

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



## Twentieth Sunday after Trinity October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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**The Order of Worship**  
**Divine Service Setting Four (LSB 203)**

*(Please stand if you are able for portions of the liturgy marked with an \*)*

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**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn: Alleluia! Let Praises Ring** **LSB 822**

**Confession and Absolution\*** **LSB 203**

**Introit\*** (Ps. 48:1, 9-11; antiphon: Liturgical Text)

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 204**

**Gloria in Excelsis\*** **LSB 204**

**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**

<sup>1</sup> “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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup>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**

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

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

**Alleluia\***

**LSB 205**

**Holy Gospel\*: Matthew 22:1-14**

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

<sup>1</sup> And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, <sup>3</sup> and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup> 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.”’ <sup>5</sup> But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup> while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. <sup>7</sup> The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. <sup>8</sup> Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup> Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup>“But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. <sup>12</sup>And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>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.’ <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.

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

<b>Nicene Creed*</b>	<b>LSB 206</b>
<b>Hymn of the Day: Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness</b>	<b>LSB 636</b>
<i>(Lectern Side: Stz. 4, Pulpit Side: Stz. 5)</i>	
<b>Sermon</b>	
<b>Prayer of the Church*</b>	
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>Service of the Sacrament*</b>	<b>LSB 208</b>
<b>Distribution Hymns: 633, 563, 708 (Hymn of the Month), 689</b>	
<b>Nunc Dimittis*</b>	<b>LSB 211</b>
<b>Benediction*</b>	
<b>Closing Hymn: Abide, O Dearest Jesus</b>	<b>LSB 919</b>

### **Announcements**

**Glass Individual Cups:** Glass individual cups were recently donated to the church to be used for the Lord’s Supper. As the plastic cups often got stuck in the communion tray and even broke in some cases, glass cups should help resolve this in addition to being a nice way of receiving the blood of Christ. For those concerned that this will cause extra work for the Altar Guild, Pastor Jennings and the Altar Guild have worked out a plan for cleaning. We will begin using the glass cups today.

**Council Meeting & Voters’ Meeting:** Please mark your calendars. Our next council meeting will be on Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, and the next voters’ meeting will be on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Both meetings will take place in the preschool basement.

**Hymn of the Month:** The hymn of the month for October is Martin Schelling's (1532-1608) hymn, ‘Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart’ (LSB 708). In three stanzas, this hymn gives a complete picture of the Christian life. Stanza 1 acknowledges our need for the Lord’s presence and affirms our trust in His saving blood even in the midst of the evil

of this life. In stanza 2, we acknowledge the Lord as the source of all good things and ask for a life that will “glorify Thy lavish grace...and help and serve my neighbor.” In stanza 3, we face death unfearing. In fact, we can even welcome it anticipating the joy of being in God’s glorious presence. It’s just as we sing, “And then from death awaken me, that these mine eyes with joy may see, O Son of God, Thy glorious face, My Savior and my fount of grace...” (Stz. 3). And so in the face of the evils that surround us, this hymn wonderfully confesses the hope and eternal life that we have through Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer. I pray God’s richest blessings as you sing and meditate on this hymn in the coming month.

**Ladies Aid:** The Ladies Aid will be having a meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Servers for the meeting are Angie Siddell and Caroline Tate. Food Pantry items are Pasta and Sauces.

**Upcoming Youth Events:** Youth are invited over to the Kuper’s for a bonfire on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. There will be an Agape Connections Bible Study on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am. Additionally, NYG registration form and fee are **due on October 20<sup>th</sup>**.

**Sloppy Joe To-Go Meals:** After church, on Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup> the youth will have to-go meals of sloppy joe, chips, and a side salad available for \$7.00 until supplies run out.

**Ice Cream:** Ice cream in gallons and quarts are still available from the ice cream social. We are selling them at a reduced price - \$3.00 per quart, \$10 per gallon. See Sara or a youth to get yours today!

**Sausage Supper:** Sausage Supper sign-up sheets are at both entrances of the church. If you are available to help, please sign up by October 20<sup>th</sup>. Also, please include the time you prefer to work.

**Lay Delegate to the SID Convention:** The Southern Illinois District convention will be held Thursday-Saturday, February 20-22, 2025 at the Regency Conference Center in O’Fallon, IL. In addition to a pastoral delegate, every congregation in the SID is to have a voting Lay Delegate at the convention. If you are interested in serving as Bethlehem's Lay Delegate, or have any questions about this opportunity, please speak with Pastor Jennings prior to the October 27th Voters' Meeting. At this Voters' Meeting, we will voting on who will serve as our church's Lay Delegate.

#### **Other Area Events:**

- **Prayers for America in Word and Song:** St. John’s, New Minden, is hosting a service of prayer and preaching (with plenty of hymns) Sunday, October 13, at 3:00 p.m. The Service will be preceded by a half hour of chamber music by Karen Shimkus and friends in the St. John’s Memorial Chapel, beginning at 2:30 p.m. An

offering will be taken, with half of the proceeds going to the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty.

- **Sterling Silver Evening Planned:** The CORLHS Sterling Evening is right around the corner! We will be gathering on October 19, 2024, for our 20th annual dinner and auction. We are currently accepting donations for both the live and silent auctions. New items only please. Your donations may be dropped off at the school (or with your congregational representative) during school hours from now until October 11th. Thank you! — The Sterling Evening Planning Committee.

**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: 7:00pm Ladies Aid Meeting  
Tuesday: 7:00pm Church Council  
Wednesday: 6:00pm-7:30pm Wednesday Night Religion  
Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School  
9:30am Divine Service