

As We Gather: In the cry of the seraphim calling “Holy, holy, holy” there is an eternal echo that announces the presence and power of our God, the Holy Trinity. There is a sense of both majesty and mystery as Isaiah the prophet is commissioned to go and speak on behalf of the Lord. He is blessed with a holy vocation, a vocation that is ours to share. We are called to proclaim that God is Three in One, known and praised as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Joining our praise with the hosts of heaven, we proclaim the truth that God has revealed Himself to us. Like Isaiah, we are the called people of God.

✠ CONFSSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

Greeting

P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

Hymn of Invocation “Come, Thou Almighty King” #905

Invocation, Confession of Sins and AbsolutionPage 151

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit and Gloria Patri^① *Psalm 16:8–11; antiphon: Liturgical Text*



- P** Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided | Unity.*
Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mer- | cy to us.
- C** I have set the LORD always be- | fore me; *
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be | shaken.
- P** Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being re- | joices; *
my flesh also | dwells secure.
- C** For you will not abandon my soul | to Sheol, *
or let your holy one see cor- | ruption.
- P** You make known to me the | path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.
- All** 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.
- P** Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided | Unity.*
Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mer- | cy to us.

Kyrie^① ~ *Lord, have mercy*Pages 152-153

① “Introit” is pronounced “in-troh-it” – it is Latin for “he enters.” Here the Pastor enters the Chancel with the reading/chanting of these Psalm/Scripture verses. “Gloria Patri” is Latin for “Glory be to the Father” which is acclamation of praise before the final antiphon (a refrain that begins and concludes the Introit).

P [♪] Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C [♪] Amen.

[The prophet Isaiah is given a vision of the Lord.]

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

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

P Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,

C and his greatness is unsearchable.

P On your wondrous works, I will meditate,

C and I will declare your greatness.

P Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;

C the whole earth is full of his glory!

[Peter attests to the resurrection of Jesus.]

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up

① “**Kyrie**” is pronounced ‘keer-ee-ay’ – shortened from the Greek phrase *Kyrie Eleison* (“Lord, have mercy”) and reminds us of pleas for mercy like the one recorded in *Matthew 15:22*

② The “**Collect**” is a short prayer which ‘collects’ or summarizes the thoughts of the day. The Collects for every Sunday come to us from the rich treasury of the church’s heritage.

③ “**Gradual**” comes from the Latin “*gradus*” meaning ‘step’. In the ancient church these Psalm & Scripture verses were chanted from the steps of the Altar. It is a response to the First Lesson and a bridge to the Second Lesson.

according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me, therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption.

You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.’

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

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

Sequence Hymn..... **“Crown Him With Many Crowns” #525 (E)**

Gospel Acclamations^①.....**Page 157**

Holy + Gospel**St. John 3:1-17**

[The love of God is shown to the world in Jesus.]

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

[Jesus said:] “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** (♪) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

^①In the “Gospel” we hear a reading from the New Testament accounts of Jesus’ life and message. In Lutheran Worship we believe that in the Reading of the Gospel Christ is in our midst, and so we stand to honor His presence. We also sing short verses before (to greet Christ) and after (to offer our joyful praise) the reading.

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day “Holy, Holy, Holy” #507 (OT)

Sermon “Holy, Holy, Holy ... and Holy” Isaiah 6:1-8

1. God’s Holiness is _____
2. Our sin is _____
3. We now stand _____ before God

Athanasian CreedPage 319

Read responsively by whole verses.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mercy. or **P** Lord, in Your mercy, **C** Hear our prayer.

Offering and Attendance Registration

Offertory^① ~ *What Shall I Render to the Lord*Pages 159-160

Lord’s Prayer and Closing Collect



BenedictionPage 166



National Hymn “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” #717

Using the stanzas from the original Navy Hymn on facing page.

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Sending:

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God!

^①The “Offertory” is a Scripture based hymn which is sung as we prepare to bring our tithes and offerings to God. In doing so we are reminded that the offering of monetary offerings is a public testimony that we have first “given [ourselves] to the Lord” (2 Corinthians 8:5)

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *Steadfast in the Word, Bethlehem Lutheran Church shares Christ and serves people with friendship in His love in all of God’s world.*

WELCOME TO BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH! We extend a most joyous welcome to all who are worshipping today. We are confident the Lord will reveal Himself to you through this Divine Service so that you may know the joy of His presence in your life. To our guests: If you have any questions about the Christian faith or about Lutheran worship and practice, please ask the Pastor, one of our Elders, or any of our members. God bless you in Christ Jesus!

