



CROSS BEFORE THE CROWN

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church | York, NE

September 13, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship the Lord with us today. Large print hymnals and hearing assisted devices are available upon request. Restrooms are located on the north side of the main level and in the lower level. If you have any questions or need assistance with anything, please ask one of our ushers.

Connection cards: Visitors, or members with contact information changes, please fill out our online connection card at bethelyork.com, member connect tab, or scan this code.



SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

Communion

We are celebrating the Lord's Supper today. Scripture tells us that we need to examine ourselves before we receive the Lord's Supper so that we do not take it in a harmful manner. (1 Cor. 11:27-29) For help in preparation see page 156 in the front of the hymnal.

Visitors: Because we do not want you to receive the Lord's Supper in a harmful manner we ask that you do not come forward for the Lord's Supper today if you are not members of a WELS or ELS church. The pastor will be happy to share with you the Biblical basis for this practice.

Worship Leader
Organist

Pastor Mark A. Haefner
Mr. Timothy Richert

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THE COMMON SERVICE

"The Common Service" is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church. It became the service commonly used by English-speaking Lutherans in America. It is also in CW pg. 15.

OPENING HYMN

Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly | 484

1 Brothers, sisters, let us gladly
Give to God our all, our best—
Service hearty, thorough, honest,
With a living love impressed.
All our duty, all our striving,
All our time to him belong;
Praise him, then, with true devotion;
Come before him with a song.

2 By his mercy, by his bounty,
By the gift of Christ, his Son,
What great goodness he has shown us,
What high marvels he has done!
Let us to him promptly, freely,
Yield our bodies and our souls,
Thankful that his love protects us,
That his wisdom all controls.

3 Gracious Lord, accept our service
For the sake of Christ, your Son;
Lo, our hope abides now only
In the righteousness he won.
Bless and save us; help and guide us;
Watch to comfort and restore
Till in heav'n we rest rejoicing,
Praising you forevermore.

INVOCATION

please stand, if able

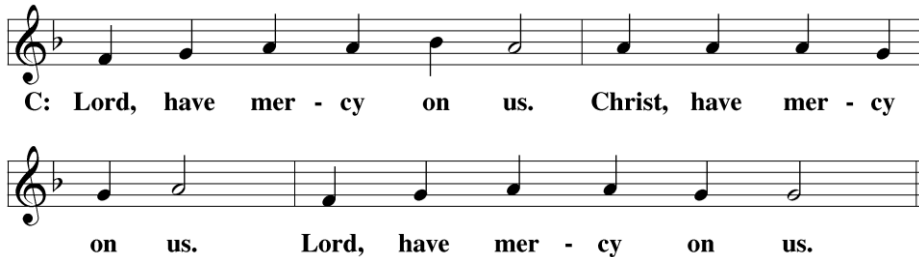
☒ In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.



CONFESSION

M Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**



ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD

C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the

sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of

God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you understand.
Remember me and care for me.
Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me.
You are slow to anger.
Do not take me away.
Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace.
¹⁶Your words came to me, and I devoured them.
Your words became my joy,
the delight of my heart,
because I bear your name,
O LORD God of Armies.
¹⁷I did not sit with the band of partygoers,
nor did I celebrate with them.
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me.
You filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unending?

Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal?

Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me,
like a source of water that a person can't depend on?

¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says.

If you repent, I will take you back,
so that you may stand before me.

If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless,
you will be my spokesman.

They must turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.

²⁰I will make you like a bronze wall to this people.

They will fight against you,
but they will not overcome you,
because I am with you to save you
and to rescue you, declares the LORD.

²¹I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked,
and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless. (EHV)

M The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. ²Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

³So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. ⁴For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. ⁵In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. ⁷If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. ⁸If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully. (EHV)

M The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia.



GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-26

please stand

M The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 16.



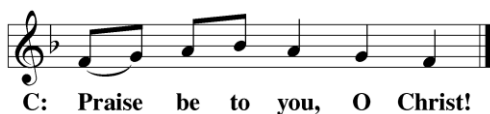
²¹From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you."

²³But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men."

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul? (EHV)

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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 fully 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 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.**

be seated

1 Jesus, I my cross have taken, All to leave and follow you.
Destitute, despised, forsaken, You on earth once suffered, too.
Perish ev'ry fond ambition, All I've ever hoped or known;
Yet how rich is my condition! God and heav'n are still my own.

2 Let the world despise and leave me; They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me; You are not, like them, untrue.
And since you have smiled upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends may shun me—Show your face, and all is bright.

