Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity September 3, 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: The Law of God Is Good and Wise

LSB 579

Confession and Absolution*

LSB 184

Introit*

(Ps. 74:1-2, 19b, 21b; antiphon: Ps. 74:20a, 21a, 22a, 23a)

Have regard for the covenant, O Lord;

let not the downtrodden turn back in shame.

Arise, O God, defend your cause;

do not forget the clamor of your foes.

O God, why do you cast us off forever?

Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?

Remember your congregation,

which you have purchased of old,

which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage!

Remember Mount Zion, where you have dwelt.

Do not forget the life of your poor forever.

Let the poor and needy praise your name.

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.

Have regard for the covenant, O Lord;

let not the downtrodden turn back in shame.

Arise, O God, defend your cause;

do not forget the clamor of your foes.

Kyrie*
LSB 186
Gloria in Excelsis*
LSB 187

Collect*: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and charity; and that we may obtain what You have promised, make us love what You have commanded; 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 Chronicles 28:8-15

⁸The men of Israel took captive 200,000 of their relatives, women, sons, and daughters. They also took much spoil from them and brought the spoil to Samaria. ⁹But a prophet of the LORD was there, whose name was Oded, and he went out to meet the army that came to Samaria and said to them, "Behold, because the LORD, the God of your fathers, was angry with Judah, he gave them into your hand, but you have killed them in a rage that has reached up to heaven. 10 And now you intend to subjugate the people of Judah and Jerusalem, male and female, as your slaves. Have you not sins of your own against the LORD your God? ¹¹ Now hear me, and send back the captives from your relatives whom you have taken, for the fierce wrath of the LORD is upon you." ¹² Certain chiefs also of the men of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against those who were coming from the war 13 and said to them, "You shall not bring the captives in here, for you propose to bring upon us guilt against the LORD in addition to our present sins and guilt. For our guilt is already great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel." ¹⁴ So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the princes and all the assembly. ¹⁵ And the men who have been mentioned by name rose and took the captives, and with the spoil they clothed all who were naked among them. They clothed them, gave them sandals, provided them with food and drink, and anointed them, and carrying all the feeble among them on donkeys, they brought them to their kinsfolk at Jericho, the city of palm trees. Then they returned to Samaria.

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

Gradual: You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the peoples, You with your arm redeemed your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph.

Epistle: Galatians 3:15-22

¹⁵ To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. ¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. ¹⁷ This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise. ¹⁹ Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. ²⁰ Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one. ²¹ Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

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

Alleluia* LSB 190

Holy Gospel*: Luke 10:23-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10th chapter. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

²³ Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! ²⁴ For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." ²⁵ And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" ²⁷ And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live." ²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and

saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

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

Apostles' Creed	LSB 192
Hymn of the Day: The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace	LSB 580
Sermon	
Offertory*	LSB 192
Offering	
Prayer of the Church*	
Lord's Prayer	LSB 199
Benediction*	
Closing Hymn: Abide, O Dearest Jesus	LSB 919

Announcements

Youth Group Lunch: Youth Group members are invited over to Pastor Jennings' house for lunch and fellowship following the Divine Service today.

Thrivent: At the beginning of June, Thrivent Financial came out in support of the LGBTQ lifestyle. This lifestyle is contrary to the clear words of Scripture on what God says about marriage, and what it means to be a man or a woman. As a result of this, our church decided at our July Voters' Meeting that we can no longer promote or receive funding from Thrivent. While the church does not have any accounts with Thrivent, many of our church groups take advantage of their action grants for various events and fundraisers. Members of the church are encouraged to step-up their support for these groups so that we may continue to have various events and fundraisers, but also be able to stand up for what we believe, teach, and confess. You are also encouraged to pray for the board of Thrivent that they may repent of their sin, and if you feel so inclined, reach

out to your Thrivent representative to express your discontent with the organization's decision. In the meantime, Pastor Jennings and the elders will be composing a letter to send to Thrivent on behalf of the church. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please feel free to speak with Pastor Jennings.

Wednesday Religion Class: Wednesday Religion Class begins this Wednesday, September 6^{th} from 6pm-7:30pm. All students $1^{st} - 8^{th}$ grade are encouraged to attend. Additionally, we're doing something a little different this year. Parents of these students and other members of the church are invited to attend pastors' confirmation class in the preschool basement. This is a great opportunity for all members to review the basic tenants of what we believe, teach, and confess as Lutherans. If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Jennings, Deb Albers, or Judy Kleiboeker.

Upcoming Agape youth event: Nerf War and Bible study at 6:00pm on September 10th. Bring your Nerf guns if you have them! If you are a parent or youth who has not joined the app TeamReach, please do so to stay connected to messages and event dates. Code: Ferrin

Family and Friends Movie Night: Come join in fun and fellowship for an outdoor movies night on Saturday, September 16th. Movie time will start at roughly 8:00pm. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for an enjoyable evening. Agape youth will be selling homemade ice cream cups, popcorn and drinks. Come join us in watching the movie <u>Up!</u>

Help Needed for Apple Butter: It is that time once again! Time for the annual apple peeling and cooking to make this Ferrin fall favorite; however, we need your help! Please come join us, Friday, September 22nd, around 1pm to start peeling and coring the apples. Then on Saturday, September 23rd we will begin at 7:00am to cook, stir, and can the delicious apple butter. Come; help us keep this tradition alive. Please pray for God to bless us with good weather, willing helpers, and safety. We are cooking 25 bushels, so we could use as many hands as possible for both days. Oh, there will be lunch available too! (BBQ sandwiches and soups and sides) You are welcome to bring something, if you wish.

Apple Butter Orders: Get your orders in by September 1st to make sure you get some of the traditional tasty apple butter from the Ferrin Ladies Aid. It is loved in many states! Same price as the last few years, \$8.00 per quart and \$6.50 per pint, if you have your own

jars, flats and rings; otherwise, it is \$1.00 per jar more, for us to provide them for you. Call or text Diane Buening at 618-520-3673 or Mia Zimmermann at 618-560-3814 to place your order.

Hymn Festival: Good Shepherd Lutheran (1300 Beltline Road; Collinsville, IL) will be celebrating St. Michael and All Angels with a hymn festival on Friday, September 29th at 7:00pm. Titled "*With Angels and Archangels*," it will be a celebration of the rich hymnody found in Lutheran Service Book that deals with these special messengers of God. Hymn commentary will be given by Pr. Will Weedon, host of the Lutheran Public Radio podcast "*The Word of the Lord Endures Forever*" (https://thewordendures.org) along with organist Chris Loemker, orchestra, and choir. The choir will be comprised of singers from local LCMS congregations. For more information, or to register to sing with the choir, please visit the website www.withangelsandarchangels.org.

Christ Our Song Lutheran School of Music: Christ Our Song Lutheran School of Music invites you to sign up for organ, cello or piano lessons from Mike Trinklein. To register or for more information, call, text, or email Mike at (602)448-0486 or mikethecelloman@gmail.com.

75th **Anniversary Celebration, Our Savior, Carmi:** At 2:30pm Sunday September 10th, Our Savior Lutheran of Carmi invites you to her special 75th Anniversary Vespers Service. A complimentary catered meal will be served for all following the Service. Please come and be welcome in Christ our Savior!

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

Monday: Church Office Closed

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School

9:30am Divine Service