



CHRISTIAN LOVE WARNS

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

BETHEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | York, NE

September 20, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship the Lord with us today. Large print hymnals and hearing assist 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.

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

Worship Materials

The order of service and the hymns for today are printed for you in this folder. "Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal" which is normally in the hymnal rack on the back of each pew has been temporarily removed to help protect against passing the Corona Virus. Watching the theme and passage on the screen may help you prepare for worship.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader
Organist

Pastor Mark A. Haefner
Mrs. Kathy Bremer

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DIVINE SERVICE II

Divine Service II is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.

OPENING HYMN

He Will Hold Me Fast | **KRT AND CONGREGATION**

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Chorus:

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

CHORUS

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last

CHORUS

INVOCATION¹

please stand, if able

M In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION

M Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, For sins of habit and sins of choice, For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION²

M Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY³

M In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

¹ *The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.*

² *The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners" [The Small Catechism, First: What is the use of the keys?]. See John 20:21-23.*

³ *Kyrie is the Greek word for Lord. The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.)*

C Lord, have mercy.

M For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C Christ, have mercy.

M For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD⁴

Tune | **582**

**All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.**

**Our grateful thanks to you we bring,
For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.**

**O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
You take all human sin away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
From God's right hand, your mercy share.**

**You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
"All glory be to God!" Amen.**

⁴ Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century. (Lk 2:14)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness. Lord, enable us to lovingly warn those who are caught in sin, for the one who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins. We pray with confidence knowing that you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷But I have appointed you, son of man, to be a watchman for the house of Israel. So whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you are to warn them from me.

⁸When I say to a wicked man, "Wicked man, you shall surely die," if you do not speak to warn the wicked man against his way, that wicked man will die because of his guilt, but I will also hold you responsible for his blood. ⁹But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he will die because of his guilt, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰So you, son of man, say the following to the house of Israel.

This is what you people are saying: "Certainly our rebellion and our sins weigh us down, and because of them we are rotting away. How then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, "As I live, declares the LORD God, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from their way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why should you die, O house of Israel?" (EHV)

Refrain

Be mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Psalm tone

Have mercy on me, O God,*
according to your unfailing love.

Wash away all my iniquity,*
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,*
and my sin is always before me.

Refrain

Against you, you only, have I sinned*
and done what is evil in your sight.

Surely I was sinful at birth,*
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Hide your face from my sins,*
and blot out all my iniquity.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,*
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

**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.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 2:11-21

¹¹But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly wrong. ¹²For before some people came from James, he ate with the Gentiles. But when those people came, he drew back and separated himself, because he feared those from the circumcision group. ¹³And the rest of the Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy. ¹⁴But when I saw that they were not acting according to the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of all of them, "If you, a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, why do you compel the Gentiles to live like the Jews?"

¹⁵"We are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners. ¹⁶We know that a person is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. So we also believed in Christ Jesus that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. ¹⁷But if, while seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were also found to be sinners, then is Christ a servant of sin? Certainly not!

¹⁸"In fact, if I build up again those things that I destroyed, I bring on myself the judgment of being a lawbreaker. ¹⁹Indeed, through the law I died to the law that I might live for God. ²⁰I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I am now living in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹I do not regard the grace of God as nothing. As a matter of fact, if righteousness is through the law, then Christ died for nothing!" (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

James 5:20

Alleluia. Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins. Alleluia.

GOSPEL⁵

Matthew 18:15-20

please stand, if able

M The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 18.

C **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his sin just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have regained your brother. ¹⁶But if he will not listen, take

⁵ *The congregation stands and speaks words of acclamation out of respect for the words of Christ, our King.*

one or two others along with you, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And, if he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as an unbeliever or a tax collector. ¹⁸Amen I tell you: Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Amen I tell you again: If two of you on earth agree to ask for anything, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven. ²⁰In fact where two or three have gathered together in my name, there I am among them." (EHV)

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY⁶

As Surely As I Live, God Said | **308**

- 1 "As surely as I live," God said, "I would not have the sinner dead,
But that he turn from error's ways, Repent, and live through endless days."
- 2 To us, therefore, Christ gave command: "Go forth and preach in ev'ry land;
Bestow on all my pard'ning grace Who will repent of sinful ways.
- 3 "All those whose sins you thus remit I truly pardon and acquit,
And those whose sins you do retain Condemned and guilty shall remain.
- 4 "What you will bind, that bound shall be; What you will loose, that shall be free;
Unto my Church the keys are giv'n To op'n and close the gates of heav'n."
- 5 The words which absolution give Are his who died that we might live;
The minister whom Christ has sent Is but his humble instrument.
- 6 When ministers lay on their hands, Absolved by Christ the sinner stands;
He who by grace the Word believes Forgiveness, sure and sweet, receives.
- 7 Praise God the Father and the Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
As was, is now, and so shall be Forever and eternally!

⁶ *The Hymn of the Day is assigned to this day because of its rich content and connection to the day's Gospel.*

please stand, if able.

APOSTLE'S CREED⁷

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

be seated

KRT

Child of God, Layton De Vries, Arr. Dale Grotenhuis

O child, child of God, rest assured, the Lord is with you.

When you wake up in the morning and the sun is shining down,

The Lord watches over every step you take.

When the world has knocked you down and you don't know which way to turn,

Rest assured, the Lord is with you.

