

# Bay Pines Lutheran

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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If you'd like to connect with one of our ministers, please don't hesitate to give them a call/text at your convenience; they'd consider it a blessing to meet with you. Thanks!

***Proclaiming Christ in Pinellas County***

# The Twentieth Weekend after Pentecost

October 17 & 18, 2020

In the name of Jesus, our Savior & Lord, welcome!  
Whether it's your first time with us or Bay Pines is  
your church home, we're glad you're here! If you :



- . . . have questions, please ask – we'll do our best to answer;
- . . . need the restrooms, they're in the sanctuary directly opposite the main-door entrance (so, they're in the NE corner of our sanctuary);
- . . . can stick around after worship, we'd love to get to know you;
- . . . would like a call from one of our staff, they'd love to meet with you!

If you brought young children today, thank you! Please know :

- . . . their wiggles don't bother us (their wiggles don't bother Jesus, either);
- . . . you can sit up front where their little eyes & ears can see & hear easier;
- . . . we love to hear them sing, pray, and speak along, and this is a great setting to help them respond to church, to God, and to one another;
- . . . you're free to step out of the service if you need to (both the men's and women's restrooms have changing tables, and there's a cry-room adjacent the restrooms as well); but please come back – we'd love for you and for your family to feel at home in God's house!

To worship the God of Order in a fitting and orderly way (*1 Corinthians 14:33, 40*), our path of worship is printed in this booklet. Today, God's patient heart for us shines in Jesus who delights to say "***I will proclaim your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you***" (*Heb. 2:12*), as we consider the worship theme :

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Heart of Patience. Work of Power.

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# Opening Song : How Firm a Foundation (BLUE HYMNAL 768, vv. 1-3)

*Our hope is sure and our worship is glad because, in Jesus, God's heart & Word, are clear!*

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the  
2 "Fear not! I am with you. Oh, be not dis -  
3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re -

Lord, Is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent  
mayed; For I am your God and will still give you  
pose I will not, I will not, de - sert to his

Word! What more can he say than to you he has  
aid; I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to  
foes. That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to

said Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
stand, Up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
shake, I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!

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## The Invocation

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*Jesus promises that wherever we gather in his name, he's here to bless us and be with us.*

*Minister:* In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

*All :* Amen!

## WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

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## The Acknowledgment of our Wrongs

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*Sin offends God. Always. Aware of our own sin, we ask him for his forgiveness.*

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**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.**

*A moment of silence to recognize our own, individual sins  
and our own, deep need for forgiveness.*

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## The Assurance of God's Forgiveness

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*Jesus lived, died, and rose to forgive the world's sins. In grace, you've been set free!*

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.

**Amen!**

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## **The Prayer of the Day**

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*This petition appreciates Jesus' full forgiveness and asks for his guidance and blessing.*

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness and your so-patient love, please keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you and to bring forth fruits of faith that result in your praise and glory. Hear us, Father, as we pray in Jesus' name; he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen!**

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## **A Childlike Illustration : Jesus is Always Important**

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*This illustration & devotion are geared for the children & child-like with us today.*

## **WE HEAR GOD SPEAK**

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## **A Reading from the Gospels : Matthew 21:33-43**

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*Jesus' simple story with a heavenly meaning ("parable") follows a line of logic that even sinners can conclude. But, in amazing grace, only in Jesus, the conclusion is beautiful!*

The gospel according to Matthew chapter 21.

## Glory be to you, O Lord!

<sup>33</sup> “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey.  
<sup>34</sup> **When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.**

<sup>35</sup> “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. <sup>36</sup> Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. <sup>37</sup> Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

<sup>38</sup> “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup> **So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.**

<sup>40</sup> “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

<sup>41</sup> “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

### POINT TO PONDER :

A parable is an earthly story Jesus used to convey a simple, spiritual truth. Use this parable to identify the one simple truth Jesus impresses.

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

**“The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
the Lord has done this,  
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”**



<sup>43</sup> “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

This is the Gospel of our Lord!

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

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### **Statement of Faith : The Nicene Creed**

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*This polemic creed defends against false doctrines that attack Jesus total Deity and total humanity. As we state our faith, note the “God for us in all things” emphasis.*

Christians, in whom do we believe?

**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 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.**

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**Sung Response : How Firm a Foundation** (*BLUE HYMNAL, 768, vv. 4, 5*)

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*These final two stanzas of our opening song continue the glad refrain of "God for us." With his patient heart and powerful work on display in Jesus, we delight in God's promises.*



***"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
My grace all sufficient shall be your supply.  
The flames will not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.***

***"Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love,  
And then, when gray hair shall their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they shall still on my shoulders be borne."***



## A Sermon Founded on the Gospels : Matthew 21:33-43

*We know how it should go. And, in a really interesting way, Jesus takes us to that point, too. But, in a vivid display of authority and grace, the Teacher pulls our hearts God's pure grace.*

### CONCLUSION UNCOMPROMISED!

sermon notes :

As the sermon summarizes Jesus' parable, find evidence of:

- The landowners patience :
- The tenants' wickedness :

In what ways does the conclusion uncompromised connect to your heart in terms of the law? In terms of the gospel?

God's given us his kingdom; in Christ, by faith, we're "in the vineyard." What opportunities exist to bring forth fruits of faith to his glory?

