

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Teaching God's Word for our temporal and eternal benefit!

Services: **Sunday**, October 23 at 8:00 & 10:45; **Monday**, October 24 at 7 PM

Church Year: 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity – 2016

## Sermon: The Drama of Sin; God's Gracious Intermissions

Text: Genesis 4:1-15 AAT

**Visitors** – See the block on the back of this folder; pick up a "Visitor Information" packet in the Narthex!

L = Leader ♦ C = Congregation ♦ A = All

Today's service is **Divine Service, Setting Three** (Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, 184-202).

### SERVICE BEGINNING:

1. **Bell:** Please take a service folder and be seated.  
For a service folder on your smartphone:  
[www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com/ServiceFolder](http://www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com/ServiceFolder)
2. **Welcome:** He is risen! (He is risen indeed!)
3. **Today's Theme:** See the Sermon Title above ↯
4. **Prelude:** Let us listen in silence as we prepare our hearts to receive God's blessings!

### ↑ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION:

L: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, begging Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

L: ☩ I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

L: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring

Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

L: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. ☩ Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C: Amen.**

Please ↯face the entrance and ↯focus on Jesus!

 **Service of the Word** 

**OPENING HYMN: LSB 433, sts. 1-3**

*Glory Be to Jesus*

- 1 Glory be to Jesus,  
Who in bitter pains  
Poured for me the lifeblood  
From His sacred veins!

- 2 Grace and life eternal  
In that blood I find;  
Blest be His compassion,  
Infinitely kind!
- 3 Blest through endless ages  
Be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment  
Did the world redeem!

**PSALM 5 ESV:** *Let Us Pray*

Prayer and Sacrifice

- L: Give ear to my words, O LORD;  
**C: consider my groaning.**  
 L: Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God,  
**C: for to you do I pray.**  
 L: O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice;  
**C: in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.**

God's Hate

- L: For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;  
**C: evil may not dwell with you.**  
 L: The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;  
**C: you hate all evildoers.**  
 L: You destroy those who speak lies;  
**C: the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**

God's Love

- L: But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.  
**C: I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.**  
 L: Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies;  
**C: make your way straight before me.**

Prayer Against Enemies

- L: For there is no truth in their mouth; their inmost self is destruction;  
**C: their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue.**

- L: Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels;  
**C: because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against you.**

Prayer and Sacrifice

- L: But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy,  
**C: and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.**  
 L: For you bless the righteous, O LORD;  
**C: you cover him with favor as with a shield.**  
**A: 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.**

**KYRIE:** *Let Us Pray*

- L: O Lord,  
**C: have mercy upon us.**  
 L: O Christ,  
**C: have mercy upon us.**  
 L: O Lord,  
**C: have mercy upon us.**

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY:**

- L: The Lord be with you.  
**C: And also with you.**  
 L: *Let us pray.* Almighty and everlasting God, You are always more ready to hear than we to pray and always ready to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour down on us the abundance of Your mercy; forgive us those things of which our conscience is afraid; and give us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except by the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C: Amen. ↓**

*Jesus Loves Me***Children – Please come forward now!**

- 1 Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong;  
They are weak, but He is strong. **Refrain**

**Refrain:**

**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!**  
**Yes, Jesus loves me!**  
**The Bible tells me so.**

- 2 Jesus loves me! He who died  
Heaven's gates to open wide.  
He has washed away my sin,  
Lets His little child come in. **Refrain**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

All children (parents) are  
welcome!

**10:45 Staffed Nursery**

(4 and under) – Parents  
can now take their  
children to our Little  
Lamb Room!



**Read the Scripture in advance** – to better understand!

**OLD TESTAMENT: Genesis 4:1-15 ATT**

<sup>1</sup> The man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and had a child by the name of Cain; and she said, "I have gotten a man, the LORD."

<sup>2</sup> Then she had another child, Abel, Cain's brother. Abel grew up to be the shepherd of a flock, but Cain became a man who worked the ground.

<sup>3</sup> After some time Cain brought some products of the ground and made an offering to the LORD. <sup>4</sup> And Abel also brought some firstborn animals of his flock, especially some of the fat pieces. The LORD looked kindly at Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but He didn't look kindly at

Cain and his offering. Then Cain got very angry and wouldn't look up.

