

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [PROPER 16].....AUGUST 26, 2018
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY – RALLY DAY
SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING, PAGE 260

As We Gather: They're perfect! "Stain-resistant! Wrinkle-free! Easy-care!" Not only are the pants good-looking, but they're also functional. While store catalogs may use these terms to grab your attention and sell their products, the Bible uses similar words to proclaim the wonderful news of God's free grace for you! Jesus has redeemed you by His blood in order to "present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:27). Like a bride beautifully adorned and awaiting her bridegroom, we anticipate the final coming of our Lord Jesus, even as we today receive Him who comes to us in His body and blood. Let us join together and give praise to the One who has declared us to be spotless!

Greeting

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

Hymn....."Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens" #589 (G)

Opening VersiclesPage 260

Old Testament CanticlePage 261

✠ READINGS ✠

Isaiah 29:11-19

[The Lord will again do wonderful things with His people.]

And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

And the Lord said:

"Because this people draw near with their mouth
and honor me with their lips,
while their hearts are far from me,
and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,
therefore, behold, I will again
do wonderful things with this people,
with wonder upon wonder;
and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish,
and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel,
whose deeds are in the dark,
and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?"

You turn things upside down!
Shall the potter be regarded as the clay,
that the thing made should say of its maker,
"He did not make me";

or the thing formed say of him who formed it,
 “He has no understanding”?
 Is it not yet a very little while
 until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,
 and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?
 In that day the deaf shall hear
 the words of a book,
 and out of their gloom and darkness
 the eyes of the blind shall see.
 The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD,
 and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

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

Psalm 14



P The fool says in his heart, “There | is no God.”*
 They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none | who does good.

C The LORD looks down from heaven on the chil- | dren of man,*
 to see if there are any who understand, who seek | after God.

P They have all turned aside; together they have be- | come corrupt;*
 there is none who does good, not | even one.

C Have they no knowledge, all the evil- | doers*
 who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call up- | on the LORD?

P There they are in great | terror,*
 for God is with the generation of the | righteous.

C You would shame the plans | of the poor,*
 but the LORD is his | refuge.

P Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of | Zion!*
 When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel | be glad.

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.

Epistle.....Ephesians 5:22–33

[Christ, the Bridegroom, makes the Church His Bride and gives Himself up for her.]

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves

his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

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

Sequence Hymn.....“Gracious Savior, Grant Your Blessing” #860 (E)

Holy † Gospel.....**St. Mark 7:1–13**

[Jesus rebukes those who reject God’s commands in order to establish their own traditions.]

When the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban’ (that is, given to God)— then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

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

ResponsoryPage 263

Catechism ~ Ten Commandments, Creed, Lord's PrayerPage 264

Children’s Message

Hymn.....“Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain” #865 (G)

Sermon.....“Hearts That Belong to Him” St. Mark 7:1-13

- 1. Our _____ Hearts
- 2. His _____ Heart
- 3. Our _____ Hearts

Hymn.....“Earth and All Stars” #817:1, 5, 7

Installation of Education Staff

Installation of Congregational Officers

Offering and Attendance Registration

✠ PRAYERS✠

Prayer.....Page 265

Collect of The Day

P Almighty and merciful God, defend Your Church from all false teaching and error that Your faithful people may confess You to be the only true God and rejoice in Your good gifts of life and salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for The Word.....Page 265

Morning Prayer.....Page 266

New Testament Cantic.....Page 266

BlessingPage 267

Hymn of Departure.....“Oh, Blest the House” #862 (G, E)

Silent Prayer

Announcements and Sending:

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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (RALLY DAY) AUGUST 26, 2018

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.

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.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given to the Glory of God by Devin and Melanie Jackson and in celebration of Matthew’s birthday tomorrow!

TODAY’S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON, “Jesus Teaches about an Unforgiving Servant,” may be difficult for some students to understand. Through this parable, we learn that God forgives us and wants us to forgive others. As a family, consider discussing, “How are we sometimes like the unforgiving servant in the parable? How can we respond to God’s great gift of forgiveness?”

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.

