

The Dual-Parish Review

Message from Pastor

Reform Thyself

October 31 is Reformation Day, the day we honor the Reformers who struggled against not only a corrupt church, but also worldly governments who sought to enforce religion at the point of the sword. It is fitting then to point to those things which the Lutheran Reformers defended and taught through many hardships, the Lutheran Confessions contained in the Book of Concord of 1580. This book is what defines Lutherans. This month I thought it appropriate to let Luther speak about the dangers of Christians becoming complacent. Luther started the Reformation in 1517 but it wasn't until 1529 that he wrote the Small and Large Catechisms to assist others in teaching the faith. As you no doubt recall, the Small Catechism was written so that parents could teach their own children. The Large Catechism was written for adults, specifically aimed at the poorly trained and lazy pastors of Luther's day. Now that the people were free from the threat of jail or physical punishment for not going to church, they became lazy in Church attendance and stingy in the support of the local parish. Luther lamented that this misuse of Christian freedom made things seem worse than before. The following is taken from Luther's Preface to the Large Catechism. – Pastor Schopp

“Some neglect the catechism because of great and high art, giving their mind, as they imagine, to much “higher” matters. But others neglect it from sheer laziness and care for their bellies. They take no other stand in this business than to act as pastors and preachers for their bellies' sake. They have nothing to do but spend and consume their wages as long as they live, just as they used to do under the papacy...

...For like pigs and dogs, they take nothing more from the Gospel than this lazy, deadly, shameful, worldly freedom! The common people also respect the Gospel altogether too lightly, and we accomplish nothing special, even though we work diligently. What, then, would be achieved if we were as negligent and lazy as we were under the papacy?

...Yes, even among the nobility one may find some clowns and penny pinchers, who say (a) there is no longer any need for either pastors or preachers, (b) we have everything in books, and (c) everyone can easily learn it by himself. So they are happy to let the parishes rot and become empty. They let pastors and preachers worry and go hungry, just as crazy Germans are accustomed to do. For we Germans have such disgraceful people and must put up with them.

But for myself I say this: I am also a doctor and preacher; yes, as learned and experienced as all the people who have such assumptions and contentment. Yet I act as a child who is being taught the catechism. Every morning – and whenever I have time – I read and say, word for word, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Psalms, and such. I must still read and study them daily. Yet I cannot master the catechism as I wish. But I must remain a child and pupil of the catechism, and am glad to remain so.”



2020

Bethlehem

Lutheran Church

233500 County Road E
Milan, Wisconsin 54411
Sunday Worship at 8:00 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.
Pastor: Rev. Chad Schopp
Pastors Office Hours @ BETH.
Tues. 9am-5pm
Pastors Cell: 715-680-8117
Pastors Email:
cschopp@protonmail.com
Office Secretary Email:
secretary@bethstj.org

St. John “High Steeple”

Lutheran Church

119415 Huckleberry Road
Edgar, Wisconsin 54426
Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study at 11:45am
Pastor: Rev. Chad Schopp
Pastors Office Hours: M, W, T, F:
9am to 5pm
Pastors Cell: 715-680-8117
Pastors Email:
cschopp@protonmail.com
Sec. Office Hours: M, T, W, F:
1pm to 4pm
Dual Parish Office:
715-352-2888
Office Secretary Email:
secretary@bethstj.org
Dual Parish Website:
www.Stjbeth.org

Liturgy Parts

LCMS Worship

What do the parts of the liturgy mean? This is a frequently asked question; maybe you have asked that question yourself. The following descriptions of worship and the parts of liturgy were first published in an article by the former Commission on Worship for the Reporter Insert entitled “Taking a Tour of Heaven.”

“Worship is like no place else in this world. But there is one place that it does resemble, and that is heaven”

The story is told of how Christianity was introduced to Russia. More than 1,000 years ago Grand Duke Vladimir of Kiev was interested in selecting an appropriate religion for his new nation. His emissaries investigated the main religions of the day, including Roman Catholicism and Islam. But it was only after visiting the chief site of the Orthodox Church in Constantinople that they found what they were looking for. In their report to their duke, the emissaries noted that in Orthodox worship there was such solemn splendor that they had a hard time knowing whether they were in heaven or on earth.

Worship is like that: one foot in heaven with the other here on earth. What brings heaven into our earthly worship is not dependent on the elaborateness of the service or the sincerity of our devotion. Rather, it is because of the One who is present in our worship that we experience heaven on earth. If worship is “heaven on earth,” then it stands to reason that what we do and say in worship should in some sense give us a

foretaste of that great feast to come. In the following tour of the Divine Service we will see how the ancient texts of the liturgy give us that glimpse of heaven and, more importantly, how they deliver to us, here and now, the eternal benefits of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Invocation

“In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” How many times have we heard those words? And yet, they testify with renewed freshness to our identity as children of God who’ve been baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Wouldn’t it be something if God’s faithful would remember that every time they heard the words of the Invocation, perhaps tracing the sign of the cross as a visible reminder?

