



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

➔ Know Jesus, ➔ Grow in the Bible, ➔ Excel in Loving God and Others

Saturday, July 4 at 4:00

Sunday, July 5 at 9:00

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, Fourth after Trinity – 2020



Today's service is **Divine Service, Setting One** (Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, 151-166).

BETHLEHEM – A SAFE PLACE FOR EVERYONE:

- **Receive the Gifts:** Healthy – come in; ill – listen from your car through FM 89.9
- **Social Distance:** Sit in the RESERVED pews.
- **During the Virus:** We are not shaking hands, passing offering plates, or using the common cup.

WELCOME TO DIVINE SERVICE: *We gather to receive God's gifts through Word and Sacrament!*

- ✦ **Visitors:** We are glad you are here! This folder will guide you through today's service. We look forward to getting better acquainted, so please complete the green attendance slip!
- ✦ **Prayer Request:** See a "yellow" card (Narthex) and the "Receive Prayer" section (end of folder).

- ✦ **Young Children:** Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex).
- ✦ **Phone:** Please silence at this time!
- ✦ **Hearing Assistance:** Available in Narthex.
- ✦ **Service Folder:** Get it on your smartphone: www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com/ServiceFolder

GOOD NEWS:

L: He is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PRELUDE

PREPARATION TO RECEIVE: *Use One or More...*

- ⇒ **Prayers for Worship:** Inside front cover of LSB
- ⇒ **Table of Duties:** Page 328 in LSB
- ⇒ **Christian Questions:** Pages 329-330 in LSB

LORD'S SUPPER SELF-EXAMINATION:

† **New Visitors:** See the "New Visitors" brochure.

† **Others:** Think about these statements; do you understand and agree? Not sure? Let's talk!

1. I believe the Bible is God's Word!
2. I am baptized!
3. I am sorry for my sins!
4. I believe in Jesus for eternal life!
5. I desire to live for Christ!
6. I believe the Lord's Supper is bread and wine, as well as Jesus' very body and blood, to assure me of God's forgiveness!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

↑ GOD'S WORK of SORROW and ASSURANCE:

L: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.** [Silence for self-examination.](#)

L: [kneel / stand] Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

A: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean.

- ⇒ I have sinned against You in *thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone.*
- ⇒ I have *not* loved You with my whole heart; I have *not* loved my neighbors as myself.
- ⇒ I justly deserve Your *present and eternal punishment.*

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may *delight* in Your will and *walk* in Your ways to the *glory* of Your holy name. Amen.

L: The Almighty God in His mercy has *given His Son to die for us* and for His sake *forgives us all our 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

HYMN: *God Bless Our Native Land*

Sunday – Procession: Please face the entrance and focus on Jesus as the Divine Service begins!

See the words below / TLH 577 / LSB 965

- 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!

KYRIE (Mark 10:46-52): *Let us pray to Jesus to help us in this life with every need!*

- L: O Lord, C: **have mercy upon us.**
L: O Christ, C: **have mercy upon us.**
L: O Lord, C: **have mercy upon us.**

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY:

L: The LORD be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: *Let us pray.* Almighty God, grant integrity and well-being to all who are in authority in our nation. Grant them grace and wisdom to rule according to Your good pleasure, to the maintenance of justice and to the hindrance and punishment of wickedness, that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.** ↓

Children, please come forward now!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

V → Victory rests with the LORD.

Proverbs 21:31



OLD TESTAMENT: Zechariah 9:9–12 ESV

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1480 / Own Bible

A prophecy which pointed to Palm Sunday and a call for everyone to return to the Lord!

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my
covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners *[those enslaved to sin]*
free from the waterless pit *[from their hopelessness regarding a blessed eternity]*.

¹² Return to your stronghold *[that is, to the Lord]*, O
prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you
double.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 145:1–14 ESV

See Below / Front of LSB / Own Bible

This psalm calls upon those who trust in the True God to proclaim Him and His deeds to others!

- 1 I will extol you, my | God and King,*
and bless your name forever and | ever.
- 2 Every day I will | bless you*
and praise your name forever and | ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD, and greatly | to be
praised,*

- and his greatness is un- | searchable.
- 4 One generation shall commend your works to
an- | other,*
and shall declare your | mighty acts.
- 5 On the glorious splendor of your | majesty,*
and on your wondrous works, I will |
meditate.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your |
awesome deeds,*
and I will declare your | greatness.
- 7 They shall pour forth the fame of your
abundant | goodness*
and shall sing aloud of your |
righteousness.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and | merciful,*
slow to anger and abounding in |
steadfast love.
- 9 The LORD is | good to all,*
and his mercy is over all that | he has
made.
- 10 All your works shall give thanks to you, | O
LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!
- 11 They shall speak of the glory of your |
kingdom*
and tell | of your power,
12 to make known to the children of man your |
mighty deeds,*
and the glorious splendor of your |
kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting | kingdom,*
and your dominion endures throughout
all gener- | ations.
The LORD is faithful in | all his words*
and kind in | all his works.
- 14 The LORD upholds all who are | falling*
and raises up all who are | bowed down.
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

