

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



*Third Sunday of Easter*  
*(Misericordias Domini)*  
*April 18, 2021*

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**The Order of Worship**  
**Divine Service Setting One (LSB 151)**

*(Please stand if you are able for portions of the liturgy marked with an \*)*

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**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn: Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious** **LSB 548**

**Confession and Absolution\*** **LSB 151**

**Introit** (Ps. 33:1, 18-20; antiphon: Ps. 33:5b, 6a)

The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alleluia.

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alleluia.

**Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!**

**Praise befits the upright.**

Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,

on those who hope in his steadfast love,

**That he may deliver their soul from death**

**and keep them alive in famine.**

Our soul waits for the LORD;

he is our help and our shield.

**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 earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alleluia.

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alleluia.

**Kyrie\*** **LSB 152**

**Gloria in Excelsis\*** **LSB 154**

**Collect\*:** O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world.

Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16**

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

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

**Gradual:** Alleluia. The Lord was known to them in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.

**Hymn: I Am Jesus' Little Lamb**

**LSB 740**

**Epistle: 1 Peter 2:21-25**

<sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup>When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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

**Hymn: Christ is Arisen**

**LSB 459-460**

## **Holy Gospel: John 10:11-18**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>11</sup> I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Apostles' Creed\***

**LSB 159**

**Hymn of the Day: The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want**

**LSB 710**

**Sermon**

**Prayer of the Church\***

**Offertory\***

**LSB 781 (Stzs. 1 & 2)**

**Lord's Prayer\***

**Collect\***

**Benediction\***

**Closing Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

**LSB 709**

### **Announcements**

**Council Meeting:** Our next Council Meeting will take place on **Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.**

**Voter's Meeting:** Our next Voter's Meeting will take place on **Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.**

**What does this mean?** Misericordias Domini comes from the Latin translation of the first line of the introit (*Misericordia Domini plena est terra*), meaning “The earth is full of the tender mercy of the Lord.”

The word “pastor” comes from the Latin noun pastor which means “shepherd” and the verb *pascere* which means “to lead to pasture, set to grazing, cause to eat.” Pastors are under-shepherds of Christ, they are instructed to feed (administer the Holy Sacraments) and preach the Gospel to their sheep (congregation) according to Christ’s example.

**Books Wanted:** Agape Youth Group will be hosting a used book sale in the fall. But FIRST we are requesting donations of the following: gently used or new fiction or non-fiction books for all ages, gently used or new DVD’s or Blu-Rays. Please no magazines, VHS, encyclopedias or textbooks. Donations may be given to any youth member or Sara. Contact Sara for more information.

**CORLHS Sterling Evening Dinner & Auction 2021 Update:** Things are underway for our annual auction to be held on **Saturday, July 17, 2021**. Mark your calendars to reserve the date as we are planning another entertaining event which is important to the fund raising efforts of COR.

**Illinois House Bill 1736:** The Illinois House of Representatives is considering the R.E.A.C.H Act, House Bill 1736. It has a high-sounding title, Responsible Education for Adolescents and Children’s Health Act. However, this proposed legislation would:

- mandate comprehensive sex education in public schools...grades K-12;
- promote and affirm LGBTQ+ “lifestyles” and behaviors;
- promote gender identities, at variance from biological gender;
- promote deviant sexual experimentation for students;
- promote abortion;
- promote use of contraceptives outside of marriage; and
- discriminate against religious beliefs of students, parents and places of worship.

These views are contrary to the clear teaching of Holy Scripture. Please prayerfully consider contacting your Illinois House Representative and urge them to vote NO on HB 1736.

**Easter Flowers:** Easter flowers will be available to be taken home after the 9:30am Divine Service on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**LWML SID Bible Study:** Prayer is especially important when times are tough. However, the mere act of praying can be especially difficult when anxiety, stress, and grief are the order of our day. The Church, from its inception has been gifted the Psalms as a template for prayer. Our Savior himself prayed Psalm 22 as he bore our sins, griefs, and infirmities on the cross. Please join us on **Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm on Facebook Live** as Pastor Krenz and Pastor Jacobsen, the two LWML District Pastoral Advisors lead us each week in a 90-minute study of three different Psalms. This will be on the LWML Southern Illinois District Facebook page.