

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



## Eleventh Sunday after Trinity August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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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 \*)*

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**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn: Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion** **LSB 559**

**Confession and Absolution\*** **LSB 184**

**Introit\*** (Ps. 68:1, 3, 7a, 10b, 19; antiphon: Ps. 68:5b, 6a, 35b)

God is in his holy habitation;

    he settles the solitary in a home.

**The God of Israel—he is the one**

**who gives power and strength to his people.**

God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered;

    and those who hate him shall flee before him!

**But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God;**

**they shall be jubilant with joy!**

O God, when you went out before your people,

    in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

**Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up;**

**God is our salvation.**

**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.**

God is in his holy habitation;

    he settles the solitary in a home.

The God of Israel—he is the one

    who gives power and strength to his people.

**Kyrie\*** **LSB 186**

**Gloria in Excelsis\*** **LSB 187**

**Collect\*:** Almighty and everlasting God, always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than we either desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of

Your mercy, forgiving those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things that we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **Old Testament Reading: Genesis 4:1-15**

<sup>1</sup> Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." <sup>2</sup> And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, <sup>4</sup> and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. <sup>6</sup> The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? <sup>7</sup> If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it." <sup>8</sup> Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" <sup>10</sup> And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup> And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." <sup>13</sup> Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. <sup>14</sup> Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." <sup>15</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

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

**Gradual:** In God my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him. To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me, hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help.

**Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10**

<sup>1</sup> And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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

**Alleluia\***

**LSB 190**

**Holy Gospel\*: Luke 18:9-14**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup> He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: <sup>10</sup> “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ <sup>13</sup> But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ <sup>14</sup> I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

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

**Nicene Creed\***

**LSB 191**

**Hymn of the Day: From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee**

**LSB 607**

**Sermon**

**Offertory\***

**LSB 192**

## **Offering**

**Prayer of the Church\***

**Service of the Sacrament\***

**LSB 194**

**Distribution Hymns: 555, 761, 420, 755 (Hymn of the Month)**

**Nunc Dimittis\***

**LSB 199**

**Benediction\***

**Closing Hymn: Chief of Sinners Though I Be**

**LSB 611**

## **Announcements**

**Parents Meeting August 28th:** A new year of religious studies is right around the corner. For parents who have children that are not confirmed, please plan on attending our parents' meeting on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Please note this is for all parents, including those who send their kids to Trinity – Hoffman. We will meet at the preschool to discuss the upcoming religion school year as well as ways to help you bring your child up in the faith and to prepare them for confirmation. So, mark your calendars and we'll see you on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Hymn of the Month:** The hymn of the month for August is Martin Luther's hymn, "In the Very Midst of Life" (LSB 755). This hymn is based on the medieval Latin hymn, "In the midst of life, we are in death." Luther's version of the hymn, however, altered the text so that it was no longer a desperate cry uttered in mortal danger. In this hymn, Luther compels the singer to face the earthly reality that death encompasses the world. This is a result of sin, which weighs down and oppresses God's people. Because of this reality, Christians might begin to feel that hell and its powers have overtaken them. In all situations, the hymn reminds us that Christians can only flee to the holy and mighty God, the God who is also merciful, having given His Son, Jesus Christ, up to death for our sins. On account of Jesus, Christians rest in the assurance that the "eternal Lord God" does indeed "preserve and keep" them "in the peace that faith can give" (Stanza 3). This hymn is the hymn of the day for Trinity 24. God's richest blessings to you as you sing and meditate on this hymn throughout the month.

**Attention:** The wooden flower vase carrier with the vase inserts for the original vases is missing. If you have them or know where they might be, please return them to the church. Thank You!

**Ladies Aide/LWML Meeting:** The Ladies Aid will meet Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm in the school basement. Servers for the meeting are Chris Hanke and Jackie Yardley. Food Pantry collection items are boxed cereals, rice, oatmeal, Malt-O-Meal.

**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.

**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.

**Issues Etc.:** 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 KFUD, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://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  
Monday: 7:00 Ladies Aid/LWML  
Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School  
9:30am Divine Service