3 Go, then, earthly fame and treasure! Come, disaster, scorn, and pain!
In your service pain is pleasure; With your favor loss is gain.
I have called you Abba, Father! You my all in all shall be.
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather; All must work for good to me.

4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glory, Armed by faith and winged by prayer.
All but heav'n is transitory; God's own hand shall guide you there.
Soon shall end this earthly story; Swift shall pass the pilgrim days,
Hope soon change to heav'nly glory, Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

SERMON

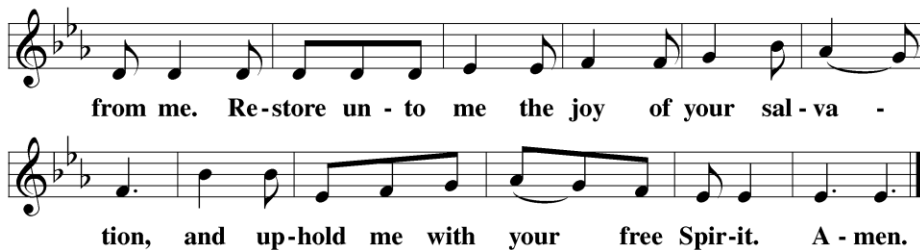
Matthew 16:21-26

CREATE IN ME

please stand, if able



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it



be seated

OFFERING: *Please place your offering in the plate in the entry.*

1 Corinthians 16:2 (NIV) On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[M] Lord of power and grace, whose eyes are on the righteous and whose ears are open to their cry, hear the prayer of your people as we come now in thankfulness for the mercies that you pour down on us anew each day.

[C] **In response to your great mercy we offer ourselves to you as living sacrifices.**

[M] We thank you for the gifts of your mighty providence. Make us mindful, O Lord, that you have provided us with life, breath, and being and are the source of our daily bread.

[C] **We acknowledge that all we are and all we have comes from you.**

[M] We praise you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, who took up the cross and suffered in our place in order to win us the crown of eternal life. Grant that we may believe in him with all our hearts, learning from him the great truths of the kingdom to which he bore faithful witness.

[C] **Enable us to take up our crosses and follow him, being faithful unto death and so receive the crown of life.**

[M] We pray for the nations of the earth. Subdue terror and tyranny everywhere, and call forth leaders who acknowledge that you are Lord over all the earth. Bless our own land.

May it ever follow that which is good and turn from all that is evil, that our people may prosper in uprightness and integrity.

C **Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, whose people humble themselves before him.**

M Hear, O Lord, our cry for those who are afflicted. Grant them health in body and soul, and save them for your mercy's sake.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M Guide and uphold us during our pilgrimage in this world, and bring us all to our heavenly home to receive the crown Jesus has won for us. Receive these petitions in the name of Jesus our Lord, in whose name we join in praying:

LORD'S PRAYER

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 Sacrament

A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 1Co 11:28-29 (NIV1984)

Children who come forward with their parents will receive a blessing

[M] The Lord be with you.



[M] Lift up your hearts.

