

**AS WE GATHER:** The Old Testament Reading for today speaks of Israel’s failed shepherds. They scattered the flock and failed to care for their people, yet Jeremiah records God’s promise of a righteous branch who would reign as King. That righteous one is the Good Shepherd, Jesus. In the Gospel, He fulfills the words of Psalm 23 by making the crowds of five thousand sit down in the green grass to be fed with five loaves and two fish. Jesus is the promised righteous Shepherd.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

**Greeting**

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

Versicles .....Page 219

✠ PSALMODY ✠

Common Antiphon .....Page 220

Venite ~ *O Come, Let Us Sing* and Common Antiphon .....Pages 220-221

Psalm .....Psalm 23, antiphon v. 6



**P** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,\*  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.

**C** The LORD is my | shepherd;\*  
I | shall not want.

**P** He makes me lie down in green | pastures.\*  
He leads me beside still | waters.

**C** He re- | stores my soul.\*  
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his | name’s sake.

**P** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you  
are | with me;\*  
your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

**C** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my | enemies;\*  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup | overflows.



**P** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,\*  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.

**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** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,\*  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.

**Office Hymn** ..... **“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” #711 (OT, G)**

## **✚ READINGS ✚**

**Old Testament Reading** ..... **Jeremiah 23:1–6**

*[God warns lazy, divisive shepherds of their future and promises a righteous branch to reign as King over His flock.]*

“Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” declares the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: “You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD. Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD.

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle** ..... **Ephesians 2:11–22**

*[Christ makes peace and breaks down all dividing walls by His cross.]*

Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Holy ✚ Gospel** ..... **St. Mark 6:30–44**

*[Jesus feeds the five thousand.]*

The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. And he said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?” And he said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** Thanks be to God.

**Responsory – Common**.....Page 221

**Children’s Message**

**Hymn of the Day** ..... “The Church’s One Foundation” #644 (E)

**Sermon** ..... “Christ’s Power for Us” St. Mark 6:30-34

**+ CANTICLE +**

**Te Deum ~ We Praise You, O God** .....Pages 223-225

**Higher Things Youth Conference Commissioning**

**Offering and Attendance Registration**

**+ PRAYER +**

**Kyrie, Lord’s Prayer, Collect of the Day**

**P** Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience...

**Intercessions** .....Pages 227-228

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

**Benedicamus and Benediction** .....Page 228

**Hymn of Departure**..... “I’m But A Stranger Here” #748 (E)

## Silent Prayer

## Announcements

### Sending:

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

## WORSHIP THOUGHTS

Though it is fitting that we use the Narthex to greet one another and especially welcome visitors before the worship begins, it is also important that we take quiet time to prepare ourselves for worship once entering the Sanctuary. Plan, if possible, to arrive early enough to scan through the bulletin so you are acquainted with any changes for this Sunday.

As you come to worship, take some time to pray for the pastor and for others participating in the worship service today. Listen to the Prelude, which is not mere background music, but an invitation for all to give attention to God's Word and prayer.

Are you familiar with the hymns we are singing today? Please take a few moments to read through the words of each hymn, especially those that appear new to you.

If you make the sign of the cross (✠) during worship, it is done in remembrance of Baptism. When we were baptized, the sign of the cross was made on our heart and head to signify that we belonged to Christ. This is our present identity. The making the sign of the cross (✠) during worship is an act of devotion that dates back to the third century A.D. It is very much a Christian practice, not limited to any one particular denomination.

**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 Burl and Debbie Gruetzner and in celebration of Debbie and Julie's birthdays!

**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**, "Jesus Appears to the Disciples," recounts the Easter story. Students will discuss how God speaks through their pastor to forgive their sins. Families could discuss, "How did Jesus' appearance on Easter evening both encourage and frighten the disciples? Why is it sometimes difficult to admit and confess our sins?"

**SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY: "Job: Confident in Calamity"** -- Why do the just suffer? Where is God in the midst of loss, illness, ridicule and defeat? In this informative study we will also consider the purpose of adversity in the lives of the faithful and the role of Satan regarding our relationship with God.

**THE QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING** This year we elect officers at the summer Quarterly Voter's Meeting following the Divine Service TODAY. When you are asked to serve please prayerfully consider how you can use your God-given gifts for the Lord. Your presence and participation is an important part of our working together in the ministry of the Gospel here at Bethlehem congregation.

**THE HIGHER THINGS YOUTH CONFERENCE** will be held in Lawrence, Kansas July 24-27th. Please be in prayer for safe travel and a rich learning experience for both youth and adults who are attending. Since Pastor Adler will be attending, he will be out of the office this week. Please contact your Elder for pastoral care needs.

