

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



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 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: “God created every one of us to shine brightly in the world He made for us. Each person is a candle, sustaining His light to share with others. When a baby is aborted, his or her candle is extinguished. Clearly, that is not what God wants for us. None of us is unimportant to God; He cares about all of us, no matter our size, age, parents, gender, or disabilities. Every candle has a special purpose God designed.” *Christina, Missouri, Lutherans For Life Essay Contest – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •*
lutheransforlife.org

Life Thoughts: – The Word of God's love and Christ's life brings forth healing and hope, purpose and preciousness, survival and everlasting salvation. This He delights to do even for impaired or undeveloped human bodies (Mark 7:32-35) and no matter how dismal the situation (Isaiah 29:17-19). Dear Father, give desperate hearts life and confidence knowing that their sufficiency comes from Your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Divine Service I

Hymn: “To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All”

LSB 613

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.151)

Corporate Confession (p.151)

Service of the Word

Psalm 131

Kyrie (p.152)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.154)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading: *Proverbs 25:2–10*

²It is the glory of God to conceal things,
but the glory of kings is to search things out.

³As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,
so the heart of kings is unsearchable.

⁴Take away the dross from the silver,
and the smith has material for a vessel;

⁵take away the wicked from the presence of the king,
and his throne will be established in righteousness.

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,

⁷for it is better to be told, “Come up here,”
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen

⁸do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to shame?
⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,
¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.

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: *Hebrews 13:1–17*

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” ⁶So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?”

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also

suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

Alleluia and Verse (p.156)

Holy Gospel: *Luke 14:1–14*

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place,

so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ**

Nicene Creed (p.158)

Office Hymn: “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

LSB 842

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:

“O Lord, We Praise Thee”

LSB 617

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

LSB 845

“Voices Raised to You We Offer”

LSB 795

Thank the Lord (p. 164)

Post Communion Collect (p.166)

Benediction (p.166)

Hymn: “Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses”

LSB 667

Announcements

Remember in our Prayers:

- Our Shut-ins
- Pray for students, and teachers, that they may be blessed as they prepare for the upcoming school year.

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

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth/STJ:	Mon. Sept. 1	Office Closed for Labor Day	
STJ:	Thurs. Sept. 4	LWML	9: 30 am
Beth:	Thurs. Sept. 4	LWML	10: 30 am

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth:	Sun. Sept. 7	Worship Service	8: 00 am
STJ:	Sun. Sept. 7	Worship Service	10: 30 am

Next SUNDAY Acolytes and Greeters

Beth:	Sun. Sept. 7	<i>Acolyte:</i> Kelly Mathey	
		<i>Greeters:</i> Brentin & Tayler Bender Family	
STJ:	Sun. Sept. 7	<i>Acolyte:</i> Lauryn Hartwig	

Church Secretary Hours

Tuesday,	Sept. 2	8 am – 12 pm
Wednesday,	Sept. 3	8 am – 12 pm
Thursday,	Sept. 4	8 am – 12 pm

Bulletin Announcements are due on Wednesday 9/3



Time To Sign Up For LifeLight! If you'd like to join the LifeLight Bible Study this fall, sign-up sheets are now posted. You can join us on Wednesday evenings at 7pm at St. John or Thursday mornings at 10: 30am at Bethlehem. We will be studying the Book of Hebrews this Fall, and classes will begin on September 17th and 18th. There is a special price of \$10 for your book this session! Please consider joining us for this in-depth study of God's Word!

HELP WANTED: Help is needed to crochet plastic mats for Orphan Grain Train as they are begging for more mats. Anyone that can crochet or is willing to learn, please contact Arlette at 715-223-6060.

Bethlehem Sunday School starts on September 14th. Anyone willing to teach to please reach out to Patti, Janessa or Tammi.

Safety Committee/Concealed Carry

With the recent insurance change at St. John there is an opportunity for training. This training is for anyone who is or would choose to use concealed carry. If you participate in the training our liability insurance would now cover you. For more information contact Linda Mueller.



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.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Outreach Team Bus Trip

What: "Christmas in the Dells Dinner Show"

Date: Saturday, November 15, 2025

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

Contact Marlene Schreiber at 715-383-0259 ASAP

Edgar American Legion is hosting a cookout at Oak Street Park from 11 am – 2 pm on September 20th for area Veterans. A speaker from the Never Forgotten Honor Flight will be there. Contact Marshall Jacobs at 715-432-6877 by September 6th to reserve your spot.

Float wagon for sale. It is approximately 9 ft x 18 ft. If interested, please put a bid on it. Any questions or would like to look at it please contact Lloyd Schulz or Dennis Punke.

Did you know??

There are seven Prayers For Worship located inside the front cover of the hymnal. Prayers for before and after service and communion.

