

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

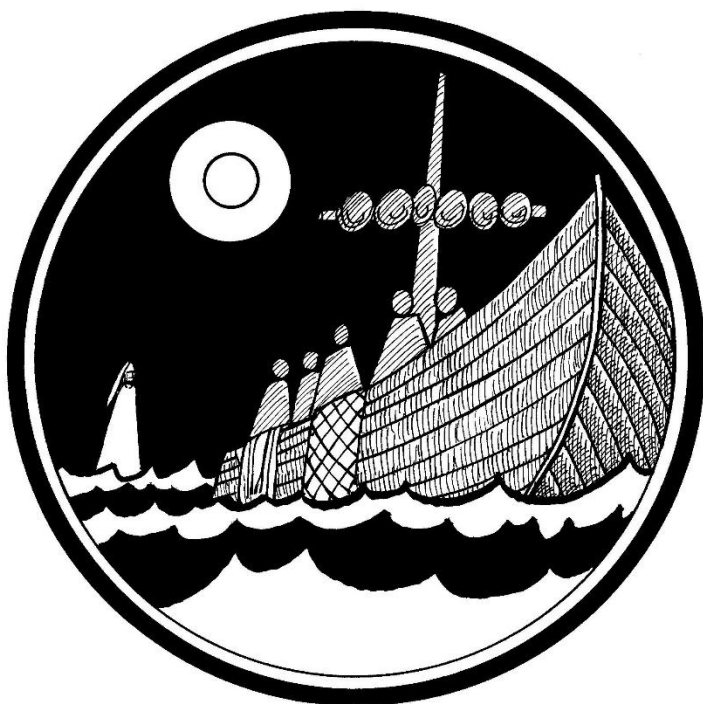
~ The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod ~

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



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 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: August 9 – Pentecost 11 – “Who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb” (Job 38: 8)? While He knitted you together in your mother's womb, our gracious God surrounded you with a beautiful watery cushion of amniotic fluid, which no one should ever hurt or harm. “The person who does the commandments shall live by them” (Romans 10: 5, quoting Leviticus 18: 5), showing that God desires life for us and not death. We worship our living, risen Lord, and not a ghost (Matthew 14: 26-27), just as we speak and act for every enfleshed soul whom He has made in His image.

Life Quotes: August 9 “Just as powerful, we can relate to stories because, whether we know it or not, we are part of the greatest story ever told. The one that's still unfolding. The one that will last forever. We're part of God's story—the one He's writing—the story of salvation. And because we're in God's story, our story begins even before we were born.” *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

LCMS National Mission: August 9 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 14:30 – “**But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, ‘Lord, save me.’**” The world really is a scary place, with natural disasters, disease, terrorism and a hundred other things. But where do we place our hope, our trust, our *vision*? Where do we look for aid and comfort? When Peter's eyes were on the Lord, he had confidence. When he turned to look at his problems and took his eyes off the Lord, he fell apart. Sometimes God's call to support the work of His church with our offerings makes us nervous. But put your eyes back on your Lord, trust Him, follow His Word and all really will be well.

Divine Service I

Hymn: “From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

LSB 816

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.151)

Corporate Confession (p.151)

Service of the Word

Psalms 18:1-16

Kyrie (p.152)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.154)

Salutation and Collect of the Day (p.156)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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: *Job 38:4-18*

⁴[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone,

⁷when the morning stars sang together

and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb,

⁹when I made clouds its garment

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰and prescribed limits for it

and set bars and doors,

¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stayed?’

¹²“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,
and caused the dawn to know its place,
¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,
and the wicked be shaken out of it?
¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal,
and its features stand out like a garment.
¹⁵From the wicked their light is withheld,
and their uplifted arm is broken.
¹⁶“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
or walked in the recesses of the deep?
¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?
¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual:

Fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Epistle: *Romans 10:5–17*

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have

never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (p.156)

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

²⁸And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ

Apostle's Creed (p.159)

Office Hymn: “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

LSB 717

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offertory (p.159)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.160)

Sanctus (p.161)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (p. 161)

The Lord’s Prayer (p.162)

The Words of Our Lord (p.162)

Pax Domini (p. 163)

Agnus Dei (p.163)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymns:

“You Satisfy the Hunger Heart”

LSB 641

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

LSB 849

“How Firm a Foundation”

LSB 728

Thank the Lord (p. 164)

Post Communion Collect (p.166)

Benediction (p.166)

Hymn “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”

LSB 765

Announcements

Prayers

- Remember in our prayers our Shut-ins
- Remember God’s work in Lutheran schools as you pray: for Lutheran school teachers, that they would correctly divide and deliver Law and Gospel to students through real-life applications each day.