St. Paul beautifully captures the eternal significance of our baptism into Christ when he writes to the Galatians that “as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Gal. 3:27).

We are clothed with his righteousness. Unlike the man in the parable of the wedding feast who had no wedding garment, when we stand before our Judge on the Last Day, we will be clothed and covered, robed in the purity of Christ.

“In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Already now, in this heaven on earth we call worship, we stand with boldness before the Triune God who has claimed us and named us.

LCMS DISASTER RESPONSE

“The Lord is good. He’s going to keep us and direct us, provide for us and do everything for us. ... The prayers of God’s people availeth much, and we want those prayers. ... And if you have the financial resources to give ... please do. If not, just pray for us, please. Prayer is the biggest need we have right now, so that people can stay strong in the Lord.” — Rev. Charles R. Miller, Pastor, St. John Lutheran Church, Lake Charles, La

To Give: • Online — lcms.org/give/hurricane.

- ◆ By text — Send keyword LCMSHURRICANES to 41444.
- ◆ • By phone — Call the LCMS toll-free Contributor Care Line 888-930-4438, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central time.
- ◆ • By mail — Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (or LCMS) and write “for hurricane relief” on the memo line. Mail to the
- ◆ LCMS
- ◆ P.O. Box 66861
- ◆ St. Louis, MO 63166-6861.

Gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Additional information about our LCMS response, and the impact your gifts are having, will be available over the weeks and months ahead at lcms.org, on the Synod’s social-media outlets, and in our official periodicals and publications.

Prayer:

Lord of heaven and earth, in these days, water, fire and other disasters have befallen many. As these continue, we pray You would have mercy on all those who suffer. Empower Your Church to love with Your love as we serve our neighbors in their need. Let us all turn to You in this time in repentance and faith, as Christ is exalted as Lord of all. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.



Turn a new leaf
Fall into giving

**Saturday
October
24**
9 AM – 1 PM

St. John's Lutheran Church
W1145 Huckleberry St
Edgar, WI 54426

St. John Lutheran Blood Drive

Versiti is pleased to announce the SARS CoV-2 antibody test will be performed on all blood donations as part of our standard testing. We will be conducting this test as we continue to fight the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED & MASKS REQUIRED. Call 877-232-4376 for an appointment. You can also call Cathy Schneider at 715-687-3227 to sign up.

Share a pint at this drive and as a thank you, all attempting donors will receive a limited edition Versiti magnetic bottle opener, while supplies last.

Blood Drive

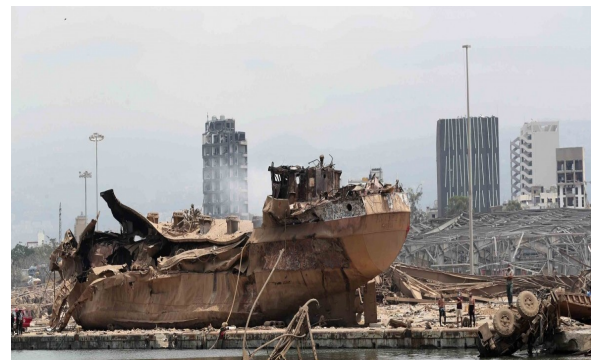


FYI

From The Lutheran World Relief

This year the quilt and kits are in greater need more than ever not only due to worldwide pandemic but also due to LWR losing 3 containers of quilts (over 43,000 quilts!)

In the blast in the harbor in Beirut, Lebanon. Our situation here in Wisconsin has not dampened our resolve to do what we can for the rest of the world and we are sure we are doing God's Work.



Agnus Day by James Wetzstein



BIBLE PASSAGE — When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

People Of Christ With A Message Of Hope

Lutheran Hour Sermon Schedule

October 4

"Victory in Defeat"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The thing about God is, He's winning-even when it doesn't look like He's winning. Maybe, especially when it doesn't look like He's winning. Dr. Michael Zeigler begins a series of messages based on the book of Daniel that tells how God uses history as a vehicle to bring about His eternal kingdom. (Daniel: 1)

October 11

"Unscaled Heights of Empathy"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Zeigler

A king's dream, a mysterious statue with feet of clay, an unearthly rock that grows to fill all the earth, and God's empathy for a weeping world, embodied in Christ-it's all part of Dr. Michael Zeigler's message, this week.

