



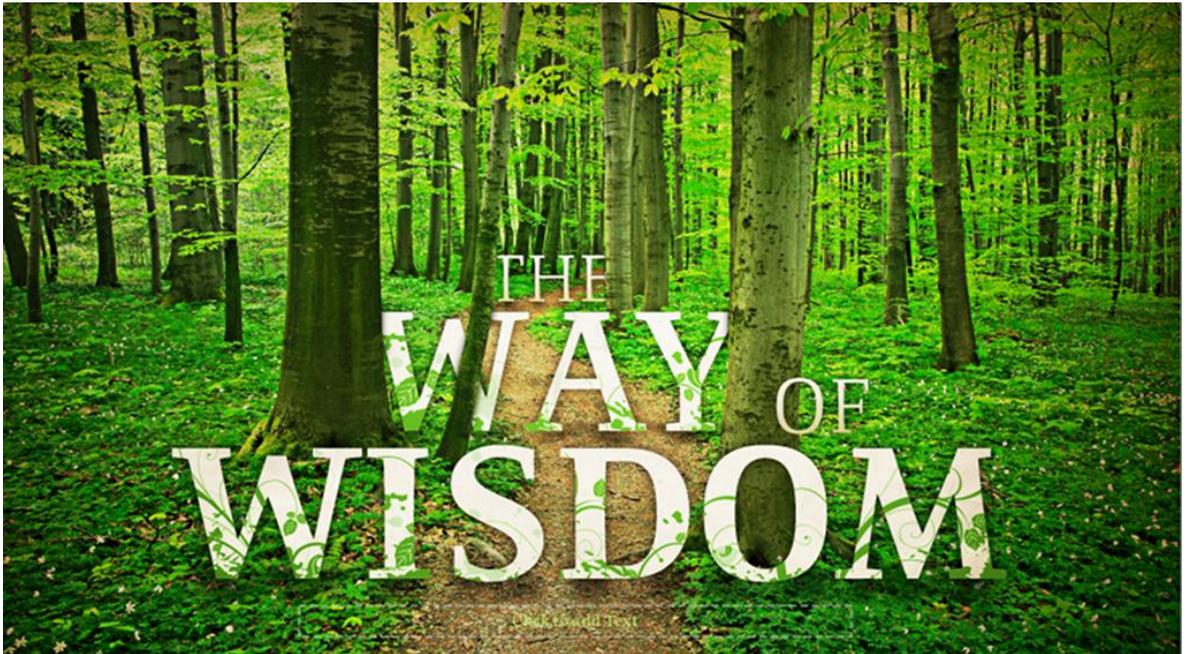
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Truth – Relevance – Inspiration

Saturday, August 14 at 4:00

Sunday, August 15 at 9:00

Church Year: 12th Sunday after Pentecost, 11th Sunday after Trinity – 2021



Today's service is **Divine Service, Setting Three** (Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, 184-202).

Thank you to Dr. Phil Giessler, *today's preacher and teacher*, and Mr. Harold Weseloh, *today's worship leader*, for substituting for Pastor Robert Green; blessings to everyone for hearing, understanding, believing, and eternally benefiting!

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

- ✦ **Visitors:** Welcome! Please take a visitor basket (available on a table in our Narthex).
- ✦ **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); Children's Message (please come forward).
- ✦ **Phone:** Please silence.

- ✦ **Hearing Assistance:** Available in Narthex.
- ✦ **Service Folder:** Get it on your smartphone: www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com/ServiceFolder
- ✦ **Not Comfortable Inside:** Receive at our main entrance; then listen from your car (FM 89.9).

WELCOME:

- L: We are empowered by the Holy Spirit!
- C: Let us live for Christ!

PRESERVICE CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION:

L: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, begging Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the LORD.

C: **Who made heaven and earth.**

L: ☩ I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD.

C: **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for self-examination.

L: O almighty God, merciful Father,

A: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

L: In the mercy of the almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the LORD, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ!

C: **Amen.**

PRELUDE

SERVICE OF THE WORD

↑ INVOCATION:

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

C: **Amen.**

HYMN:

Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults

See the words below / TLH 382

1. Lord, we confess our numerous faults;
How great our guilt has been,
How vain and foolish all our thoughts,
And all our lives were sin.
2. But, O my soul, forever praise,
Forever love, His name
Who turns thy feet from dangerous ways
Of folly, sin, and shame.
3. 'Tis not by works of righteousness
Which our own hands have done,
But we are saved by God's free grace
Abounding through His Son.
4. 'Tis from the mercy of our God
That all our hopes begin;
'Tis by the Water and the Blood
Our souls are washed from sin.

