

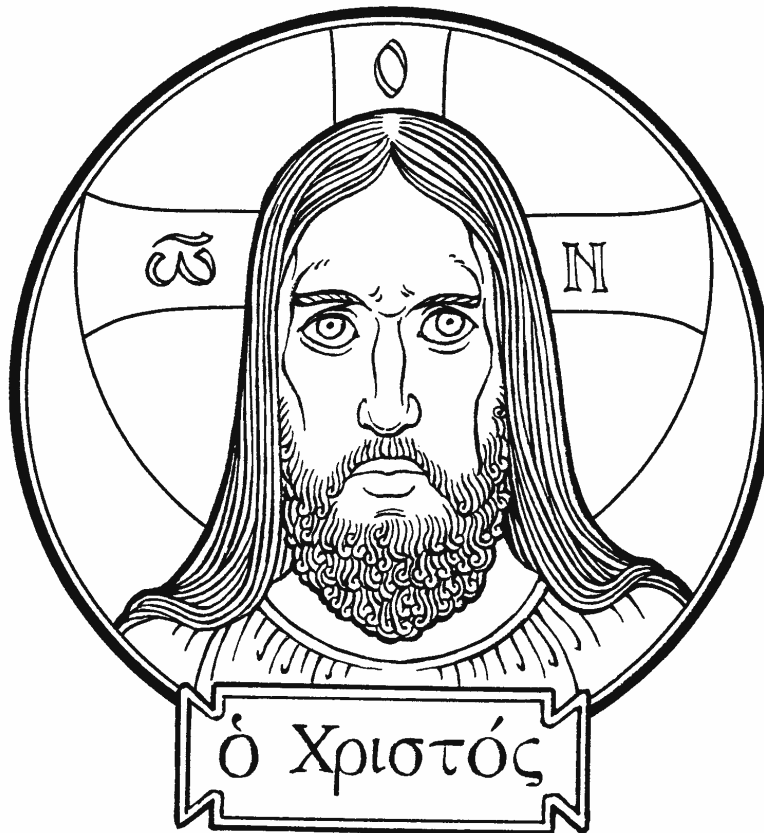


Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 23, 2026

10:15 AM



Pastor

Rev. Kelly Dean Krieg
(214) 208-1364
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Secretary

Janice Pazderny
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Organist

Ann Sommer

Ushers

Eric Berglund
Brian Crabb
Daryl Dahman
Doyle Dahmann

Acolyte

Wyatt Schramme

Greeter

Janice Pazderny

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 2026 – 10:15 AM

Divine Service: Setting III with Holy Communion

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

Pre-Service Music



August Bible Verse

“You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, and there is no God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.”

2 Samuel 7:22

Our Mission Statement

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



COMMUNION STATEMENT

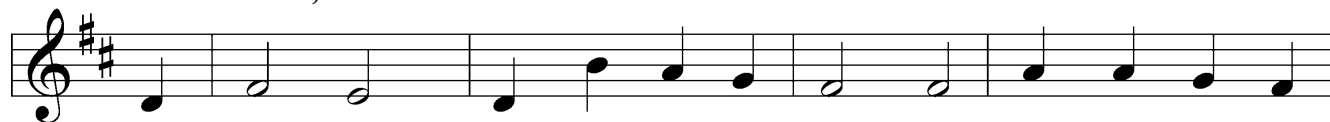
In Light of 1 Cor. 11:23-26, Bethlehem Lutheran Church maintains the historical practice of “closed” communion in the belief that the Sacrament requires faith in Christ’s words that His body and blood are truly present. Furthermore, participation in the Sacrament is a sign of our unity in the faith with 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 Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head

