



23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2020

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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THE RAYOS FAMILY IN MEMORY OF MATTHEW AND PATRICIA KOLLER



DAILY PRAYER

This service is based on Morning Prayer and Matins in Lutheran Service Book.

Invocation Verse

LSB 816, st. 1

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
 praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
 ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Invocation and Opening Sentences

LSB 219

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

C: **Amen.**

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: **And my mouth will declare Your praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**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.
 Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

Venite Verse (“O Come, Let Us Worship”)

LSB 816, st. 3

3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal
 Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -
 ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Te Deum (“You are God”)

LSB 939

P: All of you who were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ.

C: *Alleluia. You are God; we praise You. You are the Lord; we acclaim You. You are the eternal Father; all creation worships You.*

P: Father, of majesty unbounded; Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship; and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When You became man to set us free, You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God’s right hand in glory.

We believe that You will come and be our judge.

Come, then, Lord, and help Your people,

bought with the price of Your own blood,

and bring us with Your saints to glory everlasting.

O God, for our redemption You gave Your only Son to suffer death on the cross, and by His glorious resurrection You delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin so that we may rise to live with Christ forever; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Verse of Praise by Those Delivered from Sin

LSB 816, st. 2

2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Greeting and Luther's Morning Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray together.

C: ***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, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.***

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Scripture Hymn

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

LSB 515



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f' rings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



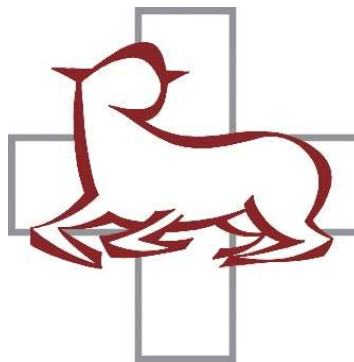
The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride - groom is at hand.
In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!



Old Testament Reading

Amos 5:18–24 (ESV)

¹⁸Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why would you have the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, and not light,

¹⁹as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him,

or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹“I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

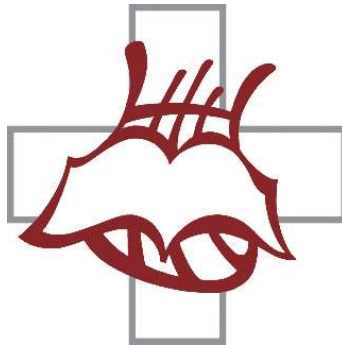
²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Acknowledgements

This service is based on Morning Prayer & Matins in *Lutheran Service Book*, arranged by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires, © 2018.

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Song of Praise

In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, — my
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, ful - ness of God in help - less
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the world by dark - ness
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ — in



song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought — and
 babe! This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the ones He came — to
 slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious Day, up from the grave He rose — a -
 me; From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -



storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings
 save. Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -
 - gain! And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
 - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His



cease. My Com - fort - er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ — I
 - fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ — I
 me; For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood — of
 hand; Till He re - turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ — I'll



stand.
 live.
 Christ.
 stand!

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Epistle (New Testament Letter)

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18(ESV)

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of

the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You

Adult Choir

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

*Lord, I stretch my hands to you; no other help I know.
If you should leave me all alone, where, then, shall I go?
Oh, Lord, I give my soul to you; I seek your care and love.
No other blessings do I need but those from you above.*

*Lord, I ask you: give me faith, and help me understand.
And, Lord, when I this life shall leave, just hold me in your hand.
Lord, I stretch my hands to you, to you; no other help I know, I know.
If you should leave me all alone, where, then, shall I go?
Oh, Lord, oh, Lord, I stretch my hands to you. Amen.*

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1–13(ESV)

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day

The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us

LSB 514; tune: 527



1 The Bride - groom soon will call us, "Come to the wed - ding feast."
 2 There shall we see in glo - ry Our dear Re - deem - er's face;
 3 There God shall from all e - vil For - ev - er make us free,
 4 In that fair home shall nev - er Be si - lent mu - sic's voice;



May slum - ber not be - fall us Nor watch - ful - ness de - crease.
 The long - a - waited - ed sto - ry Of heav'n - ly joy take place:
 From sin and from the dev - il, From all ad - ver - si - ty,
 With hearts and lips for - ev - er We shall in God re - joice,



May all our lamps be burn - ing With oil e - nough and more
 The pa - tri - archs shall meet us, The proph - ets' ho - ly band;
 From sick - ness, pain, and sad - ness, From trou - bles, cares, and fears,
 While an - gel hosts are rais - ing With saints from great to least



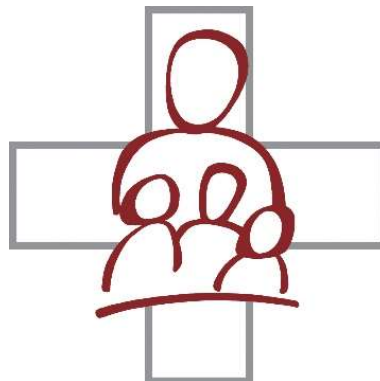
That we, with Him re - turn - ing, May find an o - pen door!
 A - pos - tles, mar - tyrs greet us In that ce - les - tial land.
 And grant us heav'n - ly glad - ness And wipe a - way our tears.
 A might - y hymn for prais - ing The Giv - er of the feast.

