

# Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

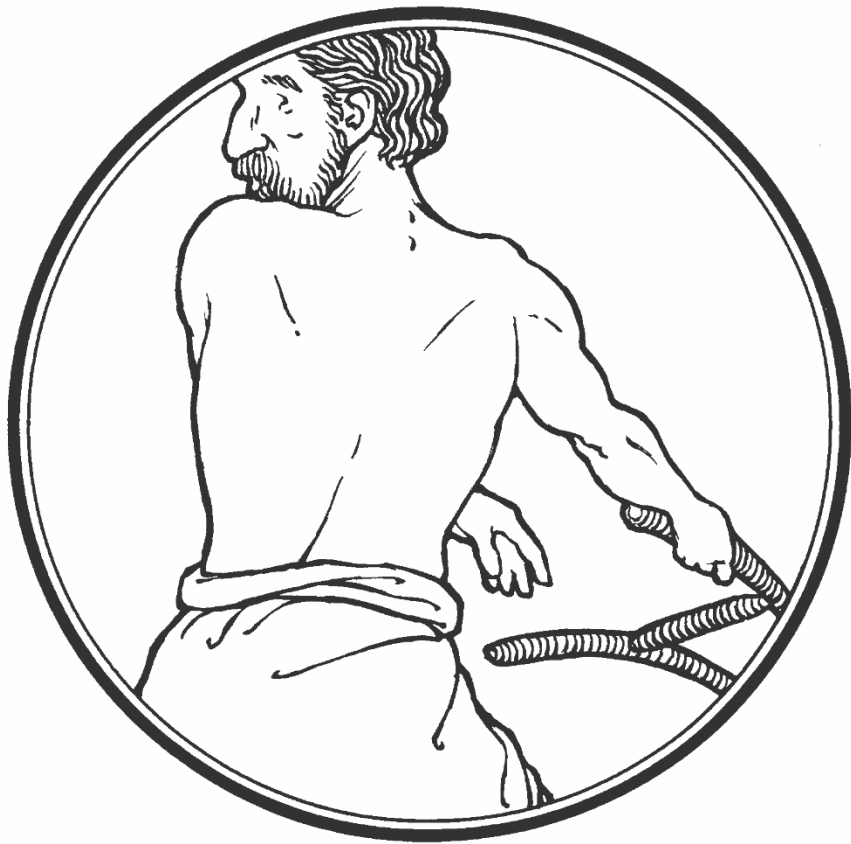
~ The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod ~

Dual Parish Office: 715-352-2888

*[www.stjbeth.org](http://www.stjbeth.org)*

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
233500 County Rd E  
Milan, WI 54411

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



Third Sunday after Pentecost  
St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles

June 29, 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:** "As your life goes on, you will continue to see the effects of sin in the world. Your own bodies will fail with time. The world will seem to be a darker place. Loved ones will pass away. But do not be ignorant about those who have fallen asleep, the Apostle Paul encourages you. Instead, know with certainty that 'the end for you is only the end of the hardship. Life awaits you in Christ!'" *Daily Devotion, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**Life Thoughts:** – God's love and Christ's forgiveness come to us and carry us. Afraid and unable on our own, His words and ways bear us home every time to rejoicing (Luke 15:1-10). Let us seek with Him to rescue His little ones, no matter where they've wandered or how they're wounded (1 Timothy 1:12-17), that we may celebrate together. *Holy Father, accompany me with Your grace through this collapsing world that no more may be lost. Amen.*

## Divine Service III

**Hymn:** “By All Your Saints in Warfare”      LSB 518 (st. 1, 19, 3)

### Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.184)

Corporate Confession (p.184)

### Service of the Word

Psalm 46

Kyrie (p.186)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.187)

### Collect of the Day

**P**    Let us pray.

Merciful and eternal God, Your holy apostles Peter and Paul received grace and strength to lay down their lives for the sake of Your Son. Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit that we may confess Your truth and at all times be ready to lay down our lives for Him who laid down His life for us, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C**    Amen.

