



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

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 19, 2026

10:15 AM



Pastor

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Caleb Klussmann
Corey Klussmann
Valgene Kohring
Travis Medve

Acolyte

Taylor Hinze

Greeter

Marilyn Klussmann

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 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.

Ringling of the Church Bell

OPENING HYMN

For the Fruits of His Creation

LSB 894



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
world - wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
won - ders that as - tound us, For the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000. Tune: Welsh, 18th cent. Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013.
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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 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.

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

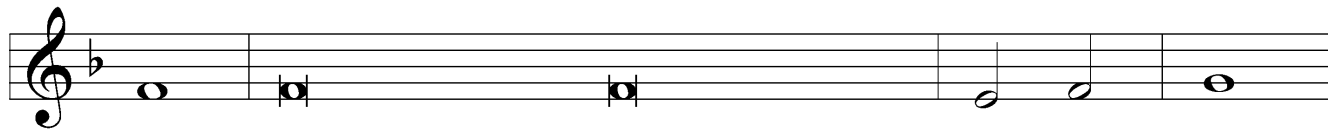
Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

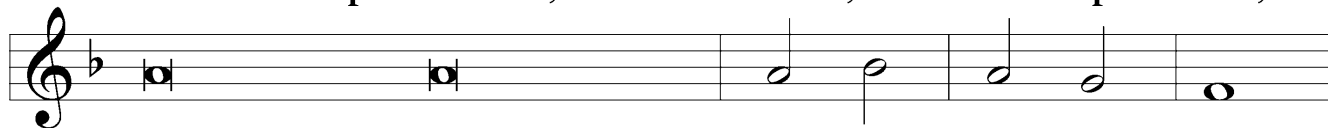
P Glory be to God on High,



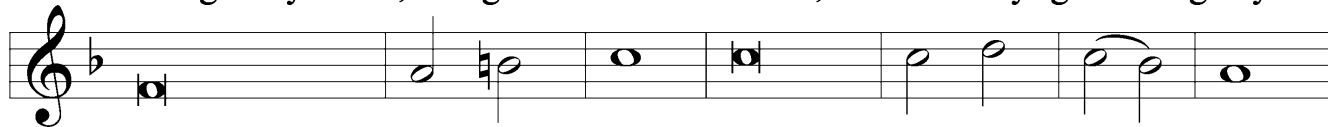
C and on earth peace, good - will toward



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



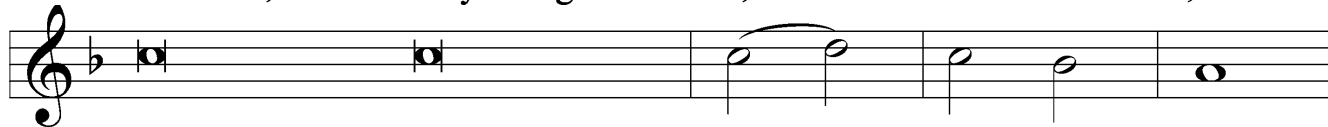
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



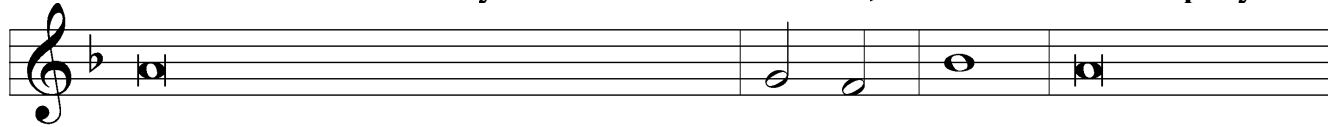
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



