



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

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 12, 2026

10:15 AM



Pastor

Rev. Kelly Dean Krieg
(214) 208-1364

PastorKrieg@BethlehemWmPenn.org

Secretary

Janice Pazdorny
(979) 836-7303

Office@BethlehemWmPenn.org

Organist

Ann Sommer

Ushers

Michael Kettler
Robert Kettler
Wayne Klussmann
Don Koester

Acolyte

Winston Krieg

Greeter

Theresa Kettler

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026 – 10:15 AM

Divine Service: Setting III with Holy Communion

Order of Service: *Lutheran Service Book, pp 184-202*

Pre-Service Music



July Bible Verse

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.

1 John 4:18

Our Mission Statement

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

COMMUNION STATEMENT



In Light of 1 Cor. 11:23-26, Bethlehem Lutheran Church maintains the historical practice of “closed” communion in the belief that the Sacrament requires faith in Christ’s words that His body and blood are truly present. Furthermore, participation in the Sacrament is a sign of our unity in the faith with all those who join us at the altar. *For that reason, we ask that those visitors desiring to commune be members in good standing of a congregation of the LCMS and speak to the pastor or an elder before the beginning of the service.* Our denial of admission to those who are members of another confession is not a judgment upon their faith but a recognition that we hold to different confessions concerning God, salvation, and the Sacrament itself. Such individuals are invited to speak with the pastor following the service.

Ring of the Church Bell

OPENING HYMN

Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

LSB 908

1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, And through Your
2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; Your Word grants
△ 3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the
Word to me draw near; Let me Your Word e'er pure re -
heal - ing from my sin; Your Word has pow'r to guide and
Spir - it, Three in One, Shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or
tain; Let me Your child and heir re - main.
bless; Your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.
be Now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Mark A. Jeske, 1952. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebeßert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug. Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Text (sts. 1, 3) and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the ✠ Cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

LSB 184

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 184

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 103:15-19; antiphon: v. 8

The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

As for man, his days are like grass;

he flourishes like a flower of the field;

for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,

and its place knows it no more.

But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,

and his righteousness to children's children,

to those who keep his covenant

and remember to do his commandments.

The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,

and his kingdom rules over all.

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.

The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

GLORIA PATRI

LSB 186

☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

KYRIE

LSB 186

☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

☐ Glory be to God on High,

☐ and on earth peace, good - will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy 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,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

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

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

☩ Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

☐ This is the Word of the Lord. **☩** Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Romans 11:33, 36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!
For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.

EPISTLE

Romans 8:12-17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are

children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

P This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

COMMON ALLELUIA

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

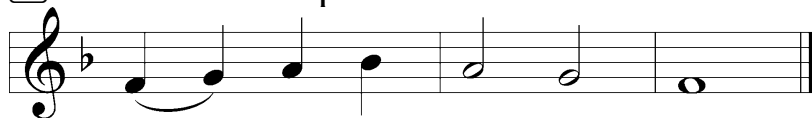


C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

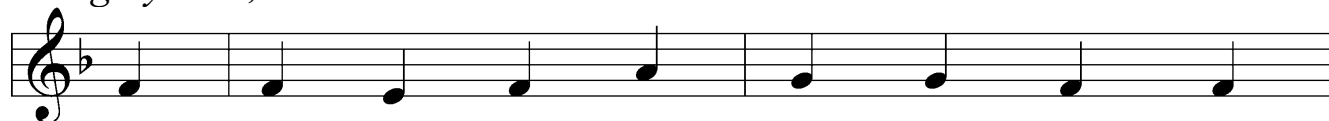
**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

LSB 577



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt. Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London. Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