### First Reading: *Acts 15:1–21*

<sup>1</sup>But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” <sup>2</sup>And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. <sup>3</sup>So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers. <sup>4</sup>When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. <sup>5</sup>But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses.”

<sup>6</sup>The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup>And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. <sup>8</sup>And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, <sup>9</sup>and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith. <sup>10</sup>Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup>But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

<sup>12</sup>And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. <sup>13</sup>After they finished speaking, James replied, “Brothers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup>Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take from them a people for his name. <sup>15</sup>And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written,

<sup>16</sup>“After this I will return, and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, <sup>17</sup>that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who makes these things <sup>18</sup>known from of old.” <sup>19</sup>Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, <sup>20</sup>but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. <sup>21</sup>For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

P        This is the Word of the Lord.

C        **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual:**

How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news,  
**who publish peace and bring good news of salvation.**

Their voice has gone out to all the earth,  
**and their words to the ends of the world.**

**Epistle:** *Galatians 2:1—10*

<sup>1</sup>Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. <sup>2</sup>I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain.

<sup>3</sup>But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. <sup>4</sup>Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—<sup>5</sup>to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. <sup>6</sup>And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. <sup>7</sup>On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised <sup>8</sup>(for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), <sup>9</sup>and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. <sup>10</sup>Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia (p.190)

**Holy Gospel:** *Mark 16:13–19*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

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

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

<sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed (p.191)

**Office Hymn:** “Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head”

LSB 647

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:**

“Jesus Comes Today with Healing”

LSB 620

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

LSB 575

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

LSB 783

Nunc Dimittis: (p.199)

Thanksgiving (p.200)

Post Communion Collect (p.201)

Salutation and Benedicamus (p.201)

Benediction (p.202)

**Hymn:** "Built on the Rock"

LSB 645

## **Announcements**



### **Remember in our Prayers:**

Our Shut-ins and Church Volunteers

Pray for the church council, that they may have wisdom as they lead and serve the congregation.

### **This Week at Bethlehem and St. John**

STJ:	Thurs. July 3	LWML	9: 30 am
STJ:	Thurs. July 3	Kitchen Cleaning	10: 30 am
	Fri. July 4	Church Office Closed	
STJ:	Sat. July 5	Hartwig 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party	1: 00pm

### **Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John**

Beth:	Sun. July 6	Sunday Worship	8: 00 am
	<i>Acolyte:</i> Evan Strack	<i>Greeters:</i> Dennis Venzke & Kurt Denzine	
STJ:	Sun. July 6	Sunday Worship with Baptism	10: 30am
	<i>Acolyte:</i> Isabelle Kramp		

### **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, July 18<sup>th</sup>

***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 17<sup>th</sup> so they can be packaged.



**Kitchen Cleaning:** After the 9: 30 A.M. LWML meeting on July 3rd. We will be in the kitchen cleaning cupboards and just in general cleaning. Every one from our congregation is invited to help. Guys and Gals!! It is great to know where things are if you need to use the kitchen.

## **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](http://stjbeth.org), in the June Dual Parish Record Review (church newsletter) or extra copies available at church.



## **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!

**Dates:** July 21st – 25th

**Time:** 9 am – Noon

**Ages:** 3 years old through 6th grade

To register, give a registration form to the church office, or email [secretary@stjbeth.org](mailto:secretary@stjbeth.org). Registration forms available on the church website at [stjbeth.org](http://stjbeth.org), in the June Dual Parish Record Review (church newsletter) or extra copies available at church.

## **Bethlehem Lutheran Church Outreach Team is planning another 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.



## **Secretary Office Hours Changing due to July 4th Holiday**

For the week of June 29th, the following will be Tabitha's hours.

Tuesday, July 1st – Thursday, July 3rd 8 am – 12 pm

Announcements for the bulletin will be due on Wednesday July 2nd.

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

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