**FROM THE EVANGELISM BOARD:** We are planning a BBQ fundraiser for the Pleasant Hills Children's Home on Saturday, July 28 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. We will be serving a sandwich, chips and bottled water for \$8. Proceeds will provide school supplies and personal items for the residents. Also, we will be collecting other supplies for the home (see list in the narthex) and gift cards (\$25 and \$50) to Wal-Mart and Payless Shoes. See Jerry Hartenberger for more information.

**THE NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL** term will begin Sunday, August 26th with Rally Day. We are looking for volunteers to teach Sunday School and Wednesday midweek classes. Please prayerfully consider how you can participate in this eternally important ministry of Christian education. Contact Melanie Jackson to indicate how you will help.

**NEWSLETTER** –The **JUNE/JULY** edition of *The Bethlehem Star* newsletter is in your mailbox in the narthex. Make sure you have picked up your copy. Items for the **AUGUST** newsletter are due in the church office today. Thank you!

**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!

**PORTALS OF PRAYER** devotion booklets for July through September are on the shelf in the narthex. Make sure you have one and pick up an extra copy for a friend!

**FROM THE YOUTH:** We are collecting new or gently used towels for BARC, Anderson County's Humane Society. Questions? Please see Yanneth Harris.

**TRAVELING THIS SUMMER?** If you are traveling and you would rather not attend an LC-MS church where there is no historic liturgy and hymnody ... visit [lutheranliturgy.org](http://lutheranliturgy.org) to find an orthodox and liturgical congregation to visit.

**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:** Ephesians 2:13 – "But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." What all of mankind's efforts, works, and scheming could not do, the blood of Christ did: we have peace with God, we are brought near to the Father. This life-giving sacrifice of Christ sets the pattern for the sacrifices we are called to make for others within our vocations in home, church, and society.

**LIFE QUOTES:** "Please join us in praying for those who make, administer, and judge our laws that they may reflect the truth, love, and life of our Lord Jesus Christ in their policies and actions until the Savior returns to bring our redemption and resurrection to fulfillment in new creation and everlasting kingdom." *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

<b>OUR STEWARDSHIP LAST WEEK</b>			
<b>OFFERINGS</b>		<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	
General Offering	\$3975.00	Sunday School	32
[Needed per week:	\$2,668.00]	Divine Service	58
Building Fund	\$.00		
[Needed per week:	\$350.00]		

**ABOUT THE COVER:** What a wonderful blessing it is when God’s people understand how He provides for them. We believe, teach, and confess that our heavenly Father provides everything we need to sustain this body and life. Jesus provided for the crowd to be fed, and “they all ate and were satisfied.” He provides for us in this life and in the life that is to come.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** Genesis 9:8-17; Ephesians 3:14-21; St. Mark 6:45-56.

<b>OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY THIS WEEK</b>	
<b>Sunday (07/22)</b>	<b>Pentecost 9 [Proper 11]</b>
9:00 AM	<b>Sunday School &amp; Bible Classes</b>
10:15 AM	<b>Divine Service (Matins)</b>
Acolyte:	Sara Kimbrough
Organist:	Mary Bowden
Altar Guild:	Sandy Smith & Natalie Byrd
Duty Elder:	Burl Gruetzner
After Church:	Quarterly Voter’s Meeting
<b>Tuesday - Friday (7/24-27)</b>	<b>Higher Things Youth Conference-Lawrence, KS</b>
<b>Saturday (7/28) 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM</b>	<b>BBQ Lunch Fundraiser for Pleasant Hills Children’s Home</b>
<b>Sunday (07/29)</b>	<b>Pentecost 10 [Proper 12]</b>
9:00 AM	<b>Sunday School &amp; Bible Classes</b>
10:15 AM	<b>Divine Service (Setting 5) / Holy Communion</b>
Acolyte/Crucifer:	Kristen Harris
Pianist:	Sylvia Frenzel
Altar Guild:	Sandy Smith & Natalie Byrd
Duty Elder:	Burl Gruetzner

**N THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:**

**National Leadership and Military:** including members Kyle Lawson and Kyle Shepherd, as well as Robert Garcia [Juanita’s son], **James Reed** [Devin Jackson’s co-worker] and Jeremy Stafford [Marcy Hogan’s nephew]

**Health needs - Members:** Shelia Flynn (6/24), Albert Harris, George Nelson; Julie Schoppe

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

**Celebrating this week: Birthdays:** Gil Daughtrey, Roland Felder, Debbie Grutezner ... **Baptismal Birthdays:** Travis Lestig

**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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Pastor

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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”*

