



# **FAMILY VALUES**

**Expecting Hard Times**

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

# BETHEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | York, Nebraska

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*September 12, 2021*

## 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](http://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.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

**Worship Leader**  
**Organist**

Pastor Mark A. Haefner  
Mr. Timothy Richert

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# THE SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

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*A version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church*

## OPENING HYMN

*Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke* | 453

1 "Come, follow me," the Savior spoke, "All in my way abiding.  
Deny yourselves; the world forsake; Obey my call and guiding.  
Oh, bear the cross, whate'er betide; Take my example for your guide.

2 "I am the light; I light the way, A godly life displaying.  
I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying.  
I am the way, and well I show How you should journey here below.

3 "My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing,  
And gracious words my lips express, With meekness overflowing.  
My heart, my mind, my strength, my all To God I yield; on him I call.

4 "I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your souls' salvation,  
Your hearts from ev'ry guile to free, From sin and its temptation.  
I am the refuge of the soul And lead you to your heav'nly goal."

5 Then let us follow Christ our Lord And take the cross appointed  
And, firmly clinging to his Word, In suff'ring be undaunted.  
For those who bear the battle's strain The crown of heav'nly life obtain.

## INVOCATION

*please stand, if able*

**[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]** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

- 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.
- C** Amen.

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

- M** For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



- M** For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



- M** For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



- M** Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



- M** The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

## O LORD, OUR LORD

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in  
all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,  
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;  
you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and  
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,  
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**[M]** Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work, and to endure every hardship; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



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# The Word

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-10

<sup>4</sup>The LORD God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue,  
so I know how to sustain the weary with a word.

He wakes me up morning by morning.

He wakes up my ears so that I listen like the learned.

<sup>5</sup>The LORD God opened my ear,  
and I myself was not rebellious.

I did not turn back.

<sup>6</sup>I submitted my back to those who beat me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard.  
I did not hide my face from disgrace and from spit.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD God will help me,  
so I will not be disgraced.  
Therefore I have made my face hard like flint.  
I know that I will not be put to shame.

<sup>8</sup>The one who will acquit me is near!

Who can accuse me?

Let us take our stand.

Who can pass judgment on me?

Let him approach me.

<sup>9</sup>Look, the LORD God will help me.  
Who then can declare me guilty?  
Look, all of them will wear out like a garment.  
A moth will consume them.

<sup>10</sup>Who among you worships the LORD  
and listens to the voice of his servant?  
Anyone who walks in darkness  
and who has no bright light—  
let him trust in the name of the LORD,  
and let him lean on his God. (EHV)

 The word of the Lord

 **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND LESSON

James 2:1-5,8-10,14-18

My brothers, have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ without showing favoritism. <sup>2</sup>For example, suppose a man enters your worship assembly wearing gold rings and fine clothing, and a poor man also enters wearing filthy clothing. <sup>3</sup>If you look with favor on the man wearing fine clothing and say, "Sit here in this good place," but you tell the poor man, "Stand over there" or "Sit down here at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made a distinction among yourselves and become judges with evil opinions? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my dear brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him?

<sup>8</sup>However, if you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. <sup>9</sup>But if you show favoritism, you are committing a sin, since you are convicted by this law as transgressors.

<sup>10</sup>In fact, whoever keeps the whole law but stumbles in one point has become guilty of breaking all of it.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers, if someone says that he has faith but has no works? Such "faith" cannot save him, can it? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister needs clothes and lacks daily food <sup>16</sup>and one of you tells them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but does not give them what their body needs, what good is it? <sup>17</sup>So also, such "faith," if it is alone and has no works, is dead. <sup>18</sup>But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works. (EHV)

**M** The word of the Lord

**C** Thanks be to God.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

**M** Alleluia. If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. 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





## GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-35

*please stand, if able*

**[M]** The Gospel according to Mark chapter 8.

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went away with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"

<sup>28</sup>They told him, "John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others say one of the prophets."

<sup>29</sup>"But who do you say I am?" he asked them. Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."