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth:	Mon.	Aug. 10	Elder Mtg	6 pm
Beth:	Mon.	Aug. 10	Council Mtg	7 pm.
STJ:	Tue.	Aug. 11	Elder Mtg	6 pm
STJ:	Tue.	Aug. 11	Council Mtg	7 pm
Beth:	Wed.	Aug. 12	CWIA	1 pm

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth: Sun. Aug. 16 Worship Service 8:00 am

Acolyte: Madalynn Johnson

Greeters: Bruce & Jolene Gumz & family

STJ: Sun. Aug. 16 Worship Service 10:30 am

Acolyte: Lexie Noller

Save the Date: St John's Harvest Supper October 3, 2026.

Signup sheets for donations and volunteer jobs will be out in the next few weeks.

Lutheran Hour Sponsorship: Looking for three more churches and/or individuals to sponsor the last three Sundays. *Dates available: September 6 & 13* If interested, contact Lisa Snorheim at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Spencer at 715-659-4006 or send an email to trinity.spencer.wi@gmail.com to request a date.

NWD, SWD, and Disaster Relief for the Appleton/Menasha

Tornado on July 27, 2026: For **RIGHT NOW** we are asking people to pray for the families that have been impacted. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please send money marked "**Disaster Response**" to: North Wisconsin District, 3103 Seymour Lane, Wausau, WI 54401

Liturgical Glossary

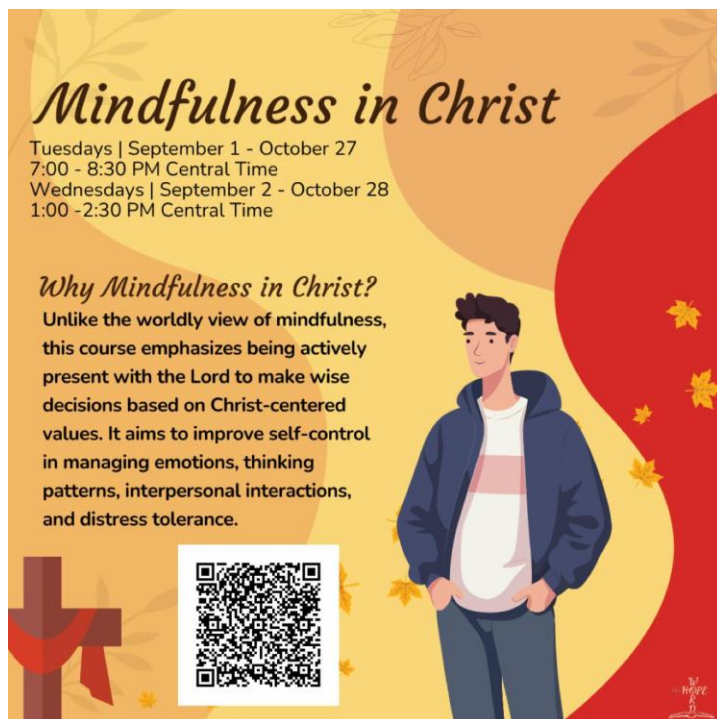
Apostles' Creed - Though not written by the apostles (a common assumption in the Middle Ages) the Apostles' Creed faithfully summarizes the apostolic teaching of Holy Scripture. Its origins date back to the second century where it developed as a statement of faith in conjunction with Holy Baptism. In most churches it is still used at every baptism.

Upcoming LERT Training Opportunities: All details and registration will be posted soon at LCMS-LERT.org under "Upcoming Trainings and Deployments". Registration is required for the following training.

BASIC LERT TRAINING on Saturday, September 19, 9 am to noon

LCMS DISASTER RESPONSE Basic Chainsaw class on Sunday, September 20 from 5 pm-8pm (classroom portion) and on Monday, September 21, 8:30 am – 11:30 am (in the woods portion)

Location: St. John (Easton) Lutheran School, 164475 Granite Rd, Wausau, WI 54403



Offered by Lutheran for Life: Join **Word of Hope** for an online nine-week class this Fall! In this Christ-centered course, adapted from dialectical behavioral therapy (DBT), you will learn skills that will help you develop a non-judgmental awareness of your thoughts and emotions. A Tuesday evening class and a Wednesday afternoon class will be available beginning in early September. There are only eight places available for each class, so sign up soon

NWD Adult Gathering - October 12 in Eau Claire or October 13 in Weston Plan now to join us at one of the two Adult Gatherings being offered this fall! The first will be held on Monday, October 12, at Peace, Eau Claire and the second will be held Tuesday, October 13, at Mount Olive, Weston. Rev. Dr. Brian Gauthier, from the LCMS Office of International Mission will present a message on "Unpacking Lutheran Mission" as he helps us understand not only missions, but the LCMS impact around the world, and how you and your congregation can make an impact. Registration will open soon under Events and Info at nwdlcms.org.