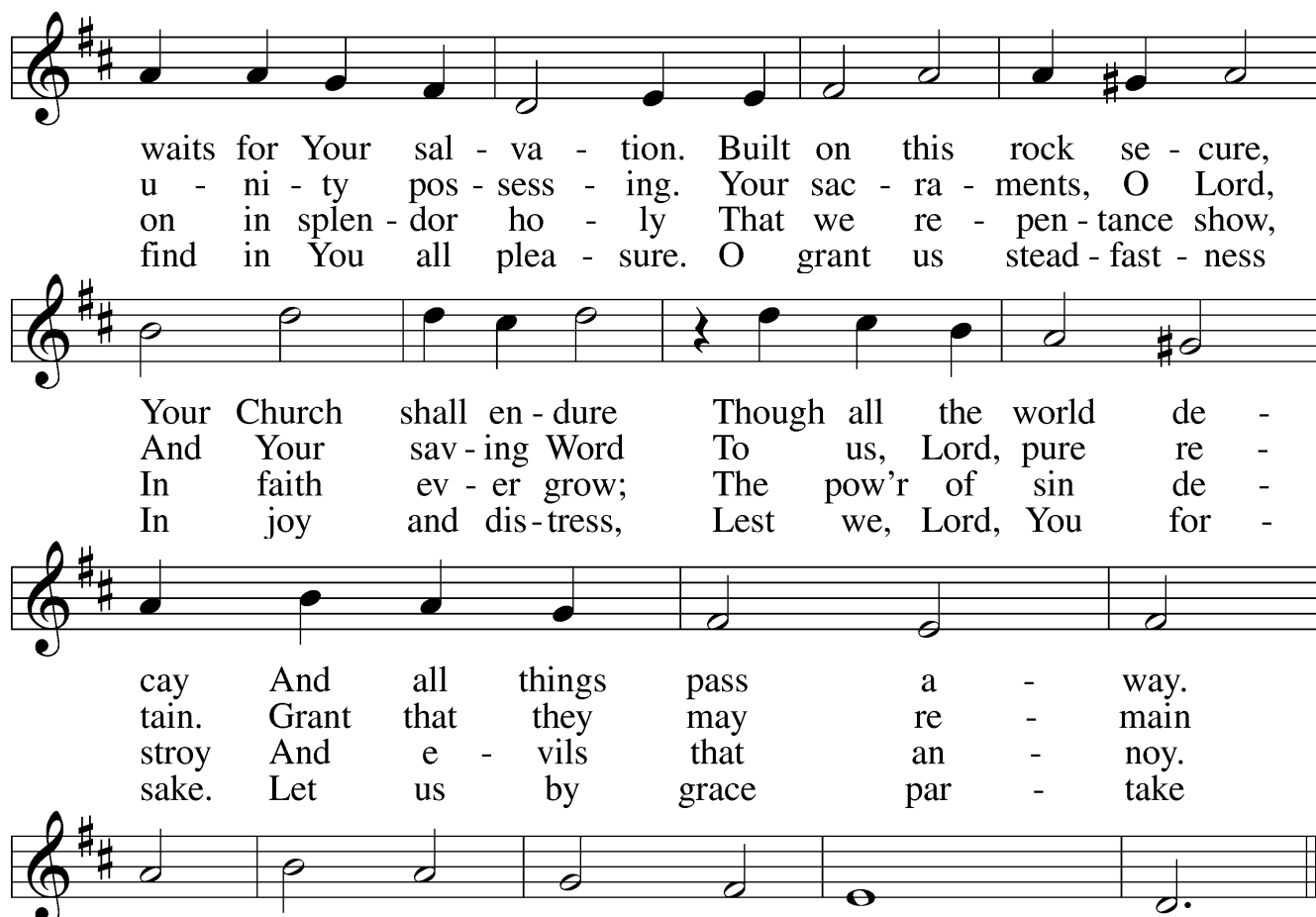
LSB 647



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Church’s head, You are her one foun-
2 O Lord, let this Your lit - tle flock, Your name a - lone con -
3 Help us to serve You ev - er - more With hearts both pure and
4 And for Your Gos - pel let us dare To sac - ri - fice all



da - tion; In You she trusts, be - fore You bows, And
fess - ing, Con - tin - ue in Your lov - ing care, True
low - ly; And may Your Word, that light di - vine, Shine
trea - sure; Teach us to bear Your bless - ed cross, To



waits for Your sal - va - tion. Built on this rock se - cure,
 u - ni - ty pos - sess - ing. Your sac - ra - ments, O Lord,
 on in splen - dor ho - ly That we re - pen - tance show,
 find in You all plea - sure. O grant us stead - fast - ness

Your Church shall en - dure Though all the world de -
 And Your sav - ing Word To us, Lord, pure re -
 In faith ev - er grow; The pow'r of sin de -
 In joy and dis - tress, Lest we, Lord, You for -

cay And all things pass a - way.
 tain. Grant that they may re - main
 stroy And e - vils that an - noy.
 sake. Let us by grace par - take

O hear, O hear us, Je - sus!
 Our on - ly strength and com - fort.
 O make us faith - ful Chris - tians.
 Of end - less joy and glad - ness.

Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734; tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891–1976, alt. Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. 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 2:6-7;117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18

But we will bless the LORD

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

As for me, I have set my King

on Zion, my holy hill.

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!

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.

But we will bless the LORD

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

GLORIA PATRI

LSB 186



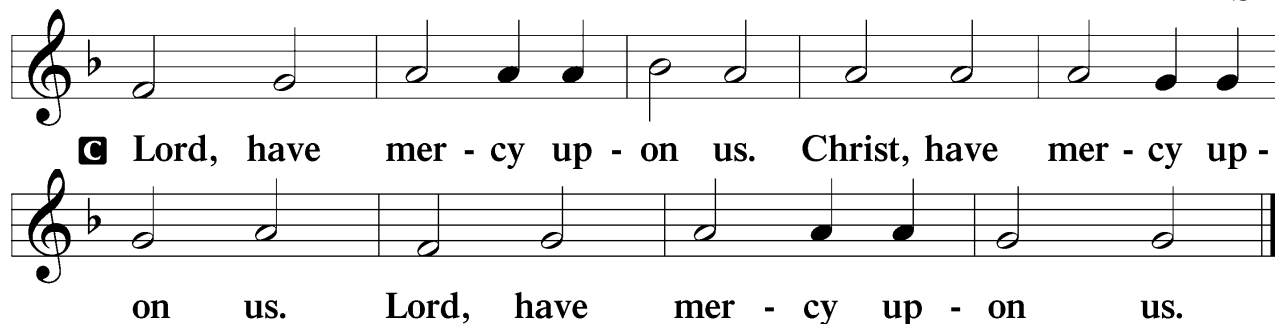
G Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



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

KYRIE

LSB 186



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

HYMN OF PRAISE

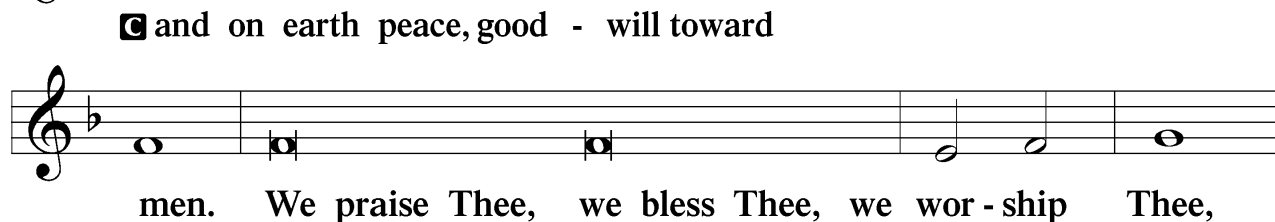
Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

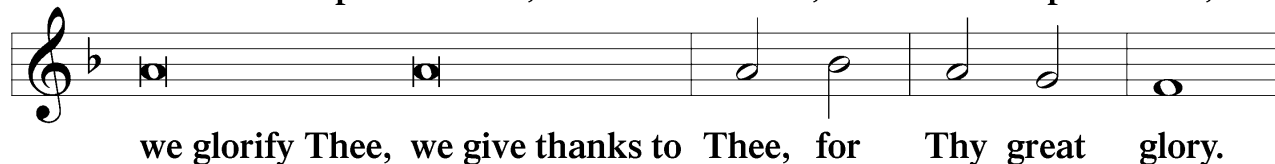
P Glory be to God on High,



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.



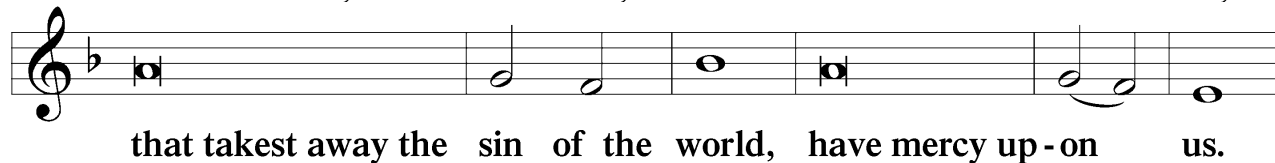
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



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.
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.

C Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 51:1-6

¹“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.

³For the LORD comforts Zion;
he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
⁴“Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.
⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

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

GRADUAL

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

EPISTLE

Romans 11:33 – 12:8

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵“Or who has given a gift to him
that he might be repaid?”

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

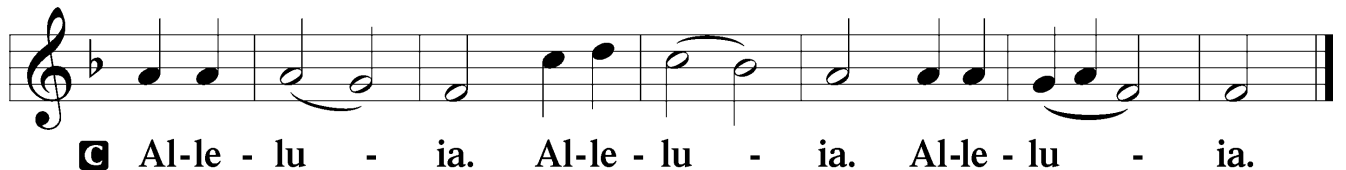
³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

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

Stand

COMMON ALLELUIA

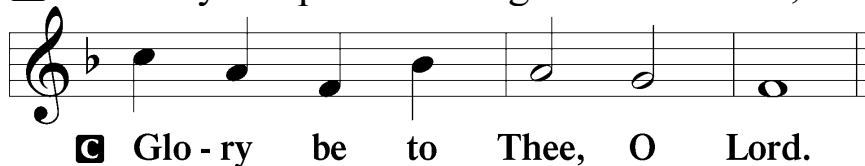
LSB 190



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

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



¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, “You are the

Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

LSB 191

C 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.**

Sit

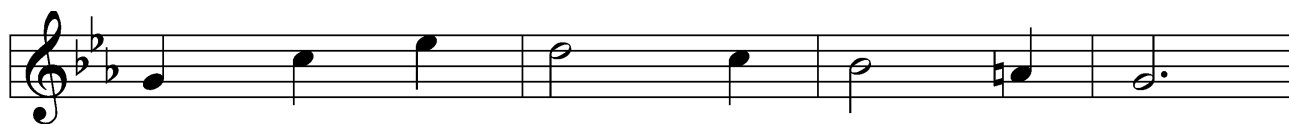
HYMN OF THE DAY

Built on the Rock

LSB 645



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the
stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing
ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -
ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
Choos - es to live with us in love,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
You, not the world, My face shall see.



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
With all His grace and His fa - vor.
And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
My peace I leave with you. A - men."

Tune and text: Public domain

SERMON

The Rock Beneath Our Feet *Matthew 16:13-20*

Stand

OFFERTORY

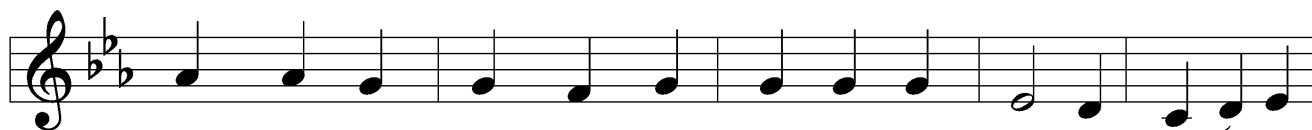
LSB 192



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



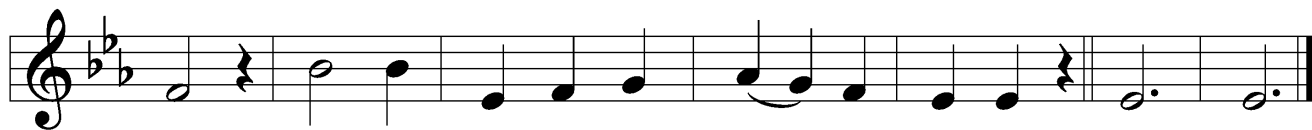
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



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



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

OFFERING PRAYER

Sit

OFFERING

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIR

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

LSB 516



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."
To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

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. 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



