



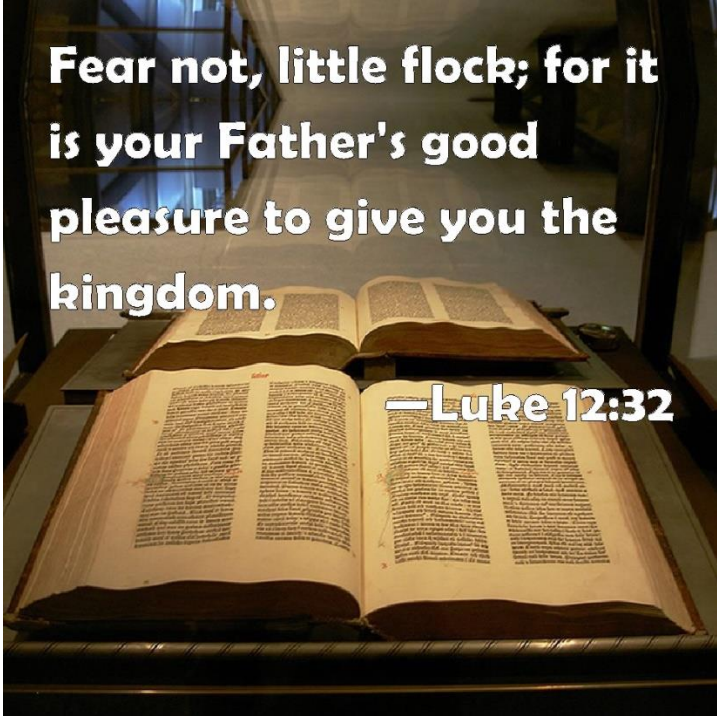
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

➔ Know Jesus, ➔ Grow in the Bible, ➔ Excel in Loving God and Others

Saturday, July 25 at 4:00

Sunday, July 26 at 9:00

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, Seventh Sunday after Trinity – 2020



**Fear not, little flock; for it
is your Father's good
pleasure to give you the
kingdom.**

—Luke 12:32

Thanks to Dr. Phil Giessler for substituting today for Pastor Green!

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

BETHLEHEM – A SAFE PLACE FOR EVERYONE:

- **Receive the Gifts:** *Healthy – come in; ill – listen from your car through FM 89.9*
- **Social Distance:** *Sit in the RESERVED pews.*
- **During the Virus:** *We are not shaking hands, passing offering plates, or using the common cup.*

WELCOME TO DIVINE SERVICE: *We gather to receive God's gifts through Word and Sacrament!*

- ✦ **Visitors:** *We are glad you are here! This folder will guide you through today's service. We look*

forward to getting better acquainted, so please complete the green attendance slip!

- ✦ **Prayer Request:** *See a "yellow" card (Narthex) and the "Receive Prayer" section (end of folder).*
- ✦ **Young Children:** *Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex).*
- ✦ **Phone:** *Please silence at this time!*
- ✦ **Hearing Assistance:** *Available in Narthex.*
- ✦ **Service Folder:** *Get it on your smartphone:*
www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com/ServiceFolder

GOOD NEWS:

L: He is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

PRELUDE

PREPARATION TO RECEIVE: *Use One or More...*

⇒ **Prayers for Worship:** *Inside front cover of LSB*

⇒ **Table of Duties:** *Page 328 in LSB*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

↑ GOD'S WORK of SORROW and ASSURANCE:

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: O almighty God, merciful Father,

A: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

L: In the mercy of the almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and

bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the LORD, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ!

C: **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN:

All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

Sing to the tune of TLH 216

See the words below / TLH 19

1. All praise to God, who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of wonders, power, and love,
The God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul He fills,
The God who every sorrow stills,—
To God all praise and glory!
4. The Lord forsaketh not His flock,
His chosen generation;
He is their Refuge and their Rock,
Their Peace and their Salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand
He leads His own, His chosen band,—
To God all praise and glory!

KYRIE (Mark 10:46-52): *Let us pray to Jesus to help us in this life with every need!*

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

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

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

KYRIE (LSB 942): *Let Us Pray*

L: Kyrie! God Father in heaven above,

C: **You abound in gracious love,**

L: Of all things the maker and preserver.

C: **Have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

L: Kyrie! O Christ, our King, salvation for all You came to bring.