<sup>6</sup> "Why are you angry," God asked Cain, "and why are you looking down. Isn't it true that if you do right you are accepted?" <sup>7</sup> But if you don't do right, sin is crouching at your door and wants to get you; but you should control it."

<sup>8</sup> Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go outside." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD asked Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he answered. "Should I watch over my brother?"

<sup>10</sup> "What did you do?" He asked. "Your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground. <sup>11</sup> And now you are cursed and must leave the ground that has opened her mouth to drink your brother's blood dropping from your hands. <sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it will no longer give you what it can produce. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

<sup>13</sup> "My punishment is more than I can stand!" Cain told the LORD. <sup>14</sup> "Today You are driving me from the land, and I must hide from You and be a restless wanderer on the earth, and anyone who finds me can kill me."

<sup>15</sup> The LORD told him, "No, anyone who kills Cain will be punished seven times." And the LORD put a mark on Cain to keep anyone who met him from killing him.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**EPISTLE: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 NET**

<sup>6</sup> I am now being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight; I have completed the race; I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> Now there is waiting for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous

Judge, will give me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who are longing to see Him come again.

<sup>16</sup> At my first hearing no one stood up in my defense, but everybody deserted me--may it not be held against them. <sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, that the full message would be preached by me and all the Gentiles would hear it; and I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from all harm and will take me safely to His heavenly Kingdom. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

↑ **ALLELUIA and VERSE** (LSB 156):

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e-ter-nal life.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

**GOSPEL: Luke 18:9-17 NET**

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the eighteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup> His disciples asked Him what this parable meant. <sup>10</sup> He answered, "You are given the privilege of knowing the secrets of the Kingdom of God, but to the others they are given in parables--with the result that they see and yet do not see, they hear and yet do not understand. <sup>11</sup> "This is what the parable means: The seed is God's word. <sup>12</sup> The people along the road are those who hear it. Then the devil comes and takes the word out of their hearts to keep them from believing and being saved.

<sup>13</sup> The people on rocky soil are those who welcome the word with joy as soon as they hear it, but it does not take root in them. They believe for a while, but in time of temptation, they fall away.

<sup>14</sup> In others the seed fell among thorns. They hear <the word>, but as they go along, worries, riches, and pleasures of life choke them, and they do not produce anything good.

<sup>15</sup> But in others the seed fell on good ground. They are the ones who hear the word and keep it in a good and honest heart, and who go on in patient endurance producing good things.

<sup>16</sup> "No one lights a lamp and hides it under a jar or puts it under a bed. No, you put it on a lampstand so that those who come in will see the light. <sup>17</sup> Everything hidden will be uncovered, and every secret certainly will be known and come to the light.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.** ↓

**HYMN STANZAS:**

**LSB 584**

*Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing*

- 1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,  
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,  
Seed to life eternal sowing,  
Scattered on the wind abroad.  
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,  
Like a barren field be found,  
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,  
Shallow earth or stony ground.
- 2 May the Spirit's pow'r unceasing  
Bring to life the hidden grain,  
Daily in our hearts increasing,  
Bearing fruit that shall remain.  
So in Scripture, song, and story,  
Savior, may Your voice be heard.  
Till our eyes behold Your glory  
Give us ears to hear Your Word.

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**SERMON: The Drama of Sin; God’s Gracious Intermissions**  
**Genesis 4:1-15 AAT**

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Benefit from the Sermon: Go to our website; subscribe to our podcast; or request a cd copy; then (1) read / listen; (2) think; (3) apply; and (4) share!

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** TLH 270  
*Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult*

1. Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult  
Of our life's wild, restless sea,  
Day by day His sweet voice soundeth,  
Saying, "Christian, follow Me."
2. As of old Saint Andrew heard it  
By the Galilean lake,  
Turned from home and toil and kindred.  
Leaving all for His dear sake.
3. Jesus calls us from the worship  
Of the vain world's golden stole.  
From each idol that would keep us,  
Saying, "Christian, love Me more."
4. In our joys and in our sorrows,  
Days of toll and hours of ease,  
Still He calls, in cares and pleasures,  
"Christian, love Me more than these."
5. Jesus calls us; by Thy mercies,  
Savior, make us hear Thy call,  
Give our hearts to Thine obedience,  
Serve and love Thee best of all. Amen.

