



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

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

NOVEMBER 26, 2023



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Maddison Molitor

Greeter

Diane Jaehne



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

November Bible Verse

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

Ephesians 2:8-9

Our Mission Statement

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

Ringing of the Church Bell

OPENING HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

LSB 525



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
2 Crown Him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born,
3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Be - hold His hands and side,
4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave
5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.
Whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won Which now His brow a - dorn:
Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save.
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won - drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And
Fruit of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The
No an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But
His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who
Crown Him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown



hail Him as thy match - less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem.
down - ward bend their won - d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies so bright.
died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.
Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king of all.

Tune and text: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

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 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13 NIV

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,
the home of righteousness.

O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am!

Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before you.

And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?
My hope is in you.

Deliver me from all my transgressions.
Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears!
For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.

**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.**

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,
the home of righteousness.

KYRIE

LSB 152

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

LSB 154

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 **Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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 25:31–46

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

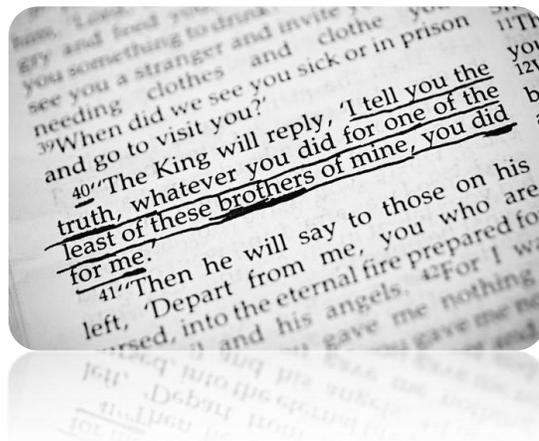
C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

⁴¹“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



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.

CHILDREN'S HYMN

*Children come forward during Children's Hymn
LSB 725*

Children of the Heavenly Father



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: © Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013
Tune: Public domain

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns

LSB 532



1 The Head that once was crowned with thorns Is
 2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords Is
 3 The Joy of all who dwell a - bove, The
 4 To them the cross, with all its shame, With



crowned with glo - ry now; A roy - al di - a -
 His, is His by right, The King of kings and
 Joy of all be - low To whom He man - i -
 all its grace, is giv'n; Their name an ev - er -



dem a - dorns The might - y Vic - tor's brow.
 Lord of lords, And heav'n's e - ter - nal Light;
 fests His love, And grants His name to know.
 last - ing name, Their joy the joy of heav'n.

5 They suffer with their Lord below,
 They reign with Him above,
 Their profit and their joy to know
 The myst'ry of His love.

6 The cross He bore is life and health,
 Though shame and death to Him:
 His people's hope, His people's wealth,
 Their everlasting theme.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855. Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707. Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Orthodox – Matthew 25:31–46

OFFERTORY

LSB 159



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



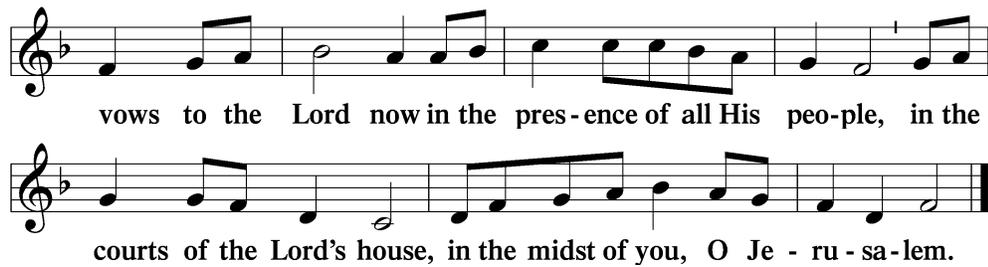
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



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.

OFFERING PRAYER

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

LSB 336



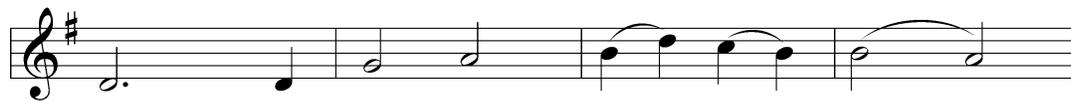
1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: Thomas Olivers, 1725–99. 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.



In order to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us, the *newsletter will now be emailed to you directly* to save on the cost of printing and postage. To ensure you continue receiving the newsletter, scan the QR code to the right to verify your email address.



