Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Twentieth Sunday after Trinity October 22, 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: Alleluia! Let Praises Ring

LSB 822

Confession and Absolution*

LSB 184

Introit*

(Ps. 48:1, 9-11; antiphon: Prayer of Azariah 1:4a, 7a, 20b, 19b)

The Lord is righteous in all he has done to us,

for we have not obeyed his commandments.

Glorify your name, O Lord;

and deal with us according to your great mercy.

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised

in the city of our God, his holy mountain.

We have thought on your steadfast love, O God,

in the midst of your temple

As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth.

Your right hand is filled with righteousness.

Let Mount Zion be glad!

Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your judgments!

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.

The Lord is righteous in all he has done to us,

for we have not obeyed his commandments.

Glorify your name, O Lord;

and deal with us according to your great mercy.

Kyrie* LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis*

LSB 187

Collect*: O Lord, grant to Your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve You with a quiet mind; 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: Isaiah 55:1-9

¹ "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶ "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

Gradual: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

Epistle: Ephesians 5:15-21

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

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

Alleluia* LSB 190

Holy Gospel*: Matthew 22:1-14

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

¹ And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³ and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast." ⁵ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷ The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. 8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' 10 And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹² And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.

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

Closing Hymn: Let Me Be Thine Forever

Nicene Creed* LSB 191 Hymn of the Day: Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness **LSB 636** (Lectern Side: Stz. 4, Pulpit Side: Stz. 5) Sermon Offertory* LSB 192 Offering **Prayer of the Church* Service of the Sacrament*** LSB 194 Distribution Hymns: 634, 812, 623, 568 **Nunc Dimittis*** LSB 199 **Benediction***

Announcements

LSB 689

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 *First Article of the Creed (Part 2)*.

Church Officers Results: The church has selected to following individuals to serve as church officers: Tim Hanke (Vice-Chairman), Jeff Brink (Board of Elders), Chris Hanke (Secretary), Lucas Hanke (Trustee) and Ronda Zimmermann (Financial Secretary). Thanks to all who were willing to serve. We are still in need of two members to sit on the Board of Education. We ask that you would please prayerfully consider serving on this board.

Produce Boxes: The youth group is again selling produce boxes. Each box is \$30 and will include 1 pineapple, 3lbs apples, 1 romaine lettuce, 3lbs carrots, 5 avocados, 1 celery, 5lbs potatoes, 3lbs sweet potatoes, 1 winter squash, 6 pears, 3lbs onions. Orders are due Tuesday, October 24th – so don't wait! See Sara Kuper or a youth member this morning! You may also order by going to https://tinyurl.com/producehyfg2. Pick up will be on October 28th from 8AM - 10AM OR you can make arrangements with Sara or a youth member.

Fall Casserole Sale Today: The Agape Youth Group is having their fall casserole sale after church today. Stop by and pick one up!

Wurstmarkt Sign-Up Sheet: There is a worker sign-up sheet on the table in the secretary's office for this year's Wurstmarkt (Sunday, November 5th). As always, your help is greatly appreciated.

Sausage Orders: Please place your sausage orders to any Men's Club member by November 4th. The forms are on the table in the ushers' room.

Wurstmarkt: Thursday, November 2nd at 6:00pm is a work night to get things set up and ready to serve for the Wurstmarkt. Additionally, members are encouraged to help peel potatoes on Saturday, November 5th at 8:00am in the preschool basement.

Divine Service Saturday, November 4th: For those helping with the Wurstmarkt, a Divine Service will be offered on Saturday, November 4th at 7:00pm.

Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School: Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School's first open house for prospective students is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, with tours from 6:30pm-8:00pm. That evening, families will be able to visit the school, tour the facilities, and talk with current students, parents, and teachers. Come see how Christ Our Rock can serve your family. This event is open to all prospective students and families. Transfer students and potential freshman are encouraged to attend. Interested families not able to attend can contact the school office at 618-226-3315 to receive an information packet and set an appointment to visit the school.

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

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

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School

9:30am Divine Service