

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

~ The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod ~

Dual Parish Office: 715-352-2888

www.stjbeth.org

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
233500 County Rd E
Milan, WI 54411

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church
119415 Huckleberry Rd
Edgar, WI 54426



Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 22, 2025

Reverend Michael Mathey, Pastor

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod's Statement on Close Communion:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, Our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor.

(CTCR, *Admission to the Lord's Supper*, Nov 1999)

Life Quotes: "Let your life be so focused on the grace of God in Christ that your eyes are open to the people He is bringing into your life even now, 'the least of these my brothers.' Do not worry about whether the world considers them influencers or nobodies. Be attentive to those in your sphere of influence as Christ Himself is attentive to you. Concerned citizens? Sure! It is important. But being concerned disciples of Jesus for others is what ultimately lasts." *Dr. Gregory Seltz, PhD, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •*
lutheransforlife.org

Life Thoughts: Our Savior and our Scriptures do not recognize a functional distinction between physical deficiency and spiritual deficiency. All human beings suffer from a fallen sinfulness that makes us decisively compromised (Luke 14:21-23). And Christ's sacrifice, victory, and companionship call and escort every such one into His heavenly household! God of compassion and mercy, gather together Your precious ones so that we embrace both You and each other. Amen.

Divine Service III

Hymn: “Just as I am, without One Plea”

LSB 570

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.184)

Corporate Confession (p.184)

Service of the Word

Psalm 3

Kyrie (p.186)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.187)

Collect of the Day

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding. Cast out all sins and evil desires from us and pour into our hearts Your Holy Spirit to guide us into all blessedness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 65:1–9*

¹I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me;
I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, “Here am I, here am I,”
to a nation that was not called by my name.

²I spread out my hands all the day
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;

³a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and making offerings on bricks;

⁴who sit in tombs,
 and spend the night in secret places;
 who eat pig's flesh,
 and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels;
⁵who say, "Keep to yourself,
 do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."
 These are a smoke in my nostrils,
 a fire that burns all the day.
⁶Behold, it is written before me:
 "I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
 I will indeed repay into their bosom
⁷both your iniquities and your fathers' iniquities together,
 says the Lord;
 because they made offerings on the mountains
 and insulted me on the hills,
 I will measure into their bosom
 payment for their former deeds."
⁸Thus says the Lord:
 "As the new wine is found in the cluster,
 and they say, 'Do not destroy it,
 for there is a blessing in it,'
 so I will do for my servants' sake,
 and not destroy them all.
⁹I will bring forth offspring from Jacob,
 and from Judah possessors of my mountains;
 my chosen shall possess it,
 and my servants shall dwell there."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart,
the word of faith that we proclaim.
 For with the heart one believes and is justified,
and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Epistle *Galatians 3:23—4:7*

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are

no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

Alleluia (p.190)

Holy Gospel *Luke 8:26–39*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²⁶Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." ²⁹For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. ³¹And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³²Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them

enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ³⁶And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed (p.191)

Office Hymn: “Rise, Shine, You People”

LSB 825

Sermon

Offertory (p.192)

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.194)

Sanctus (p.195)

The Lord’s Prayer (p.196)

The Words of Institution (p.197)

Pax Domini (p. 197)

Agnus Dei (p.198)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymns:

"Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"	LSB 623
"Amazing Grace"	LSB 744
"Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure"	LSB 533
Nunc Dimittis: (p.199)	
Thanksgiving (p.200)	
Post Communion Collect (p.201)	
Salutation and Benedicamus (p.201)	
Benediction (p.202)	
Hymn: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"	LSB 849

Announcements



Remember in our Prayers:

Our Shut-ins and Church Volunteers

Pray that our Church Volunteers would be strengthened in their walk with the Lord and blessed in their service.

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

DEADLINE For July Newsletter is June 25, 2025

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth:	Sun. June 29	Sunday Worship	8:00 am
	<i>Acolyte:</i> Aleah Kosik	<i>Greeters:</i> Cory and Amy Broeske	
STJ:	Sun. June 29	Sunday Worship	10:30am
	<i>Acolyte:</i> Cassidy Thompson		



If you are a visitor, please sign the Guest Register (red/maroon book) at the end of the pew. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Bethlehem Bus Tour: ONE TICKET AVAILABLE

The Clauson Family Music Show "Best of all Times"

Date: Saturday, August 23, 2025

Cost: \$105.00 includes the bus ride and the dinner show. If interested or have any questions, please contact Marlene Schreiber at 715-383-0259 ASAP. Thank you.

BRATS, HOT DOGS, PIES and BAKED GOODS SALE

Date: Friday, June 18th

Time: 10: 30 am to 3 pm

Where: Cenex Hwy 13 Dorchester

Sponsored by LWML of area Lutheran

Missouri Synod Churches

COME OUT! Enjoy a treat! Support our local LWML!

If you would like to donate pies or baked goods, please have them to St. John Lutheran Church by 3 pm on July 17th so they can be packaged.



Bethlehem VBS - Joseph's Journey - From Pit to Prison to Palace

Get ready for TWO incredible evenings of adventure, learning and fun as we journey with Joseph.

Dates: July 14th and 15th

Time: 4: 30 pm - 7: 00 pm

Ages: 3 years old through 6th grade

Any questions contact Patti Hammel at 715-613-6319

Registration forms available on the church website at stjbeth.org, in the June Dual Parish Record Review (church newsletter) or extra copies available at church.



DATE CHANGE St. John Brewer Trip

Contact Stacey VanHoy (715-506-0207) to reserve your spot!

When: Thursday, August 28

Pick up: 8 am St. John parking lot

Cost: \$85 includes a sack lunch, soda/water, charter bus



Did you know?!

There are seven Prayers For Worship located inside the front cover of the hymnal. Prayers for before and after service and communion.

Please remember to sign the Guest Register at the end of the pews.