Congregation: for Blake Powers, Edith Erwin, and Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, James Schoenemann, Floris Whittaker, Lathel Norris, and others who are unable to come to church

Community: for Brenham Pregnancy Center and those whose lives they touch; Faith Mission; families and individuals cared for by Child Protective Services

World: for Israel, as they face war and the terrorist attacks, bring a quick end to the violence and peace to the region; 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule
November 26 – December 3

Today:	<i>Last Sunday of the Church Year</i>	
	8:00 AM	Outdoor Amphitheater Worship
	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Confirmation, & Adult Bible Class
	10:15 AM	Divine Worship: Setting I
	Acolyte:	Maddison Molitor
	Greeter:	Diane Jaehne
	Ushers:	Mike Schroeder Shane Schroeder Trenton Schwartz Lance Searle
Monday:	10:00 AM	Worship Online
Tuesday:	6:30 PM	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday:	4:30 PM	Confirmation Class
Saturday:	7:30 AM	Men's Club Breakfast and Bible Study
Next Sunday:	<i>First Sunday in Advent</i>	
	8:00 AM	Christmas Eve Program Practice
	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Confirmation, & Adult Bible Class
	10:15 AM	Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion
	Acolyte:	Hannah Nowicki
	Greeter:	Grace Kankel
	Ushers:	Chris Smitherman Samuel Smitherman Rallin Wellmann Billy Ashorn
	11:30 AM	Youth League Meeting & Bible Study



Serving in November: Elder – Chris Smitherman / **Trustee** – Delwin Gaskamp

Serving in December: Elder – Charles Meyer / **Trustee** – Robert Kettler

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



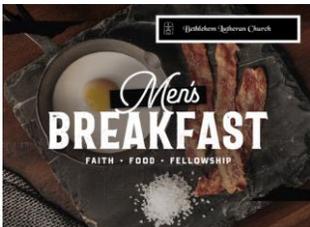
The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Diane Jaehne.



The Bethlehem Lutheran **Youth League** will meet next **Sunday, December 3, after worship** for a light meal and then to decorate the Christmas tree and construct the manger scene.

Attention:

This Advent season, **as we gather during the midweek to worship, we will also come together for a meal.** Beginning at 6 pm on Wednesdays before midweek Advent services, a meal will be served. If you would like to help with the meal, please contact Pastor Krieg.



Men's Club monthly breakfast is this **Saturday, December 2, at 7:30 a.m.** in the Parish Hall. All men of the congregation are invited to attend. Breakfast will be served, with fellowship and Bible study to follow. *Please RSVP with the QR code or go to the Men's Club page on the church website to sign up. We need to know how much food to prepare.*



Poinsettias

'Tis the season to order poinsettias! Please stop by the table in the narthex to place your order. Each poinsettia costs \$13.00. Make the checks payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The deadline is **Sunday, December 10.** Order forms may be left in the basket in the narthex.



Stars of Joy

If you would like to be a part of this mission, please contact Lynn VanEman after church, or you can go by Brenham National Bank to pick up a star. The project is designed to provide Christmas gifts for children in foster care or children supervised by Child Protective Services. Let us share the JOY of our Lord's birth!



BRENHAM
NATIONAL BANK
MEMBER FDIC



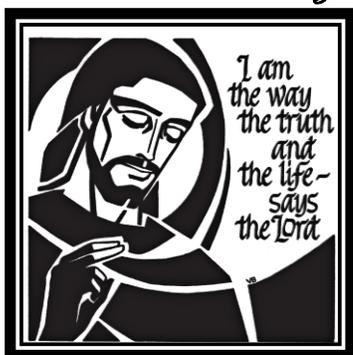
Life Thoughts from Lutherans for Life

Guilt and grief can devastate those who abort their own children (Matthew 25:37-38). The Lord God longs to relieve their wounds with His forgiveness (Ezekiel 34:16). If Jesus overcomes death for us, He can also subdue it for them (1 Corinthians 15:25-26). May our mouths make the joyful noise (Psalm 95:2) of explicitly applying His atoning grace to every sin! For more information, visit <https://lutheransforlife.org/>.

Sunday School Corner

Parents, next week in Sunday School, the kids will study the lesson “A King Forever.” God sends Samuel to anoint the next king of Israel, with the reminder, “The LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7). God rejects each of Jesse’s sons, so Samuel sends for the youngest, David, whom God has chosen to become the greatest king of Israel. Surviving Saul’s insane jealousy, David becomes king and establishes Jerusalem as his stronghold. To prepare your kids for this lesson, as a family, talk about how God used David to unite His people and how Jesus will unite all believers. 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 the Doctrine of the church? What is the Church? What are the Lutheran Confessions? These are just some of the questions we answered as we began our study of Unit 9, The Doctrine of the Church, this morning. Next week, we will continue with Unit 9. If you could not attend today, please join us next Sunday during the Adult Bible Study hour before church, starting at 9 a.m., 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)



Online Giving

You may give tithes and offerings online by clicking the “Give” tab on our website (<https://www.bethlehemwmpenn.org/>), or just scan the QR code to the left.

Last Week at Bethlehem

SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
11-19 Sunday School	17	\$31.00
11-19 Youth Bible Class	1	
11-19 Adult Bible Class	31	
11-19 Worship	98	General Fund: \$2,430.73 Local Missions: \$25.00