



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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024



Pastor

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Ushers

Clinton Kettler
Henry Kettler
Matt Kettler
Michael Kettler

Acolyte

Michael Hinze

Greeter

Destry Pohlmeier



Divine Service: Setting I

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

Pre-Service Music

September Bible Verse

“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things will be added to you.”

Matthew 6:33

Our Mission Statement

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

Ringing of the Church Bell

OPENING HYMN

Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free

LSB 473



1 Our Pas - chal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sac - ri - ficed. O keep
2 Let all our lives now cel - e - brate The feast; let mal - ice die.
3 Let all our deeds, u - nan - i - mous, Con - fess Him as our Lord



The feast of free - dom gal - lant - ly; Let al - le - lu - ias leap:
Let love grow strong a - new, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie.
Who by the Spir - it lives in us, The Fa - ther's liv - ing Word.

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A -



gain Sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a - loud: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

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Stand.

INVOCATION

LSB 151

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

- 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 37:5-7; antiphon: v. 4

Delight yourself in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

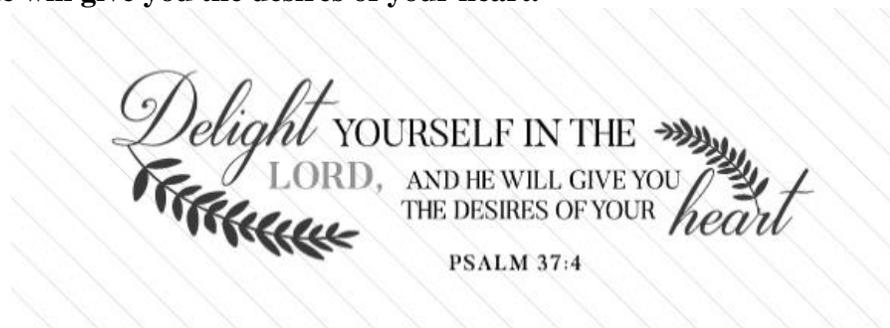
Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.

He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

**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.**

Delight yourself in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.



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.



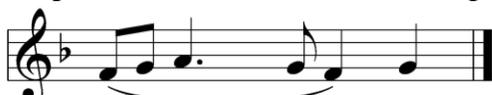
C Lord, have mer - cy.

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.



G And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

C O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sit.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 11:18–20

¹⁸The LORD made it known to me and I knew;
then you showed me their deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

I did not know it was against me
they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
that his name be remembered no more.”

²⁰But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously,
who tests the heart and the mind,
let me see your vengeance upon them,
for to you have I committed my cause.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

James 3:13—4:10

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

¹What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ²You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.

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

Mark 9:30–37

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

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

³⁰[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” ³²But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

³³And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” ³⁴But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. ³⁵And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

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.

CHILDREN'S HYMN

Seek Ye First

- 1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you!
Allelu, alleluia!
- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find,

Children come forward during Children's Hymn

LSB 712

- Knock and the door shall be opened unto you,
Allelu, alleluia!
- 3 Man does not live by bread alone,
But by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord,
Allelu, alleluia!

Text: Karen Lafferty, 1948. Text: © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

LSB 851



1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,
3 Won - drous hon - or You have giv - en To our
4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your
hum - blest char - i - ty In Your own mys - te - rious
life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



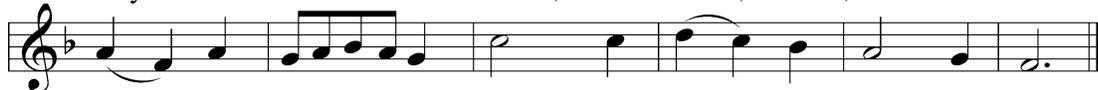
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;
good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
sen - tence, "You have done it all to Me."
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by
Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That You
Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful
You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py
deign for alms to sue, Say - ing by Your
stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of



and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.
and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.
poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you?"
all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.