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

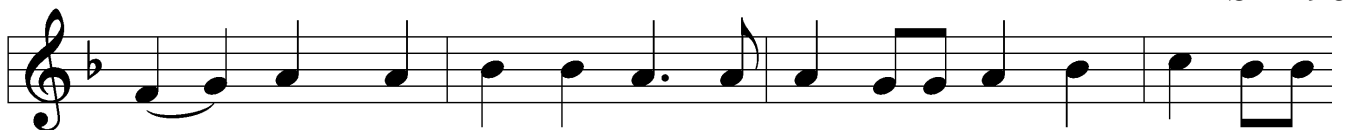
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



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

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

LSB 575

1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Je - sus'

2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on

3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood, Sup - port me

4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I

blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my

His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and

in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly

then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -

own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.

storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.

prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

Tune and text: Public domain

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

LSB 686



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



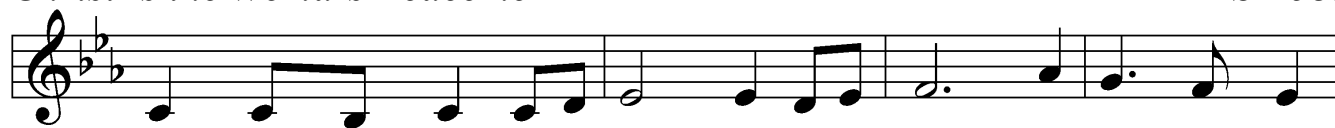
Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.



1 Christ is the world's Re - deem - er, The lov - er of the pure,
 2 Christ has our host sur - round - ed With clouds of mar - tyrs bright,
 3 Down through the realm of dark - ness He strode in vic - to - ry,
 Δ 4 Glo - ry to God the Fa - ther, The un - be - got - ten One,



The font of heav'n-ly wis - dom, Our trust and hope se - cure,
 Who wave their palms in tri - umph And fire us for the fight.
 And at the hour ap - point - ed He rose tri - um - phant-ly.
 All hon - or be to Je - sus, His sole - be - got - ten Son,



The ar - mor of His sol - diers, The Lord of earth and sky,
 Then Christ the cross as - cend - ed To save a world un - done
 And now, to heav'n as - cend - ed, He sits up - on the throne
 And to the Ho - ly Spir - it— The per - fect Trin - i - ty.



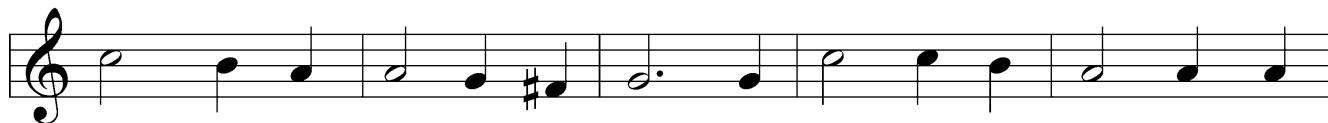
Our health while we are liv - ing, Our life when we shall die.
 And, suf - f'ring for the sin - ful, Our full re - demp - tion won.
 Whence He had ne'er de - part - ed, His Fa - ther's and His own.
 Let all the worlds give an - swer: A - men! So let it be.

Text: attr. Columba, 521–597; tr. Duncan MacGregor, 1854–1923, alt. Tune: Irish. Text and tune: Public domain





1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let
 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The

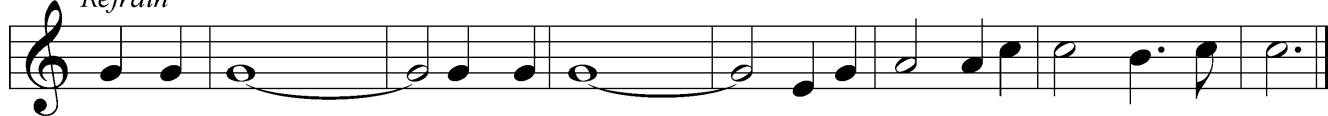


sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



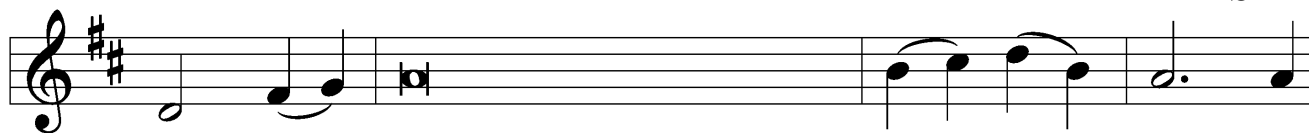
It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–88, alt..Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–76. Text and 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.