⁷ *Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.*

*When your friends have turned against you, and you feel all alone,
The Lord watches over every move you make.
He will always be right there to protect and love his child,
Rest assured, the Lord is with you.*

*When darkness drifts around you, and your eyes close in sleep,
The Lord watches over every breath you take.
And when death comes near to bring you home, you have no need to fear,
Rest assured, the Lord is with you.*

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

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[M] Blessed Lord, You have promised that where two or three are gathered in Your name, You are in the midst of them. Hear the prayers of Your people, and grant our supplications.

Brief silence

[M] O Lord, grant to Your people courage, that with boldness we may speak Your name in witness and warn sinners so that they may come to faith and repentance and so enjoy the forgiveness of their sins. Give Your Church wisdom and strength by Your Spirit, that she may be steadfast and unmovable in Your Word and truth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

[M] O Lord, be present among Your people to serve us with the gifts of Your grace, and grant that we may receive them with joy. Give to us faithful pastors and church workers who will minister to us in Your name and strengthen our faith and life together as Your baptized people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

[M] O Lord, give to us good and honest leaders who will govern according to Your Word and will. Give us grace, that we may not fail to pray for those who lead us and to act as good citizens and good neighbors to one another. Give peace to the nations, and bring an end to violence, prejudice and racism. Guide us to know and respect all life, from the infant in

the womb to the youth beginning maturity, and from the mature to the aged. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- [M] O Lord, You send rain upon the earth and turn the seeds into plants rich with fruit for harvest. Accept our thanks and praise for Your continued goodness in providing a good harvest and food for all. Give us wisdom so that we may use Your resources wisely and extend Your care to those in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- [M] O Lord, You urge us to give special care and guidance to the young and those new to the faith. Give us grace, that we may not lead them into temptation or sin but guard their faith by making known to them the full counsel of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- [M] O Lord, You are the strength of the weak, the healing of the sick, the comfort of those who grieve and the peace of those near death. Hear us on their behalf, that they may be sustained in their afflictions, comforted in life and death, and delivered to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- [M] O Lord, You have given the day for work and the night for rest. Bless all honest labor and industry, artists and artisans, and those in caring professions. Keep us in humility, and guard us against pride and arrogance. Give to us a spirit of generosity, that we may share with others the blessings that flow from our labors. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- [M] O Lord, teach us to forgive others as You have forgiven us and bless the fellowship of the forgiven, that we may be united in doctrine and life. Help us live lives that bring honor to your holy name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- [M] O Lord, deliver us from pandemic and pestilence, from disaster and danger, and from a sudden death, that kept in faith, we may be preserved through this mortal life and in death be received into the arms of Your mercy and into the blessed rest of everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- [M] Hear us, O Lord, who cry to You in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, whom with the Spirit, are one God and one Lord, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**☐ 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.**

HYMN

Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults | 398

1 Lord, we confess our num'rous faults, How great our guilt has been,
How vain and foolish all our thoughts, How deeply stained with sin.

2 But oh, my soul, forever praise, Forever love, his name
Who turns your feet from dang'rous ways Of folly, sin, and shame.

3 'Tis not by works of righteousness Which our own hands have done,
But we are saved by God's free grace Abounding through his Son.

4 'Tis from the mercy of our God That all our hopes begin;
'Tis by the water and the blood Our souls are saved from sin.

5 'Tis through the purchase of his death Who hung upon the tree
The Spirit is sent down to breathe On such dry bones as we.

6 Raised from the dead, we live anew; And, justified by grace,
We shall appear in glory, too, And see our Father's face.

PRAYER

M Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING⁸

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 **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Sinners Does Receive | **304 v. 1-4**

1 Jesus sinners does receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander.
Here is hope for all who grieve—Jesus sinners does receive.

2 We deserve but grief and shame, Yet his words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here their ills have perfect healing
Who with humble hearts believe—Jesus sinners does receive.

3 Sheep that from the fold did stray Are not by the Lord forsaken;
Weary souls who lost their way Are by Christ, the shepherd, taken
In his arms that they may live—Jesus sinners does receive.

4 Come, O sinners, one and all, Come, accept his invitation.
Come, obey his gracious call; Come and take his free salvation!
Firmly in these words believe—Jesus sinners does receive.

⁸ *The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" [Numbers 6:27].*

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: 9:30 AM Sunday school, Youth and Adult Bible Classes, 10:30 Worship
Elders Meet

Monday: 1 PM Blue River Circuit Meeting at Mt. Olive

Wednesday: 7 PM Online Bible Study – Politics Is Driving Me Crazy

Saturday: 10 AM LWMS Circuit Meeting at Bethel in York

Sunday: 9:30 AM Sunday school, Youth and Adult Bible Classes, 10:30 Worship with
communion

Evangelism Committee Meets

Elders are asked to meet after church in the main floor meeting room.

The Evangelism committee will meet after church next Sunday. If you have something you would like to committee to consider please let us know.

LWMS Rally: Bethel is hosting the area LWMS Rally this Saturday. Registration starts a 9 AM, the opening worship is at 10 AM. The speaker is Mrs. Sarah Stellick. Her topic is "A Suitable Helper: A Missionary Wife's Work in a World Mission" You are asked to bring your own sack lunch. If you have any questions or would like to help, speak with Shirley Goehring or Judy Remmers.



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



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

Given to the Lord: Attendance: Worship 54. Facebook Live 3, other views about 20. Offerings: For operating expenses: Needed 2,870.30, Given 2,464.80; Trinity 45.00. **To God be the glory!**



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