

AS WE GATHER: Not all news is good news. Not every story is a happy story. But the Scriptures tell us of the grace God has shown to His people, even in their sinfulness and rejection of Him. God does not give up on His creation. The seeds He has planted will bear fruit according to His promise. There will be a happy ending! In this season of growing things, we renew our hope in the Lord, who is our health and salvation.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Greeting

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

VersiclesPage 219

✠ PSALMODY ✠

Common AntiphonPage 220

Venite ~ O Come, Let Us Sing and Common AntiphonPages 220-221

PsalmPsalm 130



P Out | of the depths*
I cry to you, | O LORD!

C O Lord, | hear my voice!*
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for | mercy!

P If you, O LORD, should mark in- | iquities,*
O Lord, | who could stand?

C But with you there is for- | givenness,*
that you | may be feared.

P I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,*
and in his | word I hope;

C my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,*
more than watchmen for the | morning.

P O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is | steadfast love,*
and with him is plentiful re- | demption.



C And he will redeem | Israel*
from all his in- | iquities.

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.

Office Hymn “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” #528

✝ READINGS ✝

Old Testament Reading Genesis 3:8–15

[The fall into sin in the Garden of Eden]

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

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

Epistle 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

[We look with hope to the things that are unseen.]

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

For we know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

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

[Jesus teaches about who truly is His family.]

Then [Jesus] went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.”

And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.” And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

“Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.” And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.”

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

Children’s Message

1. Freedom = _____

2. Freedom = _____

+ CANTICLE +

Offering and Attendance Registration

+ PRAYER +

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

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Sending:

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C** 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 Gil and Mary Lou Daughtrey and in celebration of their wedding anniversary on the 13TH!

THE AMERICAN FLAGS in front of the Church commemorating Flag Day are flying by the donations of the following: Rev & Peggy Adler, Jim & Neva Broad, Gil & Mary Lou Daughtrey, Mike & Shelia Flynn, Juanita Garcia, Albert & Yanneth Harris, Ray & Donna Hughes, Devin & Melanie Jackson, George & Betty Nelson, Lea Rosier, Paul & Jo Ann Tugwell, Steve & Mary Unk (It’s time to renew our subscription, 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 “Jesus Gives the Great Commission.” Participants will learn how God makes them His children in Baptism. Families can discuss, “What special memories do you have of your child’s Baptism?” Share any certificates, candles, or other items that relate to your child’s Baptism.

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.

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

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.

SPECIAL VOTER’S MEETING: TODAY after the Service to discuss air conditioning repair costs.

LWML CONVENTION will be held in Waco July 5-8. We are collecting items to take with us to help organizations in the Waco area. For information on how you can assist we have provided bright colored sheets in the Narthex with items being collected. Thanks for your assistance with this project!

NEW 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!

“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 to donate to victims of abuse. Questions? Please see Yanneth Harris.

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. Mark 3:35 – “Whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.” Doing the will of God starts with trusting in His Son Jesus Christ. Once we have faith in Him and have been reborn as new creatures through Holy Baptism, we strive to grow in this faith and in a life that agrees with our faith. Growing in generosity, in kindness, and in love across our callings in the home, in church, and in society is growing into the family of God: for all who do His will are his brothers, and sisters, and mothers.

LIFE QUOTES: “You can stand for life today, even if you have had an abortion. When you bring any sin into the light, Jesus disarms the enemy. The devil can no longer hold that sin over you. Christ is your righteousness, and you stand in Him. God’s Word declares it to be so.” *Rev. Lyndon Korhonen, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations* • www.lutheransforlife.org (For those who have made an abortion decision, there is a Word of Hope, Lutherans For Life’s post-abortion healing ministry. Call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org.)

ABOUT THE COVER: Jesus’ work as the Second Person of the Holy Trinity is that of redemption. That work includes the forgiving of sins. Jesus forgives all the sins of repentant people. He forgives because of His love for us. He needs no other motivation or help in His redemptive work. We truly have a loving God and a loving and forgiving Savior. Thanks be to God!

OUR STEWARDSHIP LAST WEEK			
OFFERINGS		ATTENDANCE	
General Offering	\$5024.00	Sunday School	42
[Needed per week:	\$2,668.00]	Divine Service	62
Building Fund	\$300.00	Communion	61
[Needed per week:	\$350.00]		

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Ezekiel 17:22-24; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10; St. Mark 4:26-34.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY THIS WEEK

Sunday (06/10)	9:00 AM 10:15 AM Acolyte: Organist: Altar Guild: Duty Elder: After Church:	Pentecost 3 [Proper 5] Sunday School & Bible Classes Worship (Matins) Kristen Harris Aaron Jackson Donna Hughes & Lea Rosier Devin Jackson Special Voter's Meeting / LWML Meeting
Tuesday (06/12)	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Board of Elders Church Council
Thursday – Saturday (06/14-16)		Texas District Convention, Irving, TX
Sunday (06/17)	9:00 AM 10:15 AM Acolyte/Crucifer: Pianist: Altar Guild: Duty Elder:	Pentecost 4 [Proper 6] Father's Day Sunday School & Bible Classes Divine Service (Setting 4) / Holy Communion Sara Kimbrough Sylvia Frenzel Donna Hughes & Lea Rosier Devin Jackson

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:** Steve Lund (6/3)

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

Celebrating this week: Birthdays: Brian Koehler ... **Baptismal Birthdays:** Yanneth Harris ... **Wedding Anniversaries:** Milton & Marcy Hogan, Gil & Mary Lou Daughtrey, Kyle & Sara Lawson

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”

