

October 18, 2026 | 8:30am



Bethlehem

LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost



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LARGE PRINT

Order of Worship

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost | 8:30 am | October 18, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Worship

Opening Hymn *(Please Stand)*

O God of Mercy, God of Light

LW #397

O God of mercy, God of light, in love and mercy infinite,
Teach us, as ever in Your sight, to live our lives in You.

You sent Your Son to die for all that our lost world might
hear Your call,

Oh, hear us lest we stray and fall! We rest our hope in You.

Teach us the lesson Jesus taught: to feel for those His
blood has bought,

That ev'ry deed and word and thought may work a work
for You.

For all are kindred, far and wide, since Jesus Christ for all
has died;

Grant us the will and grace provide to love them all in You.

In sickness, sorrow, want, or care, each other's burdens
help us share;

May we, where help is needed, there give help as though
to You.

And may Your Holy Spirit move all those who live to live in
love

Till You receive in heav'n above those who have lived to
You.

Invocation and Confession

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

C: Amen.

Kyrie

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P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P:For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C:Lord, have mercy.

P:For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C:Lord, have mercy.

P:Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C:Amen.

Hymn of Praise

This is the Feast

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This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength
And honor, blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Collect of the Day

P:The Lord be with you.

C:And also with you.

P:Let us pray together:

C:Gracious Father, we thank You for working faith in us. We ask that You fill us with Your Holy Spirit so that we may be known for our labors of love and our steadfastness of hope in Your Son Jesus. May we be bold in preaching the Gospel to all that would hear. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Redeemer. Amen.

First Reading *(Please Sit)* *Isaiah 45:1-7*

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:

²"I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,

and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.
⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,
⁶ that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷ I form light and create darkness;
I make well-being and create calamity;
I am the LORD, who does all these things.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

² We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that

you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹ For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Holy Gospel *(Please Stand) Matthew 22:15-22*

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. ¹⁶ And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹ They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for *us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Children's Message (*Please Sit*) Eric Oswald, DCE

Hymn of the Day

O Word of God Incarnate

LW #335

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise You for the radiance that from the hallowed
page,

A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The Church from You, dear Master, received the gift divine;
And still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.

It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,
Mid mists and rocks and quick-sands still guides, O Christ,
to You.

Oh, make Your Church, dear Savior, a lamp of burnished
gold
To bear before the nations Your true light as of old!
Oh, teach Your wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to
trace
Till, clouds and darkness ended, they see You face to face!

Sermon

What Are You Known For? Pastor Brian Francik

Gathering of our Tithes and Offerings

*Bringing tithes and financial gifts to the Lord is an act of
worship. These offerings help to accomplish ministry both here
at Bethlehem and around the world. May God bless your
response of faith.*

Please join our members in filling out the Red Friendship Register
in your pew. Thank you!

Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer

*Many of our prayer concerns and needs can be found at the end
of this service folder.*

(Please Stand)

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.

Words of Institution

Agnus Dei

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Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have
mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have
mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant
us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion *(Please Sit)*

see information on inside cover page

Distribution Hymns

Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense LW #266 v1-3,7

Jesus Christ, my sure defense
And my Savior, now is living!
Knowing this, my confidence
Rests upon the hope here given
Though the night of death be caught
Still in many an anxious thought.

Jesus, my redeemer, lives;
Likewise I to life shall waken.
He will bring me where He is.
Shall my courage then be shaken?
Shall I fear, or could the head
Rise and leave His members dead?

No, I am too closely bound
By my hope to Christ forever;
Faith's strong hand the rock has found,
Grasped it, and will leave it never;
Even death now cannot part
From its Lord the trusting heart.

Oh, then draw away your hearts
From all pleasures base and hollow.
Strive to share what He imparts
While you here His footsteps follow.
As you now still wait to rise,
Fix your hearts beyond the skies.

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

LW #366

I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us from the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious till not a spot remains.

I lay my wants on Jesus; all fullness dwells in Him;
He heals all my diseases; my soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, my burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.

I rest my soul on Jesus, this weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces; I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

Communion Blessing *(Please Stand)*

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in true faith unto life everlasting.

C:Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P:The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with his favor and give you peace.

C:Amen.

Closing Hymn

All People That on Earth Do Dwell LW #435

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forthtell;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
Without our aid He did us make.
We are His folk, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.

Oh, enter then His gates with praise;
Approach with joy His courts unto;

Praise, laud, and bless His name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good:
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.

Sending

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

O God of Mercy, God of Light

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt.
Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838-96, adapt.
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O Word of God Incarnate

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, alt.
Tune: Neu-vermehrtes Gesangbuch, Mneiningen, 1693
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Text: Berlin, 1653; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-78, alt.
Tune: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89
Tune: Neu-vermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1593
Tune: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-c. 1561
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

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SERMON NOTES

What Are You Known For? - 1 Thess. 1:1-10

_____ faith
Known to others

What is one way that you can be more active in your faith?

_____ the Lord
Prompted by love

What is something you can do to serve the Lord in response to His love?