

BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

You have a place here!

*"Joyfully we profess our faith through God's unconditional love.
Here and now God dwells in all of our lives,
bears our sins on the cross, and forgives us all."*

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

9:00 am Sunday, October 13, 2024

Pastor Dave Johnson

TODAY'S REFLECTION



The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

All baptized and confessing believers are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

*We hope that your worship experience is spiritually fulfilling
and your day begins with our Lord's gifts of peace and joy*

▼ **Prelude Reflections for Meditation**

▼ **Welcome Greeting—Prayers and Praises**

▲ **Opening Hymn**

“What A Fellowship, What A Joy Divine” page 9

▲ **Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence for Reflection

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.
The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.
In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of, † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven **Amen.**

▲ Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God,
increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

▼ God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)

The First Reading is from Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

▼ God's Word from the Psalms (NRSV)

Psalm 90:12-17

So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants!

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.

Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

**Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands—
 O prosper the work of our hands!**

▼ God's Word from the Scriptures (NRSV)

The Second Reading is from Hebrews 4:12-16

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

▲ **God's Word from the Gospel (NRSV)**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 10:17-31

Glory to you, O Lord.

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

▼ **Sermon—God's Word Applied to Life**

▼ **Hymn of the Day**

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me", page 10

▲ **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

▲ Prayers of the Church

Let us intercede before the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the sake of the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

Thank you, dear Father, for the priceless gift of your dear Son. Thank you for the wisdom, mercy, and salvation he brings. Thank you most of all for bringing us close to your heart. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bestow your Holy Spirit upon the Church, so it loves you with heart, mind, and strength. Help the Church to follow Jesus wherever he leads it to preach the Gospel and serve our neighbors. In word and deed, let it equip all people to find their treasure, joy and life in Christ alone. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember before you Christians who have been stripped of freedom, health, and even life, because they prize Jesus above all else. Enrich them with the joy of salvation. Through their faithful witness, bring many to repent and believe in Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for blessing our congregation with so many gifts, spiritual and physical. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we always love the Giver more than the gifts. Help us to willingly share those gifts with the spiritually and physically poor in our community. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enrich the hearts and minds of students – from preschool through graduate school, and especially students called to be pastors and teachers in your Church. Let them love wisdom, seek understanding, and cling to Christ, their highest good and dearest treasure. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach the world's leaders, and especially those of our own country, to care for people more than prestige; to love justice more than popularity; and to use resources and power for the benefit of all. Grant that they should seek your will above partisan politics or personal gain. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless, guide, and protect our military and first responders. Proper all they do that is in accordance with your will. Help us to support and encourage their loved ones, and to heal and help the wounded. May we always prize and use their gifts in civilian life when their present duties are done. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We plead on behalf of all who are sick or injured, imprisoned or lonely; addicted or abused. We pray for all who are troubled by the powers of sin, evil, and death. *We pray especially for those we name before you now (either in silence or out loud).* Grant them the joy of your saving help. Restore them to health, hope, and communion with you and with those who love and care for them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, keep in your care all who have died trusting in you; and console all whose grief runs deep. Sustain, encourage, and refresh us through the toils and trials of this life. Keep us strong in faith toward you, and fervent in love for one another. Bring us into the joy of your Kingdom. There, with all your people, let us forever feast on your goodness, and delight in adoring our Savior, united in the power and love of your Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Incline your ear to our prayers, dear Lord; and answer them according to your most gracious and holy will, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

▲ Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Greet each other with a sign of Christ's peace.

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

▼ **Offering and Presentation of the Gifts**

October—December Mission Designation ~ Adopt-A-Family/Senior

▼ **Offering Prayer**

Blessed are you, O God,
source of every gift of your creation.
By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

▼ **The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

▼ **The 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.

▼ **Invitation and Distribution of Communion**

Jesus welcomes you to this table.
Come, here is your God.

Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAL BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

▼ **Post Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace until He comes again.
In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

▼ **Post Communion Prayer**

Holy God,
 you have welcomed us to this meal
 and fed us with dignity at your table.
 Send us now to welcome others
 and to be at peace with one another,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

▼ **Closing Hymn**

"Because He Lives" page 11

▼ **Announcements**

Anyone is welcome to make announcements at this time.

▲ **Blessing and Dismissal**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
 In the name of the Father and the † Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



- 1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms;
- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms;
- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms?



what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1919
 Music: Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924

SHOWALTER
 109 109 and refrain

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
 2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
 3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
 When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Because He Lives

Words by
William J. Gaither
and Gloria Gaither

Music by
William J. Gaither



1. God sent His Son— They called Him Je - sus; He came to
2. How sweet to hold our new-born ba - by, and feel the
3. And then one day I'll cross that riv - er; I'll fight life's



love, heal and for - give. He bled and died
pride and joy he gives; But great - er still
fi - nal war with pain. And then, as death



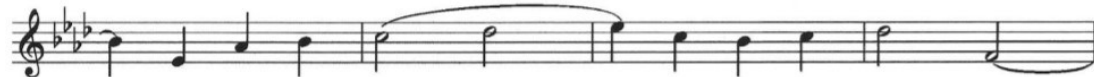
— to buy my par - don; An emp - ty grave is there to
— the calm as - sur - ance: This child can face un - cer - tain
— gives way to vic - t'ry, I'll see the lights of glo - ry



prove my Sav - ior lives. Be - cause He lives I can face to -
days be-cause Christ lives.
and I'll know He reigns.



-mor - row; Be - cause He lives, all fear is gone.



— Be - cause I know He holds the fu - ture,



— and life is worth the liv - ing just be-cause He lives.

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

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ONLINE BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH OFFERING DONATIONS

are available following these easy steps from our secure Website or Facebook Page

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MORE SPECIAL WAYS TO GIVE THROUGH YOUR TIME AND TALENTS

Sunday Worship Lectors and Communion Assistants are needed

Service Assistant to advance projected bulletin slides

Maintenance chores around the facility

Christian Education Volunteers

BETHANY WEEKLY EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday	9:00 am Worship, in the Great Room and Facebook Live-Stream/Video
Tuesday	9:00 am Community Coffee in Great Room 9:00 am Cover Girls in Classroom
Wednesday	10:00 am Women's Bible Study via ZOOM
Thursday	7:00 am Men's Breakfast and Bible Study in Great Room 10:00 am Women's Bible Study in Conference Room

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