

Bay Pines Lutheran

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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A photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The text 'ALL SCRIPTURE IS GOD-BREATHED.' is overlaid in large, white, serif font. Below it, '2 TIMOTHY 3:16' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

ALL SCRIPTURE IS
GOD-BREATHED.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16

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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/email at your convenience; they'd consider it a blessing to connect with you. Thanks!

Proclaiming Christ in Pinellas County

The Ninth Weekend after Pentecost

July 24 & 25, 2021

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 hallway just off the north-east corner of our sanctuary (so, if you're facing the altar up front, look back and left);
- . . . 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 connect with you!

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

- . . . 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;
- . . . their wiggles don't bother us (their wiggles don't bother Jesus, either);
- . . . you can sit up front where little eyes and ears are able to see and hear;
- . . . both the men's and women's restrooms have diaper-changing stations, and there's a cry-room adjacent the restrooms as well;
- . . . we love that each one of you is here, and we'd be blessed to serve you!

To adore 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, voices are united, and hearts are strengthened to say with the Psalmist, “[*God's words*] are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart” (*Psalm 119:111*), as we consider the worship theme:

Who's to Say ?

Portions of today's worship are reprinted & livestreamed with permission from **Christian Worship : A Lutheran Hymnal & Christian Worship Supplement** under OneLicense.net #720148-A.

Opening Song : Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear *(RED HYMNAL, 282, vv. 1 & 2)*

Contemplative and clear, this song centers our hearts on a beautiful reality: we've come to worship God – who is bold to speak his Word to our hearts, his Promise to our daily lives!



***Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And, through your Word to me draw near.
Let me your Word e'er pure retain;
Let me your child and heir remain.***

***Your Word inspires my heart within;
Your Word grants healing from my sin.
Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless;
Your Word brings peace and happiness.***

The Invocation

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

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

All : **Amen!**

The word is near you;

It is in your mouth and in your heart *(Romans 10:8).*

It is with your heart that you believe and are justified,

And it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved *(Romans 10:10).*

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (*Romans 10:13*).

Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame (*Romans 10:11*).

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness,

so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work

(*II Timothy 3:16*).

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

The Acknowledgment of our Wrongs

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

Yet, so often, we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins we bow before God and humbly ask his 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.*

The Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Jesus lived, died, and rose to forgive the world's sins. By his grace, you're set free!

God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (*John 20:31*). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. 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!

The Prayer of the Day

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

Holy Spirit, come to us with your comforting Word, which alone can drive away our doubts. Direct us to our Savior, Jesus, so that we may trust in him with our whole heart. In his name we are blessed and bold to ask it. Amen!



***To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be
Now and throughout eternity!***

A Childlike Illustration : God Speaks for Us to Know

After the Prayer of the Day, the kids are invited up front for a quick devotion geared toward their little hearts (any ‘non-kids’ are welcome to listen in & pay attention, too!).

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

A Reading & Devotion from the Prophets : Isaiah 45:15-21

God doesn't speak in obscurity or hide in darkness. Instead, by faithful power and powerful grace, he speaks clearly in his Word – where he is still bold to hide and glad to be found!

Truly you are a God who has been hiding himself, the God and Savior of Israel. ¹⁶ All the makers of idols will be put to shame and disgraced; they will go off into disgrace together.

¹⁷ But Israel will be saved by the LORD with an everlasting salvation; you will never be put to shame or disgraced, to ages everlasting. ¹⁸ For this is what the LORD says – he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited – he says:

“I am the LORD, and there is no other. ¹⁹ I have not spoken in secret, from somewhere in a land of darkness; I have not said to Jacob’s descendants, ‘Seek me in vain.’ I, the LORD, speak the truth; I declare what is right.

²⁰ “Gather together and come; assemble, you fugitives from the nations. Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood, who pray to gods that cannot save. ²¹ Declare what is to be, present it – let them take counsel together.

Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the LORD? **And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me.**

This is God’s Word.

POINT TO PONDER :

God makes his Word known.

What does this part of Scripture teach us about understanding the Word he speaks?

Sung Response: Spread, Oh, Spread the Mighty Word (RED HYMNAL, 576, vv. 1-4)

This happy melody and Trinity-centered stanza delight our hearts in the joy we get to know and in the privilege we have. The Word we hold is God's Word; the Word we share is his!



***Spread, oh, spread the mighty Word;
Spread the kingdom of the Lord
Ev'rywhere his breath has giv'n
Life to beings meant for heav'n.***

***Tell them how the Father's will
Made the world and keeps it still.
How his only Son he gave
All from sin and death to save.***

***Tell of our Redeemer's will
Who forever does remove
By his holy sacrifice
All the guilt that on us lies.***

***Tell them of the Spirit giv'n
Now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.***

A Reading & Devotion from the Gospels : Matthew 28:16-20

In resurrection glory and glorious clarity, Jesus tells disciples how much authority he holds – all of it! – and what he expects his church to know and teach about his Word – all of it!

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.** And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

POINT TO PONDER :

God makes his Word known.

What does this part of Scripture teach us about understanding the Word he speaks?

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Sung Response: Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening (*RED HYMNAL, 283*)

Jesus speaks with all authority. So, it's more than just a bit wise to listen to his voice in the same way an employee listens the employer, as a sinner listens to the Savior. So...we do!