EPISTLE: Romans 7:14–25a ESV

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1757 / Own Bible

¹⁴We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

“Our struggle with sin is not a past event; it is a present reality. We know God’s will and desire to serve Him, but we cannot overcome sin. Even if we try, we fail. We cry out, ‘Who will deliver me from this body of death?’ There is only one answer: ‘Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!’ Jesus rescues us. Though we sin daily, He continues to forgive and restore us” (TL SB).

↑ ALLELUIA and VERSE (LSB 156):

See the words below / LSB 156

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e-ter-nal life.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 11:25–30 ESV

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1513 / Own Bible

“Jesus’ contemporaries by and large rejected Him, preferring to live under the heavy yoke of the Law as the way to salvation. Jesus invites us to receive the yoke of the Gospel, which guarantees true rest” (TL SB).

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C: Glory to You, O LORD.

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden [*weighted down*], and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ. ↓**SERMON HYMN: Before You, Lord, We Bow**

See the words below / LSB 966

- 1 Before You, Lord, we bow,
Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below,
Boundless in pow’r and love.
Our thanks we bring, In joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise, To You, our King!
- 2 The nation You have blest
May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest,
Protected by Your care.
For this bright day, For this fair land—
Gifts of Your hand—Our thanks we pay.

- 3 May ev'ry mountain height,
Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light,
And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue, Be tuned to praise
And join to raise, A grateful song.
- 4 Earth, hear your Maker's voice;
Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice,
And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore,
And bow before, The Crucified.

SERMON: Enslavement and Freedom
At the Highest Levels!

...Our nation is NOT healthy, *our freedoms and future are uncertain*, so let us repent and draw close to God! Why? **"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD"** (Ps. 33:12 ESV).

1. **Sin Enslaves, Christ Frees:** This passage identifies CREATION losing its freedom: ^{ESV} **Romans 8:20-21** "...the creation was subjected to [brought under] futility [frustration] [by God]... in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the **freedom** of the glory of the children of God."
2. **The Holy Spirit and Freedom:** ^{ESV} **2 Cor. 3:15-17** "...to this day whenever Moses [that is, when one of the first five books of the Bible] is read a veil lies over their hearts [that is, the hearts of all who reject the Lord]. But when one turns to the Lord [by the work of the Spirit through the Word], the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **freedom**."
3. **The Forces of Evil are Trying to Re-Enslave Us:** ^{ESV} **Galatians 2:1-2, 4-5** "I [Paul] went up [to Jerusalem]... and set before them... the

gospel... Yet... false brothers... slipped in to spy out our **freedom** that we have in Christ Jesus [freedom from sin's condemnation and control], so that they might bring us into slavery..."

Are you enslaved or free? "Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you-- unless indeed you fail the test?" (2Co. 13:5)

4. **Christ Plus = Enslavement; Christ Alone = Freedom:** ^{ESV} **Galatians 5:1-3** For **freedom** Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision [as a requirement of your salvation], Christ will be of no advantage to you. I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law.
5. **We are Free in Christ, but Not Free to Sin:** ^{ESV} **Galatians 5:13** "...you were called to **freedom**, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."
6. **Beware of False Prophets and False Teachers:** **False prophets** say, "The LORD said..." when He has NOT! **False teachers** purposely change the meaning of the Bible for their own personal gain. Regarding such people, the Bible says in ^{ESV} **2 Peter 2:19:** "**They promise them freedom** [for example, believe what I say, follow me, and your life will be amazing], but they themselves are slaves of corruption [living in sin now and headed for eternal destruction]. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved."

Sermon Copies: Available in the Narthex!

↑ **HYMN:**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

See the words below / TLH 644 / LSB 805

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED (*Third Article – Sanctification, and Luther's*

Explanation – in the form of questions and answers:)

- L: What is the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed?
- C: 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.**
- L: Do you have the ability to believe in Jesus Christ?
- C: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him.**
- L: How have you become a Christian?
- C: The Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.**
- L: What is the Holy Spirit doing to bless all Christians?
- C: He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.**
- L: How is God, through Jesus, blessing all Christians every day?
- C: He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.**
- L: What will happen when Jesus returns?
- C: On the Last Day Jesus will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.**
- A: This is most certainly true.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: *Let Us Pray*

After Each Petition: L: LORD, in Your mercy.
C: Hear our prayer.

