

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

February 12, 2017



BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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HYMN— #225—*This Is the Day the Lord Has Made*

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

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 e -
ter - 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.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Then I would not be put to shame*
when I consider all your commands.
I will praise you with an upright heart*
as I learn your righteous laws.

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

1 Corinthians 2:6-13 (EHV)

⁶Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature, but it is not a wisdom of this world or of the rulers of this world, who are being reduced to nothing. ⁷Instead we speak God's wisdom that has been hidden in mystery—before the ages, God foreordained that this wisdom would result in our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this world knew it. (If they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.) ⁹But as it is written:

What no eye has seen and no ear has heard
and no human mind has conceived—
that is what God has prepared for those who love him.

¹⁰But God revealed it to us through his Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. ¹¹Indeed, who among men knows a man's thoughts except the man's spirit within him? So also, no one else knows God's thoughts except God's Spirit.

¹²What we received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we might know the blessings freely given to us by God. ¹³We also speak about these things, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in words taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual truths with spiritual words.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. You are my son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. Alleluia. (*Mark 1:11b*)



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!

STAND

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:21-37 (EHV)

²¹"You have heard that it was said to people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be subject to judgment.' ²²But I tell you that everyone who is angry with his brother without a cause will be subject to

judgment, and whoever says to his brother, 'Raca,' will have to answer to the Sanhedrin. But whoever says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of hell fire.

²³"So if you are about to offer your gift at the altar, and there you remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there in front of the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother. Then come and offer your gift.

²⁵"If someone accuses you, reach an agreement with him quickly, while you are with him on the way. Otherwise your accuser may bring you to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Amen I tell you: You will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery,' ²⁸but I tell you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to fall into sin, pluck it out and throw it away from you. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰If your right hand causes you to fall into sin, cut it off and throw it away from you. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

³¹"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.' ³²But I tell you that whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, causes her to be regarded as an adulteress. And whoever marries the divorced woman is regarded as an adulterer.

³³"Again you have heard that it was said to people long ago, 'Do not break your oaths, but fulfill your vows to the Lord.' ³⁴But I tell you, do not swear at all: not by heaven, because it is God's throne; ³⁵and not by earth, because it is his footstool; and not by Jerusalem, because it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your own head, since you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Instead, let your statement be, 'Yes, yes,' or 'No, no.' Whatever goes beyond these is from the Evil One.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY— #283—*Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening*

SERMON (*sermon text Deuteronomy 30:15-20*)

"Choices With Life or Death Consequences"

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

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

BE SEATED

HYMN #353—*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

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 #321—*Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name*

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News And Notes

NEXT SUNDAY — FEBRUARY 19TH — VALENTINE’S DAY THEMED POT LUCK AFTER WORSHIP

After our worship service next Sunday, February 19th, we will be holding a Valentine’s Day themed potluck fellowship meal after worship. The food theme is Italian. Join us in spending time together and loving your fellow Christians as Christ loved you first! Please speak with Tom Proctor or Alyce Jacob if you have questions.

MLS CONCERT CHOIR AT BETHANY SUNDAY, MARCH 26 — HOST HOMES NEEDED

On Sunday, March 26th, the Michigan Lutheran Seminary Concert Choir will be singing at our Sunday worship service. This is an amazing privilege for such a small congregation as Bethany. Erica Griepentrog and Kathy Stadler have graciously agreed to help Pastor as coordinators for their visit. **The choir is seeking hosting in Bethany members’ homes** for the 37 students and 4 adults. Please talk to Erica or Kathy ASAP if you are able to help with hosting.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30th, 7:30 PM AT MCCANDLESS CINEMARK THEATER—BETHANY SPONSORED MOVIE

On Thursday evening, March 30th, at 7:30 PM, at the Cinemark North Hills Theater at McCandless Crossing, Bethany is going to be sponsoring a one night screening of the new WELS sponsored movie, *A Return to Grace: The Life and Legacy of Luther*. This is intended to be both a fellowship for Bethany members and an outreach to non-members. This is a crowd-sourced showing, which means we will need to get a minimum number of RSVP’s before the showing is officially confirmed and people are charged for their tickets. How can you help? Once we have the theater reservation confirmed (hopefully by end of this current week) it is important that as many of you as possible go online and reserve your spot so that we can hit the minimum as soon as possible. Once we hit the minimum with ourselves and those we want to personally invite, we will pull out all the stops to sell out the theater. STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!

APRIL 1 PARENTS’ DAY OUT — ALL HANDS ON DECK!

We are currently planning a Parents’ Day Out for Saturday, April 1st, 10am—2pm. Please consider volunteering your time, talents or treasures to support this outreach. Speak with Pastor or Vicki Fronk to let us know in what capacity you are able to assist. The more the merrier. THANK YOU.

REFORMATION 500 WORSHIP SERVICE — SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, COLUMBUS, OHIO

On Saturday, November 4th, at 3:00 P.M., a joint Reformation Festival service of our Ohio Conference WELS churches will take place at St. Paul’s in Columbus. After the worship there will be a fellowship meal provided by St. Paul’s (a cost per person will be collected at the meal). Bethany is planning to go as a congregation so please let Pastor know if you are interested. We will be investigating the possibility of renting large van / mini-bus for the trip. Join us!

LAST WEEK’S WORSHIP

In Sunday’s worship, 37 people were fed and strengthened by the Word of God and 32 received the Lord’s Supper.

Our Walk For God

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
13 <i>Pastor’s Circuit Meeting in Girard, OH 8:30a—4:00p</i>	14 <i>7:00p Bible Study</i>	15 6:00p Elders’ Meeting	16	17	18	19 <i>9:00a Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 10:30a Worship</i> Valentine’s Day Potluck
<i>Serving next Sunday: Altar: Stadler; Greeter: Bayer; Ushers: Team E/G</i>						