More Than the Soil

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Stand

OFFERTORY

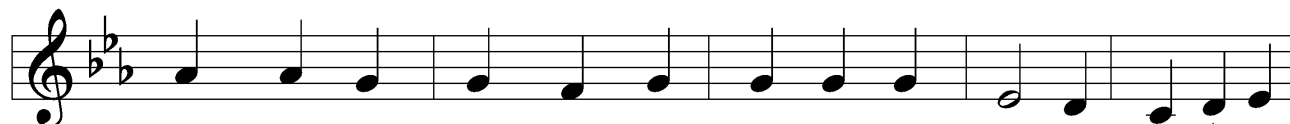
LSB 192



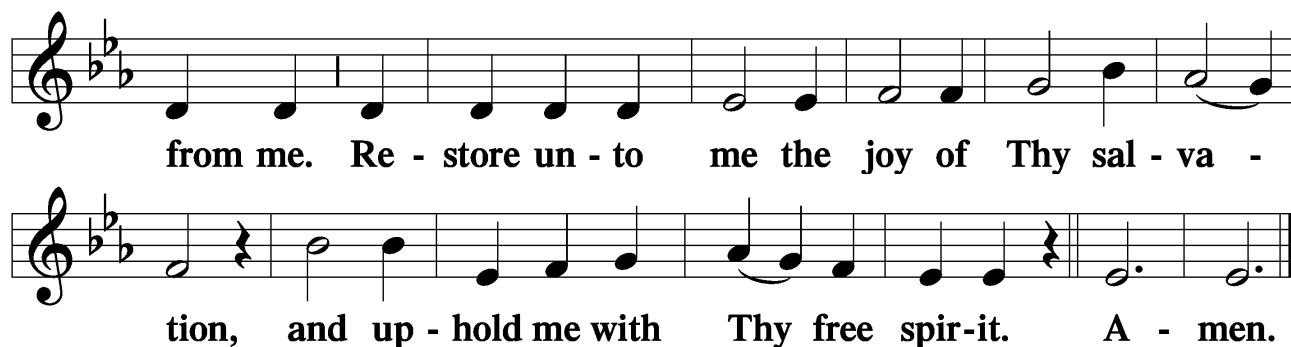
□ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



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



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



OFFERING PRAYER

Sit

OFFERING

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy 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 that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ∇ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ∇ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

LSB 197

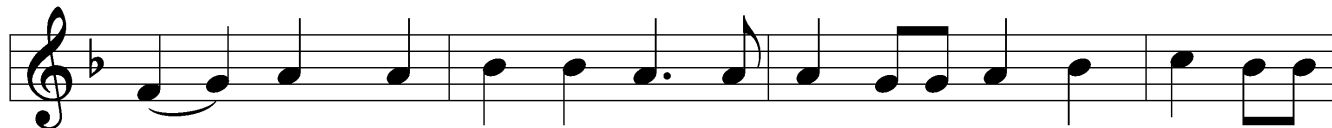
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

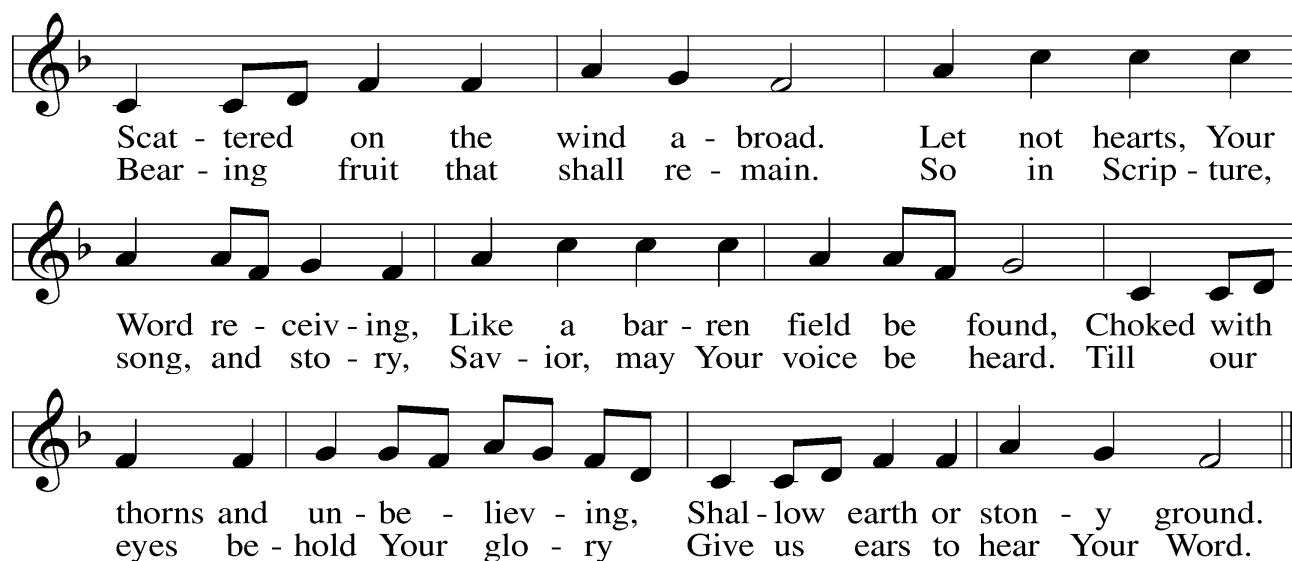
LSB 584



1 Faith and truth and life be - stow - ing, O - pen now the
2 May the Spir - it's pow'r un - ceas - ing Bring to life the



Scrip - tures, Lord, Seed to life e - ter - nal sow - ing,
hid - den grain, Dai - ly in our hearts in - creas - ing,



Scat - tered on the wind a - broad. Let not hearts, Your
Bear - ing fruit that shall re - main. So in Scrip - ture,
Word re - ceiv - ing, Like a bar - ren field be found, Choked with
song, and sto - ry, Sav - ior, may Your voice be heard. Till our
thorns and un - be - liev - ing, Shal - low earth or ston - y ground.
eyes be - hold Your glo - ry Give us ears to hear Your Word.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926. Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati. Text: © 1997 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: Public domain

Father, We Thank Thee

LSB 652



1 Fa - ther, we thank Thee who hast plant - ed Thy ho - ly
2 Watch o'er Thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, Save it from
name with - in our hearts. Knowl - edge and faith and life im -
e - vil, guard it still, Per - fect it in Thy love, u -
mor - tal Je - sus, Thy Son, to us im - parts.
nite it, Cleansed and con - formed un - to Thy will.
Thou, Lord, didst make all for Thy plea - sure, Didst
As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides, Was
give us food for all our days, Giv - ing in Christ the
in this bro - ken bread made one, So from all lands Thy
Bread e - ter - nal; Thine is the pow'r, be Thine the praise.
Church be gath - ered In - to Thy king - dom by Thy Son.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984. Tune: attr. Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–61. Text: © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: Public domain

Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

LSB 597



1 Wa - ter, blood, and Spir - it cry - ing, By their wit - ness
2 In a wa - t'ry grave are bur - ied All our sins that
3 Dark the way, yet Christ pre - cedes us, Past the scowl of
4 Though a - round us death is seeth - ing, God, His two - edged
5 Spir - it, wa - ter, blood en - treat - ing, Work - ing faith and



tes - ti - fy - ing To the One whose death - de - fy - ing
Je - sus car - ried; Christ, the Ark of Life, has fer - ried
death He leads us; Spreads a ta - ble where He feeds us
sword un - sheath - ing, By His Spir - it life is breath - ing
its com - plet - ing In the One whose death - de - feat - ing



Life has come, with life for all.
Us a - cross death's rag - ing flood.
With His bod - y and His blood.
Through the liv - ing, ac - tive Word.
Life has come, with life for all.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955. Tune: Jeffrey N. Blerch, 1967. Text: © 1999 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: © 2003 Jeffrey N. Blerch. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013

The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

LSB 602



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me
2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
3 The gifts of grace and peace From ab - so - lu - tion flow;
4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho - sen, saved and free!
New life He gives that makes Us His and His a - lone.
The pas - tor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
God's chil - dren lis - ten, hear, Re - ceive, and they are fed.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil - dren who pro - claim
Here He for - gives our sins With wa - ter and His Word;
For - give - ness that we need Is grant - ed to us there;
Christ fills them with Him - self, Blest words that give them life,



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
The tri - une God Him - self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
The Lord of mer - cy sends Us forth in His blest care.
Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's strife.

