

✘ **The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost** ✘  
**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
**July 6, 7 & 10, 2024**

**WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME**

WELCOME to our guests and members as we gather for worship today! **Please place your names in our red “Record of Fellowship” books.** Also, please give attention to the written “News and Notes”.

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

O God, You resist the proud and give grace to the humble. Grant us true humility after the likeness of Your only Son that we may never be arrogant and prideful and thus provoke Your wrath but in all lowliness be made partakers of the gifts of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**WORSHIP NOTES**

The prophet Ezekiel was raised up by the Spirit of the Lord and sent to speak an unpopular Word to the rebellious house of Israel. As a prophet, he was not to speak his own word, but to preach the Law and the Gospel: *“Thus says the Lord God,”* whether the people *“hear or refuse to hear”* (Ezek. 2:4–5). So, too, in the footsteps of the prophets before Him, the Lord Jesus *“went about among the villages teaching”* (Mark 6:6). In His hometown, as elsewhere, *“many who heard him were astonished,”* marveling at His wisdom and at the *“mighty works done by his hands,”* and yet *“they took offense at him”* (Mark 6:2–3). The offense culminates in His cross, which is, ironically, the heart and center of His *“authority over the unclean spirits”* (Mark 6:7). It is by that authority of His cross that those He sends preach repentance, *“cast out many demons”* and heal the sick (Mark 6:12–13). Thus, the apostle Paul boasts in the cross of Christ and in his own weaknesses, knowing that God’s grace is sufficient and that the power of Christ *“is made perfect in weakness”* (2 Cor. 12:8–9).

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**856 O Christ, Who Called the Twelve**

- 1 O Christ, who called the Twelve  
To rise and follow You,  
Forsaking old, familiar ways  
For ventures bold and new:

Grant us to hear Your call  
To risk security  
And, bound in heart and will to You,  
Find perfect liberty.

2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve  
The truth for ages sealed,  
Whose words and works awakened faith,  
The ways of God revealed:  
Instruct us now, we pray,  
By Your empow'ring Word.  
True teacher, be for all who seek  
Their light, their life, their Lord.

3 O Christ, who led the Twelve  
Among the desolate  
And broke as bread of life for all  
Your love compassionate:  
Lead us along the ways  
Where hope has nearly died  
And help us climb the lonely hills  
Where love is crucified.

4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve  
On roads they'd never trod  
To serve, to suffer, teach, proclaim  
The nearer reign of God:  
Send us on ways where faith  
Transcends timidity,  
Where love informs and hope sustains  
Both life and ministry.

5 O Christ, the apostles' Lord,  
The martyrs' strength and song,  
The crucified and risen King  
To whom the saints belong:  
Though generations pass,  
Our tribute still we bring,  
Our hymns a sacrifice of praise,  
Our lives an offering.

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*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

### ✠ Service of the Word ✠

**Introit**

*Psalm 132:13-16; antiphon: Psalm 34:8*

P Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!  
Blessèd is the man who takes refuge in him!

**C For the LORD has chosen Zion;  
he has desired it for his dwelling place:**

P “This is my resting place forever;  
here I will dwell, for I have desired it.

**C I will abundantly bless her provisions;  
I will satisfy her poor with bread.**

P Her priests I will clothe with salvation,  
and her saints will shout for joy.”

**ALL 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.**

**ALL Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!  
Blessèd is the man who takes refuge in him!**

**Kyrie**

*LSB 204*

**C Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

**Gloria in Excelsis**

*LSB 204*

**C To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav’nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father’s Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow’r are seated  
At God’s right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father’s glory.**

**“Amen!” our glad reply.**

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy. Grant us the fullness of Your grace that we may be called to repentance and made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Ezekiel 2:1–5*

<sup>1</sup> He said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you.” <sup>2</sup>And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

<sup>3</sup>And he said to me, “Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day.

<sup>4</sup>The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’ <sup>5</sup>And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle**

*2 Corinthians 12:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. <sup>2</sup>I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— <sup>4</sup>and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. <sup>7</sup>So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the

revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup>For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

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

*Stand*

### **Alleluia and Verse**

- C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**  
**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

### **Holy Gospel**

*Mark 6:1–13*

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.  
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” <sup>5</sup>And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. <sup>6</sup>And he marveled because of their unbelief.

And he went about among the villages teaching.

