# The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Bethlehem Lutheran Church August 2, 3 & 6, 2025

## **WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME**

Welcome to our guests and members as we gather for worship today! Please place your names in our red "Record of Fellowship" books. Also, please give attention to the written "News and Notes".

## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord God, we thank You that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to hold fast Your Word in hearts that You have cleansed that thereby we may be made strong in faith and perfect in holiness and be comforted in life and death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

#### WORSHIP NOTES

To live for earthly things "is vanity and a striving after wind," and work that is driven by such vanity "is an unhappy business" (Eccl. 1:13–14). The man who lives like that has nothing to show for "all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun ... all his days are full of sorrow" (Eccl. 2:22–23). So, too, your "covetousness, which is idolatry" (Col. 3:5), makes a god out of that which cannot give you life or happiness. For "one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15). But "Christ who is your life" (Col. 3:4), in giving you Himself, gives you all the wealth of heaven. Instead of striving to lay up treasures for yourself, be "rich toward God" in Him (Luke 12:21).

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# RINGING OF THE BELL

## 730 What Is the World to Me

1 What is the world to me With all its vaunted pleasure When You, and You alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure! You only, dearest Lord, My soul's delight shall be; You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!

- 2 The world seeks to be praised And honored by the mighty Yet never once reflects That they are frail and flighty. But what I truly prize Above all things is He, My Jesus, He alone. What is the world to me!
- 3 The world seeks after wealth
  And all that mammon offers
  Yet never is content
  Though gold should fill its coffers.
  I have a higher good,
  Content with it I'll be:
  My Jesus is my wealth.
  What is the world to me!
- What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure, My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my pleasure, My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss eternally. Once more, then, I declare: What is the world to me!

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# Baptism – Lexi Lou Mireles (10:30)

#### Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- 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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- 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 \$\mathbf{Y}\$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## 

## Introit

Psalm 49:7-8, 13-14a, 15; antiphon: vv. 1-2

- P Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together!
- C Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life, for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice.
- P This is the path of those who have foolish confidence; yet after them people approve of their boasts.
- C Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol; death shall be their shepherd.
- P But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for he will receive me.
- 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.
- ALL Hear this, all peoples!

  Give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together!

Kyrie LSB 152

- P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C 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 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 Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154

- 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.

# Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

<sup>2</sup>Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. . . .

<sup>12</sup>I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. <sup>14</sup>I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. . . .

<sup>18</sup>I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, <sup>19</sup>and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup>So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup>because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup>What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? <sup>23</sup>For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

<sup>24</sup>There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, <sup>25</sup>for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? <sup>26</sup>For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

# **Epistle**

Colossians 3:1-11

<sup>1</sup>If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup>For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming. <sup>7</sup>In these you too once walked, when you were living in

them. <sup>8</sup>But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

C Alleluia.

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

# Holy Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." <sup>16</sup>And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, <sup>17</sup>and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup>And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup>So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

# Offering (10:30)

# 797 Praise the Almighty

- 1 Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him! Yes, I will laud Him until death; With songs and anthems I come before Him As long as He allows me breath. From Him my life and all things came; Bless, O my soul, His holy name. Alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal; Earthborn they are and soon decay. Vain are their counsels at life's last portal, When the dark grave engulfs its prey. Since mortals can no help afford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 Blessèd, oh, blessèd are they forever Whose help is from the Lord Most High, Whom from salvation can nothing sever, And who in hope to Christ draw nigh. To all who trust in Him, our Lord Will aid and counsel now afford. Alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 Penitent sinners, for mercy crying, Pardon and peace from Him obtain; Ever the wants of the poor supplying, Their faithful God He will remain. He helps His children in distress, The widows and the fatherless. Alleluia. alleluia!

#### Stand

5 Praise, all you people, the name so holy Of Him who does such wondrous things! All that has being, to praise Him solely, With happy heart its amen sings. Children of God, with angel host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Alleluia, alleluia!

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#### Sermon

# Offering (5:30 and 8:00)

Stand

#### **Nicene Creed**

C 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

# Prayer of the Church

#### ■ Service of the Sacrament ■

Preface LSB 160

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.

- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C 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:

Sanctus LSB 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.

# **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

# Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 Our Lord

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 \*\text{\subset} 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 cup is the new testament in My  $\maltese$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei LSB 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.

Sit

#### Distribution

If you desire to commune, please speak to one of the pastors before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation.

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.

**Distribution Hymns** (please refer to the hymnal)

611 - Chief of Sinners Though I Be

575 - My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

618 - I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

Stand

#### Thank the Lord

LSB 164

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 through 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 Amen.

#### Benediction

LSB 166

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 Amen

# 861 Christ Be My Leader

- 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day; Safe through the darkness, for He is the way. Gladly I follow, my future His care, Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.
- 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth, Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand, Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.
- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife; Death cannot hold me, for He is the life. Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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# **ASSISTING AT WORSHIP**

Preacher Rev. Jeremy Hanson Rev. Jeremy Hanson

Organists Sandy Kasten
Susan Wachter

Lay Readers Jan Wegner (5:30)

Luke Timm (8:00) Andy Littmann (10:30) Randy Holler (6:00)

#### **Communion Assistants**

Jim Schmidt & Richard Zimbal Sr. (5:30)

Bill Lang (8:00)

Brian Hasenstein & Luther Bajus (10:30)

Randy Holler (6:00)