5 The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.

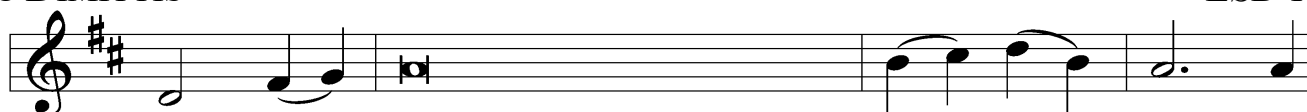
6 All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!

Text: Richard C. Resch, 1947. Tune: Charles J. Dale, 1842-1912, alt.. Text: © 2001 Richard C. Resch. Used by permission: LSB. Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: Public domain

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

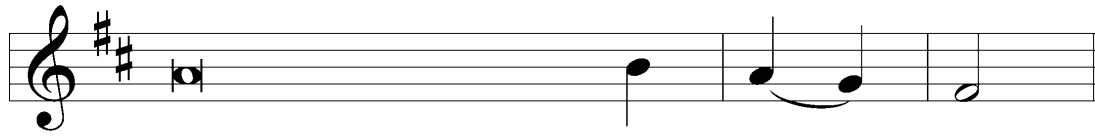


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

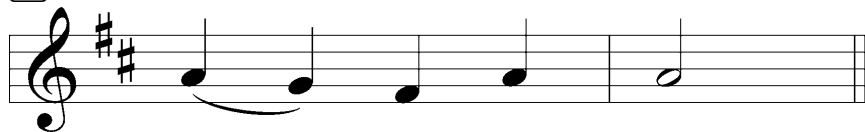
LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

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.



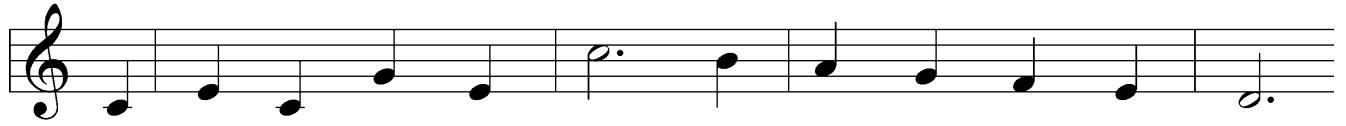
C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Sit

CLOSING HYMN

On What Has Now Been Sown

LSB 921



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;
2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;
3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,



The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou
Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -
May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -



in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!
es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.
low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89 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.



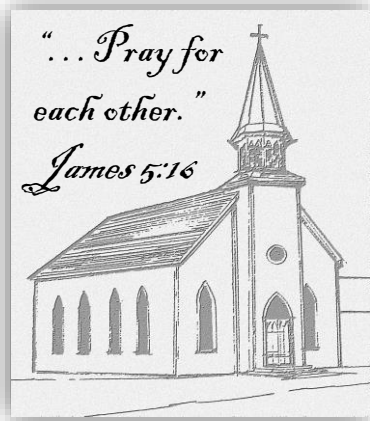
Congregation: strength and healing for Geraldine Pohlmeier; strength for David Husfeld; strength and healing for Donna Hinze as she goes through cancer treatment; healing for Terry and Becky

Lueckemeyer; for Tom Hayden's recovery after surgery and continued healing; for Adeline Platt's health; and Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church.

