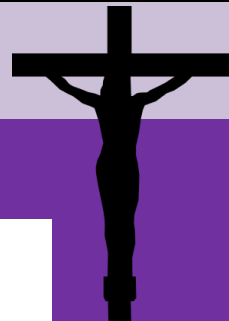


Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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

Services: Thursday, April 13 at 11 AM & 7 PM

Church Year: Holy Thursday – 2017



Sermon – Will You Get What You Deserve, Like Judas?

L = Leader ♦ C = Congregation ♦ A = All

Today's service is **Vespers** (Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, 229-234).

PREPARATION:

1. **Bell:** Candle lighting. Please be seated.
2. **Visitors:** Please take a Visitor Packet and introduce yourself to the pastor!
3. **Processional Crucifix:** The red cloth symbolizes Jesus' bearing of our sins!

↑ PSALM VERSES:

- L: O Lord, open my lips,
C: **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
L: Hurry, O God, to deliver me;
C: **hurry to help me, O Lord.**
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.**
L: Praise to You, O Christ,
C: **Lamb of our salvation.**

HYMN:

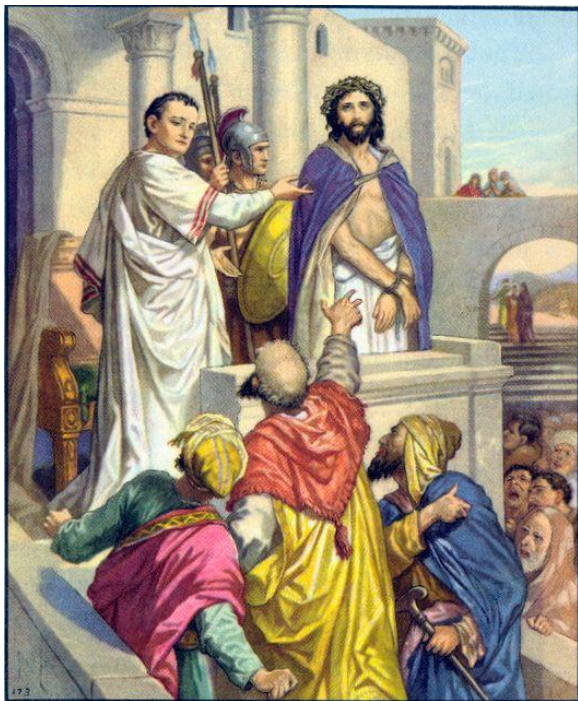
TLH 159, sts. 1-2

Go to Dark Gethsemane

1. **Go to dark Gethsemane,
Ye that feel the Tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away,
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.**



2. Follow to the judgment-hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;
Learn of Him to bear the cross.



LENT RESPONSORY:

- L: Deliver me, O Lord, my God,
C: **for You are the God of my salvation.**
L: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust,
C: **leave me not, O Lord, my God.**
L: Deliver me, O Lord, my God,
C: **for You are the God of my salvation.**
A: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**
L: Rescue me from my enemies,
C: **Protect me from those who rise against me.**

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY:

- L: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**
L: *Let us pray.* Dear Lord Jesus, when Judas was tempted with money—*he fell*, but when You were tempted with self-preservation—*You laid down Your life* – THANK YOU! Since we are like Judas, we deserve death and hell—*but You have purchased for us life and heaven!* Dear Holy Spirit, make us sorry for our sins, keep us believing in Jesus, and assure us of life and heaven through Him; for You live and reign with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever.
C: **Amen.** ↓

SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 4:28-32 ESV – *Thinking about Judas, note the references to “thief” and “grieve the Holy Spirit” as well as the topic of forgiveness!*

²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

- L: The Word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON HYMN: TLH 164, st. 1

'Twas on That Dark, That Doleful Night

(to the tune of TLH 261)

1. 'Twas on that dark, that doleful night
When powers of earth and hell arose
Against the Son of God's delight
And friends betrayed Him to His foes.

SERMON:

Will You Get What You Deserve, Like Judas?

Acts 1:15-20a

See today's Sermon insert!



↑ PRAYERS: *Let Us Pray*

- L:** Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.**
- L:** O God, protect the tempted, the distressed, and the erring, and gently guide them. By Your great goodness bring them into the way of peace and truth. Graciously regard all who are in trouble, danger, temptation, or bondage to sin, and those to whom death draws near. In Your mercy draw them to Yourself; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.**
- L:** O God, You justify the ungodly and desire not the death of the sinner. Graciously assist us by Your heavenly aid and evermore shield us with Your protection, that no temptation may separate us from Your love in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
- C: Amen. ↓**

OFFERING: *Let us honor the Lord!*

We are not owners, only managers; let us honor the CEO by following His Holy Word!