KYRIE (Mark 10:46-52): *Let Us Pray:*

We ask Jesus to help us with our needs!

- 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:

L: The LORD be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: *Let us pray.* Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.** ↓ *Children! Please come forward!*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT: Proverbs 9:1-10 NAS-95

See Below / Pew Bible Page 996 / Own Bible

¹ Wisdom has built her house, She has hewn out her seven pillars; ² She has prepared her food, she has mixed her wine; She has also set her table; ³ She has sent out her maidens, she calls From the tops of the heights of the city:

⁴ "Whoever is naive, let him turn in here!"

To him who lacks understanding she says, ⁵ "Come, eat of my food And drink of the wine I have mixed. ⁶ Forsake *your* folly and live, And proceed in the way of understanding."

⁷ He who corrects a scoffer gets dishonor for himself, And he who reprove a wicked man *gets* insults for himself. ⁸ Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you, Reprove a wise man and he will love you. ⁹ Give *instruction* to a wise man and he will be still wiser, Teach a righteous man and he will increase *his* learning.

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: 34:12-22 ESV

See Below / Front of LSB / Own Bible

- 12 What man is there who de- | sires life*
and loves many days, that he may | see
good?
- 13 Keep your tongue from | evil*
and your lips from speak- | ing deceit.
- 14 Turn away from evil | and do good;*
seek peace and pur- | sue it.
- 15 The eyes of the LORD are toward the |
righteous*
and his ears | toward their cry.
- 16 The face of the LORD is against those who do
| evil,*
to cut off the memory of them | from
the earth.

- 17 When the righteous cry for help, the | LORD
hears*
and delivers them out of all their |
troubles.
- 18 The LORD is near to the broken- | hearted*
and saves the crushed in | spirit.
- 19 Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them
all.
- 20 He keeps | all his bones;*
not one of them is | broken.
- 21 Affliction will slay the | wicked,*
and those who hate the righteous will |
be condemned.
- 22 The LORD redeems the life of his | servants;*
none of those who take refuge in him
will | be condemned.
- 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: Ephesians 5:6-21 NAS-95

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1822 / Own Bible

- ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words,
for because of these things the wrath of God
comes upon the sons of disobedience.
- ⁷ Therefore do not be partakers with them;
⁸ for you were formerly darkness, but now you
are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light
⁹ (for the fruit of the Light *consists* in all
goodness and righteousness and truth), ¹⁰ trying
to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.
- ¹¹ Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds
of darkness, but instead even expose them; ¹²
for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things
which are done by them in secret. ¹³ But all
things become visible when they are exposed
by the light, for everything that becomes visible
is light.

¹⁴ For this reason it says, “Awake, sleeper, And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵ Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of your time, because the days are evil.

¹⁷ So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; ²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

↑ **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: John 6:51-69 NAS-95

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1658 / Own Bible

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O LORD.**

⁵¹ “I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh.”

⁵² Then the Jews *began* to argue with one another, saying, “How can this man give us *His* flesh to eat?”

⁵³ So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves. ⁵⁴ He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up

on the last day. ⁵⁵ For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever.”

⁵⁹ These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. ⁶⁰ Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard *this* said, “This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?”

⁶¹ But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, “Does this cause you to stumble? ⁶² *What* then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? ⁶³ It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. ⁶⁴ But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him.

⁶⁵ And He was saying, “For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father.”

⁶⁶ As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore.

⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the twelve, “You do not want to go away also, do you?” ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.** ↓

L: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For some requests in our Participation Guide, including the following . . . , *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Finally, for those named and for all our needs of body and soul, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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...

PRAYER FOR THE WORD:

L: Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the

blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Saturday ➔ **LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER:**

L: We pray together:

A: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me (Mt. 18:10), that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Sunday ➔ **LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER:**

L: We pray together:

A: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me (Mt. 18:10), that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICTION: *Believe 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. ↓

Offering: A plate is available in the center aisle. We express our trust and thanks when we tithe!