(Daniel 2)

October 18

"What I'm Looking For"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Daniel 3)

October 25

"No Boasting, Just Belonging"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Internet Resources:

Worship Anew is an online ministry put out by Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne available to view on the Internet. The current week's program can be found on their homepage at Worshipanew.org/program.

Moments of Comfort is an online video ministry of Worship Anew which speaks to the sufferings we face in this life with the comforting message of God's Word.

They have a list of archived programs listed on the site.

Lutheran Hour Radio Broadcasts

Station	City, State	Freq.	Day	Time
WDLB	Marshfield, WI	1450 AM	Sun	8:00am
WRVM	Marshfield, WI	91.3 FM	Sun	10:00am
WRVM	Medford, WI	98.7 FM	Sun	10:00am
WRVM	Wausau, WI	101.3 FM	Sun	10:00am
WSAU	Wausau, WI	550 AM	Sun	8:30am
WSAU	Wausau, WI	99.9 FM	Sun	8:30am
WAXX	Altoona, WI	104.5 FM	Sun	6:30am

You can also go on line at www...lhm.org or download the free App @ LHM.ORG/APPS

Lutheran Hour Ministries -

God has called all laypeople to be powerful witnesses for Christ to their families and communities. At LHM, we strive to create convenient ways for you to connect with Jesus and share your faith with others. Our products are free, easy, and digital so that you can use them in your home, on-the-go, or wherever you may be.

In this time of uncertainty, don't find yourself feeling isolated. HE is always with you! Discover FREE resources for your entire household and continue enriching your faith even when we can't gather together. Visit lhm.org/covid-19 and explore all of the ways you can hear God's Word, equip yourself in outreach, and provide Gospel-centered activities for the kids!

Issues, Etc. is a ten-hour weekly syndicated radio talk show and podcast.

The program features expert guests, expansive topics, while extolling Christ.

The program is hosted by Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Jeff Schwarz.



Talk Radio for the Thinking Christian

www.issuesetc.org



October Birthdays

Bethlehem

Cook, Randy	10/02	Wussow, Thomas	10/2
Freimund, Dee	10/08	Wussow, Troy	10/2
Thomas, Tripp	10/11	Scherr, Doris	10/3
Strack, Evan	10/12	Pehlke, Christian	10/5
Kunze, Tyler	10/18	Brown, Janice	10/9
VanLuven, Ray	10/20	Schulz, Jonathan	10/12
Viegut, Adam	10/20	Schopp, Jeremy	10/14
Gumz, Bruce	10/21	Serwe, Adam	10/14
Schreiber, Brett	10/23	Maddlyn Lorbecke	10/15
Barkow, Bradly	10/26	Rathsack, Joanne	10/17
Cornelius, Gloria	10/26	Wenzel, Loren 1	10/17
Kosik, Megan	10/26	Bornowski, Doris	10/21
Johnson, Kylee	10/29	Koch, Grace	10/24
Molthen, Clarence	10/30	Koerner, Jill	10/28
		Rodman, Cody	10/29
		Rodman, Wade	10/29
		Koepke, Neal	10/30
		Stack, Tara	10/31

October Anniversaries

Bethlehem

Verlyn & Judith Wittlinger	10/2
Delbert & Michelle Schwarting	10/5
Thomas & Louise Geisking	10/6
Denney, Natasha Woodward	10/14
Shane & Patricia Hammel	10/17
Bruce & Brenda Weiler	10/18
Russell & Sheri Bunkelman	10/20
Bruce & Geanna Denzine	10/29
Scott, Deana Parker	10/31

St. John

David & Katie Telschow	10/21
Michael & Lisa Thompson	10/25

All

Upcoming Voters Meetings:

Sunday, October 11 Dual Parish Voters meeting to pass the 2021 Dual Parish Budget **at Bethlehem at 4:30pm**

Sunday, October 18 After services - Beth Voters Mtg. at 9:15am

Sunday, October 18 After Services - STJ Voters Mtg. at 11:45am

Bethlehem

Bethlehem Bonfire and Mortgage Burning Saturday October 10, 2020 at 6:00pm A sub in a sack with chips, cookies and water will be provided. Lemonade packets will be available. **Sign-up sheets are available at both churches.** Please sign up by Sunday September 27, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Marlene at 715-383-0259. Thank you! Bethlehem Outreach and Capital Campaign

St. John

Sunday, October 11 is LWML Sunday: Every-one is encouraged to wear purple to celebrate the missions projects of the Missionary League. Flowers will be in church in thanksgiving to the Lord for the many blessings of the work of the Missions that the LWML has supported since 1942 at St. John's. Mites will be brought forward before the service begins.