Community: blessings on William and Skylar Killinger as he prepares for his Holy Ministry; for Grace Lutheran School, that they may continue to be a place for the children of our community and congregation to learn and grow in their faith and knowledge of God's world; may our Lord continue to deliver to us favorable weather; for Brenham Pregnancy Center and those whose lives they touched; Faith Mission; families and individuals cared for by Child Protective Services.

World: for all those suffering through war, 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.

Bethlehem at Prayer



Prayer is a vital part of our life together in Christ. To that end, *Bethlehem at Prayer* is a means to encourage more intentional prayer for one another. This is an opportunity for us to support one another in faith, lifting up each household by name before our gracious God. While members can always request prayers at any time, this effort ensures that every family at Bethlehem is prayed for regularly. We invite you to join us in encouragement and intercession, praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ each week.

Please remember these families in your prayers this week:

- Ashorn – Jason, Wendy, Kaisen
- Ashorn – Billy, Vickie
- Holle – Mildred
- Holle – Jacey, Briar McCarty
- Molitor – Paul, Renea, Emmett, Beckett, Rylee
- Molitor – Rick

May the Lord bless and strengthen them in faith and life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule

July 12 – July 19

Today: *Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 9:00 AM | Sunday School & Adult Bible Class |
| 10:15 AM | Divine Worship: Setting III with Holy Communion |
| 11:30 AM | Shekel Store |
| | Acolyte: Winston Krieg |
| | Greeter: Theresa Kettler |
| | Ushers: Michael Kettler Robert Kettler |
| | Wayne Klussmann Don Koester |





Thursday:

6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study



Saturday:

8:30 AM Sisters in Christ Bible Study



Next Sunday: *Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

9:00 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

10:15 AM Divine Worship: Setting III with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Taylor Hinze

Greeter: Marilyn Klussmann

Ushers: Caleb Klussmann

Corey Klussmann

Valgene Kohring

Travis Medve

Serving in July: Elder – Clinton Kettler / Trustee – Doyle Dahmann

*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 David and Cathy Hodge
in celebration of Jeanne Williams' 90th birthday.*



There will be a **Voters' Meeting on Wednesday, July 22, at 7:30 pm.**



LWML Canned Food Drive – Supporting Bread Partners of Washington County

The ladies of LWML are inviting everyone to take part in a food drive **through August 30**. Please bring canned and non-perishable food items to the Parish Hall. Your

donations will help provide meals for families in need right here in our community.

Learn more at breadpartnersfoodpantry.org).



Lutheran Education Scholarship Announcement

If you would like to support the LESF and help encourage faithful Lutheran education, you may contribute by placing your gift in the offering plate and designating it for the *Lutheran Education Scholarship Fund*. For more information, please see Pastor Krieg.



Through our congregation's participation in the Adopt-a-Seminarian program, we have been blessed to be paired with seminarian William Killinger and his wife, Skylar. We will continue to collect gifts all year long, sending them each quarter.

Simply place your gift in the offering plate and designate it for "Seminarian William Killinger". A thank-you letter received from William and Skylar is posted in the Parish hall along with current photos. Please keep them in your prayers.

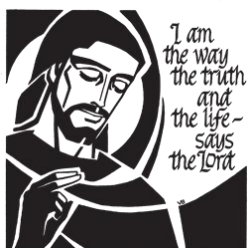
Congregational Potluck

Join us following the Divine Service on Sunday, July 26, for a congregational potluck as we welcome our Adopt-a-Seminarian, William Killinger, and his wife, Skylar. William will be preaching during the service, and this will be a wonderful opportunity to enjoy fellowship with them and encourage them as he prepares for pastoral ministry.

The Board of Missions will provide the main dish. A sign-up sheet is available in the parish hall for those who would like to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

A free-will offering will also be received during the potluck to support William and Skylar as they continue their seminary studies. We hope you will join us for this special afternoon of Christian fellowship and encouragement.

