
 Make my will and ac - tions true, Hu - mil - i - ty



heart is still fret - ting and striv - ing, No true, last - ing
 heart, how de - vout was its feel - ing, While hear - ing the
 there and sim - plic - i - ty reign - ing, In paths of true



hap - pi - ness ev - er de - riv - ing, This one thing is
 les - sons that Christ was re - veal - ing; All earth - ly con -
 wis - dom my steps ev - er train - ing. If I learn from



need - ful; all oth - ers are vain— I count
 cerns she for - got for her Lord And found
 Je - sus this knowl - edge di - vine, The bless -



all but loss that I Christ may ob - tain.
 her con - tent - ment in hear - ing his Word.
 ing of heav - en - ly wis - dom is mine.

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way
 2 As his pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre -
 3 Je - sus here him - self is shar - ing; Take heed how
 4 Use - less would be Je - sus' pas - sion If sal - va -
 5 Christ says, "Come, all you that la - bor, And re - ceive



God's wrath for - ev - er; By his bit - ter grief and
 cious food sup - ply - ing, Gives his bod - y with the
 you are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be -
 tion you could fash - ion. Do not come if you sup -
 my grace and fa - vor; Those who feel no pain or



woe He saved us from the e - vil foe.
 bread And with the wine the blood he shed.
 lieve, Judg - ment in - stead you shall re - ceive.
 pose You need not him who died and rose.
 ill Need no phy - si - cian's help or skill."

6 Then hold fast with faith unshaken
 That this food is to be taken
 By the souls who are distressed,
 By hearts that long for peace and rest.

7 Praise the Father, who from heaven
 Unto us such food has given
 And, to mend what we have done,
 Gave into death his only Son.

8 If your heart this truth professes
 And your mouth your sin confesses,
 Surely you will be his guest
 And at his banquet ever blest.

Text: John Hus, 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: JESUS CHRISTUS, UNSER HEILAND, DER VON UNS (88 78) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert*, Wittenberg, 1535, alt.

462 Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To
 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word, And
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A
 4 Make me to walk in your com - mands— 'Tis



keep his stat - utes still! Oh, that my God would
 make my heart sin - cere; Let sin have no do -
 strict - er watch to keep; And should I e'er for -
 a de - light - ful road— Nor let my head or



grant me grace To know and do his will!
 min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.
 get your way, Re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
 heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: EVAN (CM) William H. Havergal, 1793–1870, adapt.

Prayer Corner

- for God to help **those dealing with recent health issues** with complete and quick healing.
- for safety for **all those who are traveling** in these last few weeks of summer.

Altar Flowers

The flowers this week are given to the glory of God by **Nancy Thyson** in celebration of her mother's birthday.

Offering

Last Sunday, thankful hearts offered **\$3767** to the LORD to carry out his ministry at Bethlehem and around the world. The average weekly donation so far in 2022 is **\$5332**. An average of **\$6560** is needed each week to meet the budget that we approved for 2022.

In Ministry this Week

Sunday, August 7	9:30 am	Worship with Holy Communion NO Sunday School or Midweek Bible Study this week
Saturday, August 13	9:00 am	Women's Bible Study

News & Notes

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events!

- **Saturday, August 27 at 6:30 pm** – Food with Friends at Mum Mum Thai Restaurant
- **Sunday, August 28** immediately following worship – Quarterly Voters Meeting
- **Sunday, September 11** – Outdoor Worship with Installation of Teachers and Officers
Christian Education Sunday Kickoff Potluck to follow worship!
- **Saturday, October 1** – LWMS Rally to be held here at Bethlehem
- **Friday, October 7 to Sunday, October 9** – Women's Fall Retreat at Lake Anna, VA
- **Saturday, October 22** – Bethlehem Trunk or Treat
- **Friday, October 28 to Saturday, October 29** – Men's Fellowship Camping