



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

MISSION FEST

"For God So Loved The World"

July 14, 2024

10:15 a.m. Service

WELCOME TO BETHLEHEM!

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod: www.wels.net

1484 W. Main St., Carmel, IN 46032
317-571-0204 Web: www.beth.church

Pastor Seth Bode – 317-384-6485
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If you're new here ...

- Restrooms are located on the left-hand wall outside the sanctuary
- Please sign our guest book
- Ask our councilman for any assistance

A note on Holy Communion ...

Holy Communion is being celebrated today. Through the Apostle Paul, the Lord tells us it is necessary to recognize Jesus' true body and blood in the sacrament. This comes through a belief in the teaching of the Real Presence. Otherwise, the communicant is sinning against that body and blood. "For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself (sins)," 1 Corinthians 11:29.

Joint reception of the Lord's Supper also is an expression of the common faith we declare primarily by unity with other Christians in church membership. Since Scripture tells us to take part in this Sacrament with prepared hearts (1 Corinthians 11:27-28) and unity of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17), we humbly ask visitors from congregations not in our fellowship to delay communing with us until the pastor has a chance to speak with you. We thank you for respecting our communion practice. Members of WELS and ELS, please speak with pastor prior to the service, if possible.

White grape juice is available for those who cannot have alcohol.

If you have little ones with you today ...

Bethlehem is a family church. Your children are welcome and encouraged to sit in the sanctuary with us (even if they make a little noise). If you must take them out for a moment:

- The sermon is played over speakers in the lobby
- There are changing tables in the restrooms
- Quiet bags are available in the entryway

SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

HYMN – CW 745 *Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying*

PLEASE STAND FOR THE LAST VERSE

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

I rejoiced with those who said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!
Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

Let us pray.

Lord God, we come to worship you and to hear your Word.
Lord God, have mercy on me, a sinner. Forgive my open sins and my secret sins. Forgive the sins I know and the sins I do not know. Forgive the sins I did to please myself and the sins I did to please others. Forgive them all, gracious Lord, for Jesus' sake.

The Almighty God, our Father in heaven, has been merciful to us. He gave his only Son to carry our sins upon his body on the cross, and because of Jesus forgives us all our sins.
Amen.

HYMN – CW 953

Holy God, We Praise Your Name, vv. 1,4



Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,
that I may follow it to the end.

Your word is a lamp for my feet,
and a light for my path.

Faith comes from hearing the message,
and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord, you granted your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow your Son faithfully even into suffering and death; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

FIRST READING – Jonah 3:1-10

¹Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ²“Get up. Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.”

³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh just as the word of the LORD had commanded. Now Nineveh was a great city to God. It required a three-day walk. ⁴Jonah walked through the city for a day, and he called out, “Forty more days and Nineveh is going to be overthrown!”

⁵The men of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least. ⁶When word reached the king of Nineveh, he got up from his throne, took off his royal robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷Then he issued a proclamation in Nineveh.

By the decree of the king and his leading officials:

Do not let people or animals, herds or flocks, taste anything. Do not let them eat food or drink water. ⁸Instead, let people and animals be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call fervently to God. Let them

turn from their evil way and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹ Who knows? God may turn and relent. He may turn from his burning anger so that we will not perish.

¹⁰ When God saw their actions, that they had turned from their evil way, God relented from the disaster which he said he would bring on them, and he did not carry it out.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 78 *People of the Lord*

SECOND READING – Titus 1:5-9

⁵ The reason I left you in Crete was so that you would set in order the things that were left unfinished and appoint elders in every city, as I directed you. ⁶ Such a man is to be blameless, the husband of only one wife, and to have believing children who are not open to a charge of wild living or disobedience. ⁷ Indeed an overseer, since he is God's steward, must be blameless, not arrogant, not quick-tempered, not a drunkard, not violent, not eager for dishonest gain. ⁸ Instead, he must be hospitable, loving what is good, self-controlled, upright, devout, and disciplined. ⁹ He must cling to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he will be able both to encourage people by the sound teaching and also to correct those who oppose him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the



mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL – Mark 6:7-13

⁷ Jesus called the Twelve and began to send them out two by two. He gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He instructed them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their money belts. ⁹ They were to put on sandals but not to wear two coats. ¹⁰ He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that area. ¹¹ Any place that will not receive you or listen to you, as you leave there, shake off the dust that is under your feet as a testimony against them.”