C: **O Lord Jesus, God's own Son, our Mediator at the heavenly throne:**

L: Hear our cry and grant our supplication.

C: Have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

L: Kyrie! O God, the Holy Ghost,

C: Guard our faith, the gift we need the most,

L: And bless our life's last hour,

C: That we leave this sinful world with gladness.

A: Have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION and COLLECT:

L: The LORD be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: *Let us pray.* Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. ↓ *Children! Please come forward!*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "What is Trust?"

OLD TESTAMENT: Deuteronomy 7:6-9

See Below / Pew Bible Page 285 / Own Bible

As a holy people you belong to the LORD your God. Of all the people on earth the LORD your God chose you to be His own people. The LORD set His heart on you and chose you, not because you were the greatest of all the nations--you were the smallest of all the nations--but because the LORD loved you and wanted to keep the oath He made with your fathers; the LORD took you out with a mighty hand and rescued you from the place where you were slaves, from Pharaoh, king of Egypt. So you know the LORD your God is God, the God you can trust, who keeps His covenant of love to a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments....

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM: 125:1-5 ESV

See Below / Front of LSB / Own Bible

- 1 Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,*
which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.
- 2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his | people,*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.
- 3 For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the | righteous,*
lest the righteous stretch out their hands to | do wrong.
- 4 Do good, O LORD, to those | who are good,*
and to those who are upright | in their hearts!
- 5 But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the LORD will lead away with evil- | doers!*

Peace be upon | Israel!

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

EPISTLE: Romans 8:28-39

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1757 / Own Bible

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, those whom He called according to His plan. This is true because those whom He knew from the first He also appointed long ago to have the same form as the likeness of His Son, so He would be the Firstborn among many brothers. Now those whom He appointed long ago, He also called; those whom He called, He also justified [declared righteous] and those whom He justified, He also glorified.

What then shall we say to all this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for all of us--won't He certainly also give us all things along with Him? Who will accuse those whom God

has chosen? It is God who justifies [acquits] us. Who will condemn? It is Christ who died, and more than that, He rose; He is at the right hand of God, and He prays for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will sorrow, hardship or persecution, hunger or nakedness, danger or sword? As it is written:

*For you we are being killed all the day long.
We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.*

But in all this He who loved us helps us win an overwhelming victory. Yes, I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither anything in the present nor in the future, no powers, nothing above or below, nor any other creature can ever separate us from the love God has for us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

↑ **ALLELUIA and VERSE** (LSB 156):

See the words below / 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.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:44–52

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1519 / Own Bible

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

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

“The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field. When a man found it, he buried it again and was so delighted with it that he went away and sold everything he had and bought that field.

“Again, the Kingdom of heaven is like a dealer who was looking for fine pearls. When he found a very expensive pearl, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

“Again, the Kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was thrown into the sea and gathered all kinds of fish. When it was full, they

pulled it on the shore, sat down, and picked out the good fish and put them in containers, but they threw the bad ones away. So it will be at the end of the world. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where they will weep and grind their teeth.

“Have you understood all this?”

“Yes,” they answered.

He said to them, “Therefore, every student of the Scriptures who is trained for the Kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who continues to bring new and old things out of his treasure chest.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.** ↓

SERMON HYMN:

If God Had Not Been on Our Side

Sing to the tune of TLH 216

See the words below / TLH 267

1. If God had not been on our side
And had not come to aid us,
Our foes with all their pow'r and pride
Would surely have dismayed us,
For we, his flock, would have to fear
The devil's wolves, both far and near,
Who rise in might against us.
2. Their furious wrath, did God permit,
Would surely have consumed us
And as a deep and yawning pit
With life and limb entombed us.
A hellish storm would o'er us roll
From Satan, who desires our soul
And seeks to overwhelm us.
3. Blest be the Lord, who foiled their threat
That they could not devour us.
Our souls, like birds, escaped their net;
They could not overpower us.
The snare is broken -- we are free!
Our helper and our strength is he
Who made the earth and heavens.

SERMON: "Fear, a Main Weapon of Satan"

Jesus said: "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom."

Luke 12:32

SPOKEN POST SERMON HYMN:

O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe

See the words below / TLH 263

1. O little flock, fear not the Foe
Who madly seeks your overthrow;
Dread not his rage and power.
What though your courage sometimes faints,
His seeming triumph o'er God's saints
Lasts but a little hour.
2. Be of good cheer; your cause belongs
To Him who can avenge your wrongs;
Leave it to Him, our Lord.
Though hidden yet from mortal eyes,
His Gideon shall for you arise,
Uphold you and His Word.
3. As true as God's own Word is true.
Not earth nor hell with all their crew
Against us shall prevail.
A jest and byword are they grown;
God is with us, we are His own;
Our victory cannot fail.