## GOD ACCEPTS OUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS

### **The Offering** (PLEASE USE THE AISLE BASKET FOR PHYSICAL OFFERINGS, & THE QR CODE FOR DIGITAL)

*Concerning the offering, the Lord says "each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7); whether the Gospel moves your heart to support our ministry with a gift, a prayer, a help, or an encouragement – thank you; please know we appreciate you for it!*



## A note to worshippers about the practice of “Member Communion” :



As we prepare to celebrate our Lord’s Supper, we respectfully ask that guests to Bay Pines would please speak with Pastor Stern before coming to the Lord’s Table. This practice is not an attempt to judge anyone’s heart, but it does stem from the Bible’s stress on the importance of a clear understanding of what this Supper is (I Cor. 11), as well as the importance of the clear, outward confession of unity it displays (I Cor. 10, et al.). Please understand this is done in loving respect for our Lord and for all people; and please do feel free to speak with Pastor Stern if you have any questions about it.

In the meanwhile, thank you for understanding and respecting the importance of our Lord’s commands; be assured that, though we might not yet gather together at the Lord’s Table, ***all of your sins are forgiven in the Gospel message!***

## GOD INVITES US

### The Sacrament and Lord’s Prayer

*Happily, we celebrate God’s grace, ponder his peace, receive his Supper with thanks.*

**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.**

*A moment to offer today’s prayer requests and our own, individual prayers*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is good and right so to do.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of the world's sin so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

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**Sung Response** : The Sanctus (MELODY: I LAY MY SINS ON JESUS; RED HYMNAL, 372)

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*With ancient accolades (Is. 6 & Mt. 21) we glorify the Holy ("Sanctus") One: Jesus.*



***O holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might,  
Your glory earth and heaven in countless ways recite.  
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,  
And in your grace and mercy receive our fervent cry.***

***Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is he  
Who in God's name is coming to set his people free!  
He comes to bring salvation, and with his blood outpoured,  
Deliver us from bondage – Hosanna, mighty Lord!***

## The Prayer of Thanksgiving

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*This prayer ponders the redemptive love of the Holy One whose sacrifice set us free.*

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

**By his incarnation, he became one with us.**

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

**By his innocent death, he overcame hell.**

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**Amen!**

## The Consecration, Distribution, and Reception of the Lord's Supper

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*The Words of Institution are not a magical formula. But they do serve as a "**prayer** that the Lord may do what he's promised . . . as a **confession** that the body and blood of Christ are present in the Sacrament, and as an **invitation** to the communicants to make Jesus' promise their own through faith" (God So Loved the World, 505).*

In Holy Communion God gives us a unique opportunity to publicly confess our unity of faith. He also gives us a tangible reassurance that it was his body and blood – not ours – which paid the ransom price for the world's sins and sealed

our salvation. With joy in our hearts and with hearts prepared to receive him, we hear and remember the words our Savior spoke:

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.”**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen!**

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**Sung Response : The Agnus Dei** (*PLEASE JOIN SINGING THE SECOND TIME THROUGH*)

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*Jesus is the Lamb of God (“Agnus Dei”); so we plead for and praise him for his mercy.*



***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 your peace. Amen!***

*In place of singing a hymn today, worshippers may find it wise to examine their own hearts using the Spirit Inspired songs of Psalms 51, 34, and/or 111*

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**Song of Thanksgiving : The Nunc Dimittis** (MELODY: O SAVIOR, PRECIOUS SAVIOR, 368)

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*This song smiles at God's grace that lets us depart ("nunc dimittis") in peace with him.*



***O Lord, now let your servant depart in peace assured:  
For I have seen your promised, incarnate, saving Word –  
A Light that will enlighten all gloom where Gentiles dwell;  
The brilliant crowning glory of those in Israel!***

***All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, forever three in one;  
For as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.***

Lord God, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament, we thank you. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen!**

***GOD ASSURES US***

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**Concluding Benediction**

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*Where the LORD's name is, there his blessing also is. Refreshed by his goodness, gifts, and grace, our service concludes with his promise to bless and be with us (Numb. 6).*

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.

**Amen!**



## Bay Pines' Ministry Announcements :

**for our prayers** (please remember the family of these dear friends, too):

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- Peggy Graef, as she continues to recover from illness
- Cyndi Priebe, as she deals with her health hurdles
- Pastor Stern's mom, Pat, as she receives chemo to bout cancer
- Jim Riley, as his doctors plot a path against cancer
- Coralise Meiggs (Bonnie's granddaughter), as she recovers from surgery
- Jim Smith (Charmeine's son), as he deals with a bout of cancer
- Officer Al Cope & his family as Al transitions to a new role at work
- our nation and our world, for God's stability and peace; and for Haiti as they deal with starvation and natural disasters
- our ministry in church, school, & life as we go forth with the gospel!
  - additionally, our sanctuary is open at 10:30a on Wednesdays for a midweek prayer-opportunity. Please speak with Chuck Woodard if you're interested, or if you have any prayer requests.

## in our gratitude :

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- thanks to all of you for being here today – you're important blessings!
- thanks to Sarah Sell for edifying our worship with music
- thanks to the Priebe, Cicco, Cope, & Dryden families for cleaning & lawn-care
- thanks to Dan & Maria Buetzow for their tech support
- thanks to all who help with Feeding God's People (the food is available in the altar kitchen & altar kitchen hallway just west of the sanctuary)
- all who make use of the SCRIP program to be a blessing for our ministry (for more info on SCRIP, or to purchase the gift cards, please speak with Sarah Sell and/or Mary Dryden)

## on our calendars (please email additional dates to [mary.dryden@baypineslutheran.org](mailto:mary.dryden@baypineslutheran.org)) :

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- worship opportunities :
  - Saturdays at 7p
  - Sundays at 9:30a
  - Thanksgiving Eve (Wed., 11/25) at 5:00p
- spiritual Growth opportunities :
  - Ladies' Bible Class : Mondays at 6:30
  - The Pieces of Peace : Thursdays at 10a & Sundays at 8a
  - The current *Forward in Christ* magazines are available
- next council meeting : November 9
- next congregational meeting : December 13