Conclusion:

L: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C: Amen. ↓

OFFERTORY

BEFORE COMMUNING: See page 2 of this folder;
New Visitors: See the "New Visitor" brochure!

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

DISTRIBUTION NOTES DURING THE VIRUS:

1. **Pulpit side;** line up in the center aisle – *couples and families can be together, individuals should be six feet apart.*
2. Receive the Supper; then return to your pew via the side aisle.
3. **Lectern side;** same as above.
4. Those receiving in their pews.

↑ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:** *Let Us Pray*

L: 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.

C: 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.

L: 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.

C: We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER: *See back of either hymnal*

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

A: Our Father who art in heaven...

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD: *Spoken on the evening before He finished His saving work!*

PAX DOMINI: *The Peace of the Lord*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI: *Lamb of God*

See the words below / LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take a – way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, You take a – way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, You take a – way the sin of the world; grant - - - us peace. ↓

Sunday ➔ **HYMN DURING DISTRIBUTION:**

Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

See the words below / LSB 619

- 1 Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior,
Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,
These are my life and strength forever,
By them my hungry soul is fed. **Refrain**

**Refrain: Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

- 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now united;
I live in Thee and Thou in me.
No sorrow fills my soul, delighted
It finds its only joy in Thee. **Refrain**
- 3 Who can condemn me now? For surely
The Lord is nigh, who justifies.

No hell I fear, and thus securely
With Jesus I to heaven rise. **Refrain**

- 4 Though death may threaten with disaster,
It cannot rob me of my cheer;
For He who is of death the master
With aid and comfort e'er is near. **Refrain**
- 5 My heart has now become Thy dwelling,
O blessèd, holy Trinity.
With angels I, Thy praises telling,
Shall live in joy eternally. **Refrain**

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LORD'S SUPPER DISMISSAL

↑ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:** *Let Us Pray*

L: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have given us the evidence of Jesus' finished work – *His very body and blood*; grant us ♦joy in Jesus, ♦peace in every circumstance, and ♦boldness to share Your Word with others.

C: Amen.

HYMN: *America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee)*

See the words below (TSC 550, 1 & 4)

My country, 'tis of Thee,
Sweet land of liberty, Of Thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring!

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty, To Thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King!

BENEDICTION: *Receive and Be Blessed*

L: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen. ↓

POSTLUDE and CANDLE EXTINGUISHING
Let us apply God's Word to our daily lives!

BENEFIT FROM TODAY'S SERMON:

Read it – copies available in the Narthex; listen again – on our website or podcast!

SATURDAYS – Regular Schedule:

- ♦ **Bible Class:** 3:00
- ♦ **Divine Service:** 4:00

SUNDAYS – After Service Blessings:

- ♦ **Receive Prayer:** Active Stephen Ministers (*Alan, Jerry, Dee, Bill, Norma*) are available after the service; *they are glad to pray for you!*
- ♦ **Refreshments** (10:15): *Join us down the hall!*
- ♦ **Bible Class and Sunday School** (10:30):
 - ⇒ **Bible Class (CLR):** 9th grade to adults
 - ⇒ **Sunday School (UR):** 3 years to 8th grade

OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION: *Would you consider increasing by 10%? THANKS!*

- Needed Each Week (budget): **4,684**
- Received Last Week (actual): **2,847**
- Budget Versus Giving (YTD): **2,563**
- Spending Versus Giving (YTD): **9,636**

THANKS FOR SERVING ON 7/4 & 7/5

Smart Recorder: Kathy G

Altar Guild: Kathy G

Financial Team: Natalia F, Jerry H

Saturday: Pastor Team: ; Usher: Ray K

Sunday: Pastor Team: Tim C

Ushers: Rand S, Mel B

Beverages: Doris C

Sunday School: Kathy G

THANKS FOR SERVING ON 7/11 & 7/12

Smart Recorder: Kathy G

Altar Guild: Norma S

Financial Team: Natalia F, Inez G

Saturday: Pastor Team: ; Usher: Ray K

Sunday: Pastor Team: Jerry H

Ushers: Rand S, Mel B

Beverages: Doris C

Sunday School: Dee K

Please Pray for God's Mercy upon Our Nation!

Connect With Us

Website:	BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com	Podcast:	"Benefit from the Bible" (listen to the sermons)
Facebook:	"Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma"	Address:	7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134
Church Office:	Monday – Thursday, 9:30 to 3:30	Kathy Green:	Secretary@blc7500.com ; 440-845-2230
Childcare Center:	Monday – Friday, 6:45-6:00	Tricia Wise:	ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com ; 440-884-0430
Pastor Green:	RevRLGreen@aol.com ; 440-292-5915	Church Body:	lcms.org District: oh.lcms.org