Sunday School Corner



Today, the kids studied the lesson, "The Last Call – Jesus Will Return." Jesus describes His second coming, when the Father will separate believers and unbelievers. He tells how the faithful, by faith, fulfill God's will, and how the unfaithful will find themselves banished to eternal punishment. John records the words of the risen and glorified Christ in the last chapter of his revelation. There, Christ

promises once again to return and gather all believers to Himself: "Surely I am coming soon" (Revelation 22:20). To reinforce this lesson with your kids, as a family, discuss: If Jesus were standing in this room, we would surely be loving and kind to Him. That seems easy, but Scripture tells us that when we are being loving and kind

to others, we are being loving and kind to Jesus. How can we serve Jesus by serving others? We don't have to be afraid of the Last Day, because Jesus died for us and has given us the gift of faith. We are His sheep! He is our Shepherd! How can we show everyone around us that we are His sheep?

High School Lesson

Our High School Sunday School class is beginning a new study series using Not-So-Nice Bible Stories: Master Criminals. In this engaging and thought-provoking study, students will explore the stories of some of Scripture's most notorious wrongdoers, and discover how God's mercy and grace still shine through even the darkest human deeds. Each lesson points us to Christ, who took the punishment for all sin upon Himself and gives us forgiveness, life, and salvation. Join us as we dig into God's Word, wrestle with tough questions, and see how even "master criminals" reveal our need for the one true Savior, Jesus Christ.

Lesson 18 – The Jail Breaks Without a Jailbreak (Acts 16)

In this week's lesson, our High School Sunday School class studied Paul and Silas in prison and the remarkable events that followed. Students explored how the apostles remained faithful even while suffering unjustly for the sake of Christ. When God sent an earthquake to open the prison doors, Paul and Silas did not flee. Instead, they stayed and proclaimed the Gospel to the terrified jailer, who asked the most important question of all: "What must I do to be saved?" We discussed how salvation comes not through our works, but through faith in Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for sinners. This account reminds us that God often works through trials and hardships to bring His saving Word to those who need to hear it, transforming lives through the power of the Gospel.

Adult Sunday School Lesson



Join us as we begin a new Adult Sunday School study on the Means of Grace, the wonderful gifts through which Christ delivers forgiveness, life, and salvation to His people. Together, we will study the Word of God, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution, and the Lord's Supper from Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.

What makes Lutherans speak so strongly about Baptism? Why do we believe Christ is truly present in the Lord's Supper? Why is it proper to commune every Sunday? What is Absolution, and why is hearing forgiveness spoken aloud such a comfort? How does God actually create and strengthen faith?

These are not merely academic questions. The Means of Grace are at the very heart of the Christian life because they are the very ways Christ comes to serve sinners with His mercy and forgiveness. Even if you have not attended Sunday School recently, now is a wonderful time to begin. Whether you are a lifelong Lutheran or newer to the faith, this study will help deepen your understanding of Christ's gifts and strengthen your confidence in His promises.

Come and receive the comfort and certainty Christ gives through His Means of Grace!



July 12 – Pentecost 7 – Oh, how many sins against life occur because the devil has snatched the Word of God from peoples' hearts and because the cares of this earthly life choke out

the Word (Matthew 13:19-22)! We are often tempted to withhold preaching the Word to some, thinking that we know which people will believe and bear fruit. However, God calls us to continue casting out His Word onto every type of soil, knowing that His Word never returns to Him empty and will accomplish His purpose (Isaiah 55:11), sometimes in the most unlikely of places.



