

Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Seventh Sunday of Easter

(Exaudi)

May 16, 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 *)*

Announcements

Opening Hymn: On Christ's Ascension I Now Build **LSB 492**

Confession and Absolution* **LSB 151**

Introit (Ps. 27:1, 11a, 12; antiphon: Ps. 27:7a, 8b, 9a)

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud. Alleluia.

Your face, LORD, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alleluia.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Teach me your way, O LORD;

give me not up to the will of my adversaries;

for false witnesses have risen against me,

and they breathe out violence.

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.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud. Alleluia.

Your face, LORD, do I seek; hide not your face from me. Alleluia.

Kyrie* **LSB 152**

Gloria in Excelsis* **LSB 154**

Collect*: O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live an reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 36:22-28

²²“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³ And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴ I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. ²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

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

Gradual: Alleluia. God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne. Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I am going away, and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice. Alleluia.

Epistle: 1 Peter 4:7-14

⁷ The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

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

Hymn*: Christ is Arisen

LSB 459-460

Holy Gospel*: John 15:26–16:4

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁶“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. **16** “I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ²They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you. “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.

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

Apostles’ Creed*

LSB 159

Hymn of the Day: Christ Is the World’s Redeemer

LSB 539

Sermon

Prayer of the Church*

Offertory*

LSB 781 (Stz. 1 & 2)

Lord’s Prayer*

Collect*

Benediction*

Closing Hymn: The Son of God Goes Forth to War

LSB 661

Announcements

What does this mean? Exaudi comes from the Latin translation of the first line of the introit (Exaudi Domine), meaning “Lord, hear my voice.” (Psalm 27:7) It is the Sunday between Ascension Day and Pentecost.

Church Survey: The church is once again considering the possibility of returning to one service on Sundays. To assess the congregation’s thoughts on this, we have put together a short survey. They are located in your church mailbox. Surveys are due **today, May 16th**. Please drop them off in the box located in the narthex.

The Table of Duties: Many of us are familiar with the six chief parts of the Small Catechism: Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Confession, and the Lord's Supper. In addition to this, Luther included a section toward the end of the catechism called "The Table of Duties." The Table of Duties is a set of Scripture passages that describe various vocations established by God, such as father, mother, husband, wife, children, worker, employer, etc. These passages both admonish us to love our neighbor and reveal where we have sinned in failing to do so. However, more than that, these passages also show what God is doing in us for the benefit of others. Having been given a new heart through the blood of Christ, God's love and grace are active in and through us by faith, in very concrete and earthly ways, for the benefit of our neighbor. Through our various vocations, we are called by the Gospel to reflect Christ and His love to our neighbor. So it is that throughout the summer, the Congregation at Prayer will highlight these vocations established by God. The vocation's scripture passages will serve as that week's catechism focus and memory verse.

Catechism Learn-by-Heart: As the school year with all its homework is quickly coming to an end, this summer is a great time for students of all ages to work on learning-by-heart the Small Catechism. Handouts for the Catechism Learn-by-Heart Program are available in the narthex. While memorization is not a part of our modern culture and is deemed unimportant, learning the Small Catechism by heart is important. We know of no Jesus except that Jesus who is revealed to us in sacred Scripture. The Small Catechism gives us the most important texts and primary vocabulary of Holy Scripture so that we may boldly confess the faith in our vocation.

VBS Registration: VBS registration forms are available in your mailbox. For those interested in volunteering, please fill out a form and write 'volunteer' at the top. Completed forms can be placed in Dena Brammeier's church mailbox.

Mowing Calendar: The trustees have put up a calendar in the coat room for anyone willing to help mow the school yard this year. Your help is very much appreciated!! Thank you.

CHOSEN: Ladies, please join me each week on Wednesday evenings beginning May 19th for a book study. We will dive into the book written by Donna Snow

called **CHOSEN: A STUDY OF ESTHER**. We will **begin at 6:00pm** and be done no later than 7:30pm each week. There will be time to reflect, share and pray together as we look at how God used Queen Esther's circumstances to help save the children of Israel. I have books available for \$14.68 each. Please see me for your copy. We will begin with an **introduction on May 19th**. If you don't get your book before that evening, you will not be behind! We will discuss the **beginning lesson on May 26th**. This is open to any and all women of the congregation. I am very excited about this opportunity to share with you in this group setting. Blessings, Deb

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.

Free Summer Movie Series: The Agape Youth Group will be hosting free summer movies. They will be in Ferrin behind the school building. There will be concessions run by the youth to open at 7:00pm with the movie to begin at 8:00pm. **On June 11th** they will be showing Cars, on **July 9th** Wizard of Oz and on **September 10th** The Lorax. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, and come enjoy a movie with your family and friends!

Attention All Ladies of Bethlehem Congregation: The Ladies Aid/LWML is planning a get together on June 18, 2021 at Twelve Oaks Winery at 5:00pm. We will have pizza around 6:00pm. For fun, we will be wearing hats, which is optional. Please let Sharon Schneider know if you would like to attend by June 11, 2021 at 226-3353. Come join us for some fun and fellowship.