

# 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



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

June 23, 2024

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** "The state of marriage is under a full assault from the devil. He will use whatever means necessary to destroy what God has created. Pray also for all God's children. Pray that love may abound in all homes. Pray that forgiveness may be the first word spoken between husbands and wives, parents and children. Pray that you and all people receive an increase of the Holy Spirit, for it is only through Him that we may repent of our sinful lives, amend our ways, and live joyfully in the comfort of God's grace." *Rev. Matthew Wietfeldt, Concordia Theological Seminary – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**Life Thoughts**– Whether it be the evils of abortion or the assaults on biblical marriage, it becomes easier to attack people rather than confront the evil. We end up fighting evil with evil. But the way of Christ is different. "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them" (Romans 12:14). "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (12:21). *Jesus, help us boldly confront evil and compassionately deal with those caught up in it. Amen.*

## Divine Service III

Hymn : "How Firm a Foundation"

LSB 728

### Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.184)

Corporate Confession (p.184)

### Service of the Word

Psalm 124

Kyrie (p.186)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.187)

Collect of the Day

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, in Your mercy guide the course of this world so that Your Church may joyfully serve You in godly peace and quietness; 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 38:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:

<sup>2</sup>"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

<sup>3</sup>Dress for action like a man;

I will question you, and you make it known to me.

<sup>4</sup>"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

<sup>5</sup>Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

<sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk,  
or who laid its cornerstone,

<sup>7</sup>when the morning stars sang together  
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

<sup>8</sup>"Or who shut in the sea with doors  
when it burst out from the womb,

<sup>9</sup>when I made clouds its garment  
and thick darkness its swaddling band,  
<sup>10</sup>and prescribed limits for it  
and set bars and doors,  
<sup>11</sup>and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther,  
and here shall your proud waves be stayed?"

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
**and his greatness is unsearchable.**  
On your wondrous works, I will meditate,  
**and I will declare your greatness.**

### Epistle *2 Corinthians 6:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

"In a favorable time I listened to you,  
and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. <sup>3</sup>We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup>by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

<sup>11</sup>We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians; our heart is wide open. <sup>12</sup>You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted in your own affections. <sup>13</sup>In return (I speak as to children) widen your hearts also.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia (p.190)

*Holy Gospel: Mark 4:35–41*

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

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

<sup>35</sup>On that day, when evening had come, Jesus said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” <sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup>And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” <sup>39</sup>And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey him?”

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

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

Nicene Creed (p.191)

Office hymn: “Evening and Morning”

LSB 726

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

Agnus Dei (p.198)

Distribution of the Sacrament

**Hymns:**

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”	LSB 637
“I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus”	LSB 729
“Jesus, Lead Thou On”	LSB 718

Nunc Dimittis: (p.199)

Post Communion Collect (p.201)

Benediction (p.202)

Hymn: “Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good” LSB 819

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## Announcements

**Remember in our Prayers:**

Our Shut-ins

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

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

STJ: Mon. June 24 Youth Leave for Higher things Conference  
Fri. June 28 Youth return

**Next Week at Bethlehem and St. John**

STJ: Thur. July 4 LWML 9:30am

**Beth VBS Bethlehem Vacation Bible School**

July 8 & 9, 2024 4:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Registration forms available on table in entryway.

**St. John Vacation Bible School** Mon. July 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday July 26  
9am to noon. Closing Picnic On Friday 6pm. Extra registration forms on library table in upper narthex.

**Upcoming meetings for St. John VBS**

Saturday, July 13 at 9:00 am All staff VBS Meeting

Saturday, July 20 at 9:00 am VBS staff meeting and decorating

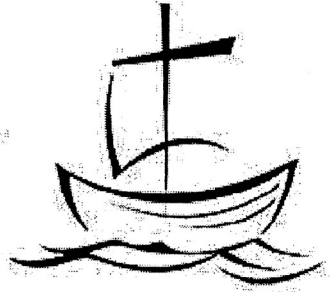
Friday, July 26 at 6:00 pm VBS Closing Picnic

# Kids in the Divine Service

## Jesus Calms the Storm

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. Mark 4:39

The puzzle is based on Mark 4:35-41



D	H	P	F	O	T	D	W	G	C	F	L	G	C	U
J	D	U	U	E	L	E	N	T	M	X	M	J	O	Z
M	Y	E	I	L	K	I	R	Q	E	D	B	S	H	U
U	U	Q	I	O	P	S	K	R	U	A	F	X	H	O
T	E	T	W	E	Q	T	C	H	I	I	C	L	U	R
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M	S	X	S	B	I	I	R	Z	H	L	D	W	D	Q
P	Q	O	A	H	A	N	P	U	M	N	M	W	A	R
E	U	U	B	R	I	T	G	Q	I	T	M	K	P	Y
D	A	F	F	E	U	O	D	W	A	L	L	C	S	U
R	L	A	U	M	Y	U	N	O	S	F	A	I	T	H
R	L	F	A	G	R	R	B	K	T	J	B	F	S	M
X	D	R	O	W	N	I	X	U	W	A	V	E	S	T

STERN

OBEY

WOKE

SQUALL

CROWD

SWAMPED

SLEEPING

WAVES

FAITH

WIND

BOAT

CUSHION

CALM

AFRAID

EVENING

TERRIFIED

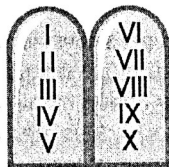
TEACHER

DROWN

STILL

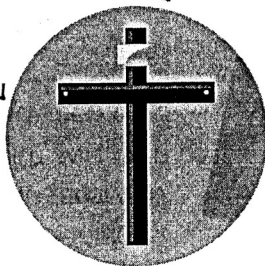
QUIET

+ + +  
**KIDS IN THE  
DIVINE SERVICE**  
+ + +



## **Law and Gospel**

Many people wrongly think that the Old Testament is the Law and the New Testament is the Gospel. In fact the Old Testament and the New Testament each contain both Law and Gospel.



## **What are the basics of the Law and the Gospel?**

**The Law** teaches us God's will for how we live, namely the Ten Commandments. God's Law demands perfection, but it is impossible to be perfect. According to the Law, we are sinners, and are in big trouble with God. We need someone to save us. The Law shows us our sins.

**The Gospel** tells us what Jesus has done to save us from our sins. But the Gospel doesn't stop there. It tells us what Jesus continues to do for us because of His great love for us. The Gospel shows us our Savior, Jesus!

An easy way to remember all of this is to think of the following letters: S.O.S. The Law "shows our sins" while the Gospel "shows our Savior"!



**Parents:** Distinguishing between Law and Gospel is a life-long venture of study. Perhaps you or your child can take notes during the sermon. Following the Divine Service, discuss these notes, identifying the Law and the Gospel in the sermon.

