

Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Third Sunday after Trinity June 25, 2023

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The Order of Worship
Divine Service Setting Three (LSB 184)

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

Announcements

Opening Hymn: By Grace I'm Saved **LSB 566**

Confession and Absolution* **LSB 184**

Introit* (Ps. 25:1-2a, 5b, 20; antiphon: Ps. 25:16, 18)

Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

**Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.**

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul,
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame.

**You are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.**

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!

Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

**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.**

Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.

Kyrie* **LSB 186**

Gloria in Excelsis* **LSB 187**

Collect*: O God, the protector of all who trust in You, without whom nothing is strong and nothing is holy, multiply Your mercy on us that, with You as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through

Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Micah 7:18-20

¹⁸ Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. ¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. ²⁰ You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

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

Gradual: Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you. I call to God, and the LORD will save me. He redeems my soul in safety.

Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³ though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Alleluia*

LSB 190

Holy Gospel*: Luke 15:11-32

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15th chapter. **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he

divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

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

Nicene Creed*

LSB 191

Hymn of the Day: Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

LSB 609

Sermon

Offertory*	LSB 192
Offering	
Prayer of the Church*	
Service of the Sacrament*	LSB 194
Distribution Hymns: 611, 628, 608, 620, 614	
Nunc Dimittis*	LSB 199
Benediction*	
Closing Hymn: Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode	LSB 714

Announcements

Thank You: Thanks to everyone who helped out with VBS yesterday!

Cookie Bar Orders: Youth will be making these on June 30. Pick up will be on June 30 from 12-2 or through other arrangements. Thanks!

Ice Cream Social is coming - if you have any ice cream buckets that the youth group could use, please drop them off at the school basement or give them to Sara or a youth member. Thanks!

Pastor Jennings On Vacation: Pastor Jennings and his family will be on vacation from July 3rd – July 16th. During this time, we welcome the Rev. Dr. Mark Rabe (Director of Recruitment – LCMS Office of International Mission) to Ferrin. He will be officiating the Divine Service on July 9th and 16th, as well as leading our Sunday morning Bible Studies at 8:30am. Additionally, in cases of an emergency, you may contact Rev. Jim Hennig (Trinity – Centralia) at 217.622.4433.

Service Time Change: Please mark your calendars. The Divine Service on Sunday, July 30th will be held at 10:00 a.m. The reason for this is that Pastor Jennings will be at the Synod Convention, and Pastor Brett Jones (Trinity – Hoffman) has agreed to fill-in for him that morning.

Catechism Learn-By-Heart: 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 vocations.

Messiah Carlyle Midweek Vespers: Beginning Wednesday, June 7th to July 26th, we'll be gathering at Messiah on Wednesday evenings for a brief Vespers service, followed by a study of the Gospel of John, led by Seminarian Adam Hiles. The Vespers service will take place from 6:15pm-6:30pm, and will be followed by Bible study from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

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.

Confessional Lutherans, We've Got Your Back: 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, 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
6:00pm Freshman Welcome
Friday: 9:00am Agape Youth Make Cookie Bars
Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School
9:30am Divine Service