

As We Gather: Paul sets the example for a Christian’s response to the Gospel. It is a prayer for his readers and a model for our prayers for friends. The power of God over creation in the flood and as Jesus stilled the storm, was terrifying. But Paul prays that Christ’s power would fill his readers so they might be able to grasp God’s all-encompassing love. Jesus healed all who touched His garment in today’s Gospel; Paul prays that God’s power be “at work within us” as we pray for and work with one another. We pray today that God would strengthen us to pray and then to care, so that our friends experience for themselves God’s powerful love through us.

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Greeting

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

Hymn of Invocation “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” #809 (OT)

Invocation, Confession of Sins and AbsolutionPages 213-214

✠ Service of The Word ✠

Introit and Gloria Patri^① *Psalm 145:1–3, 6–7; antiphon: Ps. 145:5*

P On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
C and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

P I will extol you, my God and King,
C and bless your name forever and ever.

P Every day I will bless you
C and praise your name forever and ever.

P Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
C and his greatness is unsearchable.

P They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,
C and I will declare your greatness.

P They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
C and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

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.

P On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
C and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

Kyrie^① “Your Heart, O God, is Grieved” #945

^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).

Gloria in Excelsis^② **“All Glory Be To God Alone” #948**

Salutation and Collect of the Day^③ Page 214

P Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all who trust in You, strengthen our faith and give us courage to believe that in Your love You will rescue us from all adversities; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading **Genesis 9:8–17**

[God promises in a covenant never again to destroy the earth with a flood.]

God said to Noah and to his sons with him,
“Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

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

Gradual^④ *Romans 11:33, 36*

P Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C **How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!**

P For from him and through him and to him are all things.

C **To him be glory forever. Amen.**

Epistle **Ephesians 3:14–21**

[Paul prays that God would empower his readers so that they reflect God’s love in their daily living.]

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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 “Gloria in Excelsis” is Latin for “Glory To God In The Highest” is based on the song of the angels announcing the birth of Jesus.

③ The “Salutation” (greeting) is reminiscent of an Old Testament greeting recorded in *Ruth 2:4*. 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.

④ “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.

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

Holy + Gospel^① **St. Mark 6:45–56**

[Jesus stills the storm and heals the sick.]

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Immediately [Jesus] made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd.

And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately recognized him and ran about the whole region and began to bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Creed **“We All Believe in One True God” #953**

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day **“Be Still, My Soul” #752 (G)**

Sermon **“Willing and Able” Ephesians 3:14-21**

1. Our _____
2. God’s _____
3. The Church’s _____

A Matter of Importance:

Please Note: *If you are visiting and have not already done so, please read Communion Information in the bulletin.*

Offering and Attendance Registration

Your Preparation for the Sacrament

“Father, I believe that You sent Your Son, Jesus, as my Savior from sin. I repent of my sins and ask Your forgiveness. I believe the Risen Christ is really present in this Sacrament and that with the bread and wine I receive His True Body and Blood. In accordance with the pure doctrine taught at this altar, I dedicate myself anew to Your regular worship, study of Your Word, faithful witness and loving service. With the help of Your Holy Spirit, make this my conviction and intention. Amen.”

Other prayers may be found on the inside front cover of the Hymnal, “Lutheran Service Book.”

^① In 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.

Prayer of the Church Page 215-16

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

✠ Service of The Sacrament ✠

PrefacePage 216

Lord’s Prayer, the Words of Our Lord^①Page 217

Sanctus^②Page 161

C (♪) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pax Domini^③Page 217

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei^④Page 163

C (♪) Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

The Distribution

*Communicants are ushered forward by rows. **Please receive the host upon an open palm.** The Chalice (or common cup) is available at every table. The Duty Elder will offer the individual cups and is followed by the Pastor who will offer the Chalice. **Please tip the base of the chalice yourself** to avoid spillage. The individual cups in the center ring contain de-alcoholized wine for those who have so requested.*

Distribution Hymns “Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared” #622
“Blest Be The Tie That Binds” #649 (E)

Post-Communion Hymn^⑤ “Lord, Bid Your Servant Go In Peace” #937

Post-Communion Collect, Benedicamus^⑥ and BenedictionPage 218

Hymn of Departure..... “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me” #715 (G)

Silent Prayer Announcements and Sending:

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

① These are the very Words of Christ which make the elements of bread and wine a sacrament. Our Confessions state “When the Word is joined to the external element, it becomes a sacrament” (Large Catechism, v.10).

② “Sanctus” is Latin for “Holy.” This Hymn is based on *Isaiah 6:3* & *St. Matthew 21:9*

③ “The Peace of the Lord” – The purpose of the Pax is a confessional declaration that the peace that passes all understanding is here present in the body and blood of Christ. For this reason the Celebrant now lifts the Chalice and Host.

④ “Agnus Dei” (pronounced ‘ahn-yoos day-ee’) is Latin for “Lamb of God”

⑤ This hymn is a versification of the “Nunc Dimittis” (Latin for ‘now depart’). Simeon first sang this hymn of thanksgiving as recorded in *St. Luke 2:29-32*.

⑥ “Benedicamus” is Latin for ‘bless we.’

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!