↑ 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: *See back of either hymnal*

PRAYER: *Let Us Pray*

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For some requests in our Participation Guide, including the following . . . , *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Finally, for those named and for all our needs of body and soul, *let us pray to the Lord:*

C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER: *See back of either hymnal*

L: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

A: Our Father who art in heaven...

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.

Saturday ➔ **LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER:**

L: We pray together:

A: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me (Mt. 18:10), that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Sunday ➔ **LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER:**

L: We pray together:

A: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me (Mt. 18:10), that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

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 look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen. ↓

CLOSING HYMN: *Savior, I Follow On*

Sing to the tune of TLH 660

See the words below / TLH 422

1. Savior, I follow on, Guided by Thee,
Seeing not yet the hand That leadeth me.
Hushed be my heart and still,
Fear I no further ill,
Only to meet Thy will My will shall be.
4. Savior, I long to walk Closer with Thee;
Led by Thy guiding hand, Ever to be
Constantly near Thy side,
Quickened and purified,
Living for Him who died Freely for me.

POSTLUDE and CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

Let us apply God's Word to our daily lives!

SATURDAYS – Regular Schedule:

- ◆ Bible Class: 3:00
- ◆ Divine Service: 4:00

SUNDAYS – After Service Blessings:

- ◆ Receive Prayer: Active Stephen Ministers (Alan, Jerry, Dee, Bill, Norma) are available after the service; they are glad to pray for you!
- ◆ Refreshments (10:15): Join us down the hall!
- ◆ Bible Class and Sunday School (10:30):
 - ⇒ Bible Class (CLR): 9th grade to adults
 - ⇒ Sunday School (UR): 3 years to 8th grade

OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION: *Would you consider increasing by 10%? THANKS!*

- Needed Each Week (budget): **4,684**
- Received Last Week (actual): **2,632**
- Budget Versus Giving (YTD): **1,002**
- Spending Versus Giving (YTD): **- 2,738**

THANKS FOR SERVING ON 7/25 & 7/26

Smart Recorder: Kathy G
 Altar Guild: Kathy G
 Financial Team: Natalia F, Jerry H

Saturday: Pastor Team: ; Usher: Ray K

Sunday: Pastor Team: Dave K
Ushers: Rand S, Mel B
Beverages: Doris C
Sunday School: Marci S

THANKS FOR SERVING ON 8/1 & 8/2

Smart Recorder: Kathy G
 Altar Guild: Norma S
 Financial Team: Natalia F, Inez G

Saturday: Pastor Team: ; Usher: Matt K

Sunday: Pastor Team: Tim C
Ushers: Terry T, Larry H, John H, Klaus K
Beverages: Doris C
Sunday School: Heather H



7 IMPORTANT THINGS

Think of someone who is a super-Christian...

- ☹ Is that person tempted to sin in various ways?
- ☹ Does that person fall into sin sometimes?
- ☹ Are the forces of evil trying to drag that person away from Jesus and God's eternal blessings?

The answer to all three questions is "YES!" And how does such a person continue in Christ? *God does that work by His Spirit through His Word!*

I SO MUCH want ALL OF US to continue in Christ; therefore, **let us know / do these 7 essential things:**

1. **Know** we are sinners and cannot save ourselves!
2. **Know** Jesus is God's Son and has done everything to take away our sins!
3. **Trust** only in Jesus and his work for our entrance into heaven!
4. **Read** and think about the Bible every day!
5. **Talk** to God every day through detailed prayers!
6. **Gather** with others every week to hear God's Word and receive the Lord's Supper!
7. **Live** for Jesus Christ in our daily lives!

When we know / practice the 7, *we will be close to the Good Shepherd and experience peace, security, and joy!*

Today is the time to incorporate the 7 into our lives! God bless us, EVERYONE of EVERY AGE!

Sincerely, *Pastor*

Connect With Us

Website:	BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com	Podcast:	"Benefit from the Bible" (listen to the sermons)
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:	RevRLGreen@aol.com ; 440-292-5915	Church Body:	lcms.org District: oh.lcms.org