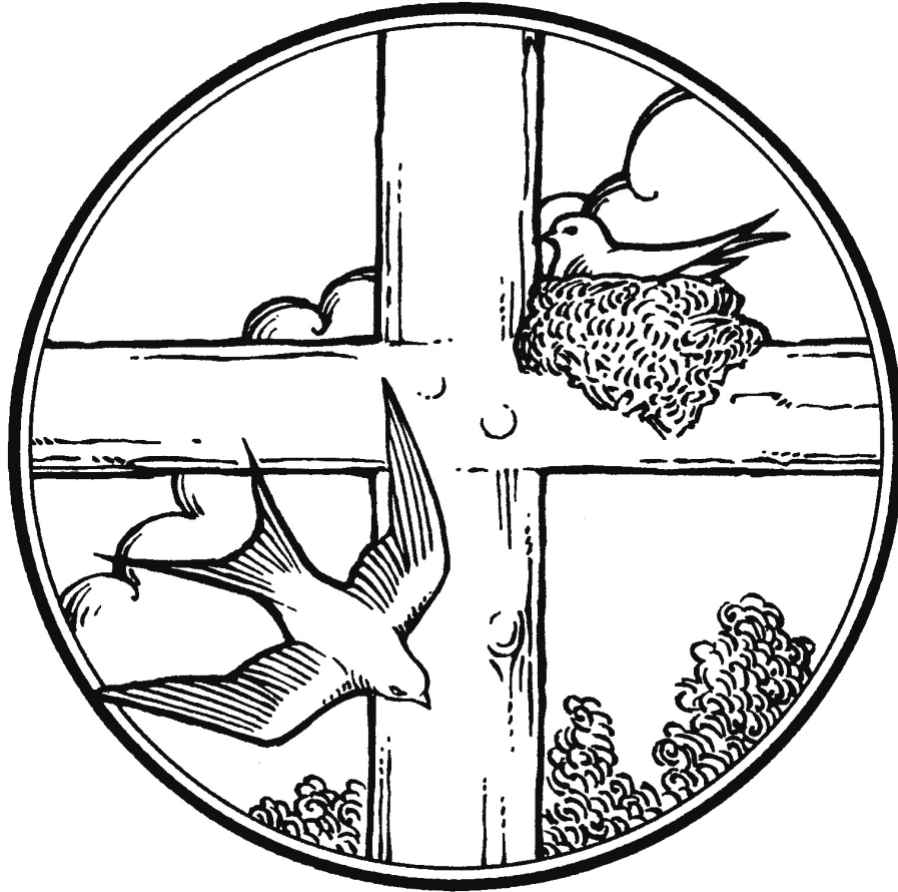


Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity September 17, 2023

12903 Clara St.
Carlyle (Ferrin), IL 62231
618-545-9543
www.bethlehmlutheranferrin.org

Pastor Jonathan Jennings
pastor@bethlehmlutheranferrin.org
Cell: 219-309-6941

Secretary: Jackie Yardley
bethlehemferrinchurch@gmail.com
Cell: 618-322-8087

**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: All Depends on Our Possessing **LSB 732**

Confession and Absolution* **LSB 184**

Introit*

(Ps. 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: Ps. 86:1a, 2b, 3)

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,

Save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.

Be gracious to me, O Lord,

for to you do I cry all the day.

Gladden the soul of your servant,

for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul,

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

listen to my plea for grace.

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious;

turn to me and be gracious to me;

give your strength to your servant,

and save the son of your maidservant.

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.

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,

Save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.

Be gracious to me, O Lord,

for to you do I cry all the day.

Kyrie*

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis*

LSB 187

Collect*: O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her

evermore by Your help and goodness; 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: 1 Kings 17:8-16

⁸Then the word of the LORD came to him, ⁹“Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” ¹⁰So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” ¹¹And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” ¹²And she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” ¹³And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.’” ¹⁵And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

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

Gradual: It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

Epistle: Galatians 5:25–6:10

²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. **6** Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ²Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵For each will have to bear his own load. ⁶Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap

corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

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

Alleluia*

LSB 190

Holy Gospel*: Matthew 6:24-34

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter. **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²⁴ “No one 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. ²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

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

Apostles’ Creed*

LSB 192

Hymn of the Day: What God Ordains Is Always Good

LSB 760

Sermon

Offertory*

LSB 192

Offering

Prayer of the Church*

Lord's Prayer

Benediction*

Closing Hymn: Evening and Morning

LSB 726

Announcements

Wednesday Religion Class: As mentioned in previous weeks, members of the church are invited to attend pastors' Lutheran catechesis class in the preschool basement on Wednesday night beginning at 6pm. This is a great opportunity to review the basic tenants of what we believe, teach, and confess as Lutherans. This week our focus will be on the *4th & 5th Commandments*.

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.

Boys Basketball Coach Opening: Christ Our Rock is searching for a Boys Basketball coach for the 2023-2024 season. Interested parties should send resumes to Mr. Don Duensing, Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School, 9545 Shattuc Road, Centralia, IL 62801, 226-3315, dduensing@corlhs.org.

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 KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School: Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School is celebrating its 20th year and the **Sterling Evening Dinner & Auction** will take place on **Saturday, October 21, 2023**, with the theme, Start Up to Stand Out! Mark your calendar for this event and if you are willing to donate items, please contact Dan Kueper at (618) 226-3315.

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

Wednesday: 6:00pm-7:30pm Religion/Confirmation Classes

Friday: 1:00pm Apple Peeling

Saturday: 7:00am Apple Butter Cooking

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School

9:30am Divine Service