**↑ OFFERTORY:** *Let Us Pray*

**A: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**APOSTLES’ CREED:** *We Confess Together*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty.**

**From thence 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.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:** *Let Us Pray*

L: O Lord, our God, we acknowledge Your great goodness toward us and praise You for the mercy and grace that our eyes have seen, our ears have heard, and our hearts have known.

**C: We sincerely repent of all of our sins – known and unknown, remembered and forgotten.**

L: Please pardon our offenses, correct and reform what is lacking in us, and help us to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C: Write Your law upon our hearts in full clarity; then equip us to serve You with holy and blameless lives.**

L: Keep us each day ever-sorry for our sins and ever-trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

**C: Enable us, by Your grace, to move through temporal things so that we do not lose eternal things – which are so much more important!**

L: By Your Holy Spirit bless the preaching of Your Word – *so that we understand, believe, apply, and benefit*; also the administration of Your Sacraments – *so that we are certain of Your forgiveness through Jesus.*

**C: Preserve those gifts to us and to all Christians.**

L: Guard and protect us from all dangers to body and soul.

**C: Grant that we may receive from You our sorrows as well as our joys, knowing that health and sickness, riches and poverty, and all things, come by permission according to Your good and gracious will.**

L: Keep us this day under Your protective care and preserve us, *securely trusting in Your everlasting goodness and love*, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen. ↓**

**OFFERING:** *Let us honor the Lord!*

- ✓ God has entrusted His possessions to our care!
- ✓ *We honor Him and express our faith in Him* by tithing from the first of all we receive!

⇒ **Offertory:**

⇒ Please complete your attendance slip!

**↑ LORD'S PRAYER – EXPANDED:** *Let Us Pray*

It is beneficial to pray the Lord's Prayer:

- ✓ As Jesus taught it ([Matthew 6:9-13](#); [Luke 11:2-4](#))!
- ✓ As noted below!
- ✓ By expanding each petition in your own words!

L: Our Father who art in heaven.

**C: Thank You for being our Father and making us Your holy children through Jesus.**

L: Hallowed be Thy name.

**C: Help us to honor Your name as holy by faithfully learning and doing Your Word.**

L: Thy kingdom come.

**C: As You have brought us into Your kingdom, so use us to invite others to know Jesus.**

L: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

**C: Your will is always best; may it be done in our lives in all we think, say, and do.**

L: Give us this day our daily bread.  
**C: Help us day-by-day to thank You for our blessings and share them with others.**  
 L: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
**C: As You have freely forgiven us in Christ, so help us to forgive all who sin against us.**  
 L: And lead us not into temptation.  
**C: Since we are inclined to stray, lead us in ways that are free from temptation.**  
 L: But deliver us from evil.  
**C: You have made us winners through Jesus; now, keep our eyes fixed on Him!**  
**A: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**PRAYER FOR THE WORD:**

L: Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C: Amen. ↓**

**CLOSING HYMN: LSB 433, sts. 4-6**

*Glory Be to Jesus*

4 Abel's blood for vengeance  
 Pleaded to the skies;  
 But the blood of Jesus  
 For our pardon cries.  
 5 Oft as earth exulting  
 Wafts its praise on high,  
 Angel hosts rejoicing  
 Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,  
 Swell the mighty flood;  
 Louder still and louder  
 Praise the precious blood!

**BENEDICTION: Receive and Be Blessed**

L: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.  
**C: Amen.**

**POSTLUDE and CANDLE EXTINGUISHING:**

*Rejoicing in Jesus as our Savior,  
 we prepare to honor Him as our Lord!*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: Be Informed**

1. **Recent Memory Verses** (*for memory tips, take a Daily Devotion brochure – by our main entrance*):  
 Separate from the World: 1 Jn. 2:15; Ro. 12:2  
 Be Steadfast: 1 Cor. 15:58; Heb. 12:3
2. **This Week's Verse: Serve Others:**  
ESV **Mark 10:45** For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.
3. **Facebook:** Check in and be positive!
4. **Need Prayer:** Meet up front with: Alan (8:00); Brian (10:45).
5. **Refreshments** (9:10-9:30): Join us down the hall for coffee, juice, bakery, and more!
6. **Bible Class and Sunday School** (9:30-10:30): *Be blessed through God's Holy Word!*
7. **Pray, Serve, and Participate:** Use today's Faith in Action insert during the week!
8. **Get Ready for Next Sunday – Read:** Rev. 14:6-7; Ps. 46; Rom. 3:19-28; Jn. 8:31-36

