

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



## Rogate (Sixth Sunday of Easter) May 14, 2023

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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: Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray**

**LSB 663**

**Introit**

(Ps. 66:1-2a, 17, 19-20; antiphon: Is. 48:20b)

With a voice of singing, declare this with a shout of joy to the end of the earth. Alleluia.

The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob! Alleluia.

**Shout for joy to God, all the earth;  
sing the glory of his name.**

I cried to him with my mouth,  
and high praise was on my tongue.

**But truly God has listened;  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.**

Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love  
from me!

**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.**

With a voice of singing, declare this with a shout of joy to the end of the earth. Alleluia.

The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob! Alleluia.

**Kyrie\***

**LSB 152**

**This Is the Feast\***

**LSB 155**

**Collect\*:** O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading: Numbers 21:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

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

**Gradual:** Alleluia. Christ, who has redeemed us with his blood, is risen and has appeared unto us. Alleluia. I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father. Alleluia.

**Epistle: 1 Timothy 2:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. <sup>3</sup>This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

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

**Hymn\*: Christ is Arisen**

**LSB 459-460**

**Holy Gospel\*: John 16:23-30**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup>In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. <sup>24</sup>Until now you have asked nothing

in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. <sup>25</sup> “I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. <sup>26</sup> In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; <sup>27</sup> for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. <sup>28</sup> I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.” <sup>29</sup> His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! <sup>30</sup> Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” <sup>31</sup> Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? <sup>32</sup> Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. <sup>33</sup> I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” <sup>31</sup> Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? <sup>32</sup> Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. <sup>33</sup> I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

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

**Nicene Creed\***

**LSB 158**

**Hymn of the Day: Our Father, Who From Heaven Above**

**LSB 766**

*(Stz. 4 – Lectern Side, Stz. 5 – Pulpit Side)*

**Sermon**

**Blessing of the Soil and the Seed**

The earth is the LORD’s and the fullness thereof,  
**the world and those who dwell therein.**

O LORD, how manifold are your works!

**In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,  
**summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.**

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,

**for his wondrous works to the children of man!**

Unless You bless,

**We labor in vain, merciful Lord.**

He does not deal with us according to our sins,

**nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

The LORD is good to all,

**and his mercy is over all that he has made.**

The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our fathers.

**May he not leave us or forsake us.**

Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!

**Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

May God's blessing rest upon soil and seed throughout our land to feed and clothe.

**Amen.**

*(Additional Petitions, Congregational Response Amen.)*

**Prayer of the Church\***

**Offering & Offertory\***

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

**Service of the Sacrament\***

**LSB 160**

**Distribution Hymns: 457, 475, 463, 480**

**Thank the Lord\***

**LSB 164**

**Benediction\***

**Closing Hymn: Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious**

**LSB 548**

### **Announcements**

**What does this mean:** Rogate comes from the Latin verb *rogare* meaning "to ask or pray." Traditionally, this day is set aside as one on which Christians "ask" or "pray" to God for His bountiful blessing upon the fields. In the spring, when the fields are becoming green, there is promise of a good harvest. However, there is also the possibilities of destruction through frost, hail, wind, tornadoes, and rain. Our prayers on this day are a reminder of how feeble we truly are. We turn with humility and confidence to the Giver of all things. For it is not the earth alone, nor the busy hand of man upon which the increase depends, but it is God for Christ's sake who gives the increase.

**Ascension of Our Lord:** This Thursday, May 18th, the church celebrates the Ascension of Our Lord. You and your family are encouraged to attend the Divine Service starting at 7:00 p.m. On the fortieth day after His resurrection, our Lord ascended to the right hand of the Father. Although Jesus is hidden from our physical eyes, He is not absent from

us. Having ascended to the right hand of the throne of God, He directs all things for the good of His Bride the church. Through His Word and Sacraments, He draws near to bestow upon us the gifts of His crucifixion and resurrection.

**Scholarships:** Lutheran Hour Ministry of the Southern Illinois District has scholarships available for college juniors or older who are going into church work. If interested, please contact Steve Kasten at [smkasten@netwitz.net](mailto:smkasten@netwitz.net) or at 21237 Sassafras Road, Hoyleton, IL 62803. The application deadline is June 15, 2023.

**VBS Celebration Station:** Save the date: June 24, 2023 from 9:00am-2:00pm. Lunch will be served. More exciting details to come, so stay tuned!

**Private Confession and Absolution:** The Lutheran Confessions state that private absolution should be retained and not abolished in the churches (Augsburg Confession XI). With this in mind, if at any time you desire private confession and absolution, please give Pastor Jennings a call to set-up a time to meet privately.

**Issues Etc.:** Truth, Goodness & Beauty... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUO, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

**Find Bethlehem on Podbean or Facebook:** Listen to Pastor Jennings sermons on Podbean or our Facebook page. Download the app 'Podbean' to your smartphone. Search for Bethlehem Lutheran church and begin listening.

**This Week in Our Congregation:**

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School  
9:30am Divine Service  
Thursday: 7:00pm Ascension Divine Service  
Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School  
9:30am Divine Service