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



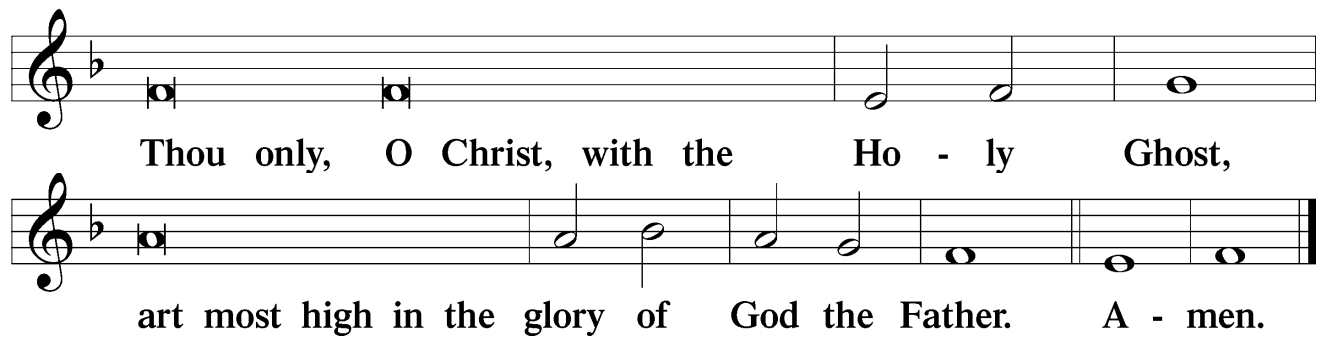
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



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.



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

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.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus 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.

⁷Who 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.

⁸Fear 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.

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 8:18-27

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And 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. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise 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. ²⁷And 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.

Stand

COMMON ALLELUIA

LSB 190

C Al-le - lu - ia. 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.

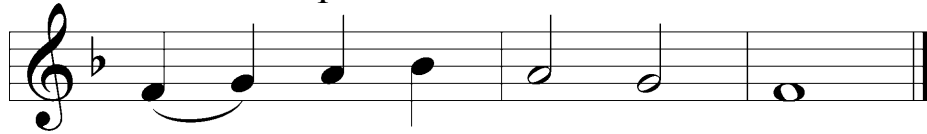


C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And 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?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let 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.’” . . .

³⁶Then 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.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then 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 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

In Holy Conversation

LSB 772

1 In ho - ly con - ver - sa - tion We speak to God in prayer,
 2 These ho - ly con - ver - sa - tions Be - gin in child-like ways;
 3 As ho - ly con - ver - sa - tion, In si - lence or by word,

And at His in - vi - ta - tion Our deep-est thoughts we share.
 We bring our sup - pli - ca - tions And words of thanks and praise.
 In ev - 'ry sit - u - a - tion Through Je - sus, we are heard.

We come, His will o - bey - ing, As chil - dren bring - ing needs;
 With care our Fa - ther lis - tens To ev - 'ry thought ex - pressed,
 So let us pray se - cure - ly, Ex - press - ing hopes and fears

And to sup - port our pray - ing, His Spir - it in - ter - cedes.
 Then an - swers our pe - ti - tions In ways He knows are best.
 With con - fi - dence that sure - ly Our Fa - ther ev - er hears.

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SERMON

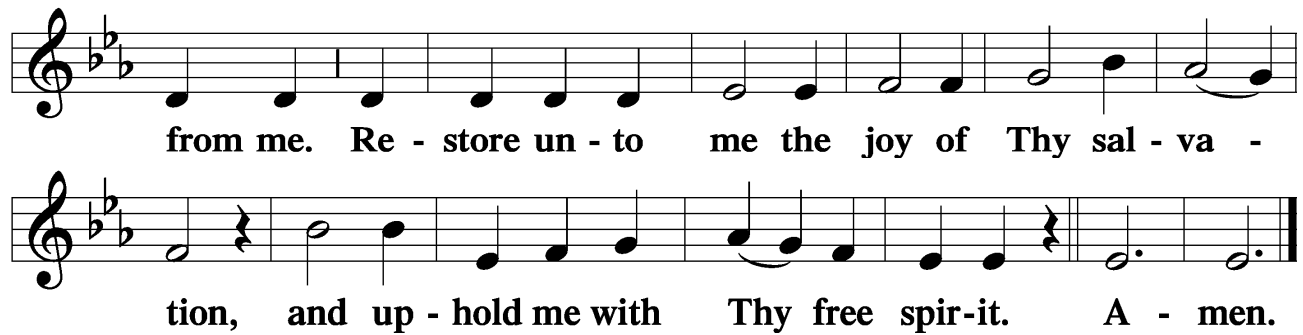
When the Harvest Comes
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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.