***Speak, O Savior; I am list'ning,
As a servant to his lord.
Let me show respect and honor
To your holy, precious Word,
That each day, my whole life through,
I may serve and follow you.
Let your Word e'er be my pleasure
And my hearts most precious treasure.***



***Oh, what blessing to be near you
And to listen to your voice!
Let me ever love and fear you;
Let your Word still be my choice.
Many hardened sinners, Lord,
Flee in terror at your Word,
But to all who feel sin's burden
You give peace and words of pardon.***

***Lord, your words are waters living
Where I quench my thirsty needs.
Lord, your words are bread life-giving;
On your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, your words will be my light
Through death's cold and dreary night;
Yes, they are my sword prevailing
And my cup of joy unfailing.***

***As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
Let your words in me take root.
May your Spirit e'er be near me
That I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing your praise,
From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given
In the endless joy of heaven.***

A Reading & Devotion from the Apostles : II Peter 1:16-21

Peter and the apostles risked their lives – and many of them lost their lives – telling the story of Jesus. Why? Because, more precious than earthly ease, is faithfulness to God’s Word.

For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, **“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”** ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

POINT TO PONDER :

God makes his Word known.

What does this part of Scripture teach us about understanding the Word he speaks?

¹⁹ We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ **Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things.** ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

This is God’s Word.

Sung Response: O Word of God Incarnate (*RED HYMNAL, 279*)

The Word Incarnate (made flesh) is our dear Jesus. Even as we know and study him – as a person, as a church, we’re glad to know the story of his grace, mercy, favor, and forgiveness.



*O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky,
We praise you for the radiance
That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps,
Shines on from age to age.*

*The Church from you, dear Master,
Received the gift divine,
And still that light is lifted
O'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
That, all life's journey through,
Mid mists and rocks and quick-sands
Still guides, O Christ, to you.*

*Oh, make your Church, dear Savior,
A lamp of burnished gold
To bear before the nations
Your true light, as of old.
Oh, teach your wand'ring pilgrims
By this their path to trace
Till, clouds and darkness ended,
They see you face to face.*

A Reading & Devotion from the New Testament : Acts 17:10-12

As the Spirit works on hearts, he does amazing things: he opens hearts to understand and know and study what the Bible says. Marvelously, he blesses each of us to learn him still.

As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, **for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.** ¹² As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

POINT TO PONDER :

God makes his Word known.

What does this part of Scripture teach us about understanding the Word he speaks?

This is God's Word.

Sung Response: I Love to Tell the Story (*RED HYMNAL, 562*)

The story of our salvation is simply complex and complexly simple – and it's beautiful in being so! Happily, hearts that know it get to know it deeper ... and share it gladly!



***I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.***



*I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting, to hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

GOD ACCEPTS OUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS

The Offering (THANKS FOR USING THE AISLE-BASKET FOR PHYSICAL OFFERINGS, AND 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 prayer, a help, an encouragement, or a gift of some sort – thank you; please know we appreciate you for it!



The Lord’s Prayer and our Prayer

God lovingly invites us talk with him & lay our hearts before him in prayer. So, we do!

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 &
a moment of silence to offer our own, private prayers.*

Heavenly Father, Creator of all things, you give us all we need for body and life.

Every good and perfect gift comes from you, the Father of the heavenly lights

(James 1:17).

Lord Jesus Christ, by your suffering and death, you have opened the kingdom of heaven to all who trust in you.

We approach your throne, O God, with confidence, for mercy and grace in our time of need *(Hebrews 4:16).*

Holy Spirit, counselor and guide, you have raised us from death by your powerful Word.

Move us with our hearts to believe and with our mouths to confess your saving name *(Romans 10:10).* **Amen!**

GOD ASSURES US

Concluding Benediction

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 (Numbers 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!

Final Song : God's Word is Our Great Heritage (RED HYMNAL, 293)

We've been blessed – a huge understatement! Chief of those blessings is the Word of God we get to hold and to herald. Happily, we get to both know it and live to make it known!



***God's Word is our great heritage, and shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age, shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, we keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations!***

†

†

†

Bay Pines' Ministry Announcements :

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

- Chuck & Cathy Woodard, as God's grace blesses them to heal well
- Leann, a friend of Debbie Vicker, as she [Leann] deals with cancer
- Rhonda Uchytel's dad, Rod Steward, as he deals with a cancer-diagnosis
- Nancy Cope, and her dear family, as her spirit rejoices in God's daily grace
- our family and friends who battle everything from colds to COVID to cancers
- our nation & world, for healing in God's grace and confidence of God's glory
- our ministry in church, school, and life as we go forth with the gospel!

in our gratitude :

- each of you for being here to encourage with the gospel, and for going out to share the news of Jesus with others. **May Jesus smile on your mission work!**

- Sarah Sell for edifying our worship with music
- the Priebe, Cicco, Woodard & Dryden families for cleaning & lawn-care
- the Buetzows for altar flowers celebrating Maria's 90 years of blessings
- our tech crew for their efforts to make the service available online
- all who help with **Feeding God's People** (food is available in the altar kitchen & hallway just west of the sanctuary; additionally, the food pantry is open on Mondays from 6p-7p. Please contact Eva Kiss for more info [808.457.9703])
- all who make use of the **SCRIP** program as 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; this last year, the SCRIP program blessed our ministry with over \$8,700. Thanks for your support of and help with it!).

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

**to stay most-current on ministry-happenings and to receive our weekly updates, please email news@baypineslutheran.com*

- **worship opportunities :**
 - Saturdays at 6:00p
 - Sundays at 9:30a
- **spiritual growth opportunities :**
 - *Who Am I ? : a study on Christian Identity* (led by Deacon Schroeder)
 - Wednesdays via Zoom (9am for teens, 7p for adults)
 - Pastor's Revelation Bible Class is on break until after Labor Day
 - the current *Forward in Christ* magazines & *Meditations* devotion booklets are available on table to the left of our sanctuary's main doors

