

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



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 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 “Sometimes the answer to a problem is as simple as asking for help. Let's not hesitate to bring all our questions, troubles, and needs to the Lord. Thank Him for the people He provides for our help. Pray that He will give you the opportunity today to be His help to others.” *Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts: The death Jesus died, He died “once for all” (Romans 6:10). He purchased “all.” Thus, He gives value to “all.” Every person we encounter, no matter their size or location or condition of health, is someone for whom Jesus died. Our responsibility is to acknowledge their value and lead them to see its true source. Loving Savior, reflect Your self-giving mercy and devotion in us. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER 2 (pg. 285)

Opening Hymn: “How Firm a Foundation”

LBS 728

Stand

OPENING VERSICLES (pg. 285)

L O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C make haste to help me, O Lord.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PSALM 27 *Men speak odd numbered verses & women even numbered*

Sit

Old Testament: *Genesis 18:1 – 14*

¹ The Lord appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth ³and said, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, ⁵while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “She is in the tent.” ¹⁰The Lord said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a

son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?” ¹³The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ ¹⁴Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle: *Colossians 1:21 – 29*

²¹You, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

²⁴Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, ²⁵of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

The Holy Gospel: *Luke 10:38 – 42*

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁸Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. ³⁹And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, ⁴²but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

LSB 575

Stand

KYRIE:

L O Lord, **C** have mercy.

L O Christ, **C** have mercy.

L O Lord, **C** have mercy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (pg. 285 or the back cover of the hymnal)

APOSTLES' CREED (pg. 286 or the back cover of the hymnal)

Sit

Hymn: "For All the Faithful Women" (st. 1, 9, 3 – 4)

LSB 855

SERMON

OFFERING

Stand

VERSICLES (pg. 286)

L Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C let my cry come to You.
 L In the day of my trouble I call upon You,
C for You answer me.
 L Hide Your face from my sins,
C and blot out all my iniquities.
 L Create in me a clean heart, O God,
C and renew a right spirit within me.
 L Cast me not away from Your presence,
C and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
 L Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
C and uphold me with a willing spirit.
 L Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
C my lips will praise Thee.
 L For You have been my help,
C and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.
 L Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;
C unite my heart to fear Your name.
 L I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
C and I will glorify Your name forever.
 L May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.
C May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"
 L Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
C Be their shepherd and carry them forever.
 L Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
C listen to my plea for grace.

COLLECTS/PRAYERS (*respond with "Amen" at the end of each Collect.*)

MORNING PRAYER (pg. 287)

All: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin

and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICAMUS & BLESSING:

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

C Amen.

Sit

Closing Hymn: “Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus” LSB 685

Announcements

Remember in our Prayers:

- ❖ Our Shut-ins
- ❖ Pray for the Vacation Bible School Volunteers, that they may be strengthened, inspired, and equipped as they communicate God’s love to these students.
- ❖ Pray for our Vacation Bible School Students, that they would understand the love of God and want to live their lives for Him.

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth:	Sun.	July 20	Voters Meeting	9:15 am
STJ:	Sun.	July 20	Voters Meeting	11:45 am
STJ:	Sun.	July 20	VBS Decorating	after church
STJ:	Mon.	July 21	Able- Light	10 am
STJ:	Mon-Fri	July 21-25	VBS	9 am - noon
STJ:	Fri.	July 25	VBS Picnic	6 pm
Beth/STJ:	All Week		Pastor and family on vacation	

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth:	Sun. July 27	Sunday Worship	8:00 am
	<i>Acolyte:</i> Kylee Johnson		
	<i>Greeters:</i> Darlen Wittlinger & Donna Solchenberger		
STJ:	Sun. July 27	Sunday Worship	10:30am
	<i>Acolyte:</i> Lexie Noller		
STJ:	Sun. July 27	Harvest Dinner Mtg	after church
Beth/STJ:	Sun.-Wed. July 27-30	Pastor and family on vacation	

Voters’ Meeting TODAY, July 20th



St. John VBS - At Epic Australian Adventure VBS 2025, kids will learn how Jesus calls, leads, teaches, saves, and sends us to share the Good News with others. As they journey through God's Word, they'll discover that Jesus is the way, and the truth, and the life! Open to ages 3 years old through 6th grade.
Dates: July 21st – 25th **Time:** 9 am – Noon

Any questions contact Traci Pehlke.

St. John Brewer Trip

When: Thursday, August 28

Pick up: 8 am St. John parking lot

Cost: \$85 includes a sack lunch, soda/water, charter bus. Not included in the price is stopping to eat on the way home. Contact Stacey VanHoy (715-506-0207) to reserve your spot!



Bethlehem Lutheran Church Outreach Team BUS TRIP



What: "Christmas in the Dells Dinner Show"

Family style all you can eat Christmas Feast. Wisconsin's Largest & most Spectacular Christmas Show

Date: Saturday, November 15, 2025

Cost: \$105 per person includes bus & dinner show

If interested contact Marlene Schreiber at 715-383-0259 ASAP

Pickups will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Milan and The Shell Station (east side). Pick up times TBD.

Newsletter Information If you have any announcements for the August Calendar or newsletter, please have them to the office no later than **Monday, July 28.**

Orphan Grain Train is now accepting *prescription pill bottles*. Labels need to be removed and pill bottles need to be clean.

Harvest Dinner Meeting: There will be a meeting after church in the front pews on July 27 for anyone interested in participating in the 2025 Harvest Supper, discussing menu options and jobs.

Marilyn Mueller passed away at her home after a battle with cancer. Visitation will be from 9 am – 11 am with her funeral at 11 am at Trinity Lutheran Church in Medford on July 26th. Marilyn was very involved with LWML as our District Christian Growth Leader for many years. She also was the treasurer for Orphan Grain Train for four years and was very involved in collecting items along with her husband, Neil, for the Orphan Grain Train