[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

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

LSB 909



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of
3 Grant, we pray, to all Your faith - ful All the gifts they
△ 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; Come with all Your lov - ing - kind - ness,
ask to gain; What they gain from You, for - ev - er
to the Son, Praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



Bind - ing all the Church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's
Hear Your peo - ple as they pray; And Your full - est
With the bless - ed to re - tain; And here - af - ter
Ev - er three and ev - er one: One in might and



help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in these walls to - day.
in Your glo - ry Ev - er - more with You to reign.
one in glo - ry While un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt. 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.



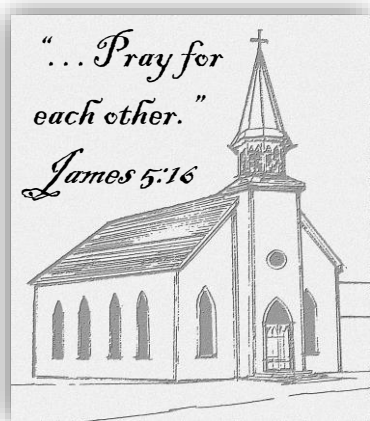
Congregation: strength for David Husfeld; strength and healing for Donna Hinze as she goes through cancer treatment; health and healing for David Boenker, healing for Terry and Becky Lueckemeyer;

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:

- Brinkmann – Mike, Renee
- Carroll – Cody, Raellen
- Kettler – Pauline
- Kettler – Robert, Jessica, Madison, Michael
- Richter – Paul, Beverly
- Schomburg – Bradley, Cindy, Braylee, Colin

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule

August 23 – August 30



Today: *Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

- 9:00 AM** Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
10:15 AM Divine Service: Setting III with Holy Communion
11:30 AM Promotion Sunday Lunch and Activities
Acolyte: Wyatt Schramme
Greeter: Janice Pazderny
Ushers: Eric Berglund Brian Crabb
 Daryl Dahman Doyle Dahmann



Thursday:

- 6:30 PM** Ladies Bible Study



Saturday:

- 8:30 AM** Sisters in Christ Bible Study



Next Sunday: *Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

- 9:00 AM** Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
10:15 AM Divine Service: Setting III with Holy Communion
Acolyte: Amelia Kettler
Greeter: Destry Pohlmeier
Ushers: Tyler Gandy Glenn Foster
 Delwin Gaskamp Kevin Harrington

Serving in August: Elder – Brad Molitor / Trustee – Robert Kettler

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



*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by JR and Laramie Kettler
in honor of JR's birthday.*



PROMOTION SUNDAY

Today we will celebrate Promotion Sunday to wrap up our 2025-2026 Sunday School year. Awards will be presented to Sunday School students as they promote to the next grade level. A meal with ice cream will be served after the church service. There are water slide bounce houses for both younger and older kids following the meal sponsored by the Board of Education.



Texas Confessional Lutherans Free Conference: "Why Be Lutheran?"

Texas Confessional Lutherans will host a **free conference**, "Why Be Lutheran?", on **September 11–12, 2026**, at **Grace Lutheran Church in Brenham, Texas**.

The conference will explore **what distinguishes Lutheranism and why a Lutheran confession still matters today**, especially in a time of increasing secularism, relativism, and religious disaffiliation.

Presentations will include:

- The History of Lutheranism
- The Benefit of Lutheran Catechesis
- The Benefit of Lutheran Worship
- **The Benefit of Lutheran Unity**, presented by **Rev. Kelly Krieg**
- A panel discussion and opportunities for fellowship

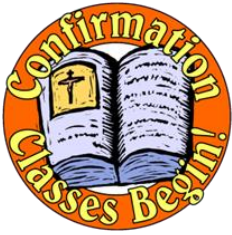
Schedule: Friday, 6:00–9:00 p.m.; Saturday, 8:00 a.m.–Noon.

There is no charge to attend. An offering will be collected to help cover expenses.

