

✠ **THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** ✠

September 26, 27 & 30, 2020

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School
Sheboygan, Wisconsin**

WELCOME AND BELL

696 O GOD, MY FAITHFUL GOD

- 1 O God, my faithful God,
True fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is,
All perfect gifts bestowing:
Give me a healthy frame,
And may I have within
A conscience free from blame,
A soul unstained by sin.

- 2 Grant me the strength to do
With ready heart and willing
Whatever You command,
My calling here fulfilling;
That I do what I should
While trusting You to bless
The outcome for my good,
For You must give success.

- 3 Keep me from saying words
That later need recalling;
Guard me lest idle speech
May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place
I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace
Lest I offend the weak.

- 4 Lord, let me win my foes
With kindly words and actions,
And let me find good friends
For counsel and correction.
Help me, as You have taught,
To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might
To live in peace with all.
- 5 Let me depart this life
Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul
That it may live forever;
And let my body have
A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave;
And let it sleep in peace.
- 6 And on that final day
When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand,
My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice,
Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice
With those who love Your name.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us, then, confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

INTROIT

P The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground

C **Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**

P The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

C He heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds.

P He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

C **Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.**

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.

The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground

KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **(Sung) Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **(Sung) Amen.**

(5:30, 8:00, 6:00) HYMN OF PRAISE “Glory to God”

- P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
- C** **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks,
We praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father;
Receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

(10:30) HYMN OF PRAISE “This is the feast”

- C** **This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
And honor, blessing, and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain
Has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C *(Sung)* **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C *(Spoken)* **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING EZEKIEL 18:1–4, 25–32

The word of the LORD came to me: “What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?”

“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

P He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

C **Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**

EPISTLE READING Philippians 2:1-18

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on

earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C *(Sung)* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?”

Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. Which of

the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C *(Sung)* Praise to you, O Christ.

655 LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow’r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

SERMON

(5:30, 8:00, 6:00) THE APOSTLES' CREED

☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the ✕ life everlasting. Amen.

(10:30) THE NICENE CREED

☐ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the ✕ life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(The 5:30, 8:00 and 6:00 Services conclude with the Benediction, and Closing Hymn. The 10:30 Service continues with the Liturgy of the Holy Communion.)

THE LITURGY OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

P The Lord be with you.

C *(Sung)* **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C *(Sung)* **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C *(Sung)* **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we

laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

C (Sung) 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.

P RAY E R O F T H A N K S G I V I N G

P In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

C Amen.

T H E L O R D ' S P R A Y E R

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me. In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

THE PEACE

P The ✠ peace of the Lord be with you always.

C *(Sung)* Amen.

AGNUS DEI

C *(Sung)* 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.

DISTRIBUTION**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS****525 Crown Him with Many Crowns**

1 Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing

Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.

- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.

- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
 Enthroned in worlds above,
 Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n
 The wondrous name of Love.
 Crown Him with many crowns
 As thrones before Him fall;
 Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
 For He is king of all.

543 What Wondrous Love Is This

- 1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this
 That caused the Lord of bliss
 To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
 To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
- 2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
 When I was sinking down, sinking down,
 When I was sinking down
 Beneath God's righteous frown,
 Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
 Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.
- 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
 To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
 To God and to the Lamb,
 Who is the great I AM,
 While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
 While millions join the theme, I will sing.

- 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
 And when from death I'm free,
 I'll sing His love for me,
 And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
 And through eternity I'll sing on.

760 What God Ordains Is Always Good

- 1 What God ordains is always good:
 His will is just and holy.
 As He directs my life for me,
 I follow meek and lowly.
 My God indeed
 In ev'ry need
 Knows well how He will shield me;
 To Him, then, I will yield me.
- 2 What God ordains is always good:
 He never will deceive me;
 He leads me in His righteous way,
 And never will He leave me.
 I take content
 What He has sent;
 His hand that sends me sadness
 Will turn my tears to gladness.
- 3 What God ordains is always good:
 His loving thought attends me;
 No poison can be in the cup
 That my physician sends me.
 My God is true;
 Each morning new

I trust His grace unending,
My life to Him commending.

- 4 What God ordains is always good:
He is my friend and Father;
He suffers naught to do me harm
Though many storms may gather.
Now I may know
Both joy and woe;
Someday I shall see clearly
That He has loved me dearly.
- 5 What God ordains is always good:
Though I the cup am drinking
Which savors now of bitterness,
I take it without shrinking.
For after grief
God gives relief,
My heart with comfort filling
And all my sorrow stilling.
- 6 What God ordains is always good:
This truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm,
For with His arm
He shall embrace and shield me;
So to my God I yield me.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thank the Lord”

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us with this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C *(Spoken)* Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

C *(Sung)* Amen.

813 REJOICE, O PILGRIM THROG

1 Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!
 Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
 Your festal banner wave on high,
 The cross of Christ your king.

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

2 With voice as full and strong
As ocean's surging praise,
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
The psalms of ancient days. (Refrain)

3 With all the angel choirs,
With all the saints on earth
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,
True rapture, noblest mirth. (Refrain)

4 Yet on and onward still,
With hymn and chant and song,
Through gate and porch and columned aisle
The hallowed pathways throng. (Refrain)

5 Still lift your standard high,
Still march in firm array,
As pilgrims through the darkness wend
Till dawns the golden day. (Refrain)

6 At last the march shall end;
The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. (Refrain)

(Stand)

7 Praise Him who reigns on high,
The Lord whom we adore:
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
One God forevermore. (Refrain)

Please dispose of this service folder following the Service (or take it home with you). Service Folders and News Bulletins may not be reused. Thank you.

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Presiding Minister	Rev. Patrick Niles (8:00, 10:30)
Preacher	Rev. Colin Moon
Organist	Sandy Kasten
	Terry Ourada (6:00)

COMMUNION PRACTICE AT BETHLEHEM – SPECIAL NEEDS

Please note that “**gluten free**” communion wafers are available for those who need them. Please tell the Communion Assistant “**gluten free**” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail.

Also, for those who desire, **highly diluted wine** is available in individual cups (one drop of wine in the cup of water). Please tell the Communion Assistant “**clear**” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail.