

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

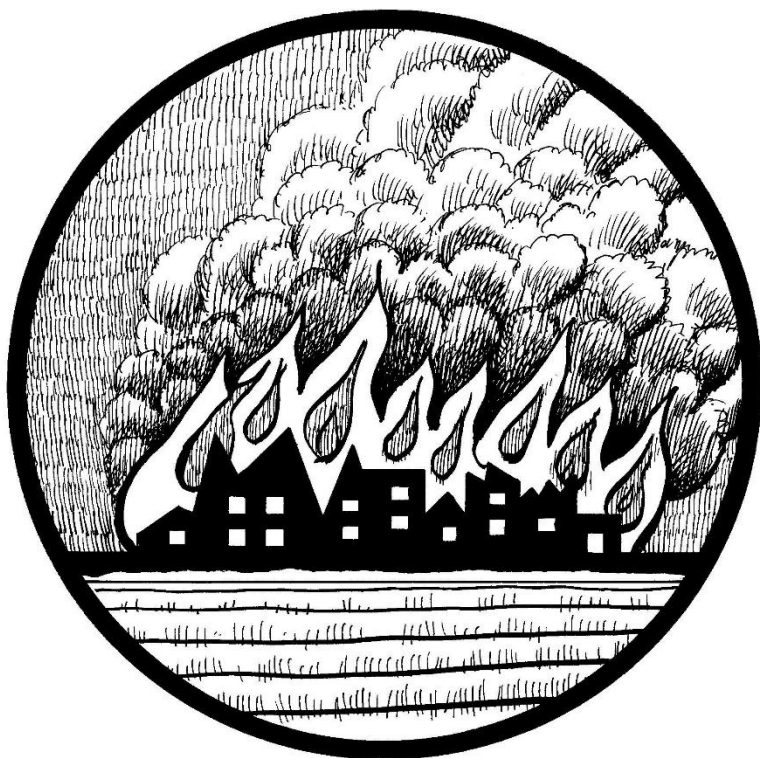
~ The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod ~

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



Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026

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 Thoughts: October 11 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost – Proper

23 A – The wedding feast is prepared, yet people have lots of reasons for not attending. However, the excuses given for rejecting God are as implausible as the excuses people give to defend abortion and assisted dying (Matthew 22: 5). Still, as God invites us into His great wedding banquet, He reminds us that this feast has been prepared for all and that every person is still precious to Him (Isaiah 25: 6-7). Therefore, we have the task of extending His gracious invitation to “as many as you find” (Matthew 22: 9).

Life Quotes: October 11 “Whether the sin of aborting one's child or the sin of remaining silent and not speaking on behalf of our unborn children, whether the sin of neglecting an aging parent or even—God forbid—encouraging them to consider physician-assisted suicide as an option, whether the sin of apathy toward the gross evil and immorality in the world—turn to Jesus! There is forgiveness to be found for every sin, but it is only found in Jesus. Only in that holy blood, shed for us on the cross, do we find the antidote for the poison of sin.” *Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

LCMS National Mission: October 11 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 22:5 – “**But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business.**” The invitation to join God in His feast and in His work is easily ignored. The rest of life seems so much more pressing, and we always think that there will be another time when we can catch back up with God. But what joys are we missing when we set aside God's invitation to join Him in His plans and purposes? What inheritance are we trading for the world's bowl of pottage?

Divine Service IV

Hymn: “Greet the Rising Sun”

LSB 871

Confession and Absolution (p. 203)

Service of the Word

Psalm 23

Kyrie (p. 204)

Gloria in Excelsis (p. 204)

Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 205)

P The Lord be with You

C And also with you.

P Let us pray

Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; 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: *Isaiah 25:6–9*

⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all
the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he
might save us.
This is the Lord; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

He will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Epistle: *Philippians 4:4–13*

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (p. 205)

The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 22:1–14*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have

been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.’⁵ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ ¹⁰And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹²And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed (p.207)

Office Hymn: “Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng”

LSB 813

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.208)

Sanctus (p.208)

Prayers of Thanksgiving (p. 209)

The Lord’s Prayer (p.209)

The Words of Our Lord (p.209)

Pax Domini (p. 209)

Agnus Dei (p.210)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymns:

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

LSB 633

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

LSB 803

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

LSB 709

Nunc Dimittis: (p.211)
 Post Communion Collect (p.212)
 Benedicamus and Benediction (p.212)
Hymn: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

LSB 733

Announcements

Prayers

- Remember in our prayers our home bound members
- Remember God's gift of Baptism as you pray: for all the baptized, that they witness to all about the death and resurrection of Jesus.



