

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



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 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: "You and I are made for life, abundant and everlasting. And this Gospel is made for all our neighbors, every genetic member of humanity." *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts: October 19 – (Proper 24) – The world has always been filled with people who have turned away from the truth of God's Word and are not willing to endure sound doctrine (2 Timothy 4:3-4), especially regarding the sanctity of human life. Knowing that we can't force people to believe God's Word and value God's precious gift of life, we "lift up our eyes to the hills," trusting that "... our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1-2). For we trust that God alone has the power to change hearts, and He does so through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is able to make us wise unto salvation (2 Timothy 3:15).

Divine Service III

Hymn: "O God of Light"

LSB 836

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.184)

Corporate Confession (p.184)

Service of the Word

Psalm 121

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.

O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your 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

Genesis 32:22–30

²²The same night [Jacob] arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying,

“For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered.”

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 3:14—4:5*

¹⁴As for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

¹I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

Alleluia (p.190)

Holy Gospel *Luke 18:1–8*

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

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

¹[Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ²He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary.’ ⁴For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, ‘Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.’” ⁶And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed (p.191)

Office Hymn: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

LSB 686

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:

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

LSB 633

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

LSB 725

Nunc Dimittis: (p.199)

Thanksgiving (p.200)

Post Communion Collect (p.201)

Salutation and Benedicamus (p.201)

Benediction (p.202)

Hymn: “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

LSB 924

Announcements

Prayers

- ❖ Remember in our prayers our Shut-ins
- ❖ Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of life. We ask that You bless Kashlynn and Baylyn with strength and health all the days of their life. Amen.

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

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth/STJ:	M-W	Oct. 20-22	Pastor at District Conference in Eau Claire	
STJ:	Mon.	Oct. 20	Able-Light	10:00 am
STJ:	Wed.	Oct. 22	Chimes	5:30 pm
STJ:	Wed.	Oct. 22	Confirmation	6:00 pm
STJ:	Wed.	Oct. 22	Youth Group	6:00 pm
STJ:	Wed.	Oct. 22	Lifelight Bible Study	7:00 pm
Beth:	Thurs.	Oct. 23	Lifelight Bible Study	10:30am

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Worship Service	8:00 am
Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Sunday School	9:15 am
Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Breakfast	9:15 am
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Sunday School	9:30 am
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Worship Service	10:30 am
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Adult Bible Study	11:45 am
Beth/STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Due Date for Higher Things	

Next SUNDAY Acolytes and Greeters

Beth:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Acolyte: Evan Strack	
			Greeters: Jeff Geisking & Wally Sprotte	
STJ:	Sun.	Oct. 26	Acolyte: Lauryn Hartwig	

Today, October 19th, after worship is the Quarterly Voters' Meeting

Congratulations to Brentin and Tayler Bender on the arrival of their baby boy, Baylyn Jeffery on October 10th.

Bethlehem Reformation Sunday Breakfast following worship service on Sunday, October 26th. Everyone is invited.

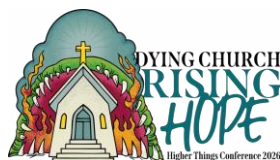


Mark your Calendars for Bethlehem Soup, Bake and Craft Sale on December 12th and 13th. Pick up will be from 9 am to 3 pm. More details to come. You won't want to miss this!



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.

Higher Things Conference registration packet and the \$150 registration fee is due to Deb Mathey by next Sunday, October 26th.



Lutheran Hope in a Dark World sponsored by Faith Lutheran Church (2335 S. Webster St., Green Bay, WI 54301) will be taking place on Saturday, November 8, 2025 from 9 am to noon. This is a free event with lunch provided. Please RSVP on their website at <http://flcgb.com> by clicking on the Lutheran Hope in a Dark World icon and filling out the google doc.

Event Information:

Together with Higher Things speaker and host of Christ in All Things, Rev. Harrison Goodman, we will learn how to speak in truth and act in love as we face current challenging societal situations. "Lutheran Hope in a Dark World" will help us navigate many world issues including self-harm, same sex attraction, gender dysphoria, pornography and use of technology trauma and more.



Welcome
Glad you're here!

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.

Weekly Announcements Items Please have your weekly announcements to the secretary by Wednesday via email (secretary@stjbeth.org), call (715-352-2888), leave a note on the desk, or leave a note in the black tray at Bethlehem. Thank you! Office hours will be Tuesday through Friday from 9am to noon.

Announcements for the November Newsletter: Please have your announcements to the church secretary by Monday, October 27th.

Church Office Information

- ✓ Check out the Church's Facebook page 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.)

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

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

*18th Annual Soup and Pie Supper at St. John Lutheran Church
Withee 10/29/25

*Trinity Annual Craft Sale (pre-order chili), Trinity Lutheran Athens,
11/23/25

Camp Luther's Men's Retreat

Camp Luther is inviting men to their upcoming Men's Retreat, happening February 5-8, 2026. Be encouraged. Be challenged. Be in creation. Be in fellowship with other men. Be refreshed. Be built up in Christ! Whether you're looking to rest, reflect, or just spend some time outdoors, this retreat is a chance to be encouraged in your faith and refreshed in a meaningful way. To learn more, head to campluther.com/adults. **Registration opened on October 15, 2025.**

Cottage Rentals at Camp Luther

Looking for a peaceful getaway this fall, winter, or spring? Camp Luther invites you to rent one of their cozy cottages and enjoy a time of rest, refreshment, and joy—surrounded by the beauty of God's creation. Whether you're planning a quiet retreat, a family weekend, or just need a break from the noise, the camp provides a welcoming space to slow down and recharge. And exciting news—The Bear Den, Camp Luther's brand-new duplex cottage, is now complete and ready for guests! To learn more, visit campluther.com/book-a-cottage