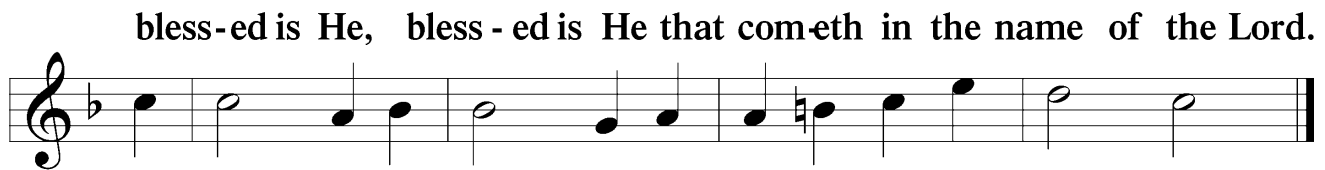
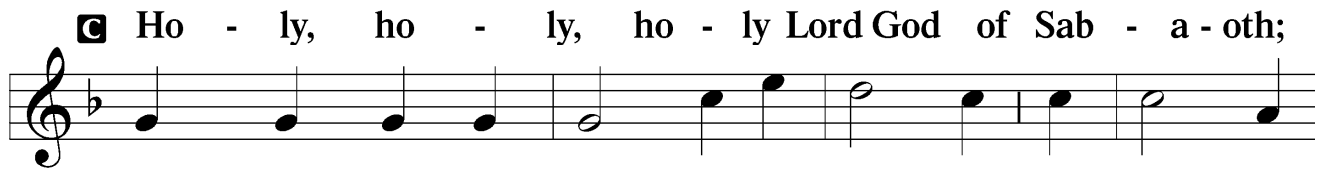


C It is meet and right so to do.

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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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



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

Christ Sits at God's Right Hand

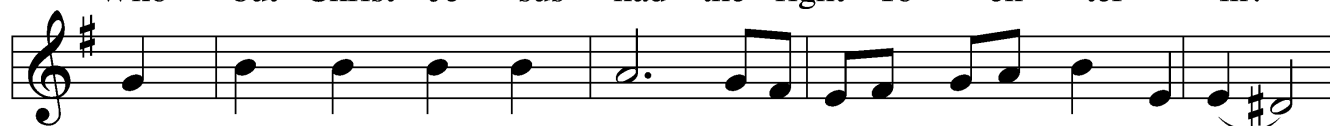
LSB 564



1 Christ sits at God's right hand, His sav - ing work com - plete,
2 Christ was that priest God swore, U - nique - ly First and Last,
3 Christ's al - tar was the tree, Where on the world's be - half
4 What cost - ly sac - ri - fice To cov - er hu - man sin!



To reign till ev - 'ry foe will lie Be - neath His feet—
Who would in righ - teous - ness and love Be un - sur - passed:
He shed a blood, un - like the blood Of goat or calf,
Who but Christ Je - sus had the right To en - ter in?



All that the Fa - ther planned, The Son sought to ful - fill,
"A priest for - ev - er - more," An oath God would not break,
To seal God's guar - an - tee Of grace that can - not fail;
His blood, that sprin - kled price, So we might be as - sured



When first He said, "Lord, here am I To do Your will."
"A priest with - in the or - der of Mel - chiz - e - dek."
With blood He en - tered for our good Be - hind the veil.
That our in - her - i - tance in light Has been se - cured.

5 Then let us now draw near,
Washed in that precious flood
And enter the Most Holy Place
By Jesus' blood.
From hearts that are sincere,
Let tongues our hope profess,
And trust anew God's faithful grace
That we confess.

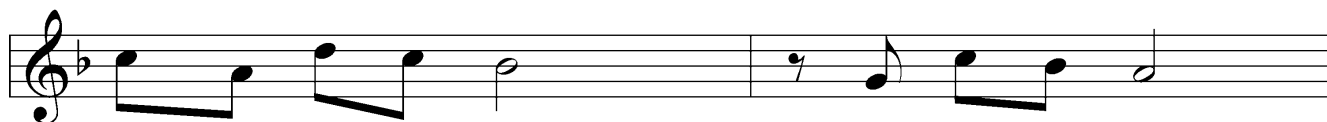
△ 6 All praise to Christ we bring,
Our Lord who intercedes,
Our great High Priest enthroned above
Who knows our needs;
And to the Father sing
Our songs of thankful praise,
Who with the Spirit reigns in love
For endless days.

