

CHRIST
IS OUR
stone
Corner  **Bethel**
Lutheran Church



*As each has
received a gift,
employ it for
one another,
as good stewards
of God's varied
grace.*

1 Peter 4:10

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church

22 Brook Street, Morris, MN 56267

Pastor Rob Sauers (320-392-5524) (cell: 320-589-5458)

rfsauers@gmail.com

www.morrislutheran.org

Sunday Worship: 10:00am - Bible Class 11:15am



A member congregation of the *Church of the Lutheran Confession*

✠ 18th Sunday after Pentecost ✠

October 8, 2017

Pre-Service Meditation – Psalm 90:12-17

¹² So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom. ¹³ Return, O LORD! How long? And have compassion on Your servants. ¹⁴ Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy, That we may rejoice and be glad all our days! ¹⁵ Make us glad according to the days in which You have afflicted us, The years in which we have seen evil. ¹⁶ Let Your work appear to Your servants, And Your glory to their children. ¹⁷ And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us, And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands.

Hymn #550 (2, 4-5, 9) – O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright

Invocation

[We invoke (call upon) the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit]

P We begin our service in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. (Spoken)

Confession & Absolution

[We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness]

P Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

C **For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

C **You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

P I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you. Many are the sorrows of the wicked.

- C** But steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.
(Psalm 32)
- P** As a called servant of God I announce His grace unto you, and by the command of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Therefore the Psalmist declares: “Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous; and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!”
- C** Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations. Amen. (Psalm 100)

Response – Hymn #792

Let all things now living a song of Thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us; His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

The Salutation

[A liturgical dialogue of mutual greeting. Pastor and people bless each other as a sign of the bond of love that should reside among God’s people.]

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you. (Spoken)

The Collect for the Day

[The main thoughts for the day are “collected” together in this prayer]

- P** ...who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever.
C Amen. (Spoken)

Old Testament Reading – Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

⁷ Go, eat your bread with joy, And drink your wine with a merry heart; For God has already accepted your works. ⁸ Let your garments always be white, And let your head lack no oil. ⁹ Live joyfully with the wife whom you love all the days of your vain life which He has given you under the sun, all your days of vanity; for that is your portion in life, and in the labor which you perform under the sun. ¹⁰ Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is

no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.

Gospel Reading – Luke 6:27-36

²⁷ “But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. ²⁹ To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back. ³¹ And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. ³² But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. ³⁶ Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.”

Triple Hallelujah

[Hebrew for “Praise the Lord” - We Praise God for giving us His Word.]

P Alleluia, Alleluia! “Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105) Alleluia!

C  Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Confession of Faith - Apostle’s Creed p. 12

[We boldly confess what we believe]

Hymn #400 – Take My Life and Let It Be

Sermon Text – 1 Peter 4:7-11

⁷ But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. ⁸ And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.” ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Sermon - The Doctrine of Vocation is Still Relevant Today

- ▶ God is at work
 - The Masks of God
 - God bestows His gifts through means
- ▶ The Proper Role of Good Works in the Christian's Life
 - Not for God, but for our neighbor
 - Not chosen by Us; rather given by God!

Offertory – (Hymn #50 v. 2)

[In this prayer we offer God our hearts, asking Him for the best of all gifts: the Holy Spirit]

Thanks we give and adoration For the Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your Salvation In our hearts and lives abound;
Ever faithful, ever faithful, To the Truth may we be found!

Hymn #293 – O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace

Offering of Thankful Hearts and Hymn

[After the offering the congregation will rise and sing Hymn #742:1:]

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven;
To His feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

[We offer our petitions and thanks to God]

The Benediction – p. 14

[We receive God's blessing for another week]

Hymn #439 – O God of Mercy, God of Might

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✠ Announcements ✠

Thank You – Thank you to Pastor Nathanael Mayhew for bringing us the Word of God today. He is pastor of Grace Lutheran in Sleepy Eye and Faith Lutheran in New Ulm. Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel in Mankato will be with us next week as we continue our Reformation series with the doctrine of justification. For more information on our Reformation series, see the information sheet on the bulletin board.

Midweek Bible Class – Our Midweek Bible Class continues Wednesday at 7:00 pm. Our topic is “St. Paul, His Life and His Letters.” Come join us at the parsonage or online on our youtube site: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BethelLutheranCLC/live>.

Joint Worship - The Minnesota Area CLC Reformation Festival for the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation will be held at 4 pm on October 29 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mankato, MN. The theme will be “Celebrating God’s Grace.” A fellowship meal will be served following the service. Guests planning on attending the meal afterwards are being asked to bring a dessert of any kind to share. Those who wish to participate in the joint choir are invited to a 3 pm rehearsal, singing “This is My Word,” “Luther’s Evening Prayer,” and “A Mighty Fortress is Our God.” Music for the service is available from Pastor Sauers. As we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, let us take the time to join together with our fellow CLC brothers and sisters in Christ here in Minnesota to support and encourage one another with God’s grace in Christ Jesus and with our Biblical Lutheran heritage in these last days.

2018 CLC Mission Helper Trip to Africa – Applications are being accepted for the 2018 Mission Helper Trip to Africa. You can find more information and apply online at: www.mht.lutheranmissions.org/

Nominations for ILC President - The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Steven Sippert concludes on June 30, 2018. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2018. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight December 15, 2017 (letters postmarked December 1, 2017) to: Dr. Daniel Schierenbeck; 23 SE 240 Rd.; Warrensburg, MO 64093; email: danschierenbeck@gmail.com.

<u>Fruits of Faith: 10/1/17</u>	
Worship Attendance:	23
Bethel Home:	\$25.00
CLC Budget:	\$885.00
Parking Lot:	\$1,000.00

