

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

- A multicultural, all-inclusive ecumenical ministry to the community.
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November 12, 2017 ~ 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
"Living With Jesus Forever"

We often have beautiful flowers in our church on Christmas and Easter, right? Flowers represent life. When we watch them bloom in spring after a winter of lying in the ground, we think of the victory of life over death. Many years ago, it was a common practice to carve all sorts of pretty pictures on tombstones. Flowers carved on a tombstone meant that the dead person would go to heaven and would walk in beautiful flower gardens for eternity.

Things die in this world. Some of you may have lost someone you love to death - a grandparent, someone in your family, or even a favorite pet. It hurts when someone or something we love dies. But, flowers remind us that something that looks dead can be planted in the earth and later come alive and be more beautiful than ever before. The Bible tells us that's how death works. Because we believe in Jesus, we know that we can die someday, and like Jesus, sometime rise and go to heaven to live with God forever. We don't know if heaven is full of flowers or not, but we know that God will be there. Let's pray and thank God that he has prepared heaven to be a wonderful place for us to be with him forever. Amen.

DEAR LORD: Thank you for preparing heaven to be a wonderful place where 1 day we can live with you forever. Amen.

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