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

DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
July 5	Sunday School	6	\$41.00
	Youth Bible Class	1	
	Adult Bible Class	22	
July 5	Worship Service	88	General Fund: \$5,017.83 Appliance Maintenance: \$146.38

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report - Operating Funds
January - June 2026

CASH RECEIPTS

		Building	General	Total
Contributions	\$	13,326.54	\$ 119,486.35	\$ 132,812.89
Thrivent - Building Fund	\$	8,800.00	\$ -	\$ 8,800.00
TOTAL INFLOW	\$	22,126.54	\$ 119,486.35	\$ 141,612.89

CASH DISBURSMENTS

Pastor's Expenses				
Salary			\$ 24,892.50	\$ 24,892.50
Federal Withholding			\$ 6,345.00	\$ 6,345.00
403b			\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00
Travel Expenses (mileage, meals, etc.)			\$ 587.98	\$ 587.98
Cell Phone			\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Retirement			\$ 4,458.90	\$ 4,458.90
Health Savings Acct.			\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Health			\$ 17,398.92	\$ 17,398.92
Disability/Accident/Life			\$ 902.04	\$ 902.04
Continuing Education			\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Subtotal			\$ 60,885.34	\$ 60,885.34
Property:				
Property Insurance	\$	8,528.00		\$ 8,528.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$	3,965.82		\$ 3,965.82
Cleaning			\$ 3,120.49	\$ 3,120.49
Mowing - Church			\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
Utilities - Sanctuary			\$ 4,618.78	\$ 4,618.78
Utilities - Parsonage			\$ 1,471.88	\$ 1,471.88
Office:				
Accounting			\$ 4,410.00	\$ 4,410.00
Secretary Salary			\$ 4,831.06	\$ 4,831.06
Payroll Taxes			\$ 974.96	\$ 974.96
Computer			\$ 863.65	\$ 863.65
Copier			\$ 3,630.00	\$ 3,630.00
Postage			\$ 626.75	\$ 626.75
Office Supplies			\$ 1,918.66	\$ 1,918.66
Office - IT			\$ -	\$ -
AV staff payroll			\$ 1,053.71	\$ 1,053.71
Board of Missions			\$ 1,040.00	\$ 1,040.00
District Convention/Assessment			\$ 843.28	\$ 843.28
Lutheran Witness			\$ 222.75	\$ 222.75
Missions - Tx District			\$ 5,250.00	\$ 5,250.00
Missions - Local			\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Organist			\$ 4,995.00	\$ 4,995.00
Sunday School & VBS			\$ 744.06	\$ 744.06
Worship Supplies			\$ 2,337.38	\$ 2,337.38
TOTAL OUTFLOW	\$	12,493.82	\$ 106,837.75	\$ 119,331.57
NET CASH FLOW	\$	9,632.72	\$ 12,648.60	\$ 22,281.32
1/1/2026 Balance	\$	28,870.07	\$ 153,416.04	\$ 182,286.11
6/30/2026 Balance	\$	38,502.79	\$ 166,064.64	\$ 204,567.43

Treasurer's Report - Special Fund **January - June 2026**

	Balance 3/31/2026	Gifts Received	Transfers Out	Balance 6/30/2026
Cemetery Fund	\$ 17,320.21	\$ 506.00	\$ (1,950.00)	\$ 15,876.21
Cemetery Road repair donation	\$ 1,160.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,160.00
Easter Lilies	\$ 221.00	\$ 52.00	\$ (273.00)	\$ -
Flags & Stands	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Interest	\$ 413.10	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 413.10
LYL	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ (200.00)	\$ -
Memorials	\$ 23,935.65	\$ 824.00	\$ -	\$ 24,759.65
Missions	\$ -	\$ 348.29	\$ -	\$ 348.29
New Pew Project	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 30.00	\$ -	\$ 1,280.00
Pancake Supper	\$ 12,823.81	\$ 7,255.00	\$ (1,383.03)	\$ 18,695.78
Parameters	\$ 2,572.81	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,572.81
School Scholarships	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Security	\$ 825.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 825.00
Seminary Student	\$ -	\$ 2,710.00	\$ (2,710.00)	\$ -
Shepherd's Helping Hands	\$ 4,504.77	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,504.77
Stained Glass repair	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Veteran's Plaque	\$ 572.70	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 572.70
Special Fund Bank Balance	\$ 65,899.05	\$ 14,325.29	\$ (6,516.03)	\$ 73,708.31