⇒ **Offertory**

⇒ Please complete your attendance slip!

† Service of the Sacrament †

LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION: *Get Ready*

Self-Examination Questions:

1. Have I been baptized into Christ ([Gal. 3:27](#))?
2. Do I feel sad about my sins ([2 Cor. 7:10-11](#))?
3. Is Jesus my Savior and my Lord ([John 3:16](#))?
4. Do I believe I will receive bread & *Body*, wine & *Blood*, for the forgiveness of my sins ([1 Co. 10:16](#); [Mt. 26:26-28](#); [Mk. 14:22-24](#); [Lk. 22:19-20](#); [1 Co. 11:23-25](#))?
5. Do I desire to follow God's Word ([James 1:22](#))?

Who Can Receive Today? *Everyone who answered "yes" to the five questions noted above. For non-members who desire to receive on a regular basis, please talk to the pastor about becoming a member.*

To Receive at Your Pew: Please notify an usher.

Not Receiving Today: All ages are invited to receive a spoken blessing; indicate so by crossing your arms.

↑ **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** ("Christian Questions with Their Answers" by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther):

- L: **(1)** Do you believe that you are a sinner?
C: **Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.**
- L: **(2)** How do you know this?
C: **From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.**
- L: **(3)** Are you sorry for your sins?
C: **Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.**
- L: **(4)** What have you deserved from God because of your sins?
C: **His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.**
- L: **(5)** Do you hope to be saved?
C: **Yes, that is my hope.**

L: **(6)** In whom then do you trust?

C: **In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.**

L: **(7)** Who is Christ?

C: **The Son of God, true God and true Man.**

L: **(8)** How many God's are there?

C: **Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

L: **(9)** What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?

C: **He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.**

L: **(10)** Did the Father also die for you?

C: **He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.**

L: **(11)** How do you know this?

C: **From the holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the sacrament.**

L: **(12)** These are the words of institution: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: *"Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."*

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: *"Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

L: **(13)** Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the sacrament?

C: **Yes, I believe it.**

- L: **(14)** What convinces you to believe this?
- C: **The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.**
- L: **(15)** What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?
- C: **We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: *This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.***
- L: **(16)** Why should we remember and proclaim His death?
- C: **First, so we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and true Man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.**
- L: **(17)** What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?
- C: **His great love for His Father, for me, and for other sinners.**
- L: **(18)** Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?
- C: **That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.**
- L: **(19)** What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?
- C: **First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.**

- L: **(20)** But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?
- C: **To such a person no better advice can be given than this: First, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble. Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without.**
- L: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER:

A: **Our Father who art in heaven...**

PAX DOMINI:

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI (DS 4):

L: O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
C: You take the sin of the world away;
 L: O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
C: Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
 L: O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
C: You take the sin of the world away;
 L: Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
C: And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray. ↓



LORD'S SUPPER DISTRIBUTION and DISMISSAL:

- ⇒ Come with sorrow: Jesus took your punishment.
- ⇒ Remember what you are receiving: **Jesus' Body** – united to the bread, and **Jesus' Blood** – united to the wine, **for the forgiveness of your sins**.
- ⇒ Reception options: Receive His Body *in your hand* or *on your tongue*, His blood *from an individual cup* or *from the chalice* (the center cups in each tray are alcohol removed wine).
- ⇒ Right after the dismissal: Respond with “**Amen!**”
- ⇒ Return with joy: *Your sins are forgiven!*
- ⇒ After Communing Prayer: See the front of LSB.

HYMN DURING DISTRIBUTION:

TLH 151, vv. 4-7

Christ, the Life of All the Living

4. Heartless scoffers did surround Thee,
Treating Thee with shameful scorn,
And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee.
All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne
That as Thine Thou mightest own me
And with heavenly glory crown me.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
5. Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee
That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee,--
Thence I gain security;

Comfortless Thy soul did languish
Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

6. Thou hast suffered great affliction
And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion,
Fully to atone for me;
Thou didst choose to be tormented
That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
7. Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden,
I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry,
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

POST COMMUNION COLLECT:

- L: Dear Jesus, our Savior and our Lord, as we remember Your extremely difficult road to win our forgiveness, *help us to ever go forward with our trust in You as our only way to heaven*; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



CLOSING HYMN: TLH 145, sts. 1 & 3

11 AM CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

1. Jesus, Refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary,
Savior from the world above,
Oh, how oft Thine eyes, offended,
Gaze upon the sinner's fall!
Yet, upon the cross extended,
Thou didst bear the pain of all.
3. Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for Thee!
May our eyes be ever turning
To Thy cross of agony
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever
Dwell the cross, the Crucified!