COMMUNION INFORMATION: Bethlehem is an orthodox, confessional Lutheran congregation. Following the teaching of God's Word, we believe that the Lord's Supper is more than a mere symbol, but that in the Lord's Supper we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ with the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and to drink. Through this eating and drinking, we receive the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. The Apostle Paul notes the importance of those who come to the Lord's Supper coming in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:25-19), that is, coming in an attitude of repentance, recognizing the bread and wine as the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus, and firmly believing Christ and his words that this is given for the forgiveness of sins. We also recognize that the Lord's Supper is also an outward sign of doctrinal unity. The Apostle Paul notes the importance of unity within the body of believers who receive this sacrament (1 Corinthians 10:16-17). For these reasons and since Christian Churches vary widely in their teachings about the Lord's Supper, we ask that **all guests please speak to the Pastor prior to approaching the Altar.** All communicants are asked to sign the Registration sheet in the Narthex.

WORSHIP NOTES: The Chasuble is a Eucharistic Vestment which the Pastor puts on before preparing the Sacramental vessels. It is a visual mark indicating that in the transition from the Service of the Word to the Service of the Sacrament something extraordinary is about to take place. The use of such a vestment is in keeping with both Lutheran tradition and practice; as our Lutheran Confessions state (*Ap XXIV*).

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 Juanita Garcia in memory of Roberto Garcia.

TODAY'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON is "Jesus Teaches about Forgiveness". Jesus' message to His followers reminds us how God wants us to show love for and forgive those in our church family. After Sunday School, you could discuss, "What plan for dealing with forgiving others did Jesus explain? How can we learn to forgive those who have sinned against us?"

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.

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.

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.

FROM THE EVANGELISM BOARD: Thanks to all who helped with the BBQ Fundraiser for Pleasant Hills Children's Home.

AUGUST CALENDAR is in your box. The August newsletter will be available next Sunday, August 5. 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 to find an orthodox and liturgical congregation to visit.

OUR WORSHIP STYLE: We are a "liturgical" church. That means that the basic pattern of our worship is drawn from the services that have been used by Christians for many centuries all across the world. The components of the Liturgy come from the Bible and serve to focus our worship on God's Word and our response to His Word in faith. As Martin Luther once said, "We worship to hear God speak and to speak to the God who hears us." If you are new to our worship format let it serve as a witness of our response to God who reaches out to us. In time, we pray that you, too, will celebrate the rich spiritual rewards of our heritage in Worship.

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 3:20 – "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think..." We often shortchange God by failing to remember what Paul says here: God can do far more than what we can think or ask. His power, and His love, are without bound and without measure. So why do we fear to follow His word? Isn't it in fact fear that keeps us back from a life of joyous generosity and open-handedness? But God is able to do far more abundantly! So let us not be afraid to take the Lord at his Word and live according to it.

LIFE QUOTES: "Arguments from some about when life begins, which inexcusably focus on eliminating the rights of the baby in the womb, are a perfect opportunity to speak the truth in love. We need to do this because this is not an abstract issue. It is a matter of life and death." Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org

ABOUT THE COVER: The word of Jesus' mighty miracles preceded Him throughout the region as people heard about the woman who had touched His garment and was healed, or how He made the blind see and the crippled walk again. The people believed that Jesus was able to heal the sick. Jesus still heals the sickness of our sins through forgiveness and lovingly restores us to Himself.

OUR STEWARDSHIP LAST WEEK			
OFFERINGS		ATTENDANCE	
General Offering	\$2467.91	Sunday School	36
[<u>Needed per week</u>]	[\$2,668.00]	Divine Service	74
Building Fund	\$50.00		
[<u>Needed per week</u>]	[\$350.00]		

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Exodus 16:2-15; Ephesians 4:1-16; St. John 6:22-35.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY THIS WEEK

Sunday (07/29)	9:00 AM	Pentecost 10 [Proper 12]
	10:15 AM	Sunday School & Bible Classes
	Acolyte/Crucifer:	Divine Service (Setting 5) / Holy Communion
	Pianist:	Kristen Harris
	Altar Guild:	Sylvia Frenzel
Sunday (08/05)		Sandy Smith & Natalie Byrd
	Duty Elder:	Burl Gruetzner
	9:00 AM	Pentecost 11 [Proper 13]
	10:15 AM	Sunday School & Bible Classes
	Acolyte/Crucifer:	Divine Service (Setting 3) / Holy Communion
Organist:	Jessica Bowden	
Altar Guild:	Aaron Jackson	
Duty Elder:	Kelly Lawson & Bobbie Hartenberger	
After Church:	Steve Unk	
	Evangelism Board	

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: **Mary Lou Daughtrey** (7/29), Shelia Flynn (6/24), Albert Harris, George Nelson; Julie Schoppe
Homebound - Members: Dorothy Jackson, Martha Kaudelka, Johnnie Weaver

Celebrating this week: Birthdays: Travis Atkinson, Lana Bowden, Lori Fortner, Aaron Koehler, Lea Rosier ... **Baptismal Birthdays:** Sylvia Frenzel, Liz Vernon ...

All who commune

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.

The Introit, Collect, and Gradual are from *Lutheran Service Book Altar Book*, © 2006 CPH. All Scripture quotations, including those from *Lutheran Service Book*, are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Liturgy License #12570. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012570. OneLicense.net # A-708186.

www.belctx.org
info@belctx.org

Rev. David L. Adler,
Pastor

BETHLEHEM EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
1515 South Loop 256 † Palestine, TX 75801
Office: (903) 729-6362 † Fax: (903) 723-7725

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”

