

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 17, 2017



BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Joel F. Kluender

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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: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in
all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;
you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,
you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the notes. There are several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the first three systems. The score concludes with a double bar line.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 15:15-21 (EHV)

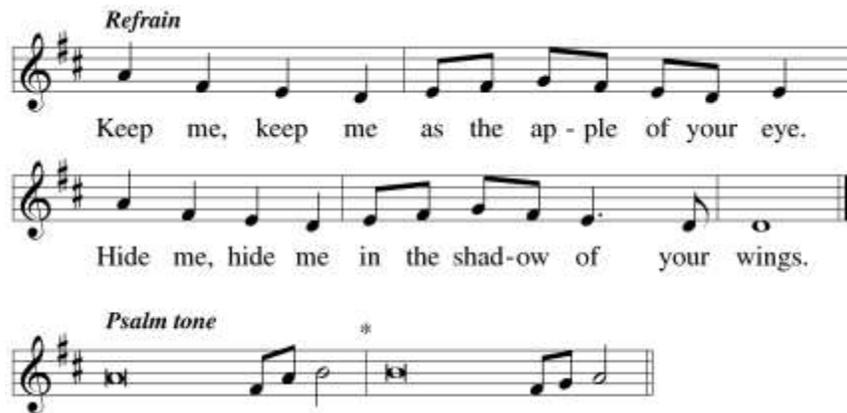
¹⁵LORD, you understand. Remember me and care for me. Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me. You are slow to anger. Do not take me away. Be mindful that I bear reproach for your sake. ¹⁶I devoured your words when they were found. Your words became a joy for me, and a delight for my heart, because I bear your name, LORD God of Armies. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of partiers, nor did I celebrate. I sat alone because your hand was upon me. You filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unending and my wound incurable, refusing to heal? Will you be like a deceptive brook to me, like a spring that dries up?

¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says:

“If you repent, I will take you back, so that you may stand before me. If you say what is valuable, and not what is worthless, you will be my spokesman. Let them turn to you, but you must not turn to them. ²⁰I will make you a bronze wall to this people. They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, because I am with you to save you and to rescue you, declares the LORD. ²¹I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked, and I will deliver you from the grasp of the violent.”

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 121



Refrain

I lift up my eyes to the hills.*

Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,*

the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip,*

he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel*

will neither slumber nor sleep.

Refrain

The LORD watches over you,*
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
The LORD will keep you from all harm,*
he will watch over your life;
the LORD will watch over your coming and going*
both now and forevermore.
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

Romans 12:1-8 (EHV)

¹Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. ²Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

³So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. ⁴For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. ⁵In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. ⁷If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. ⁸If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia. (*Jeremiah 15:16*)

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 16:21-26 (EHV)

²¹From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you."

²³But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men."

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?"

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY — #465—*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

SERMON (*sermon text Romans 12:1-3*)

"Be Transformed, not Conformed"

STAND

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you **for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament.** Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN —#312—*Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared*

THANKSGIVING

STAND

C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord re-joyce and proud-ly bear his name.
 He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with
 shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

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.

C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

HYMN — #70:1, 4, 5—*Help Us, O Lord, for Now We Enter* (for this hymn, "year" will be replaced by "week")

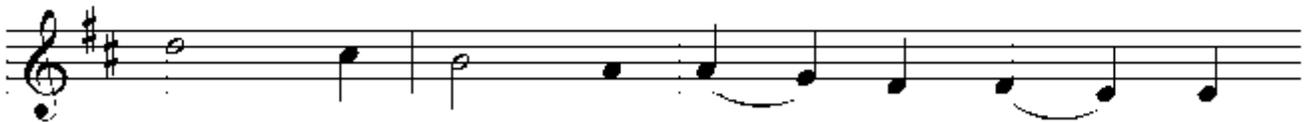
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I Sing as I Arise Today



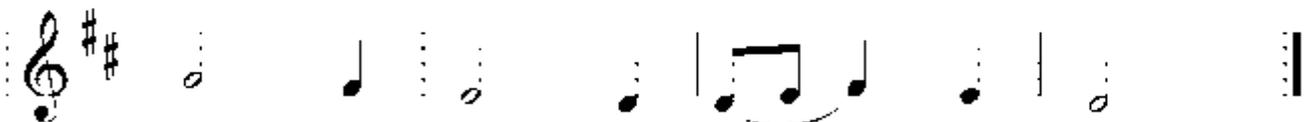
1 I sing as I a - rise to - day, I
 2 The word of God to be my speech. The
 3 The work of God to be my joy. The
 4 I sing as I a - rise to - day: I



call on my Cre - a - tor's might: The
 hand of God to be my stay, The
 house of God to be my rest. The
 cry out my Re - deem - er's name: Lord



will of God to be my guide, The
 shield of God to be my strength, The
 grace of God to be my song, The
 Je - sus Christ, my hope, my all, To -



eye of God to be my sight.
 path of God to be my way,
 praise of God to be my best.
 day and ev - er - more the same.

Text (st. 1,2): Anon.
 Text (st. 3,4): Michael Schultz, b. 1963; © 2006 Michael Schultz. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: ROCKINGHAM OLD (88 88) *Second Supplement to Psalms in Miniature*. London, 1778. adapt.

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.

REFORMATION 500 SERMON SERIES OCTOBER 15-29

October 15-29, Pastor Kluender will be giving a three week sermon series on the three main "solos" ("alones") of *grace* handed down to us from our Reformation forefathers. These are fundamental truths of our salvation which Dr. Luther brought back to prominence through his teaching, beginning five centuries ago. Please plan on being at church and growing in your thankfulness for what our God did through Luther and his contemporaries.

October 15 — We Are Saved by the Grace of God *Alone*

October 22 — God's Grace Comes Through Faith in Christ *Alone*

October 29 — The Message of God's Grace is Found in the Bible *Alone*

LOOKING AHEAD TO OTHER OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

If you are among those who signed up to participate in our Trunk or Treat outreach (October 22), or to travel to Columbus (November 4) for our join Reformation festival, look for communication from Bethany this week about narrowing down the details. Both of these activities look to be a "go," but decisions and details are still in the works. Stay tuned and please don't lose sight of what is coming.

LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP

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

Our Walk For God

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY...

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
18	19 <i>7:00p Bible Study</i>	20	21	22	23 <i>Happy birthday Renee Bayer!</i>	24 <i>9:00a Adult Bible Study and Sunday School 10:30a Worship Happy birthday Vicki Fronk!</i>

Serving next Sunday: Altar: Kluender; Greeter: Stadler; Ushers: Team E