

# 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



**First Sunday after Christmas**

**Circumcision & Naming of Jesus**

January 1, 2023

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)

### **Teaching Points**

***Gradual*** - A selection of psalm verses traditionally sung between the Epistle and Gospel. With the regular use of the Old Testament reading, the Gradual now appears after that reading, before the Epistle. The word Gradual is from the Latin for "step," which refers to the step of the lectern from which the Gradual was traditionally sung

### **From the Small Catechism**

The Lord's Prayer: The First Petition  
Hallowed be Thy \_\_\_\_\_.

What does this mean?

God's name is certainly \_\_\_\_\_ in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

*How is God's name kept holy?*

God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and we, as the children of God, also lead holy \_\_\_\_\_ according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. \_\_\_\_\_ us from this, heavenly Father!

## Divine Service III

Hymn: “What Child Is This”

LSB 370

### Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.184)

Corporate Confession (p.184)

*Stand*

### Service of the Word

Psalm 8 (prayed responsively by whole verse)

Kyrie (p.186)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.187)

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Lord God, You made Your beloved Son, our Savior, subject to the Law and caused Him to shed His blood on our behalf. Grant us the true circumcision of the Spirit that our hearts may be made pure from all sins; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*Sit*

**Old Testament:** Numbers 6:22–27

<sup>22</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>23</sup>“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

<sup>24</sup>The LORD bless you and keep you;

<sup>25</sup>the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup>the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

<sup>27</sup>“So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gradual**

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

Behold, your king is coming to you;

**righteous and having salvation.**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

**St. John Chimes: “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”**

### **Epistle** *Galatians 3:23–29*

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. <sup>27</sup>For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### ***Stand***

Alleluia (p.190)

### ***Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:13–23***

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

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

<sup>13</sup>When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup>“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no  
more.”

<sup>19</sup>But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup>saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

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

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

Nicene Creed (p.191)

*Sit*

**Office hymn:** “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

LSB 374

Sermon

**Stand**

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)

*Sit*

Distribution of the Sacrament

**Hymns:**

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”	LSB 623
“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”	LSB 549
“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”	LSB 386

*Stand*

Nunc Dimittis: (p.199)

Post Communion Collect (p.201)

Benediction (p.202)

**Hymn:** “Go Tell It on the Mountain” LSB 388

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## Announcements

**Remember in our Prayers:**

Our Shut-ins

**A Very Sincere "Thank You"** to everyone who has remembered our family with cards and gifts over the past several weeks. Your love and generosity mean more to us than you will ever know! May the Lord's blessings continue to be with you as we celebrate the

Greatest Gift that we will ever receive, Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! - The Mathey Family

**Thank You:** I would like to say thank you to everyone who came to work in our shop over this Christmas season. With your help all orders were shipped on time. Thank you for all the prayers, cards, calls, visits, and meals. They were very much appreciated. And Thank You Pastor for your words of encouragement. God Bless you all. Arlette

**Annual Reports** are due in the office by the end of January. If you E-mail your report send to [secretary@stjbeth.org](mailto:secretary@stjbeth.org)

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

<b>Wed. Jan.4, 2023</b>	<b>STJ:</b>	6:00pm: Confirmation Class
<b>Sat. Jan. 7, 2023</b>	<b>STJ:</b>	12:30pm: Caroling to Shut-Ins
<b>Sun. Jan. 8, 2023</b>	<b>Beth:</b>	8:00am: Divine Service w/HC <b>Installation of Officers</b>
		9:15 am: Bible Study
	<b>STJ:</b>	10:30am: Divine Service w/HC <b>Installation of Officers</b>
		11:45am: Bible Study

**Bethlehem Sunday School:** Sunday School will start on. Jan.8. 2023

**St. John Sunday School** Sunday School will start on Jan8, 2023. We will have class again on Jan 8, 2023.



*Christ Giving  
Tree*

**St. John Sunday School** will be doing a Christ-Giving Tree this year to help defray the cost of a hospital bed for Greta Marshall (Elizabeth's daughter) The tree will have ornaments on with donations marked with a dollar amount. The tree will be up during Advent and through the Christmas season.



**Sunday School Children Christmas Mission Project:**

The children are asked to bring gently used toys, games, or clothing (sizes 0 - 14) for the Ukrainian refugee children.

The Gift box is located by the Christ Giving Tree.

**St. John Lutheran Witness Subscriptions:** It is time to renew your subscriptions to The Lutheran Witness. The cost is \$22.08, make checks out to St. John Lutheran Church, or give cash payments to the church office. If you do not wish to renew please let Sharon know at the church office. New subscriptions will not start until March.