AS WE COME INTO THE SANCTUARY - let us be sensitive to the needs of those who use the quiet and reverence of the Prelude as a time to prepare their hearts and minds for the Divine Service. **ALSO:** Out of respect for God’s House and courtesy for other worshippers, please turn off all cell phones. Please also encourage one another to show respect to *God, His Word, our fellow-worshippers,* and *our Pastor* by limiting movement during Scripture Readings, Sermon & prayers. Thank you.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given to the Glory of God by Jody and Mary Bowden and in celebration of Mary’s and Adam Broad’s birthdays!

THE AMERICAN FLAGS in front of the Church commemorating Memorial Day are flying by the donations of the following: Rev & Peggy Adler, Jim & Neva Broad, Gil & Mary Lou Daughtrey, Mike & Sheila Flynn, Juanita Garcia, Albert & Yanneth Harris, Ray & Donna Hughes, Devin & Melanie Jackson, Lea Rosier, Paul & Jo Ann Tugwell and Steve & Mary Unk (Cost for renewal is \$45 per flag.)

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our theme this summer is **Delivered: God’s Gift of Grace**. These consist of all New Testament lessons. Please prayerfully consider leading a Sunday School class this summer. The sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Melanie Jackson.

TODAY’S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON is “Esau Forgives Jacob”. This exciting account teaches us how Jacob struggled against man and God for his birthright. The children will learn that Jesus struggled against sin and death to win our heavenly birthright. Talk to your children about sin and how it breaks families and relationships. Discuss, “How has sin severed our relationship with God? How did Jesus restore our relationship with God eternally? How does Jesus help us as God’s children to restore our broken human relationships?”

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY: “Leviticus: Life in the Blood” -- Holiness. What is it? Leviticus shows how God goes to great lengths not only in defining true holiness, but also in sharing His holiness with his redeemed and ransomed people.

MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES conclude with a pot luck supper at 6:00 PM, and Bible classes at 7:00 PM. The Adults continue a new study entitled: **“The Good the Bad, & The Ugly”** ... a study of the Joseph in the Old Testament Book of Genesis. Join us for this informative study. All members and friends of Bethlehem are invited to attend.

PRAYER CHAIN: There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you would like to participate in the prayer chain.

FROM DISCIPLES OF THE WAY: I thank the Lord of the harvest for your support and your partnership in the Gospel to reach out to our Muslim neighbors. We thank you for the love you have shown this ministry and the refugees from all nations that we reach out to in the name and love of Jesus. We are very grateful for your generous gift.

DID YOU FORGET? If you have not yet paid for your Lutheran Witness subscription, New Small Lutheran Catechism book or Easter lilies, please contact the church office. Thank you!

“RENT A YOUTH:” The youth are once again offering their services. This project provides an opportunity for middle and high school students, (grades 6 through 12), to assist older adults in completing routine light-duty household chores AND to foster fellowship between older adults and the youth in our church. If you have any questions, please see Yanneth Harris.

FROM THE YOUTH: We are collecting books to send to the prison so that the school there can have reading materials. Also, we are still collecting old, used phones. Next month we will donate them to victims of abuse. Questions? Please see Yanneth Harris.

FROM AARON JACKSON: “Thank you to everyone who has supported me during my first year at Concordia. I had a fantastic time meeting new people and learning about music and the church. I have taken classes in Music Theory, Aural Skills, Old and New Testament, Conducting, and more. I am a member of the Concordia Handbell Choir and the University Men's Chorus. I also take piano and organ lessons weekly, in addition to playing in rotation with other students for daily Chapel Services. I look forward to sharing the music and skills I've learned with the congregation when I play for services during the summer. I deeply appreciate the thoughts and prayers as I prepare for ministry through music.”

A SCHOLARSHIP FUND has been established for Aaron Jackson’s college expenses. Aaron is attending Concordia University/Seward, NE to prepare for full-time Church Work as a Minister of Music. If you would like to contribute, please indicate on your check and place it in the offering plate. You can also send Aaron an encouraging note at: Concordia University, Aaron Jackson, 800 North Columbia Ave., Seward, NE 68434-1500.