What Is This Bread

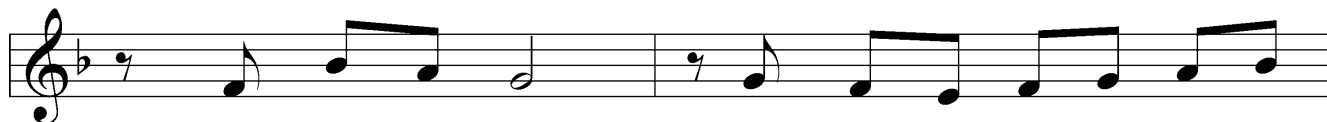
LSB 629



1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	That	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes! By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -



ris - en	from the	dead:	This	bread	we	break,
Je - sus	shed	for mine;	The	cup	of	grace
live	and	He should	Un - der	the	rod?	
Word	and	prom - ise	In	mouth	and	soul
giv - en	and	set free!	I	do	be -	lieve



This	life	we	take,	Was	crushed	to	pay	for	our	re -
Brings	His	em -	brace	Of	life	and	love	un -	til	I
My	God,	my	God,	Why	have	You	not	for -	sak -	en
He	makes	us	whole—	Christ,	tru -	ly	pres -	ent	in	this
That	I	re -	ceive	His	ver -	y	bod -	y	and	His



lease.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	peace.
sing!	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	King.
me?	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	free.
meal.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	real.
blood.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	good.

Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion

LSB 559



1 Oh, how great is Your com - pas - sion, Faith - ful Fa - ther,
 2 Your great love for this has striv - en That we may, from
 3 Firm - ly to our soul's sal - va - tion Wit - ness - es Your
 4 Lord, Your mer - cy will not leave me; Ev - er will Your
 5 I will praise Your great com - pas - sion, Faith - ful Fa - ther,



God of grace, That with all our fall - en race
 sin made free, Live with You e - ter - nal - ly.
 Spir - it, Lord, In Your Sac - ra - ments and Word.
 truth a - bide. Then in You I will con - fide.
 God of grace, That with all our fall - en race



In our depth of deg - ra - da - tion You had mer - cy
 Your dear Son Him - self has giv - en And ex - tends His
 There He sends true con - so - la - tion, Giv - ing us the
 Since Your Word can - not de - ceive me, My sal - va - tion
 In our depth of deg - ra - da - tion You had mer - cy



so that we Might be saved e - ter - nal - ly!
 gra - cious call, To His sup - per leads us all.
 gift of faith That we fear not hell nor death.
 is to me Safe and sure e - ter - nal - ly.
 so that we Might be saved e - ter - nal - ly.