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Sermon

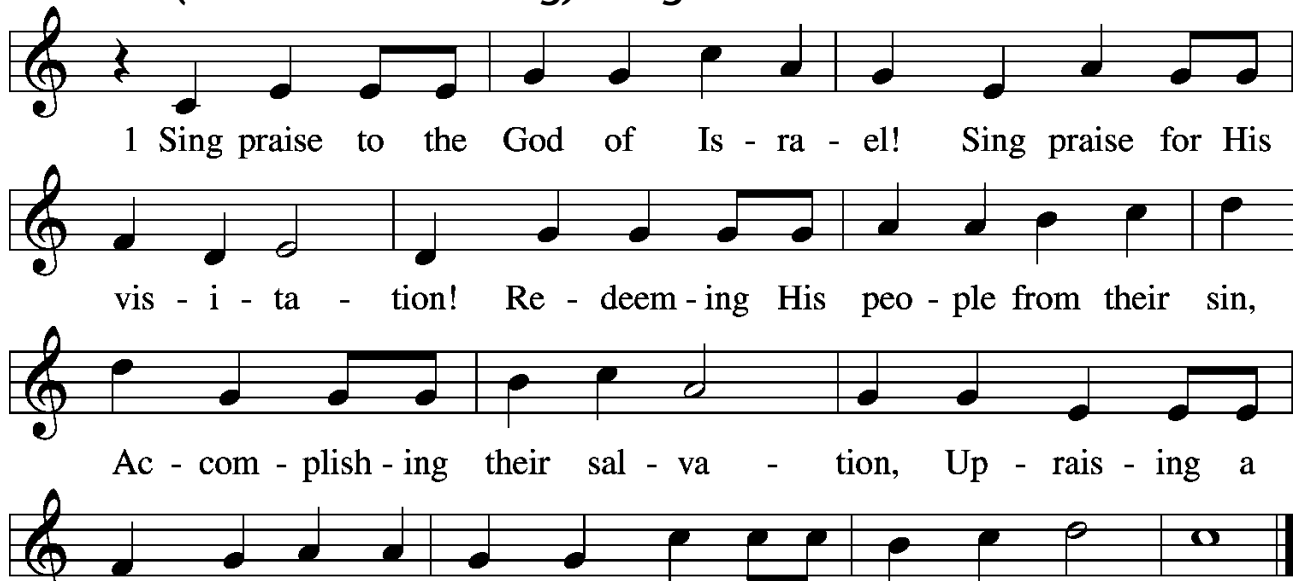
Life's Most Precious Possession

Matthew 25:1-13



Canticle (Luke 1:68-69 in song) Sing Praise to the God of Israel

LSB 936 st. 1



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His
vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,
Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a
might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.—And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Prayers

P: Let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord have mercy.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

All: 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.

Benediction

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

O God of Light

LSB 836; tune: 801



1 O God of light, Your Word, a lamp un - fail - ing, Shall pierce the
 2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges, Though we re -
 3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing To sin - ful
 4 To all the world Your sum - mons You are send - ing, Through all the



dark - ness of our earth - bound way And show Your grace, Your plan for us un -
 belled, You gent - ly sought a - gain And spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets,
 hearts Your jus - tice and Your grace; And quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for Your
 earth, to ev - 'ry land and race, That myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them



veil - ing, And guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
 sa - ges, Who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
 heal - ing, See Your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
 blend - ing, May praise and cel - e - brate Your gift of grace

Refrain



O God of light, make poss - i - ble my hope, And show Your



grace! And show Your grace! O God of light, make poss - i - ble my



hope, And show Your grace! And show Your grace!

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Announcements



NOVEMBER 2020 WORSHIP SCHEDULE



NOVEMBER 8 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
ANIMATE: PRACTICES: *MONEY* 10:15-11:15AM*

NOVEMBER 15 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
ANIMATE: PRACTICES: *COMMUNITY* 10:15-11:00AM*
INDOOR COMMUNION 11:15AM - NOON

NOVEMBER 22 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
WRAP UP OF ANIMATE: PRACTICES 10:15-11:15AM*

NOVEMBER 25 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP – 6:30PM
INDOOR COMMUNION TBD

NOVEMBER 29 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
ENRICHMENT & RECAP OVER
SABBATICAL EXPERIENCE 10:15-11:00AM*
INDOOR COMMUNION 11:15AM -NOON

BECKY LANZITO & KAREN LEICHT – ORGANISTS
ANN SOUZA - MUSIC DIRECTOR

MANDI DIVER – CHOIR/NEW MUSIC ACCOMPANIST
DAVID ZIEGLER - HANDBELL DIRECTOR

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR INDOOR COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING AN USHER CONTACT ELDERS@BETHELGURNEE.ORG OR KATRINA JOHNS AT KATRINA@BETHELGURNEE.ORG . IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ON THE ANIMATE SERIES, OR NEED MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT KATRINA.

***THESE SESSIONS ARE VIA ZOOM.**