



*Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn  
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*

## **EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JULY 23, 2023**



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Caleb Kettler

Greeter

Peggy McDonald



Representing God's Love  
To our Congregation,  
Community, and the World

## Divine Service: Setting One

Order of Service: *Lutheran Service Book*, pp 151-166

Pre-Service Music

### July Bible Verse

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

*Romans 12:12*

### Our Mission Statement

Representing God's Love to our Congregation, Community, and the World!

### *Ringling of the Church Bell*

#### OPENING HYMN

#### *O Worship the King*

LSB 804



1 O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.  
 2 O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,  
 3 This earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,  
 4 Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?



O grate - ful - ly sing His pow'r and His love;  
 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;  
 Al - might - y, Thy pow'r hath found - ed of old,  
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,



Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,  
 Es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
 It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,



Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.  
 And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.  
 And round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
 And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail children of dust  
 and feeble as frail,  
 In Thee do we trust,  
 nor find Thee to fail.  
 Thy mercies, how tender,  
 how firm to the end,  
 Our maker, defender,  
 redeemer, and friend!

6 O measureless Might,  
 ineffable Love,  
 While angels delight  
 to hymn Thee above,  
 Thy humbler creation,  
 though feeble their lays,  
 With true adoration  
 shall sing to Thy praise.

**P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

*Psalm 86:11–15; antiphon: v. 6*

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

**listen to my plea for grace.**

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth;

**unite my heart to fear your name.**

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

**and I will glorify your name forever.**

For great is your steadfast love toward me;

**you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.**

O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life,

**and they do not set you before them.**

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,

**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.**

**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.**

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

**listen to my plea for grace.**

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*Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;  
listen to my plea for grace.*

—Psalm 86:6

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**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

*Gloria in Excelsis*

**P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.  
 For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,  
 You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,  
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**C** O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 44:6–8*

<sup>6</sup>Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel  
 and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

“I am the first and I am the last;  
 besides me there is no god.

<sup>7</sup>Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.  
 Let him declare and set it before me,  
 since I appointed an ancient people.

Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.

<sup>8</sup>Fear not, nor be afraid;  
 have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
 And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?  
 There is no Rock; I know not any.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

*Romans 8:18–27*

<sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the

pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup>And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

COMMON ALLELUIA

LSB 156

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup>but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup>And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ <sup>28</sup>He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup>But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” . . .

<sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup>He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, <sup>42</sup>and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Jesus Loves Me

LSB 588



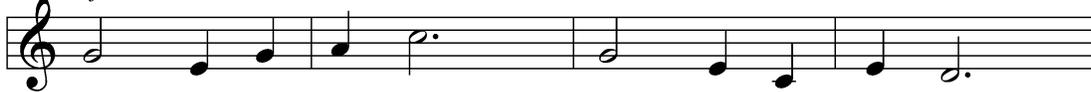
1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, For the Bi - ble tells me so.

2 Je - sus loves me! He who died Heav-en's gates to o - pen wide.



Lit - tle ones to Him be - long; They are weak, but He is strong.  
He has washed a - way my sin, Lets His lit - tle child come in.

## Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

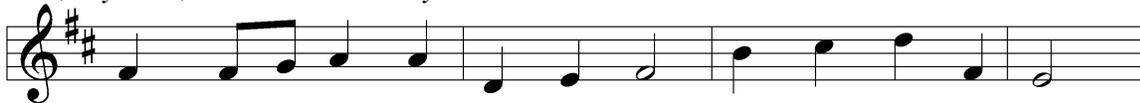
Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.; Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68. Text and tune: Public domain

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON HYMN

## Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

LSB 663



1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a - wak -

2 Watch a - gainst the dev - il's snares Lest a - sleep he find

3 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de - feat

4 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you tri -

5 But while watch - ing, al - so pray To the Lord un - ceas -



en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a - wares o'er -

you; For in - deed no pains he spares To de - ceive and

you Lest with bold de - cep - tions hurled It be - tray and

fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's mer - cy

ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and faith in -



tak - en; For the foe, Well we know, Is a

blind you. Sa - tan's prey Oft are they Who se -

cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less

sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your

creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.

cure are sleep - ing And no watch are keep - ing.

friends to charm you, Who but seek to harm you.

hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.

nite to serve Him And for - ev - er love Him.

Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671-1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.; Tune: Hundert... geistlicher Arien, 1694, Dresden, alt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

*Peace Among the Weeds – Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43*

APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

**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 & OFFERTORY

LSB 159



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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

LSB 166

**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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.



**C** A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

*Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

LSB 923



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your  
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward  
△ 3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious  
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!  
wor - shiped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.  
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text (sts. 1-2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Tune: Trente quatre Pseumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain



POSTLUDE

*Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, where we worship in the name of the crucified and risen Lamb of God, Jesus Christ our Lord. Blessings to you as you worship with us today.*



**Congregation:** for Edith Erwin and Deloris Griffin;  
for our Shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, James Schoenemann, Lorine Schroeder, Floris Whittaker, Lathel Norris, and for others who are not able to come to church

**Community:** for Sarah Farell (Millie Harmann’s daughter); for the LCMS as they meet in convention, that all their decisions would be guided by and adhere to the clear Word of God; for those who are traveling during the summer for vacations, that they are safe; for all those who need rain, that the Lord would bless our lands so that they may produce in abundance; for Brenham Pregnancy Center and those whose lives they touched; Faith Mission; St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church (vacancy); families and individuals cared for by Child Protective Services

**World:** for those who have been led astray into false belief; for those facing crisis pregnancies, that they would find the strength to choose life for their unborn child; for the leaders of the nations, that they would make godly decisions for their people and countries; for peace in Ukraine

In order to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us,  
you can now *sign up for the newsletter to be emailed to you directly* instead of receiving a hard copy.



This cuts the cost of printing and postage. If you prefer a digital copy, please scan the QR code to sign up, so we know not to print a copy for you. If you would still like to receive the print copy, there is no need to do anything.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**This Week’s Schedule**  
**July 23 – July 30**

<b>Today:</b>	<i><b>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</b></i>	
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
	<b>10:15 AM</b>	Divine Worship: Setting I
	Acolyte:	Caleb Kettler
	Greeter:	Peggy McDonald
	Ushers:	Delwin Gaskamp    Greg Gaskamp Kevin Goessler    Stanley Haferkamp
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	Young Women’s Bible Study
	<b>10:00 AM</b>	Worship Online
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	Women’s Bible Study
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	Voters’ Meeting
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	<i><b>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</b></i>	
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
	<b>10:15 AM</b>	Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion
	Acolyte:	Marc Maya
	Greeter:	Destry Pohlmeier
	Ushers:	Tom Hayden    Ben Holtkamp Lane Janner    Reid Janner

**Serving in July: Elder – Paul Richter / Trustee – Billy Ashorn**

*If you have a question or thought concerning spiritual care or the church property, please contact the appropriate elder or trustee.*



*The flowers on the altar are given by Corey and Christen Malone in memory of Dustin Hunter's birthday.*

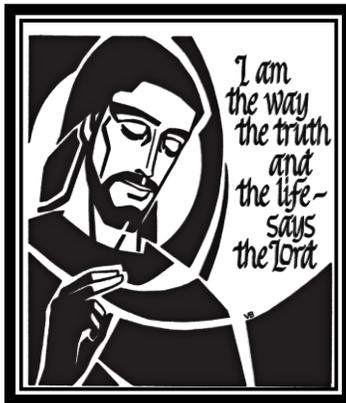


The July Quarterly **Voters' Meeting** is *this* Wednesday, **July 26, at 7:30pm.**

### *Sunday School Corner*

Parents, next week in Sunday School, we will learn how “Jesus Calms a Storm.” Just as Jesus calmed the storm with His Word for the frightened disciples, so He calms and ends the storm of sin and death by taking our sin upon Himself and dying in our place so we may live eternally. Parents, in preparation for the lesson, consider discussing with your child, “What did Jesus do to calm the storm? How does Jesus calm the storms in our life?” So don't miss out on this exciting lesson, and parents, you can stay and join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

### *New Adult Sunday School Lesson*



What is sin, and the difference between Original and actual sin? What was the Fall and the tactics used by the devil? How do we counter those tactics, and more importantly, how does God? What is the aftermath and final result of the Fall and sin? These are just some of the questions we answered as we began our study through Unit 3, Sin, Death, and the Devil, this morning. Next week we will continue going through Unit 3. If you could not attend today, please join us next Sunday during the Adult Bible Study hour before church, starting at 9 am, to learn the answers to these questions and so much more. Now is the time to commit yourself to a deeper and more meaningful understanding of God's Word and your relationship with Him. I hope to see you all next Sunday as we continue our studies. And if you would like a free digital copy of the Life with God book, you can get it here:

<https://storage.snappages.site/HBG39K/assets/files/LifeWithGod-part1.pdf> (part 1)

<https://storage.snappages.site/HBG39K/assets/files/LifeWithGod-part2.pdf> (part 2)

### **Last Week at Bethlehem**

SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
07-16 Sunday School	12	\$43.39
07-16 Youth Bible Class	3	
07-16 Adult Bible Class	25	
07-16 Worship Service	113	General Fund: \$2,630.00 Darla Schwartz Memorial: \$25.00 Men's Club Donation: \$125.00