<sup>7</sup>And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. <sup>11</sup>And if any

place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.”<sup>12</sup> So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. <sup>13</sup> And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **Apostles' Creed**

**C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the  
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Offering (10:30)**

#### **839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light**

- 1 O Christ, our true and only light,  
Enlighten those who sit in night;  
Let those afar now hear Your voice  
And in Your fold with us rejoice.
  
- 2 Fill with the radiance of Your grace  
The souls now lost in error's maze;  
Enlighten those whose inmost minds  
Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.

- 3 O gently call those gone astray  
That they may find the saving way!  
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed  
In You find peace and heav'nly rest.
- 4 Shine on the darkened and the cold;  
Recall the wand'ers to Your fold.  
Unite all those who walk apart;  
Confirm the weak and doubting heart,
- 5 That they with us may evermore  
Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore  
And endless praise to You be giv'n  
By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

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## Sermon

## Offering (5:30 & 8:00)

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

## ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

### Preface

*LSB 208*

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him



will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## **Sanctus**

*LSB 208*

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of  
Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## **Lord's Prayer**

**C Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom**

**and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Words of Our Lord**

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **Pax Domini**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

### **Agnus Dei**

*LSB 210*

**C** **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

*Sit*

### **Distribution**

*If you desire to commune, please speak to one of the pastors before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation.*

*Please note that "gluten free" communion wafers are available for those who need them. Please tell the Communion Assistant "gluten free" when he approaches you at the Communion Rail. Also, for those who desire, highly diluted wine is available in individual cups (one drop of wine in the*

*cup of water). Please tell the Communion Assistant “clear” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail.*

## **Distribution Hymns**

### **728 How Firm a Foundation**

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He has said  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.
- 3 “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!
- 4 “When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.  
The flames will not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.
- 5 “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove  
My sov’reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

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### **835 On Galilee’s High Mountain**

- 1 On Galilee’s high mountain  
Christ gave the great command  
In words of strength and promise  
Which all can understand:  
“All pow’r to Me is given  
To do what I shall choose;  
Therefore I send My children,  
Their witness I will use.”
- 2 The Lord who, born of Mary,  
Came down as man and died,  
Who preached to all who listened,  
For us was crucified—

This Lord, our living brother,  
In pow'r at God's right hand,  
Has chosen us to carry  
His truth to ev'ry land.

- 3 His strength within my weakness  
Will make me bold to say  
How His redeeming power  
Transforms my stubborn clay;  
His touch of fire ignites me,  
With courage I am sent,  
My tongue-tied silence broken,  
With grace made eloquent.
- 4 And not alone to nations  
In faraway retreats,  
But ev'rywhere I broadcast  
His love through crowded streets:  
The lives that my life touches,  
However great or small—  
Let them through me see Jesus,  
Who served and saved us all.
- 5 That ev'ryone He chooses,  
For reasons of His own,  
Will find in Christ his calling  
To live His love alone.  
His presence always leads us  
Till time no more shall be;  
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort  
Give us His victory.

Stand

- 6 Lord, gather all Your children,  
Wherever they may be,  
And lead them on to heaven  
To live eternally  
With You, our loving Father,  
And Christ, our brother dear,  
Whose Spirit guards and gives us  
The joy to persevere.

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## 770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
Oh, what needless pain we bear—  
All because we do not carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
  
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged—  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
  
- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge—  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;  
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Text: Public domain

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

- C O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,**

**Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.**

### **Post-Communion Collect**

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **Benedicamus**

*LSB 212*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Benediction**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

### **965 God Bless Our Native Land**

1 God bless our native land;  
Firm may she ever stand  
Through storm and night.  
When the wild tempests rave,  
Ruler of wind and wave,  
Do Thou our country save  
By Thy great might.

2 So shall our prayers arise  
To God above the skies;  
On Him we wait.  
Thou who art ever nigh,  
Guarding with watchful eye,  
To Thee aloud we cry:  
God save the state!

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**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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**ASSISTING AT WORSHIP**

**Preacher**                      **Rev. Jeremy Hanson**  
**Presiding Minister**        **Rev. Patrick Niles**

**Organist**                      **Sandy Kasten**  
   **Susan Wachter**

**Lay Readers**                **Barb Nitsch (5:30)**  
   **Pat Vanic (8:00)**  
   **Karen Hopf (10:30)**  
   **Randy Holler (6:00)**

**Communion Assistants**

**Pete Nikisch & Mark Cyr (5:30)**  
**Pat Vanic (8:00)**  
**Jon Krueger (10:30)**  
**Randy Holler (6:00)**