



## **SEALED FOR SAFETY**

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

# BETHEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | York, Nebraska

---

*September 6, 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.

**Connection cards:** Visitors, or members with contact information changes, please fill out our online connection card at [bethelyork.com](http://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**  
**Pianist/Organist**

Pastor Mark A. Haefner  
Mr. Quinton Corwin

## COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
[www.wartburgproject.org](http://www.wartburgproject.org) All rights reserved

Service of the Word © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved, reprinted under OneLicense.net A-713578 Print and Podcast License

Cover: [www.corissanelsonart.com](http://www.corissanelsonart.com)

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

---

*This service offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.*

## OPENING HYMN

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* | 382

1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare to make no other claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Refrain:*

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.

*Refrain*

3 His oath, his covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

*Refrain*

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in him be found,  
Clothed in his righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before his throne.

*Refrain*

## INVOCATION

*please stand*

**[M]** The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**[C]** **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION

**[M]** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

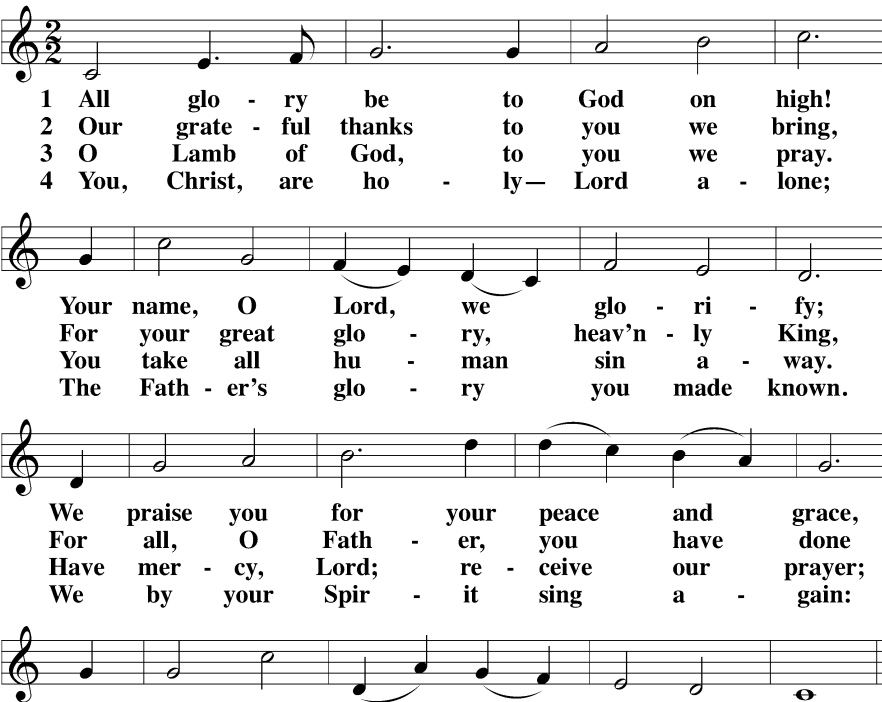
- C** Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

## ABSOLUTION

- M** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

- C** Amen.

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



1 All glo - ry be to God on high!  
2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,  
3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.  
4 You, Christ, are ho - ly— Lord a - lone;

Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;  
For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,  
You take all hu - man sin a - way.  
The Fath - er's glo - ry you made known.

We praise you for your peace and grace,  
For all, O Fath - er, you have done  
Have mer - cy, Lord; re - ceive our prayer;  
We by your Spir - it sing a - gain:

Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.  
Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.  
From God's right hand, your mer - cy share.  
"All glo - ry be to God!" A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**M** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## The Word

---

### FIRST LESSON

*Joshua 4:1-9*

When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord told Joshua, <sup>2</sup>"Take twelve men from the people, one man from each tribe, <sup>3</sup>and give them the following orders: 'Pick up twelve stones from here in the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the feet of the priests are standing securely. Carry them over with you and put them at the place where you will stay tonight.' "

<sup>4</sup>So Joshua called the twelve men whom he had selected from the people of Israel—a man from each tribe. <sup>5</sup>Joshua said to them, "Go to the middle of the Jordan in front of the Ark of the LORD your God. There each man is to lift up one stone on his shoulder. The number will correspond to the number of the tribes descended from the sons of Israel, <sup>6</sup>so that this may be a sign among you when your children ask in the future, 'What do these stones mean for you?' <sup>7</sup>Then you shall respond to them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD. When the ark passed through the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones will serve as a permanent memorial for the people of Israel."

