

Sunday, October 18, 2020 Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Pastor Gary Mikkelson

Lay Reader: Allan Top
Music: Glenda McGaffee
Power-Point: Rod Scholten

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

C: AMEN

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

C: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants to all.

P: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

C: Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.

P: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: AMEN

OPENING SONG "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

- 1. Sing to the Lord of harvest your songs of love and praise;
with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise;
by him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;
sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.**
- 2. God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring,
the hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.
God fills them with his fullness, all things with large increase,
and crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace.**
- 3. Bring to this sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave,
the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.
Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall,
And with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.**

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN

THE READINGS

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 45:1-7

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed:

I will go before you and level the mountains,

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,

I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,

I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.

I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other.

I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

R: Word of God, Word of life. C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 96:1-9

R: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

C: Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

R: Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

C: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

R: As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

C: Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

R: Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

C: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.

R: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

R: Word of God, Word of life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Alleluia!”

Alleluia! Lord and Savior; open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “We Give Thee but Thine Own”

- 1.) We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

- 2.) May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
And gladly, as thou blessed us, to thee our first fruits give.

- 3.) The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace – it is a Christ-like thing.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: P: Lord, in your mercy C: Hear our prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

OFFERING

Your continued financial support to the mission and ministry of the church is important during this time. Offering baskets are placed at the entrance of the sanctuary.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN “We Praise You, O God”

1. We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

2. We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers; through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'er take us, you will not forsake us, and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

3. With voices united our praises we offer and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us. To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

DISMISSAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASS

**TONIGHT 6:00-7:30 pm.. – 8TH-9TH Grade Confirmation Class
Youth Night – 9-12th grades – 6:30 pm.**

**Wednesday, October 21 – 10th Grade Confirmation meet at 6:00 pm.
(Pictures & Practice)**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 – CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 10:00 am. Service

CHRISTMAS WREATHS FOR SALE

Bethlehem/Flowerfield Cemetery Board is selling Christmas Wreaths for both cemeteries and your front door. Orders can be made by calling Wanda Hoyme @507-962-3464.

Last day to place an order is October 31. Cost is \$40.00

This is a fundraiser to help pay for cemetery maintenance.

**Wanda Hoyme, Bethlehem-Flowerfield Cemetery Board
Secretary/Treasurer/Sexton**

CANDY DONATIONS needed for the Tuff Home & Tuff Village. Drop off in front entries in designated totes. Thank you!!!

Schedule for Halloween.....

***** Friday, October 30, 2:00 pm. Halloween Party**

***** Saturday, October 31 2:00 pm. Halloween Costume Party**

***** Halloween, October 31 – Halloween Parade for the kids in the community.
(Stay tuned through Tuff Home Facebook page for more information.)**

HAVE NEWS FOR THE BETHLEHEM STAR?

Newsletter deadline, Monday, October 26th Thank you!