This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

	Sun.	Oct. 11	Dual Parish Voters' Mtg	7:00	pm
			Location: St. John		
Beth:	Mon.	Oct. 12	Elder Meeting	6:00	pm
Beth:	Mon.	Oct. 12	Council Meeting	7:00	pm
STJ:	Tues.	Oct. 13	Board of Ed. Mtg	6:00	pm
STJ:	Tues.	Oct. 13	Elder Meeting	6:00	pm
STJ:	Tues.	Oct. 13	Council Meeting	7:00	pm
Beth:	Wed.	Oct. 14	CWIA	1:00	pm
Beth:	Wed.	Oct. 14	Confirmation	6:00	pm
Beth:	Wed.	Oct. 14	Youth Bible Study	6:00	pm
Beth:	Wed.	Oct. 14	LifeLight	7:00	pm
STJ:	Thurs.	Oct. 15	LifeLight	10:30	am
Beth:	Sat.	Oct. 17	Blood Drive	7:30	am - noon

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 18	Worship Service	8:00	am
			Sunday School	9:15	am
			Quarterly Voters' Mtg	9:15	am
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 18	Worship Service	10:30	am
			Sunday School	9:30	am
			Quarterly Voters' Mtg	11:45	am

Next SUNDAY Acolytes and Greeters

Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 18	Acolyte: Aleah Kosik
			Greeters: Nathan Sprotte & Wally Sprotte
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 18	Acolyte: Cale Koch

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.



Dual Parish Voters' Meeting Today

Sunday, October 11th at 7pm at St. John

St. John Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, October 13th at 6 pm

Elder and Council Meetings:

Bethlehem: Monday, Oct. 12th

St. John: Tuesday, Oct. 13th

Quarterly Voter's Meetings

Sunday, October 18th

Bethlehem: 9:15 am

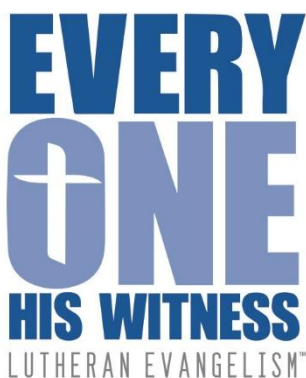
St. John: 11:45 am

LWML Sunday will be celebrated on October 18th with mite box offerings.

October 25th is the day we will celebrate Church Worker

Appreciation Month. Please join the LCMS and churches across the globe as we thank God for the gift of our church workers! Let us express our gratitude for their service in Christ's church.

St. John Sunday School students will be singing on October 25th and will celebrate Pastor Mathey, Deb Mathey and Elizabeth Marshall.



Every One His Witness, Lutheran Evangelism on November 7th from

8:15am – 4:00pm. This Core Module will help you understand why we witness, and teach you how the name LASSIE can help you to witness! The cost for each participant to attend is \$15 (to cover the cost of your workbook). After you've completed the Core Module, you will have access to additional information on how to witness to people in more specific contexts.

Please RSVP by calling 715-352-2888 no later than October 28! Leave a message with your name and *your phone number*! Everyone is His Witness, including *you*!

Higher Things Conference: Registration materials are available. See Deb Mathey to get a packet. The Youth Group will be attending the Higher Things conference in Mequon June 22-25, 2027.



Lutherans for Life - **Life New – October 2026 Edition** is posted on the bulletin board and can be found at www.lutheransforlife.org/resources/life-news

October Newsletter are available. Please check your church mailbox, home mailbox or email inbox. Extra copies available at church.

Kwik Trip Gift Card available at Bethlehem. When you purchase a Kwik Trip gift card through us, you will be donating 5-15% back to our church. There are multiple cards on hand, but if you would like to order card(s), please fill out a pre-order form located on the table.



St. John members: Copies of The Constitution and Bylaws of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, LCMS are available. Please pick one up in the carport area.

Liturgical Glossary

Antiphon (AN-tih-fonn): A refrain-like verse from Scripture that begins and concludes a psalm or canticle. Sometimes it is also interspersed within a psalm.

LCMS Family Ministry - Explore the classic theme of the Reformation with Family Ministry's

'The Luther Seal: Summary of the Gospel' coloring page, found at resources.lcms.org/general/the-luther-seal-summary-of-the-gospel-coloring-page.

Church Office Information

- ✓ Check out the Church's Facebook page and website for upcoming events
- ✓ Any corrections on member information please let the church secretary know (contact information changes, birthdays/anniversary changes, mistakes in bulletin or newsletter, etc.)