TODAY IS SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY, which marks the beginning of the new Sunday School term. We give thanks for the following staff and teachers who are being installed this morning: Jody Bowden, Yanneth Harris, Donna Hughes, Devin Jackson, Matthew Jackson, Sara Kimbrough, Julie Schoppe and Nic Worsham. Thank you to everyone who accepted to help with this vital ministry. We are still on the lookout for teachers. Please prayerfully consider this important ministry and see Melanie Jackson.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS TODAY: President: Gil Daughtrey; Vice-President: Burl Gruetzner; Secretary: Donna Hughes; Treasurer: Albert Harris; Financial Secretary: Lea Rosier; Christian Education: Melanie Jackson; Evangelism: Jerry Hartenberger; Congregational Properties: Jim Broad; Social Concerns: Megan Taylor; and Youth: Devin Jackson. Elders: Jim Broad, Burl Gruetzner, Albert Harris, Devin Jackson & James Taylor (Presiding)

POTLUCK TODAY: There will be a potluck after Divine Service today so stay and have good food and fun fellowship with your church family!

NEWSLETTER –The **SEPTEMBER** edition of *The Bethlehem Star* newsletter is in your mailbox in the narthex. Make sure you have picked up your copy.

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 EVANGELISM COMMITTEE: In order to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, please pick up the Gospel of John books in the narthex to distribute to those in our community.

GREETING CARDS: Check out the birthday, get well, sympathy and other cards on the card rack, along with for a 50 cent donation to mites.

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 7:11 – “But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban’ (that is, given to God).” Each one of our vocations, in the home, in the church, and in society have a claim on our resources. The Pharisees thought that they could use the Kingdom of God as an excuse to shirk their duty to their parents. But they were wrong. Of course, doing it the other way around would also be wrong. God has called us to be supportive of our families, our churches, and our communities each in the proper proportion.

LIFE QUOTES: “When we see post-abortive women and men ... vulnerable, helpless, destined perhaps to their own destruction—we are compelled to speak and defend and help because it is the Christ thing to do. As Christ, we get down in the ditch with them. We offer healing that can only come from the objective and complete forgiveness in Christ. We lift them up and walk beside them.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

ABOUT THE COVER: God seeks order in all things, spiritual and earthly. The relationship between husband and wife is a picture of the relationship between God and His people. It is a relationship of service and respect, a relationship of love and order. God desires to restore His creation to His perfect order. God’s order is always good for His creation.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Ephesians 6:10-20; St. Mark 7:14-23.

OUR STEWARDSHIP LAST WEEK			
OFFERINGS		ATTENDANCE	
General Offering	\$3549.57	Sunday School	35
[<u>Needed per week:</u>	\$2,668.00]	Divine Service	67
Building Fund	\$200.00	Communion	61
[<u>Needed per week:</u>	\$350.00]		

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY THIS WEEK

Sunday (08/26)	Pentecost 14 [Proper 16] Sunday School Rally Day Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:00 AM 10:15 AM Acolyte: Sara Kimbrough Pianist: Sylvia Frenzel Altar Guild: Kelly Lawson & Bobbie Hartenberger Duty Elder: James Taylor After Church: Potluck luncheon
Sunday (09/02)	Pentecost 15 [Proper 17] Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:00 AM 10:15 AM Divine Service (Setting 3) / Holy Communion Acolyte/Crucifer: Matthew Jackson Organist: Mary Bowden Altar Guild: Lana Bowden & Lea Rosier Duty Elder: Jim Broad 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], James Reed [Devin Jackson’s co-worker] and Jeremy Stafford [Marcy Hogan’s nephew]
Health needs - Members: Albert Harris, George Nelson; **Lela Sands**, Julie Schoppe, **Mike Smith (8/26)**, **Friends:** **Carol (8/26)** [Tugwell’s sister in law], **Rayoma Leuschen (8/26)** [Ken Koehler’s sister in law/Julie Schoppe’s Aunt]
Homebound - Members: Dorothy Jackson, Martha Kaudelka, Johnnie Weaver
Celebrating this week: Birthdays: Matthew Jackson, Carson Taylor ... **Baptismal Birthdays:** Matthew Jackson ...
Comfort: Gil Daughtrey and family for the loss of Mary Lou
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.

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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”