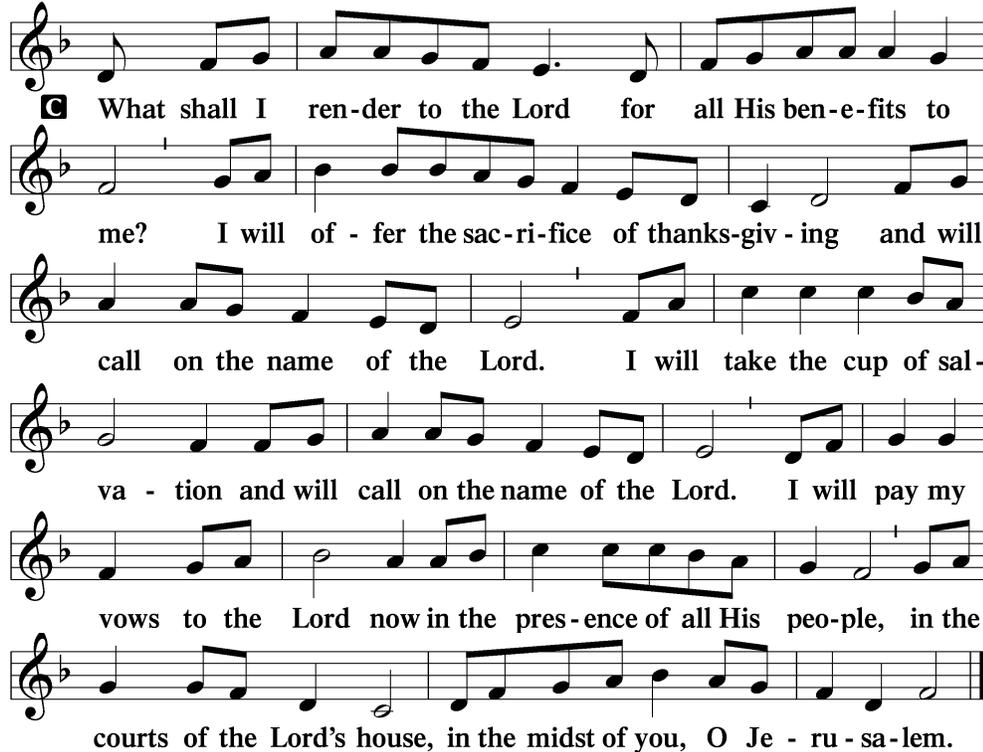
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON
First – Mark 9:30–37

Stand.

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

Sit.

OFFERING

Stand.

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.

Sit.

CLOSING HYMN

What Is the World to Me

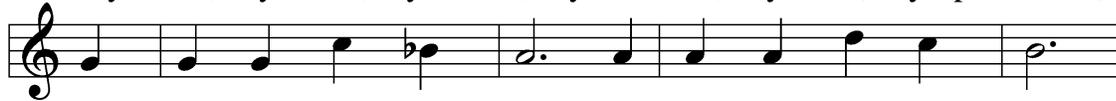
LSB 730



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure
 2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y
 3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers
 4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
 Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
 Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
 My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
 But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,
 I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:
 My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
 My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!
 My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
 Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701. 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 Milton Schwartz, Blake Powers, Edith Erwin, and Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Lathel Norris, James Schoenemann, Roger & Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church

Community: may our Lord continue to deliver to us favorable weather; for Brenham Pregnancy Center and those whose lives they touch; Faith Mission; families and individuals cared for by Child Protective Services

World: for all those suffering in the war in Israel, may God watch over and protect His children, and by His Holy Spirit, may they all come to know Christ as their Savior and thus enjoy eternity with Him, 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

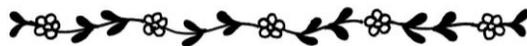
ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule
September 22 – September 29

- Today:** *Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*
- 8:00 AM** Outdoor Amphitheater Worship Service
 - 9:00 AM** Sunday School, Confirmation, Adult Bible Class
 - 10:15 AM** Divine Worship: Setting I
 - Acolyte: Michael Hinze
 - Greeter: Destry Pohlmeyer
 - Ushers: Clinton Kettler Henry Kettler
Matt Kettler Michael Kettler
- Monday:** **10:00 AM** Sisters in Christ Bible Study
- Thursday:** **6:30 PM** Women's Bible Study
- Next Sunday:** *St. Michael and All Angels*
- 9:00 AM** Sunday School, Confirmation, Adult Bible Class
 - 10:15 AM** Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion
 - Acolyte: Norman Krieg
 - Greeter: Dorcas Schroeder
 - Ushers: Robert Kettler Caleb Klussmann
Corey Klussmann Wayne Klussmann
 - 11:30 AM** Youth Baked Potato Sale

Serving in September: Elder – Clinton Kettler / **Trustee** – Kevin Harrington

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 Destry Pohlmeyer.

Don't Miss Out on Next Sunday's Baked Potato Sale!

Next Sunday, the **Youth League** is selling fully-loaded BBQ pork baked potatoes after church. **Each meal costs \$10.00** and proceeds will benefit the Bethlehem Youth League. **Thank you in advance for your support!**



New Sisters in Christ Bible Study begins *this Monday, September 23* at 10:00 am



Women of Bethlehem, we invite you to join us each month at Marilyn Klussmann's home as we study God's Word in 2 Corinthians with Kelly Minter's book *All Things New*. We'll read and rest in what our Lord tells us and discuss how His Word directs and instructs us in our daily walk with Him. We'll rest in this truth from 2 Corinthians 5:17—*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."*

Please contact Amy Schroeder if you have any questions: (979) 255-4206.