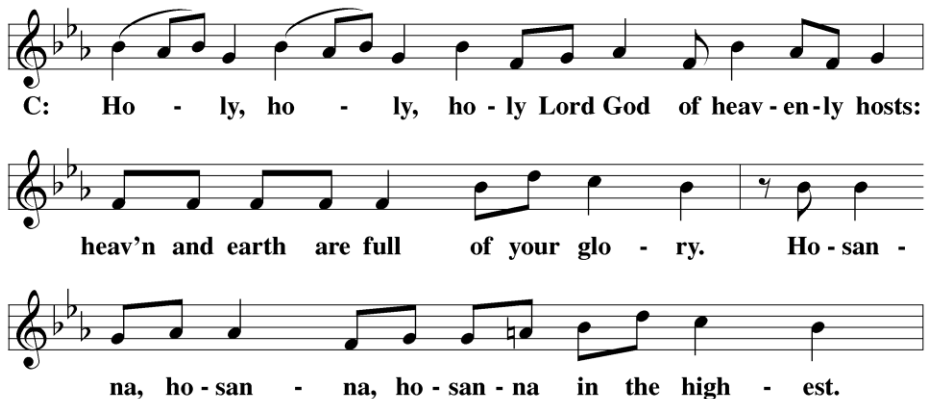


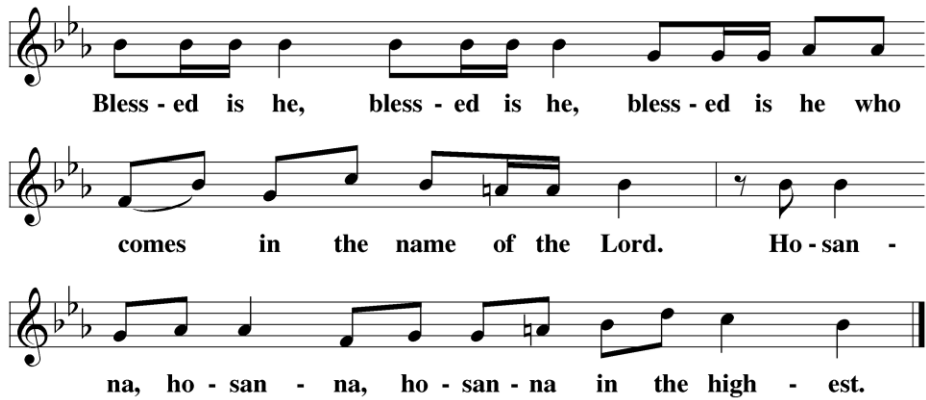
[M] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



[M] It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- [M]** 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.



C: A - men.

LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared | 312

1 Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared This feast for our salvation;
 It is your body and your blood, And at your invitation
 As weary souls, with sin oppressed, We come to you for needed rest,
 For comfort, and for pardon.

2 Although you did to heav'n ascend, Where angel hosts are dwelling,
 And in your presence they behold Your glory, all excelling,
 And though your people shall not see Your glory and your majesty
 Till dawns the judgment morning,

3 Yet, Savior, you are not confined To any habitation,
 But you are present ev'rywhere And with your congregation.
 Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Unmoved by any daring hand
 Or subtle craft and cunning.

4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your precious Word believing
 That your true body and your blood Our lips are here receiving.
 This Word remains forever true, And there is naught you cannot do,
 For you, Lord, are almighty.

5 Though reason cannot understand, Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is ev'rywhere At once in many places.
I leave to you how this can be; Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unailing.

6 Lord, I believe what you have said; Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust, And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins, May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for your grace And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.

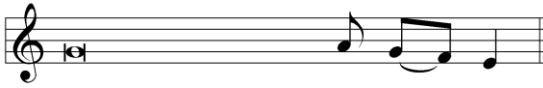
8 For your consoling supper, Lord, Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.

SONG OF SIMEON

please stand, if able

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M 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.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

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



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee | 316

1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me thy body and thy blood.

2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart—
How blest am I! How good thou art!

Communion Procedure for Today: Now that NELHS is back in session and more people will be attending communion the Elders have decided to make use of cathedral style communion. We look forward to the time when the threat of the virus will be over, and we can return to our normal distribution method.

What is Cathedral Style Communion?

(a style of distribution used to commune large groups in a respectful and efficient way)

- Elders usher communicants into the center aisle, single file, 6ft. apart
- Communicants approach the Pastor who will be in the center aisle in front of the altar, one by one.
- Communicants receive and eat the bread, then receive and drink the wine from the Pastor who speaks the words "This is Christ's body given for you," "this is Christ's blood shed for you."
- After receiving the bread and wine together with the body and blood, communicants return to their seats, either to the right or left according to the side they came from. Empty cups are placed in the baskets as usual.
- After all have communed, the pastor speaks the words of dismissal and the Nunc Dimittis is sung.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: 9:30 AM Sunday School, Teens, Adult Bible Study, 10:30 Worship with communion
Church Council Meets

Monday: 7 PM Trinity School Board

Wednesday: 7 PM Women's Bible Study

Sunday: 9:30 AM Sunday School, Teens, Adult Bible Study, 10:30 Worship – KRT Service

Bible classes and Sunday school:

- Sunday school will resume on September 13 at 9:30 AM in the lower level classrooms.
- Sunday Adult Bible study will resume on September 13 at 9:30 AM in the main level meeting room
- Sunday Youth Bible study will begin on September 13 at 9:30 AM and will meet in the lower level, or in the third-floor room when it's ready.
- A Wednesday online Bible Study for both congregations will begin on September 16 at 7 PM, Topic: Politics Is Driving Me Crazy.



Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bethelyork



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

Given to the Lord: Attendance: Worship 63. Offerings: For operating expenses: Needed 2,870.30, Given 2,170.05, Trinity 45.00. **To God be the glory!**



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