## Thanks for Serving on October 23

Leader: Dr. Phillip Giessler  
Pastoral Assts.: Alan Carlson, Ray Dmytriw, Matt Hlavacek,  
Jerry Huttner, Brian Zeleznikar  
Organist: Gayle Powers  
Altar Guild: Kathy Green, Angie Rohman  
Candles: Lynda Tomasch  
Financial Team: Natalia Ford, Jerry Huttner

### 8:00 Service

Ushers: Matt Kussmaul, Mel Bucholtz,  
Bonnie Moyer  
Lord's Supper: Alan Carlson  
Prayer Partner: Alan Carlson

### 9:10 Refreshments

Miriam Engleman, Doris Chmielewski

### 10:45 Service

Ushers: Jerry Huttner, Ray Dmytriw, Bart Pendley,  
Lilli Riechert  
Nursery: Self-service TODAY  
Lord's Supper: Jerry Huttner  
Prayer Partner: Brian Zeleznikar

## Thanks for Serving on October 30

Leader: Dr. Phillip Giessler  
Pastoral Assts.: Alan Carlson, Ray Dmytriw, Matt Hlavacek,  
Jerry Huttner, Brian Zeleznikar  
Organist: Gayle Powers  
Altar Guild: Kathy Green, Angie Rohman  
Candles: Lynda Tomasch  
Financial Team: Natalia Ford, Janet Chilton

### 8:00 Service

Ushers: Matt Kussmaul, Mel Bucholtz,  
Bonnie Moyer  
Lord's Supper: Alan Carlson  
Prayer Partner: Millie Sluka

### 9:10 Refreshments

Miriam Engleman, Doris Chmielewski

### 10:45 Service

Ushers: Jerry Huttner, Ray Dmytriw, Bart Pendley,  
Lilli Riechert  
Nursery: Hannah Hlavacek  
Lord's Supper: Jerry Huttner  
Prayer Partner: Matt Hlavacek

## ABOUT US:

- + **Beliefs:** We believe the Bible is true and trust in Jesus as our only Savior!
- + **Assurance:** We want everyone to be certain of God's forgiveness through Jesus!
- + **Growth:** We want everyone to understand the Bible and live according to it!
- + **Children:** Bibles (center pew racks); Bags (worship entrance); Nursery (sometimes staffed).
- + **Special Needs:** Large print and hearing assistance are available in the narthex.
- + **Lord's Supper:** Normally offered on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of each month.
- + **Congregation:** Find out more by taking a Visitor Information packet.
- + **Podcast:** Listen to our sermons on your smartphone or tablet. Use a podcast app (Apple, use the "Overcast" app); then search for "Benefit from the Bible"
- + **Schedule:** **Sundays** – Service 8:00; Refreshments 9:10; Classes 9:30; Service 10:45  
**Mondays** – Service 7 PM (except *Advent and Lent*, see the "Join Us" brochure for the details)
- + **Join Us:** Keep attending and tell the pastor of your interest to join.

How can we help you?  
Let us know.  
See the block below or talk to the Pastor or an Elder after today's service.

## CONNECT WITH US:

**Website:** [BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com](http://BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com) **Podcast:** "Benefit from the Bible"  
**Facebook:** "Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma" **Address:** 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134  
**Church Office:** Monday – Thursday, 9:30 to 3:30 **Kathy Green:** [Secretary@blc7500.com](mailto:Secretary@blc7500.com); 440-845-2230  
**Childcare Center:** Monday – Friday, 6:45-6:00 **Tricia Wise:** [ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com](mailto:ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com); 440-884-0430  
**Pastor Green:** [Pastor@blc7500.com](mailto:Pastor@blc7500.com); 440-292-5915 **Church Body:** [lcms.org](http://lcms.org) **District:** [oh.lcms.org](http://oh.lcms.org)