

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



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 12, 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: “We care about that precious baby, but we also care about the mom. We care about that woman who is haunted by the guilt and shame of a past abortion ... We care because Jesus cares for us. We love because God first loved us. And this we know! Our Lord Jesus—who died for us and took away all of our sin and guilt and shame—is risen and ascended to the Father’s throne. JESUS LIVES! THE VICTORY’S WON!” *Pastor Paul Clark, LFL of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts: October 12 – (Proper 23) – Nearly all of Jesus’ contemporaries would have been taught that lepers justly suffered the consequences of their own sinful decisions and were unworthy of God’s compassion. Jesus, whose works are always “faithful and just” (Psalm 111:7), shows us that there is no one who is unworthy of His care and compassion. Every single person, regardless of their size, condition, or past decisions, is loved by God, precious in His sight, and covered by His redeeming grace.

Divine Service III

Hymn: “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

LSB 845

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.184)

Corporate Confession (p.184)

Service of the Word

Psalm 111

Kyrie (p.186)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.187)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant us always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and praise Your holy name; 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 Reading *Ruth 1:1–19a*

¹In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, ⁵and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the Lord had visited his people and given them food. ⁷So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law,

and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go, return each of you to her mother’s house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The Lord grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!” Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. ¹⁰And they said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.” ¹¹But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹²Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, ¹³would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me.” ¹⁴Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵And she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ¹⁶But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.” ¹⁸And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

¹⁹So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

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

2 Timothy 2:1–13

¹You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ²and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach

others also. ³Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him; ¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Alleluia (p.190)

Holy Gospel *Luke 17:11–19*

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed (p.191)

Office Hymn: “Your Hand, O Lord, in Day of Old”

LSB 846

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 Our Lord (p.197)

Pax Domini (p. 197)

Agnus Dei (p.198)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymns:

“O Living Bread from Heaven”

LSB 642

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

LSB 790

“For All the Faithful Women”

LSB 855 (st. 1, 7, 3, 4)

Nunc Dimittis: (p.199)

Thanksgiving (p.200)

Post Communion Collect (p.201)

Salutation and Benedicamus (p.201)

Benediction (p.202)

Hymn: “Now Thank We All Our God”

LSB 895

Announcements

Remember in our Prayers:

- ❖ Our Shut-ins
- ❖ Thank you, Pastor Mathey. Thank you for answering God’s call. Thank you for your faithfulness. And thank you for reminding us of His love each and every day.

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

Dual Parish Voter’s Meeting: TONIGHT, October 12th
7 pm at St. John to approve the Dual Parish Budget

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth:	Mon.	Oct. 13	Elder Mtg	6:00 pm
Beth:	Mon.	Oct. 13	Council Mtg	7:00 pm
STJ:	Tue.	Oct. 14	Elder Mtg	6:00 pm
STJ:	Tue.	Oct. 14	Council Mtg	7:00 pm
STJ:	Wed.	Oct. 15	Chimes	5:30 pm
STJ:	Wed.	Oct. 15	Confirmation	6:00 pm
STJ:	Wed.	Oct. 15	Youth Group	6:00 pm
STJ:	Wed.	Oct. 15	Lifelight Bible Study	7:00 pm
Beth:	Thurs.	Oct. 16	Lifelight Bible Study	10:30am
Beth:	Thurs.	Oct. 16	Circuit Forum	7:00 pm
STJ:	Sat.	Oct. 18	Blood Drive	8 am - noon

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth/STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 19	LWML Sunday	
Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 19	Worship Service	8:00 am
Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 19	Sunday School	9:15 am
Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 19	Quarterly Voters' Meeting	9:15 am
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 19	Sunday School	9:30 am
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 19	Worship Service	10:30 am
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 19	Quarterly Voters' Meeting	11:45 am

Next SUNDAY Acolytes and Greeters

Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 19	<i>Acolyte: Aleah Kosik</i>
			<i>Greeters: Nathan Sprotte & Wally Sprotte</i>
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 19	<i>Acolyte: Isabelle Kramp</i>



Pastor Appreciation Month is the month of October, with the specific celebration of Pastor Appreciation Day falling on Sunday, October 12, 2025. This month-long observance is a time to honor and thank pastors for their service, dedication, and tireless commitment to shepherding God's people. Thank you, Pastor Mathey!

Bethlehem Soup, Craft and Bake Sale: The deadline to sign up is TODAY, 10/12. The Soup, Craft and Bake Sale will be on December 12th and 13th. Sign-up sheets with different tasks are available at the back of church. Please prayerfully consider using your talents and time to volunteer.



Community Blood Drive at St. John Lutheran on October 18th from 8 am to 12:00 pm. Appointments preferred. Call 877.232.4376 or visit versiti.org/WI. Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.
PROMOTION: Everyone who donates receives a FREE pint of Culvers custard while supplies last.



Addition to the October Montly Calendar: Quarterly Voters' Meetings Bethlehem at 9:15 am and St. John at 11:45 am on October 19th.

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 St. Louis June 23-26.



NEEDED: Plastic Bags to make mats for the Orphan Grain Train. It takes approximately 800 bags to make one mat. Any questions contact Arlette or Sharon B.



Snow plowing at St. John Lutheran Church: The parking lot will be cleared out for worship services and events on the calendar. *Make sure all events are on the monthly calendar.*

LWML Mite Offering on Sunday, October 19th

Congrats to Aaron and Karissa Niemann on the arrival of their baby girl, Kashlynn Maery on October 8th.



North WI District Adult Gathering is October 14th from 9:30 am to 2:30pm at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church. Guest speakers will be Rev. Timothy Shoup, President of the LCMS North WI District and Rev. Dr. Dan Paavola. Registration forms available.

LWML North WI Zone 10 Fall Rally will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Spencer, WI on Saturday, October 18, 2025. Registration at 8:00 am with a registration fee of \$5. For more details, check out the October Newsletter.

The Lutheran Hour: There are many dates available for 2026 sponsorship of The Lutheran Hour. Please see the October Newsletter for listing of dates and contact info to request a date. What better way to help spread the Word of God!



Camp Luther Summer Staff & Junior Counselor Applications

Open Do you know someone who loves Jesus, loves kids, and wants to put their faith into action? Camp Luther seeks passionate, Christ-centered individuals to join Camp Luther's **2026 Summer Team!** Applications for Summer Staff are open on October 15, and Junior Counselor applications open on November 1, 2025. Visit **campluther.com/why-serve** to learn more!

Community Events: Check out the bulletin boards or the October Newsletter for more details.

*Edgar Lions Club Senior Citizens Chicken Dinner 10/16/25

*Organ Crawl in Wausau 10/18/25

*Chili Sale at St. Thomas Catholic Church, Milan 10/26/25