A catered BBQ lunch will be available Saturday for **\$18 for adults and \$8 for children under 12**.

Meal reservations must be made by August 31 by contacting Ronnie Hinze at **979-530-8008** or ronniehinze@yahoo.com.

For questions, contact Pastor Kory Boster at kboster@sbcglobal.net. More information is available at **TXConfessionalLutherans.com**.



Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 2nd at 4:30 PM. Please mark your calendars.



Sunday School Teachers Needed for 2026–2027

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." (*Proverbs 22:6*)

As we prepare for the upcoming Sunday School year, we are seeking faithful volunteers to help teach our children God's Word. There are few greater privileges than sharing the saving

Gospel of Jesus Christ with the next generation and helping our children grow in the faith from an early age. The lessons they learn today will serve as a firm foundation for a lifetime of hearing, believing, and confessing God's Word.

To make this ministry both manageable and enjoyable, we are looking for **two teachers to share the responsibility of each class**, allowing teachers to alternate and support one another throughout the year.

If you are willing to serve in this important ministry, please **sign up in the Parish Hall** or **speak with one of the members of the Board of Education**. Please prayerfully consider how the Lord might use your gifts to help nurture the faith of the children He has entrusted to our congregation.



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 (next Sunday)**. 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.



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.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Houston is hosting “HAYAL:” a new LCMS group for Houston Area Young Adult Lutherans. They will be promoting multiple events over the next two months and invite all 18+ confessional Lutheran young adults to join them for fun fellowship events. For more information, please visit the websites listed.



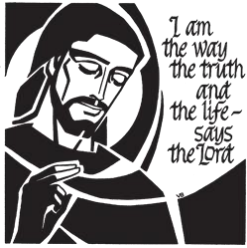
Lutheran Education Scholarship Announcement

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”.

Sunday School Corner



Today, the kids studied the lesson, “Christ Has Come, Christ Is Here, Christ Will Come Again!” All summer long, we have been hearing one great story: the story of Jesus Christ and His promise to save His people. We learned that Jesus entered Jerusalem as the promised King. He came to save His people by dying on the cross and rising again. Christ came once, and He will come again. We learned about

Peter. When Peter saw the great catch of fish, he realized that Jesus was the Lord and that he himself was a sinful man. Jesus did not send Peter away. Instead, He forgave him and called him to follow Him. Christ awakens us to our need for His salvation. We learned about the wise and foolish virgins. Jesus taught us to watch for His return. We do not know the day or the hour, but God has given us His Word and Sacraments. Through these Means of Grace, the Holy Spirit keeps us in the faith and prepares us for Christ’s return. We learned that Jesus has authority even over death. He raised Jairus’s daughter and showed that death is no match for the Son of God. When Jesus returns, He will raise all the dead, and His people will live with Him forever. We looked ahead to heaven. We saw the great multitude of God’s people standing before the throne of God and the Lamb. There will be no more hunger, thirst, suffering, or tears. Jesus will be our Shepherd forever. Today, we brought all these lessons together. Jesus came to save us. Jesus comes to us now through His Word and Sacraments. Jesus will come again and take us to be with Him forever. This is the good news of the Gospel.

Adult Sunday School Lesson



Join us as we begin a new Adult Sunday School study: One Truth, Many Lies

New Adult Bible Study — Join Us!

We invite you to join us as we begin our new Adult Bible Study exploring some of the ancient heresies that challenged the Christian Church in its earliest centuries, and why those same errors still matter today. We’ll examine what the Church confessed in response to false teaching and learn how to recognize similar distortions of God’s Word today.

Come strengthen your understanding of the truth of Holy Scripture and grow in your ability to recognize and confess the faith once delivered to the saints.



August 23 – Pentecost 13 – Do you remember the day you were born? No? Your Father in heaven does! So do your earthly mother and father. “Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him” (Isaiah 51:2). Every human life has a divine plan and purpose: “The LORD will fulfill His purpose for me” (Psalm 138:8)! “For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things” (Romans 11:36)! Blessed are all whom God our Father in heaven forgives, saves, and justifies by faith (Matthew 16:17).



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
August 16	Sunday School	9	\$47.50
	Youth Bible Class	0	
	Adult Bible Class	23	
August 16	Worship Service	107	\$4,292.61