<sup>30</sup>Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things; be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the experts in the law; be killed; and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He was speaking plainly to them. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But after turning around and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! You do not have your mind set on the things of God, but the things of men."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd and his disciples together and said to them, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For whoever wants to save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. (EHV)

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



*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

Mark 8:31-35

*please stand, if able*

## 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*

#### **OFFERING** *WE PRESENT OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD*

*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*

**HYMN** *(sung as gifts are presented)*

*We Give Thee but Thine Own* | **485 v. 1**

We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**[M]** Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

**[C]** **Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love**

**for one another.**

- [M]** Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

**[C] Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

- [M]** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

- [M]** Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord 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.**

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# 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)*

**[M]** The Lord be with you.



**C:** And al - so with you.



**[M]** Lift up your hearts.



**C:** We lift them up to the Lord.

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



**C:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

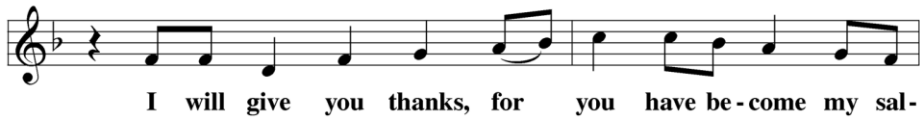
## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



**C:** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



## 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."

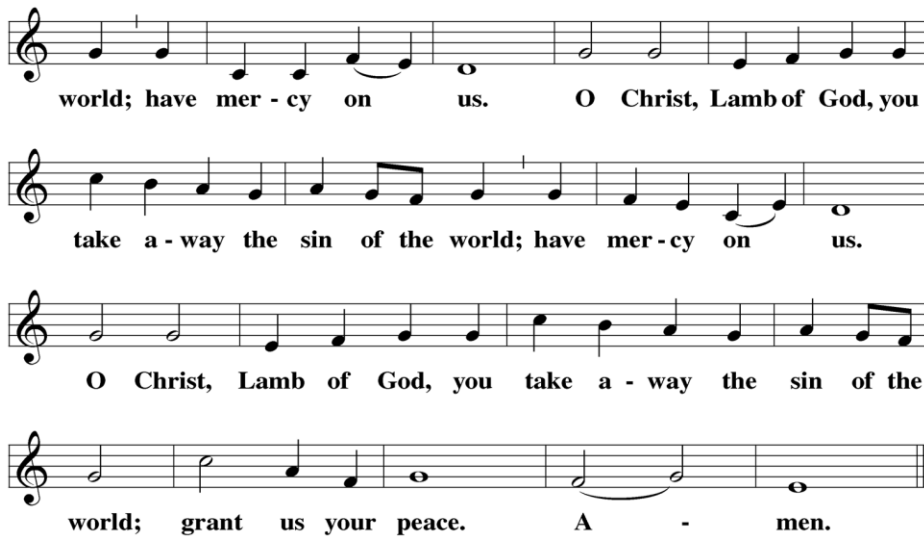
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD





## DISTRIBUTION

### DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*If God Himself Be for Me* | 419

- 1 If God himself be for me, I may a host defy;  
For when I pray, before me My foes, confounded, fly.  
If Christ, my head and master, Befriend me from above,  
What foe or what disaster Can drive me from his love?
- 2 This I believe, yea rather, Of this I make my boast,  
That God is my dear Father, My friend who loves me most,  
And that, whate'er betide me, My Savior is at hand  
Through stormy seas to guide me And bring me safe to land.
- 3 I build on this foundation: That Jesus and his blood  
Alone are my salvation, My true, eternal good.  
Without him all that pleases Is valueless on earth;  
The gifts I have from Jesus Alone have priceless worth.
- 4 He canceled my offenses, Delivered me from death;  
He is the Lord who cleanses My soul from sin through faith.  
In him I can be cheerful, Courageous on my way;  
In him I am not fearful Of God's great Judgment Day.

5 No sin can now condemn me Or set my hope aside.  
Now hell no more can claim me; Its fury I deride.  
No sentence now reproves me; No guilt destroys my peace,  
For Christ, my Savior, loves me And shields me with his grace.

6 No danger, thirst, or hunger, No pain or poverty,  
No earthly tyrant's anger Shall ever vanquish me.  
Though earth should break asunder, You are my Savior true;  
No fire or sword or thunder Shall sever me from you.

7 My heart for joy is springing And can no more be sad,  
'Tis full of joy and singing, Sees only sunshine glad.  
The sun that cheers my spirit Is Jesus Christ, my King;  
The heav'n I shall inherit Makes me rejoice and sing.

## THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER



- [M]** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, 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.



## HYMN

*Take My Life and Let It Be* | 469

- 1 Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2 Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for thee.
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King.  
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from thee.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold; Not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
- 5 Take my will and make it thine; It shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart—it is thine own; It shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour At thy feet its treasure store.  
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for thee.



## **The Hymn Sing**

Sample even more hymns with featured choirs from WELS churches and schools. There are only so many hymns you can sing in a church service. Are you interested in sampling more? Turn your Sunday Bible class into a hymn sing, and we'll give you the video (or just audio) content you need to make it happen. Led by recorded choirs of gifted kids, teens, and adults, your congregation will be able to hear and sing along with great new Christ-centered hymns from each season of the church year. Just plug and play. And sing!

Approximate length: 52 minutes

Featured artists:

- Children's Choir from Christ the Lord, Brookfield, WI (Lisa Uttech, director)
- LPS Prep Singers (Prof. Randy Bode, director)
- MLC College Choir (Prof. Adrian Smith, director)

## **The Presentations**

Pastors, teachers, musicians, and laypeople will benefit from a variety of presentations.

Several helpful presentations will be available for National Hymnal Week. Some presentations are meant for anyone, some for musicians and pastors. Some focus on new hymnal resources; some are on general worship topics. These presentations are designed for a widely varied audience: 1) people in churches that have already decided to begin using the new hymnal in Advent 2021, 2) people in churches that are undecided, 3) people in churches that won't realistically consider the new hymnal until 2022 or later, and 4) individuals wanting to learn more about new hymnal resources or about some broader worship topics.

As indicated above, various groups might meet together midweek to view one or more videos and then discuss them. Such groups could be:

- A general audience with discussion following each video. Various resources at christianworship.com can help to prepare a discussion leader for moderating the discussion and answering questions.
- A team of worship planners (pastors and musicians) who want to begin thinking together about implementing new hymnal resources.
- A study committee wanting to evaluate new hymnal resources before making a recommendation about purchase to the Board of Elders or Church Council.

## **The Concert**

Enjoy the hymnal and all it has to offer in a showcase concert

Hymns provide a unique opportunity for exploring God's gifts in the musical arts. The National Hymnal Week concert offers relaxation and refreshment as some of the best musicians in WELS present arrangements of hymns old and new via an online concert. The program will familiarize you with new texts and tunes from Christian Worship as well as feature cherished hymns, all utilizing a diverse spectrum of God's musical gifts to his church. Whether at an organized watch event or in the comfort of your own home, sit back and drink in the truths of God's Word in song.

Approximate length: 65 minutes

Featured artists:

- Children's Choir from Christ the Lord, Brookfield, WI (Lisa Uttech, director)
- WELS chamber choir Canticum Novum (Jonathan Laabs, artistic director)
- MLC College Choir (Prof. Adrian Smith, director)
- Liturgical ensemble Trinitas from Trinity, Waukesha, WI

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today:** 9:30 AM Sunday School and Bible Class, 10:30 AM Worship with Communion  
New Member Welcome Potluck

**Sunday:** 9:30 AM **Hymn Sing**, 10:30 AM Worship

Join us today for our annual new member potluck. This is an opportunity to get to know not only our newest members, but any other members you may not have had the opportunity to visit with. Those who have joined over the last year or so are: Caleb Paul, Hannah Zabel, Pastor Andrew and Kimberly Frey, Noah, Micah and Cecelia, Peter and Paige Oblender, Stanley and Marilee Nolte, and Ben Nordstrom. Recently Confirmed are Lukas Worster, Brialynn Nordstrom and Quinnlin Reyle. Recently Baptized are Stella Springborn and Holly Parks.

Thanks to all who helped with the York Fest Parade.

### Coming Events:

October 3<sup>rd</sup> after church – Congregational Meeting (ministry plan, publications)

October 10<sup>th</sup> after church – quarterly voters meeting

November 7<sup>th</sup> – Congregational meeting with President Hirsch

The draft of the ministry plan for discussion on October 3<sup>rd</sup> is in your boxes and has been emailed to members. Please prayerfully look it over and be ready to share your thoughts or suggestions.



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 55, Facebook live 4, click . Audio/slides . Offerings:  
Operating: Needed 2,583.54, Given, 2,299.450. **To God be the glory!**

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