¹² They went out and preached that people should repent. ¹³ They also drove out many demons. They anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true
God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures.**

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son

is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN – CW 898 *Send, O Lord, Your Holy Spirit*

SERMON TEXT – John 3:16

SERMON

For God So Loved The World

HYMN – CW 942 *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

OFFERING

PRAYER

O Triune God, we thank you for the many faithful missionaries and pastors, for evangelists and teachers, for a Ukrainian Lutheran Church who offers the peace and comfort of your good news. We praise you for this subversively opportune time of unsettled politics and warfare to offer the living Bread, without money and without cost, so that starving souls may eat and drink spiritual food and live forever.

Take our gifts we offer cheerfully, and let them be used to support and increase that free Gospel ministry.

Almighty God, Heavenly Father, you rule over all things and guide the nations of the earth. You justly direct, limit, halt, and straighten out evil in our sinful world. You alone establish protection and mercy where no one else can or will.

You feed and serve sinners in the best way possible.

Bless every effort to establish peace among the nations of the world. Give leaders who look out for the best interests of the weak and needy. Give wisdom and strength to those who lead. Guide those who make decisions.

Transform the hearts of people everywhere to exalt peace above war, justice above gain, and honor above glory.

You desire that all people be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. You sent your Son to be the best comfort for a restless and

comfortless world. You come to meet and deliver your own in Word and sacrament.

Where your means of grace are faithfully administered, there is your church.

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave your life as a ransom for all. You shed your blood to pay for our sins of spiritual laziness and apathy to the plight of others. You rose from the dead to be our eternal Shepherd, bringing many other sheep into your flock. You have commissioned us to make disciples of all nations.

Help us, O Lord, to witness your Gospel comfort and everlasting peace.

O Holy Spirit, you have brought us to faith and fed our souls with your inspired Word. You are ever ready to bring life to dead and starving souls through the Gospel message. You have brought us to see the needs of our neighbors, friends and family, hungering for forgiveness and peace.

Use us, O Lord, to invite others to the wedding banquet of salvation.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HOLY HOLY HOLY *SANCTUS* (sung - melody, CW 745)

**Holy is our God the Father! Holy is his only Son!
Holy is the Spirit on us— Triune God, the three-in-one!
As the children sang, Hosanna,
Jesus made their hearts his home;
With the saints and heav'nly angels
We adore our Christ alone!**

see Isaiah 6:3 and Mark 11:9-10

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

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

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD *AGNUS DEI* (sung - melody, CW 745)

See, the Son of God now meets us.

He has paid for us the price.

Substitute before the Father,

This is none else but the Christ.

Jesus’ mercy, here in body, And his blood shed on the cross,

Look, the Lamb of God is taking

All our sins away from us.

see John 1:29

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN – CW 902 *Spread Abroad, O Mighty Word*

PLEASE STAND

THANKSGIVING

(sung - melody, CW 745)

Here we rest in wonder, viewing All our sins on Jesus laid;

Here we see redemption flowing From the sacrifice he made.

Lord in loving contemplation

Fix our hearts and eyes on you,

Till we taste your full salvation

And your unveiled glory view.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
And his mercy endures forever!

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN – CW 640

God's Word is Our Great Heritage

BLESSING

The almighty and merciful Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.

Amen.

Special thanks to our guest preacher, Rev. Roger Neumann

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Text of Sanctus and Agnus Dei by Pastor Bode.

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