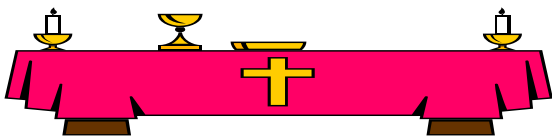
7 PM STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR:

To signify Jesus' suffering and death for our sins!

Let us try to grasp what Jesus did for us!

Special thanks to

Eileen Kovach & Angie Rohman for serving!



Introduction:

- L: Thursday evening began Jesus' intense suffering for our sins. After His betrayal by Judas, He was †arrested, †illegally put on trial, †falsely condemned, and †brutally beaten; then He †carried His cross to Golgotha, †was stripped of His clothes, and †was nailed to His cross. Since Jesus gave everything for us, *so, during this part of the*

service, we remove almost everything from our Altar!

Candles:

- L: Jesus, *who is the True Light of the world*, did everything to remove our sins; then He willingly extinguished His life; therefore, remembering His death for us, *our candles are now extinguished and removed!*
- The Altar Candles are extinguished and removed; then the wall candles are extinguished (the Christ candle is left burning).
 - All Chancel Lights are turned off (except the Altar Spot).

Collection Plates:

- L: Since the LORD has given us all that we have and all that we need, let us live ♦without complaint, ♦with thanksgiving, and ♦with our own giving *that honors the total giving of our Lord Jesus Christ*. Since Jesus gave everything for us, *the collection plates are now removed!*

Communion Vessels:

- L: Jesus last will and testament is that through His death – *which included the giving of His body and the shedding of His blood* – all would receive the forgiveness of their sins. *As Jesus' body and blood were removed from His cross to His tomb, so the elements and vessels of the Lord's Supper are now removed from our Altar!*

Coverings and Paraments:

- L: Our altar is in the form of a table, where our Lord Jesus serves us as both *Host and Meal*. The coverings and paraments are made of fine linen, *materials appropriate for feasting with our King*. As our King's body was stripped in crucifixion, *so our altar is stripped of its coverings!*

Crucifix:

L: Though a crucifix should point to *Jesus' excruciating pain and the fact that He literally became a curse for us*, it also should remind us of what He accomplished: *The forgiveness of our sins!* To signify Jesus' time on His cross, and His receiving of our sins and our punishment, *we place a black veil over our Altar Crucifix!*

BENEDICTION (2 Thessalonians 3:16):

L: Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!

C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

⇒ **Desire Prayer:** Gather with Pastor near the front.

⇒ **Desire Spiritual Help:** Contact Pastor, see the block for his contact information.

⇒ **Join us on Good Friday:**

✓ Service at 11 AM

✓ Service at 7 PM

⇒ **Join us on Easter Sunday:**

✓ Service at 7 AM

✓ Breakfast at 8:30

✓ Classes at 9:30

✓ Service at 10:45

⇒ **Our Regular Schedule:**

✓ **Sundays:** Service at 8:00;

Refreshments at 9:10; Classes at 9:30;

Service and Staffed Nursery at 10:45

✓ **Mondays:** 7 PM (except the day after Easter)

Learn About Us

- + **Beliefs:** We believe the Bible is true and trust in Jesus as our only Savior!
- + **For Children:** Bibles (some center pew racks); Bags (by worship entrance); Nursery (sometimes staffed).
- + **Special Needs:** Large print and hearing assistance are available in the narthex.
- + **Our Podcast:** Listen to our sermons on your smartphone or tablet: "Benefit from the Bible"
- + **Our Schedule:** **Sundays** – Service 8:00; Refreshments 9:10; Classes 9:30; Service (nursery) 10:45
Mondays – Service 7 PM

Connect With Us

Website:	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 ; 440-845-2230
Childcare Center:	Monday – Friday, 6:45-6:00	Tricia Wise:	ChildcareDirector@blc7500.com ; 440-884-0430
Pastor Green:	Pastor@blc7500.com ; 440-292-5915	Church Body:	lcms.org District: oh.lcms.org
Pastor Assistants:	Alan Carlson, Ray Dmytriw, Matt Hlavacek, Jerry Huttner, and Brian Zeleznikar		