STEWARDSHIP VIEWPOINT: St. John 3:6 – “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” In Holy Baptism we receive a new birth: spirit from Spirit. With that rebirth we receive new desires, new lives, new purposes. To the (fleshly) world, Christian generosity makes no sense: the total minus a percentage is less than the original total. But Spirit-reborn Christians know that God’s math works differently (as we might expect from the Trinity!): a blessing received from God becomes more of a blessing when it is used in generosity to bless others.

LIFE QUOTES: “Would you be willing to take a little bit of time on Memorial Day to do two things? One is to thank God for the successful outcomes of the sacrifices that these graves represent. Our country is a free and blessed place, and our freedom was bought at a terrible price. Second, will you rededicate yourself to sharing the good news of Jesus so that as many people as possible will be rejoicing on resurrection day? As you think about cemeteries, realize that God has the last word: ‘Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt’ (Daniel 12:2 NIV). All Christian warriors will awake soon to new life.” *Pastor Mark Jeske, Time of Grace* • www.lutheransforlife.org

ABOUT THE COVER: Today, we publicly celebrate “the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity,” as we say in the Athanasian Creed. We believe, teach, and confess that the Holy Trinity consists of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, three persons in one divine essence or being. The thrice spoken “holy, holy, holy” is our humble way of praising the holy, divine, and eternal Trinity.

OUR STEWARDSHIP LAST WEEK			
OFFERINGS		ATTENDANCE	
General Offering	\$2221.00	Sunday School	32
[<u>Needed per week:</u>	\$2,668.00]	Divine Service	55
Building Fund	\$.00	Communion	52
[<u>Needed per week:</u>	\$350.00]		

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Deuteronomy 5:12-15; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12; St Mark 2:23-28.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY THIS WEEK

Sunday (05/27)		The Holy Trinity – First Sunday After Pentecost Sunday School & Bible Classes Divine Service (Setting 1) Acolyte: Jessica Bowden Pianist: Sylvia Frenzel Altar Guild: Lori Fortner & Lana Bowden Duty Elder: Albert Harris
Wednesday (05/30)	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Potluck Supper Bible Classes
Sunday (06/03)	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Pentecost 2 [Proper 4] Sunday School & Bible Classes Divine Worship (Setting 3) / Holy Communion Acolyte/Crucifer: Christopher Harris Organist: Mary Bowden Altar Guild: Donna Hughes & Lea Rosier Duty Elder: Devin Jackson After Church: Evangelism Board

IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

National Leadership and Military: including members Kyle Lawson and Kyle Shepherd, as well as Robert Garcia [Juanita’s son], and Jeremy Stafford [Marcy Hogan’s nephew]

Health needs - Members: Albert Harris, George Nelson; Julie Schoppe; **Friends:** **Jana Burns** (5/27) [friend of Tammy Pike], Holly Franklin (5/13) [Hughes’ daughter], Hadleigh Pinkerton (5/20) [Alicia Hutton’s great niece], Phoenix (5/13) [friend of the West’s], **Marlene Thompson** (5/27) [Tammy Pike’s mom], Teresa White (5/20) [Alicia Hutton’s grandmother]

Homebound - Members: Dorothy Jackson, Martha Kaudelka, Johnnie Weaver

Celebrating this week: Birthdays: Jerry Hartenberger, James Taylor ... **Baptismal Birthdays:** Billye Bledsoe, Allyson Byrd, Hailee Sheridan ...

Comfort: family and Friends of Mae Stegemoeller [Peggy Adler’s Aunt]

NOTE: New prayers requests are in **BOLD**. Prayers submitted will stay on the prayer list for two weeks unless updated. Please inform the Pastor and the Church Office regarding the status of submitted prayers so we may be timely and up-to-date in petitions to our gracious God.

TO ADD PETITIONS TO OUR PRAYER CHAIN CALL LEA ROSIER AT (903) 729-1879 or (903) 391-5678

Note: The Letters in parentheses after the Hymn number indicate hymns selected because of direct connection to the Propers (i.e., Scripture Readings) for the day ... OT=Old Testament, FR=First Reading, SR= Second Reading , Ps=Psalm; V=Verse; E=Epistle, G=Gospel. Hymns with no such indication are hymns that, while having no direct connection to the Propers, still support the theme of the day.

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Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Adult Bible Class: 9:00 AM
Divine Service: 10:15 AM

“To Give Light to Those who Sit in Darkness”