Visitors: Please share your contact info ➔ on the green attendance slip or ➔ at secretary@blc7500.com

CLOSING HYMN: *I Pray Thee, Dear Lord Jesus*
See the words below / TLH 655

1. I pray Thee, dear Lord Jesus,
My heart to keep and train
That I Thy holy temple
From youth to age remain.
Turn Thou my thoughts forever
From worldly wisdom's lore;
If I but learn to know Thee,
I shall not want for more.

POSTLUDE and CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS

- ◆ **Living the Lutheran Lectionary:** 10:00
- ◆ **Attend:** Inside or Zoom

SATURDAY SCHEDULE

- ◆ **Bible Class:** 3:00 (Inside or Zoom)
- ◆ **Divine Service:** 4:00 (Inside or Parking Lot)

SUNDAYS – After Service Blessings

- ◆ **Receive Prayer:** See a Stephen Minister: Norma S, Bill S, Jerry H, Alan C, or Nancy B.
- ◆ **Refreshments** (10:15): Join us down the hall
- ◆ **Bible Class and Sunday School!** (10:30)

THANKS FOR SERVING ON 8/14 & 8/15

Altar Guild: Don & Carol D

Saturday: Music: Kathy G; Usher: Matt K

Sunday: Organist: Gayle P
Pastor Team: Matthias M
Ushers: Terry T, Larry H, John H, Klaus K
Refreshments: Doris C, Miriam E
Sunday School: Marci S, ~~Kathy G~~ (*Youth, please attend Dr. Giessler's Class this week.*)

Financial Team: Natalia F, Jerry H

THANKS FOR SERVING ON 8/21 & 8/22

Altar Guild: Heather H

Saturday: Music: Kathy G; Usher: Matt K

Sunday: Organist: Gayle P
Pastor Team: Harold W
Ushers: Terry T, Larry H, John H, Klaus K
Refreshments: Doris C, Miriam E
Sunday School: Kathy G, Cedrick H

Financial Team: Natalia F, Ken H

OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION – Thanks!

- Needed Each Week (budget): **4,684**
- Received Last Week (actual): **4,065**
- Budget Versus Giving (YTD): **+9,357**
- Spending Versus Giving (YTD): **+5,981**

Connect With Us

➔ **Website:** www.blc7500.com ➔ **YouTube:** Benefit from the Bible ➔ **Podcast:** Benefit from the Bible

Facebook: "Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma"

Church Office: Wed. & Thu. – 9:30 to 4; Sat., 2 to 6

Childcare Center: Monday – Friday, 6:45-6:00

Pastor Green: RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915

Address: 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134

Kathy Green: Secretary@blc7500.com; 440-845-2230

Tricia Wise: ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com; 440-884-0430

Church Body: lcms.org District: oh.lcms.org

Top Faith-Based/Christian Brands

These are the top companies with the highest faith equality index. And there are many local and or independent companies that support Christian standards.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Academy Sports | 12. H-E-B grocery | 23. SeaWorld |
| 2. Aldi | 13. Hobby Lobby | 24. Sony |
| 3. Bed Bath and Beyond | 14. Honda | 25. Subway |
| 4. Bass Pro Shop | 15. Lenovo | 26. Thrivent Financial |
| 5. Cabela's | 16. In N-Out Burger | 27. Toys R Us |
| 6. Chick-fil-A | 17. Interstate Batteries | 28. Trader Joes |
| 7. Cracker Barrel | 18. Jack in the Box | 29. Tyson Foods |
| 8. Dick's Sporting Goods | 19. Krispy Kreme | 30. Walmart |
| 9. Dillard's | 20. Lowe's | 31. Wendy's |
| 10. Dunkin Donuts | 21. Marathon | |
| 11. Flowers Foods | 22. Samsung | |

Sources: AFA, Huffington Post, CNN, and various credible news sources (the list is updated regularly from news sources)

<https://www.bibleblender.com/2016/christian-news/list-anti-religious-un-christian-businesses-organizations-people-celebrities-locations>

Anti-religious/Anti-Christian Companies and Organizations

See the long list on the main entrance bulletin board.

I Don't Like Buttermilk

A while back I read a story of a visiting pastor who attended a men's breakfast in the middle of a rural farming area of the country. The group had asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast.

"Lord, I hate buttermilk", the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going. The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned. Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour". The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits Amen."

Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today.

Stay strong, my friends, because our LORD is mixing several things that we don't really care for, but something even better is going to come when HE is done with it. AMEN!