

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



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 25, 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: "We live in the presence of evil. Some of it is twisted to sound good. We hear of 'the compassionate relief of suffering' or 'death with dignity' or 'right to health care' or 'simple medical procedure.' You know many more. God calls us to confront these with His truth, to reveal the evil behind them. God calls us to educate fellow Christians in His truth so they do not end up 'possessed' by this way of thinking. God calls us to call evil what it is, but also to share the truth of what God has done about evil. For that we fix our gaze upon Jesus (Hebrews 12:2). He speaks to us through His Word of truth and grace." *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts: In both the Old Testament and Gospel readings we see the ultimate miracle, sons raised from the dead (1 Kings 17:17-24, Luke 7:11-17). Yet they present but a tiny picture of what will happen because God raised His Son from the dead! All the dead in Christ will be raised to eternal life. Death is a defeated enemy! *Prayer: Lord, may Your defeat of death give us courage as we confront a culture of death. Amen.*

Divine Service I

Hymn: "Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens"

LSB 589

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.151)

Corporate Confession (p.151)

Service of the Word

Psalm 14

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.

Almighty and merciful God, defend Your Church from all false teaching and error that Your faithful people may confess You to be the only true God and rejoice in Your good gifts of life and salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading: *Isaiah 29:11–19*

¹¹The vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." ¹²And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

¹³And the Lord said:

"Because this people draw near with their mouth
and honor me with their lips,
while their hearts are far from me,
and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,
¹⁴therefore, behold, I will again
do wonderful things with this people,

with wonder upon wonder;
and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish,
and the discernment of their discerning men shall be
hidden.”

¹⁵Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel,
whose deeds are in the dark,
and who say, “Who sees us? Who knows us?”

¹⁶You turn things upside down!
Shall the potter be regarded as the clay,
that the thing made should say of its maker,
“He did not make me”;
or the thing formed say of him who formed it,
“He has no understanding”?

¹⁷Is it not yet a very little while
until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,
and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

¹⁸In that day the deaf shall hear
the words of a book,
and out of their gloom and darkness
the eyes of the blind shall see.

¹⁹The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD,
and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One
of Israel.

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: *Ephesians 5:22–33*

²²Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.
²³For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head
of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴Now as the
church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in
everything to their husbands.

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church
and gave himself up for her, ²⁶that he might sanctify her, having
cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷so that he

might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³²This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (p.156)

Holy Gospel: *Mark 7:1-13*

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, ²they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, ⁴and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) ⁵And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

⁸You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

⁹And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!
¹⁰For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ¹¹But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban’ (that is, given to God)— ¹²then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed (p.158)

Office hymn: “The Church’s One Foundation”

LSB 644

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offertory (p.159)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.160)

Sanctus (p.161)

The Lord’s Prayer (p.162)

The Words of Institution (p.162)

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei (p.163)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Hymns:

“Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling”

LSB 630

“Alleluia! Let Praises Ring”

LSB 822

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

LSB 563

Post Communion Collect (p.164)

Benediction (p.166)

Hymn: “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

LSB 575

Announcements

Remember in our Prayers:

Our Shut-ins

This Week for Bethlehem and St. John

Beth Sunday; August 25 Special Voters Meeting 7pm



Bethlehem Special Voters Meeting Today
at 7pm at Bethlehem regarding the parking lot and building addition to the church' Please attend



BETHLEHEM SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS -
Please prayerfully consider volunteering to teach Sunday School. The start date is to be determined, but for this to be possible we need teachers. If interested, please reach out to Patti Hammel or one of the Board of Education members. Thank you



St. John Sunday School Rally Day - Sept. 8th Parents, Grandparents and students! 9:15 A.M. The installation of staff will be during the Divine Service.
See you there!

North Wisconsin District Adult Gathering: Make plans now to attend the NWD Adult Gathering on Tuesday, October 15, 2024. At Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Weston. Registration & morning refreshments begin at 9:30am with the program from 10:00 am – 2:30pm. A catered lunch will be served at noon. Devotions will be led by District President Rev. Dwayne Lueck. Keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing, will share a message based on his book "Overcoming Life's Sorrows: Learning from Jeremiah" which is included with each registration. Dr Lessing currently serves in various roles such as The Edwin F. and Esther L Laatsch Chair of Old Testament Studies, and Director of the Center for Biblical Studies at Concordia University in St. Paul just to name a few. The \$40 registration fee includes morning refreshments, program, lunch, and Dr. Lessing's book. Registration deadline is October 1. A freewill offering will be collected to support Peru missions. Registration forms are

available in the narthex and on NWD homepage at www.nmdlcms.org under 'Events and Info'.

LWML

Fall Rally

LWML Fall Rally,
Friday, September 13th, 2024
At Trinity Lutheran Church Medford.

Registration: 8:00am to 8:30am. Fee is \$5.00. Breakfast items will be served.

Welcome & Devotions

Bible Study: Holy Spirit: helper, sanctifier, teacher

Speaker will be from The Taylor House, She will sharing formation about The Taylor House and their needs.

Intake items will be personal care, cleaning supplies and diapers.

Canceled stamps and soda pop tabs will be collected.

Presidents Address

Business Meeting

Closing Devotions - remembering deceased members

From Medford: Trinity Lutheran Church, Medford is located 5 miles north of Medford on State Highway 13. Where County Road M goes to the West, we are to the East, 1/2 mile on Dassow Ave, A directional sign is located on that corner.



SAVE THE DATE!!

Harvest Supper 10-5-24.

Signup sheets and more info to come.

Bulletin Announcements: Are due no later than Wednesday, Noon. This includes any special announcements, or meeting changes, dates, times, or information, etc. Please make all information or changes in writing, send either in an email or leave a note on secretary's desk. Thank You