<sup>8</sup>So the people of Israel did just as Joshua had ordered. They picked up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, corresponding to the number of the tribes descended from the sons of Israel, as the LORD had instructed Joshua. They carried the stones over with them to their lodging place and deposited them there. <sup>9</sup>Joshua also set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the feet of

the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant had stood. They are there to this day.  
(EHV)

## PSALM

34



Taste and see that the LORD is good;\*  
blessed are they who take refuge in him.

The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous\*  
and his ears are attentive to their cry.

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,\*  
and he delivers them.

### ***Refrain***

The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;\*  
he delivers them from all their troubles.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted\*  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

The LORD redeems his servants;\*  
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

**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

*Revelation 7:1-8*

After this I saw four angels, who stood at the four corners of the earth. They were holding back the four winds of the earth so that the wind could not blow on the earth, the sea, or any tree.

<sup>2</sup>And I saw another angel coming up from the east, who had the seal of the living God. He called out with a loud voice to the four angels who were given power to harm the earth and the sea. He said, <sup>3</sup>“Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees until we have placed a seal on the foreheads of God’s servants.”

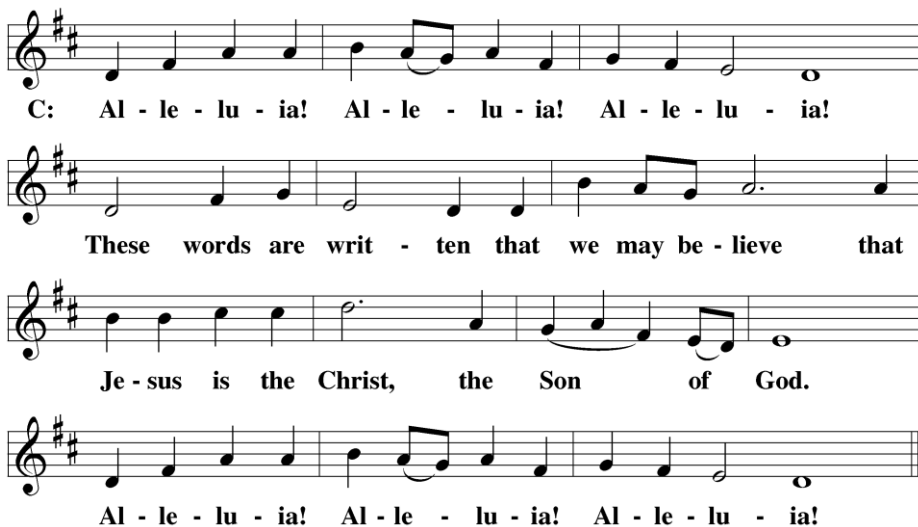
<sup>4</sup>And I heard the number of those sealed:

144,000 sealed from all the tribes of the people of Israel:

<sup>5</sup>from the tribe of Judah, 12,000, who were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben, 12,000, from the tribe of Gad, 12,000, <sup>6</sup>from the tribe of Asher, 12,000, from the tribe of Naphtali, 12,000, from the tribe of Manasseh, 12,000, <sup>7</sup>from the tribe of Simeon, 12,000, from the tribe of Levi, 12,000, from the tribe of Issachar, 12,000, <sup>8</sup>from the tribe of Zebulun, 12,000, from the tribe of Joseph, 12,000, from the tribe of Benjamin, 12,000, who were sealed. (EHV)

## VERSE OF THE DAY

**[M]** Alleluia. On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it. Alleluia!



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 16:13-20*

*please stand*

**[M]** The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 16.

<sup>13</sup>When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

<sup>14</sup>They said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

<sup>15</sup>He said to them, "But you, who do you say that I am?"

<sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

<sup>17</sup>Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

<sup>20</sup>Then he commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ. (EHV)

**[M]** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



*be seated*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Lord Jesus, Christ, the Church's Head* | 536

1 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's head, You are her one foundation.  
In you she trusts, before you bows, And waits for your salvation.  
Built on this rock secure, Your Church shall endure  
Though all the world decay And all things pass away.  
Oh, hear, oh, hear us, Jesus!

2 O Lord, let this your little flock, Your name alone confessing,  
Continue in your loving care, True unity possessing.  
Your sacraments, O Lord, And your saving Word  
To us e'er pure retain. Grant that they may remain  
Our only strength and comfort.

3 Help us to serve you evermore With hearts both pure and lowly.



And may your Word, that light divine, Shine on in splendor holy  
That we repentance show, In faith ever grow.  
The pow'r of sin destroy And evils that annoy.  
Oh, make us faithful Christians.

4 And for your gospel let us dare To sacrifice all treasure;  
Teach us to bear your blessed cross, To find in you all pleasure.  
Oh, grant us steadfastness In joy and distress.  
Lord, for your mercy's sake, Let us by grace partake  
Of endless joy and glory.

## SERMON

*Revelation 7:1-3*

*please stand*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

## OFFERING

***Please leave your offering in the plate provided in the entry or make  
use of one of the available online options on our website.***

*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, remaining firmly founded on the rock, confessing with Peter that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, the only Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

**[C] 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,

**[C] 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,

**[C] 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,

**[C] 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,

**[C]** **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 behalf of all who are ill, that they may be sustained in their afflictions, comforted in life and death, and delivered to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**[C]** **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,

**[C]** **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,

**[C]** **hear our prayer.**

**[M]** Hear us, O Lord, who cry to You for the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ, 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.**

*be seated*

## **HYMN**

*Built on the Rock* | **529**

1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand Even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land; Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the soul distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.

2 Surely in temples made with hands God, the Most High, is not dwelling;  
High above earth his temple stands, All earthly temples excelling.  
Yet he who dwells in heav'n above Chooses to live with us in love,  
Making our bodies his temple.

3 We are God's house of living stones, Built for his own habitation.  
He through baptismal grace us owns Heirs of his wondrous salvation.  
Were we but two his name to tell, Yet he would deign with us to dwell  
With all his grace and his favor.

4 Here stands the font before our eyes, Telling how God did receive us.  
Th' altar recalls Christ's sacrifice And what the sacrament gives us.  
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim Christ yesterday, today, the same,  
And evermore, our Redeemer.

5 Grant then, O God, your will be done, That, when the church bells are ringing,  
Many in saving faith may come Where Christ his message is bringing:  
"I know my own; my own know me. You, not the world, my face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you always."

## **PRAYER**

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever..



## 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.



## CLOSING HYMN

*The Church's One Foundation* | **538**

1 The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is his new creation By water and the Word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her To be his holy bride;  
With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.

2 Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, With ev'ry grace endued.

3 The Church shall never perish. Her dear Lord, to defend,  
To guide, sustain, and cherish, Is with her to the end.  
Though there be those that hate her And strive to see her fail,  
Against both foe and traitor She ever shall prevail.

4 Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?"

And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

5 Mid toil and tribulation And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest  
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today:** 10:30 AM Worship

**Sunday:** 10:30 AM Worship



Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethelyork](https://www.facebook.com/bethelyork)



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

**Given to the Lord:** Attendance: Worship 70 in person,. Offerings: For operating expenses, Given 1,470.65, Needed 2,856.06. **To God be the glory!**



800 N East Ave | York, NE | [bethelyork.org](http://bethelyork.org) | 402-641-4685