



ST. GEORGE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

803 West Main St, Brighton, MI 48116

Website: www.stgeorgelutheran.org

September 8, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Phone 810-229-6670

stgeorgebrighton@gmail.com

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

Welcome! We are glad you're here!

A warm welcome is extended to all!

Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.

Prepare Hearts for Worship *Just As I Am, Without One Plea* #592

Welcome and announcements

Sharing of the Peace

Prayer of Confession (inspired by James 2:1-17)

We know we shouldn't do it, but we play favorites, preferring the wealthy to the ragged.

We find you at the side of the poor, while we cozy up to the rich and famous. You stand behind the counter serving the hungry at the soup kitchen, while we are stocking our freezers and pantries till they overflow.

We look down at those whose hands are dirty, but your hand of mercy pulls them into your embracing love. Forgive us, O Lord, and surround us with your grace.

Assurance of Pardon (John 7:37-38)

Be strong, do not fear! God comes, to fill your parched souls with living water, to open your eyes to the grace which is yours.

God comes, for no other reason than to save us.

This is indeed good news.

Thanks be to God. Amen. ~ written by Thom Shuman, and posted on Lectionary Liturgies. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

Entrance Hymn:*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

#853

When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

When evening shadows fall,
this rings my curfew call:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

When mirth for music longs,
this is my song of songs:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

God's holy house of prayer
has none that can compare
with "Jesus Christ be praised!"

No lovelier antiphon
in all high heav'n is known
than, "Jesus Christ be praised!"

There to the eternal Word

The eternal psalm is heard:
Oh, "Jesus Christ be praised!"

Let all of humankind
in this their concord find:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let all the earth around
ring joyous with the sound:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Sing, sun and stars of space,
sing, all who see his face,
sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"

God's whole creation o'er,
today and evermore,

shall Jesus Christ be praised! Text: German hymn,
19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt. Music: Joseph Barnby, 1838-
1896

Apostolic 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.**

Kyrie

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of the Day:

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

Youth Message

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

L: The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 146

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;**

who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

Second Reading: James 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

L: The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God

All: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

P: The Gospel of the Lord **All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is His new creation
by water and the word.
From heav'n He came and sought her
to be His holy bride;
with His own blood He bought her,

The Churches One Foundation

and for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation:
one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,

#654

partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see You face to face.

Apostle's Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic*church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*catholic here meaning "universal"

Prayers of Intercession:

A Lord, in your mercy... C Hear our prayer

Offertory: Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer:

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lamb of God: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Holy Communion

Communion

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

#860

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad
Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad Jesus lifted
me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted
me.

Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

Text: African American spiritual

Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.

God, Whose Almighty Word

#673

God, whose almighty word chaos and
darkness heard and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray, and where the
gospel day sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!

health to the troubled mind, sight where
illusions blind: oh, now to humankind
let there be light!

Christ, who once came to bring, on your
redeeming wing, healing and sight,

Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy
dove, speed forth Your flight; move on
the water's face bearing the lamp of
grace, and in earth's darkest place
let there be light!

Holy and blessed Three, glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might: Boundless as
ocean's tide, rolling in fullest pride,

through the earth, far and wide, let there
be light! John Marriot, 1780-1825, Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

Post Communion Blessing:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen

Post Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord and sing his praise, tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Benediction

Go now, and invest your lives in the works of faith.
Make a name for yourselves for generosity and compassion.
Fulfill God's holy law by putting love into action as eagerly for others as you would for yourselves.

And may God be your defender and provider;
May Christ Jesus dispel all that disturbs or disables you;
and may the Holy Spirit make you rich in faith
and loving and merciful in action.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Sending Hymn:

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

#536

God be with you till we meet again;
by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again,)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.

holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904, alt

God be with you till we meet again;

Dismissal A: Go in peace, serve the Lord, C: **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Men's Group: Wednesdays at 8 AM.

Needleworks: Friday, September 6th and 20th at 10:00 AM. All are welcome!

Birthday Celebration: September 8th at 10:00 AM.

Friendship Circle Meeting: Tuesday, September 17th at 9:30 AM.

Friends and Family Breakfast: Sunday, September 15th at 10 AM.

