

Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Ninth Sunday after Trinity August 6, 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: Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now **LSB 902**
Confession and Absolution* **LSB 184**

Introit*

(Ps. 54:1-3, 7; antiphon: Ps. 54:4-5)

Behold, God is my helper;

the Lord is the upholder of my life.

He will return the evil to my enemies;

in your faithfulness put an end to them.

O God, save me, by your name,

and vindicate me by your might.

O God, hear my prayer;

give ear to the words of my mouth.

For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life;

they do not set God before themselves.

For he has delivered me from every trouble,

and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

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.

Behold, God is my helper;

the Lord is the upholder of my life.

He will return the evil to my enemies;

in your faithfulness put an end to them.

Kyrie*

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis*

LSB 187

Collect*: Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; 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: 2 Samuel 22:26-34

²⁶“With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless; ²⁷ with the purified you deal purely, and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous. ²⁸ You save a humble people, but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down. ²⁹ For you are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness. ³⁰ For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. ³¹ This God—his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him. ³² “For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God? ³³ This God is my strong refuge and has made my way blameless. ³⁴ He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights.

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

Gradual: O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:6-13

⁶ Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰ nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹ Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹² Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

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

Holy Gospel*: Luke 16:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 16th chapter. **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹ He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ² And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ ³ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ ⁷ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ ⁸ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. ¹⁰ “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³ No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

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

Apostles' Creed*

LSB 192

Hymn of the Day: One Thing's Needful (*Including Stz. 2*)

LSB 536

Sermon

Offertory*

LSB 192

Offering

Prayer of the Church*

Lord's Prayer*

Benediction*

Closing Hymn: What Is the World to Me

LSB 730

Announcements

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.

Ice Cream Social: Agape Youth Ice Cream Social is this evening, **August 6th from 5:00pm-8:00pm**. Eat-in and to-go meals will be offered this year. Menu includes BBQ pulled pork, sloppy joe, hot dogs, chips, drinks, ice cream, and homemade desserts. Make sure to bring the kids and grandkids, too! There will be a bounce house and all the classic games for the kids - and of course the cake walk!

Trinity Lutheran Church Centralia: Trinity Lutheran Church in Centralia is looking for a part-time (25 hours a week) church secretary. Must have computer skills, organizational skills, communication skills, and maintaining confidentiality. Please apply by sending your resume to Trinity Lutheran Church, 201 S. Pleasant Ave., Centralia, IL 62801 or by email @ tlcsecretary@trinitycentralia.org. For any questions or interested please call 618-532-2614 or 618-267-3877.

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
 5:00pm–8:00pm Agape Youth Ice Cream Social

Monday: 7:30pm Men's Club

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School
 9:30am Divine Service