

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 11, 2016



BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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STAND

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

M: Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 32:7-14 (NIV)

⁷ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. ⁸ They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, 'These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.'

⁹ "I have seen these people," the LORD said to Moses, "and they are a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation."

¹¹ But Moses sought the favor of the LORD his God. "LORD," he said, "why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth?' Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.'" ¹⁴ Then the LORD relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

PSALM

Psalm 51a



Refrain

Have mercy on me, O God,*
according to your unfailing love.
Wash away all my iniquity,*
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,*
and my sin is always before me.

Refrain

Against you, you only, have I sinned*
and done what is evil in your sight.
Surely I was sinful at birth,*
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Hide your face from my sins,*
and blot out all my iniquity.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,*
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
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.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 2:5-11 (NIV)

⁵ If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. ⁶ The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. ⁷ Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸ I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹ Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰ Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹ in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Alleluia. (*Romans 15:4 cf. NIV*)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff is the chorus: 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'. The second staff is the first line of the verse: 'These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that'. The third staff is the second line of the verse: 'Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.'. The fourth staff is the final chorus: 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'.

STAND

GOSPEL

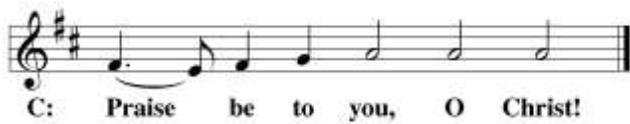
Luke 15:1-10 (NIV)

¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴ "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

⁸ "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.'¹⁰ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY— #304—*Jesus Sinners Does Receive*

SERMON (*sermon text 2 Corinthians 2:5-11*)

“Outwitting the Devil”

STAND

APOSTLES’ CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there 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.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in

our communities.

Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

O almighty, everlasting, loving, and protective Father, we humbly come before You to ask that Your protective arms enfold us and the citizens of this nation. As we live our lives, we daily hear about the tragic results of war and the threats that are uttered against our nation and against us. On this day we especially remember the terrorist attacks fifteen years ago, as well as the many attacks that have taken place inside and outside the borders of our nation since that day. We beg You, dear Father, to hear our prayers as You have promised and calm our fearful and trembling hearts and minds. Everyday, we hear and read of threats to the security and the stability of this nation. As You have said, there will always be threats of war and rumors of war. We also now hear the threat of attack in every form and of every kind upon our children and upon us. These threats, these rumors, and these acts of evil cause us and many others to be afraid. Lord, we pray that You would not allow us to be confused or confounded by those who promote terror and massive destruction and harm upon Your people. But we pray that You would, through the Holy Spirit, increase and strengthen the faith of me and all your people, that we would always turn to You, our refuge and strength. Be with those whom You have raised up to serve and protect us. Grant them the resolve and the commitment to perform their duties so as to promote peace and safety and security for us as well as for all our fellow citizens. We pray, dear Father, that You and Your holy angels would defend us from attack, confound those who would deprive us of our freedom, and thwart the evil efforts of those who intend to cause pain, suffering, and death by their cowardly acts of assassination, humiliation, intimidation, murder, and fear.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.



BE SEATED

HYMN #32—*When Sinners See Their Lost Condition*

STAND

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

HYMN #169—*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

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GOD BLESS AMERICA

News And Notes

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME!

Welcome to worship! We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us today. Guests, if there is anything we can do to make your worship more meaningful, please do not hesitate to ask us. Pastor, the ushers, and all members of our Bethany family stand ready to serve you. May the Lord bless your worship!

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

A special "thank you" to those who served their Lord by serving us this morning, our violinists, our organist, and our ushers. Thank you for edifying and beautifying our worship with your service.

BAPTISM OF KENDRA DANIELLE BOGGS TODAY

Today, in a special, short service following our normal worship, Kendra Danielle Boggs, the granddaughter of Paul and Christine Braho, will receive the blessing of Holy Baptism. All members of Bethany are invited to join the family for this special occasion and for a celebration with cake and finger foods following the ceremony.

PASTOR OUT OF TOWN THIS FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY

Pastor Kluender will be out of town visiting with a friend this Friday through Sunday, September 16-18. Pastor Schult will be conducting worship and Bible study next Sunday. If you have any urgent matters during those days, please feel free to contact one of Bethany's elders — Harry Jacob, Steve Bayer, or Mark Hamilton. Thank you!

LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP

In last Sunday's worship, 41 people were fed and strengthened by the Word of God and 35 took communion.

Our Walk For God

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	7:00p Bible Study	Happy Birthday Chuck Stadler!		Pastor on Vacation	Pastor on Vacation	9:00a Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 10:30a Worship Pastor on Vacation

Serving next Sunday: Altar: Kluender; Greeter: Proctor; Ushers: Team E/G