Friendship Circle Book Club: Thursday, September 19th at 3:00 PM.

Sunday 09/08	9 AM Traditional Worship, 10 AM Birthday Celebration 11 AM Contemporary Worship
Monday 09/09	
Tuesday 09/10	7:30 PM AA
Wednesday 09/11	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM; 8 AM Men's Club
Thursday 09/12	7:30 PM AA
Friday 09/13	Office Hours 8 AM – 1 PM
Saturday 09/14	

	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
Asst. Min	Lorna D.	Bob S.	Keith B.	Joan V.
Lay Reader	Lorna D.	Bob S.	Keith B.	Joan V.
Greeter				
Usher			Jerry	
Media	Graenser	Graenser	Prieskorn	Graenser
Fellowship	Birthday Celebration	Friends & Family Breakfast		
Altar Care	Joanne	Linda F.	Linda G.	Sharon

Prayers of Grace & Support

For Our Church Members, especially:

Cindy, John, and Jon Brach, with health concerns.

Barb Gienapp with health concerns.

Theo Evans being treated for leukemia.

For Friends and Family of our Church Members:

Jamie and her family, Cindy and John's daughter, for health and life issues.

Davian, Gail's student, as he auditions for American Idol on August 29th.

John, Gail's friend, recovering from a heart attack.

Mary, Gail's friend, recovering from a fall.

Mary, friend of Martha Boyd, while she recovers from a stroke.

Frank Lewis, Kathie Wilhelm's friend & neighbor, battling cancer.

Carol Pacheco, in hospice.

Karla Shaffer, best friend of the Petersburg's daughter, diagnosed with stage 4 lung and brain cancer.

Keegan, 18-year-old with recurring cancer.

Karin, heart valve replacement surgery.

Juanita Fox, George's mom, for healing.

Hudson Bennett, George Fox's nephew, for healing.

Kimberlie Gilbertson, Jeanie Petersburg's cousin, who had a cornea transplant on May 1, which was a huge success! She is doing great!

Carl Loerwald, friend of Joanne Bellmard, recovering from back surgery and other medical issues.

Dian Kolis, friend of Linda Fox, with Parkinson's and scheduled for brain surgery.
Nick Hodgkin, Jim Hartman's friend's 12-year-old son, following brain cancer surgery.
Matt B., Linda Walton's son's best friend, diagnosed with stage 4 liver disease.
Lydia, Gail's adult piano student, recovering from brain surgery.
Norma Topp, Michele Hirschman's friend, for healing. Thank you for answered prayers.
Victor, Gail's 82-year-old student's wife, in hospice.
Alicia Gardner, Linda Walton's niece, awaiting a liver transplant.
Trey Martin, cousin of Bryan Rush, in Europe in the military. Pray for his safety.
John D, friend of Bryan Rush, suffering from Diabetes Type II.
Melissa Aloffalter, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue.
Micah, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.
Ethan and his mom, Marianne, friends of Linda Walton, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles.
Jackie, Gail's piano student, diagnosed with throat cancer.
Theresa Knight, spouse of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.
Terry Pitt, Collene Hedden's brother-in-law, with auto-immune disease.
Beulah & Mark who are having health and life difficulties.

For Our Community and Beyond:

Help the weak and bold in Jesus' name.

Cats and dogs that do not have a home.

Prayers for peace in Ukraine

Prayers for peace in the Middle East

LEGACY GIVING

Dear St. George Lutheran Church member,

Would you consider a gift to our church in your estate plans?

Please contact Ken Hartford, Financial Secretary for more details @ 810-522-5243 or khartford12@gmail.com

Current Budget Report: as of 8/25/2024

Last week's giving: \$7,462.15

Needed to meet budget: \$5,425.96

Year to Date: \$184,956.85

Ahead (Behind) Budget: (\$4,951.80)



St. George is a warm, friendly, spirit-filled congregation that has been blessed throughout many years. Most Christian denominations develop a distinct emphasis of the Christian faith and practice, and this is also true for Lutherans.

The Lutheran emphasis, in a word, is God's grace.

We emphasize the grace of God which forgives us, makes us God's children, and empowers us to serve others. **We welcome, include, and value all people.**