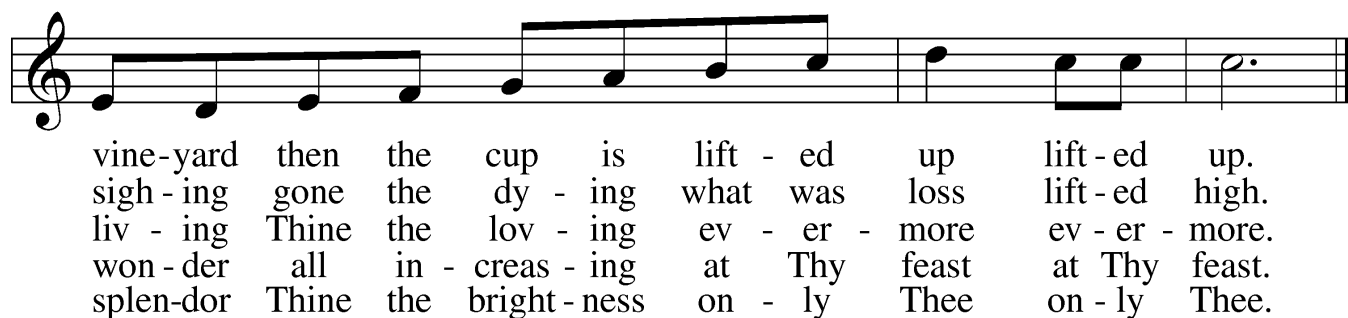
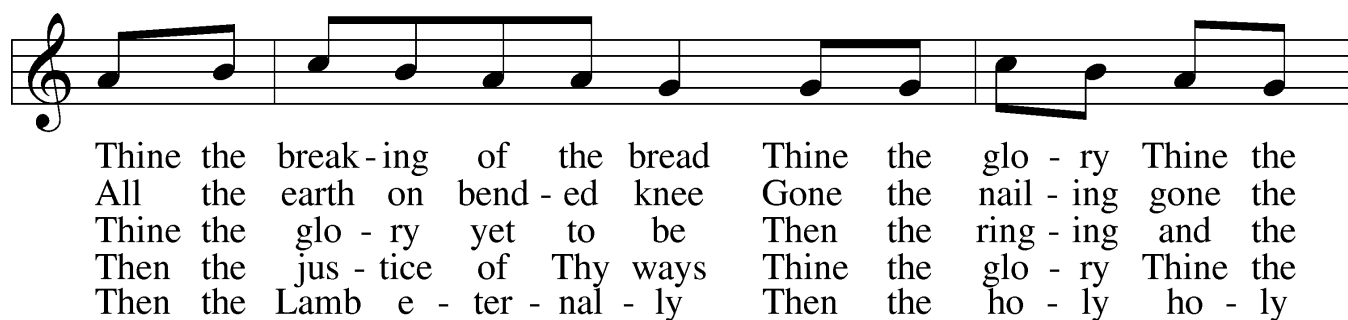
Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Schäffer-Belustigung . . . Hirthen-Lieder, 1653, Altdorf Text and tune: Public domain

Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

LSB 680



1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly Thine the
 3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the
 4 Thine the king - dom Thine the prize Thine the
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night No more



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Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199



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

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

LSB 924



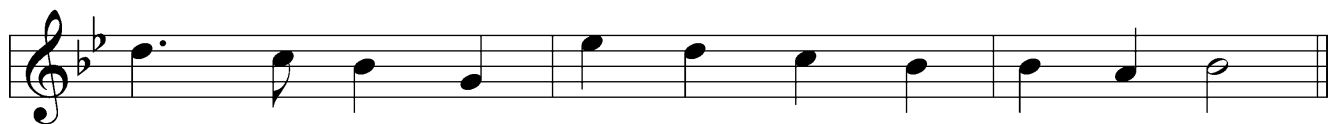
1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling



joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

Text (sts. 1–2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79 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.



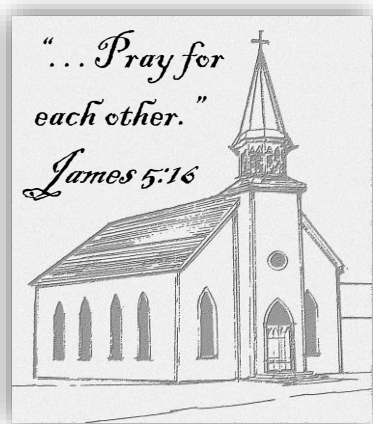
Congregation: strength for David Husfeld; strength and healing for Donna Hinze as she goes through cancer treatment; healing for Terry and Becky Lueckemeyer; for Tom Hayden's

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:

- Baichtal - Dusty
- Baichtal – Judy

- Holle – Ken, Andrea, Christopher
- Holle – Jason, Kaitlyn
- Moore – Thelma
- Nowicki – Dustin, Heidi, Hannah, Taylor, Dillion

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS
This Week's Schedule
July 19 – July 26



Today: *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



Wednesday:

7:30 PM Voters Meeting



Thursday:

6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study



Next Sunday: *Ninth Sunday after Pentecost*

9:00 AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
10:15 AM Divine Worship: Setting III with Holy Communion
 Acolyte: Kinsley Haferkamp
 Greeter: Ann Koester
 Ushers: Charles Meyer Paul Richter
 Colin Schomburg Collin Schroeder

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
 Waldo Holle, Jason Holle, and Joy Hutson in memory of Lois Holle's birthday.*



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



St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin is hosting a Young Adult Conference October 2nd – 4th for ages 18-35. Tickets are \$10.00. Join fellow Lutheran young adults for a weekend of fellowship. For more information and/or to register, scan the QR code.