The Lutheran Witness Subscription

If you are a member and would like to receive *The Lutheran Witness* beginning in January 2025, contact the church office by October 17th at office@bethlehemwmpenn.org or (979) 836-7303.



Bethlehem Prayer Vigil: Seeking God's Guidance for Our Nation

*Are you worried about the coming election?
Wish there were something you could do?*



Join us in the Bethlehem Prayer Vigil! From the beginning of October until the election, we invite you to come and pray for our country daily in the sanctuary. Let's unite in prayer and seek God's wisdom and protection during this crucial time.

How It Works:

- **Dates:** October 1st - Election Day
- **Location:** Church Sanctuary
- **Goal:** At least one congregation member praying each day



Sign-Up: To ensure each day is covered, please sign up on the form in the parish hall or use the QR code above for the day and time you wish to come and pray. Others may join you during your chosen time if they would like. A booklet will be available in the narthex to help guide you if you so desire.



Life Thoughts from Lutherans for Life

In Mark 9:36-37, Jesus explicitly instructs us to receive children as His own precious treasures. Sometimes this does indeed involve difficulty, but our God enlists both the Prophet Jeremiah (11:20) and the apostle James (4:7) to encourage us in resisting selfish ambition and committing this cause to the Lord. He will sustain the Gospel-motivated voice For Life until it succeeds! For more information, please visit <https://lutheransforlife.org/>.

The Dorcas and Friendship Circles
of Immanuel Lutheran Church



Invite you to join us for the
Post Oak Zone
and
Bluebonnet Zone
Fall Rally
Sunday, October 6, 2024
at Immanuel Lutheran Church
300 N Grimes St, Giddings, TX

Ingathering: Monetary donation to
Orphan Grain Train
Norfolk, Nebraska

Guest Speaker:
Brienne Stahlecker



Traditionally celebrated the first Sunday in October, we will have a **special worship service** to celebrate the work of **Lutheran Women in Mission** on **October 6** at **10:15am**.

This year's **LWML Sunday** theme is "Ready to Serve" based on Luke 1:38. As redeemed children of God, Lutheran Women in Mission give thanks for the opportunity to serve others as we have been served, to proclaim that Jesus is our Lord and that He came for all nations, and to

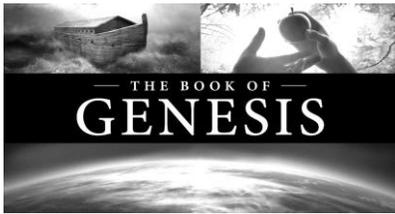
respond with our mite offerings to support God's mission. Our example has been the widow and her mites. The offering she made was observed by our Lord leading Him to share that her copper coins, her mites, were "*everything she had, all she had to live on*" (Mark 12:43). May our mite offerings be blessed for our Lord's kingdom.

And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her (Luke 1:38).

Sunday School Corner

In our Fall unit, we begin a deeper study of the Old Testament. This unit begins with the creation of man and woman and leads to the exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt. Today in Sunday School, the kids studied the lesson “A Merciful Substitute – Abraham and Isaac.” God had blessed Abraham with the son he had waited for his entire life; yet now God asks the seemingly impossible—sacrifice your son to Me. By faith, Abraham takes Isaac to the mountain, trusting God, who was able to raise his son from the dead. Abraham completes the test, and God provides the sacrifice. To reinforce this lesson for your kids, as a family, discuss, “What are the sacrifices or offerings that we bring to the Lord today? Do we bring offerings to save ourselves from our sin? If we don’t need to give offerings and sacrifices to atone for our sin, then why do we bring offerings and make sacrifices to God?” And don't miss out on next week’s exciting lesson as we continue our Fall quarter lessons with “A Servant’s Mission – Isaac and Rebekah.” Also, parents, you can join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

New Adult Sunday School Lesson



Genesis lays the foundation for all the events and doctrines of Holy Scripture. Studying its characters and events will prepare you for a much broader understanding of God’s ways with humankind. Throughout Genesis, Moses emphasizes that these records apply not simply to Israel but to all nations and families of the earth. See in the patriarchs’ weaknesses, struggles, and joys a mirror of families today. The Lord, through promise and faith, makes all the difference for the patriarchs, and He will likewise bless and lead you. So join us as we begin our study of the book of Genesis. If you could not attend today, please join us next Sunday during the Adult Bible Study hour before church, starting at 9 a.m. 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.



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—September 15

| SERVICE | ATTENDANCE | GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL |
|------------------------|------------|---|
| Sunday School | 17 | \$245.00 |
| Adult Bible Class | 27 | |
| Sunday Worship Service | 105 | General Fund: \$1,927.00 Lutheran Witness: \$49.50 |