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).



Bethlehem Lutheran Schützenverein

Men's Club Skeet Shoot & Breakfast Social

Join us for a morning of fellowship, food, and friendly competition at our **Men's Club Skeet Shoot & Breakfast Social** on **Saturday, August 15**, at **Dos Rios Ranch**, located on **Highway 105 between the Brazos and Navasota Rivers**.

Schedule

- **7:00–8:00 AM** – Breakfast and check-in
- Shooting begins following check-in

A **suggested freewill donation of \$20 per gun** will be collected to go towards the men's club and the church.

RSVP

Please RSVP to **David Hodge** by text or phone at (214) 597-1646, or by email at hodge.david@sbcglobal.net.

We hope you'll join us for a great morning of Christian fellowship, good food, and outdoor fun!



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.

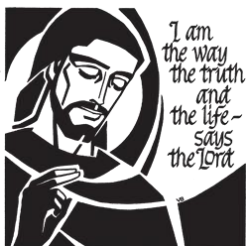
Simply place your gift in the offering plate and designate it for "Seminarian William Killinger". A thank-you letter received from William and Skylar is posted in the Parish hall along with current photos. Please keep them in your prayers. William and Skylar will be here on Sunday, July 26th and William will preach the sermon.

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, "Awake, Jerusalem, Arise!" Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem happened on the tenth day of the first month of the Jewish calendar, the day the paschal lamb was brought to the city for the celebration of the Passover. Jesus was the Paschal Lamb, and He arrived in Jerusalem as our sacrifice. It was

no accident that He entered on that day. He knew the words of the prophets. He came exactly as His triumphal entry had been foretold, but not as a leader of a mighty army. Instead, soon after His entry, Jesus would complete His mission to be the sacrifice for all people by a cruel death on a cross. And because of what He has done for us, we, too, can sing “Hosanna!” to the one who is our Savior. As you read the account from the Gospel of Matthew, I want you to focus on this truth: Christ, who came once, will come again. This week, talk about how God came to His people in the past, how He comes to His people in the present, and how He will come again to His people in the future.

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 19 – Pentecost 8 – The devil sowed his evil seed of suffering and death into the world by convincing Adam to doubt and disobey God's Word (Matthew 13:39). The sons of the evil one (Matthew 13:38) would convince us

that we could avoid the sufferings of this present time (Romans 8:18) by embracing death through abortion, suicide, and euthanasia. But, God, who is our Rock (Isaiah 44:8), promises us true redemption from suffering through the blood of Christ, in whom we are adopted as God's children and have the promise of the resurrection of our bodies (Romans 8:23).



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 12	Sunday School	8	\$111.00
	Youth Bible Class	1	
	Adult Bible Class	24	
July 12	Worship Service	106	Total Offering \$6,830.79 Scholarship Donation \$1,000.00 Seminarian W. Killinger \$2,100.00 Pew Donation \$40.00

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Voter's Agenda
Third Quarterly Meeting
July 22, 2026

Call to Order
Devotion
Roll Call

Reception of New Members

Jason, Diana and Maja Stephens from Our Savior Lutheran, Houston

Release of Members

Peaceful Release of Bill Minar

Minutes

Pastor's Message and Report

Treasurer's Report

Board of Elders

Board of Trustees

Board of Education

Old Business

New Business

1. Trustees to present bids for humidifiers to remove moisture underneath the parish hall.
2. Approval for the William Penn Education Extension to hold their meeting on the **third Tuesday morning** of each month. Previously the group met at Bethlehem before the parish hall was renovated.

Announcements

Singing "Amen" at the end of the hymns.

Potluck Dinner on Sunday July 26th for our Seminarian William Killinger and his wife, Skylar and new members Jason, Diana and Maja Stephens.

Adjournment with the Lord's Prayer

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
Paraments	\$ 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