

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

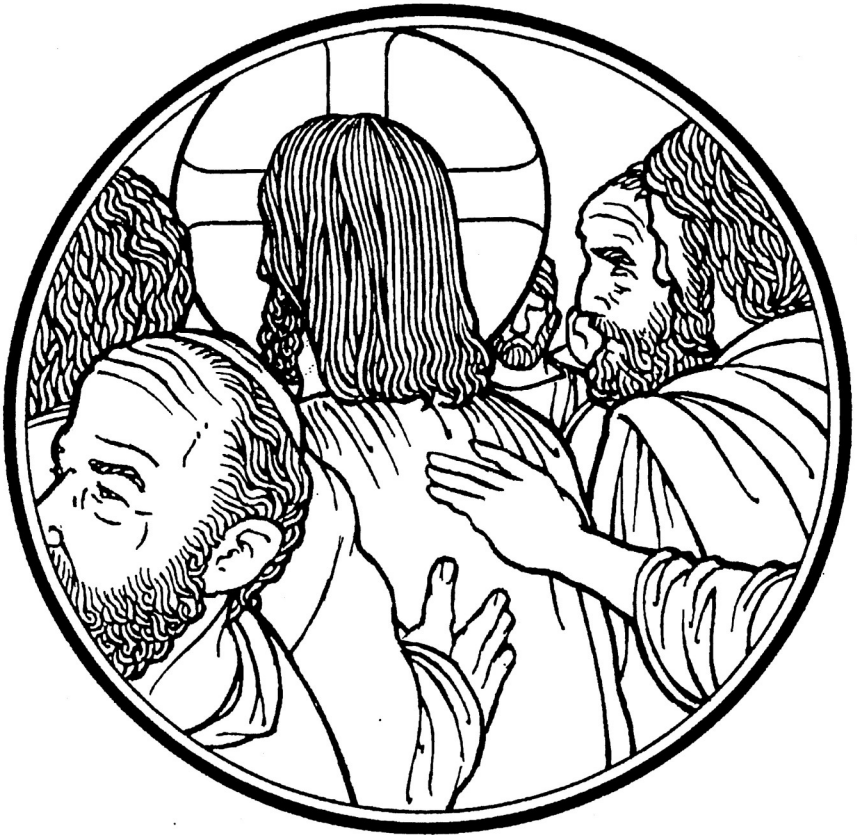
- The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod -

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



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 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 : "Know that you too have been called to serve on behalf of life at such a time as this. God continually equips you, and you will be in awe of what He is able to do in and through you. The best part is He had it planned in the beginning (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:16; Ephesians 2:10). May you be blessed as you continue to serve life in His image!" *Jordan Killinger is President of Rice for Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts: Jesus declares and demonstrates compassion even for those who cannot feed themselves or walk on their own (Mark 8:1-3). He who breathes life into each human body (Genesis 2:7) also provides everything necessary to survive (Mark 8:8) and promises all the abundance of Eden's paradise in the gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23). And He mercifully involves us in this miraculous ministry (Mark 8:5-8)! *Almighty Maker, show through us the life-giving compassion You have shown to us. Amen.*

Divine Service IV

Hymn: "Fight the Good Fight"

LSB 664

Confession & Absolution (p.203)

Psalm 123

Kyrie (p. 204)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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: *Ezekiel 2:1-5*

¹ He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you." ²And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

³And he said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day.

⁴The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." ⁵And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual:

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:1–10

¹I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. ²I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. ³And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— ⁴and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. ⁵On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. ⁷So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

G: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (p. 205)

Holy Gospel: Mark 6:1–13

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

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Jesus went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and

brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household." ⁵And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. ⁶And he marveled because of their unbelief.

And he went about among the villages teaching.

⁷And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— ⁹but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. ¹⁰And he said to them, "Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. ¹¹And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. ¹³And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

[P]: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[C]: Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed (p.206)

Office hymn "O Christ, Our True and Only Light" LSB 839

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.208)

Sanctus (p.208)

The Lord's Prayer (p.209)

The Words of Institution (p.209)

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei (p.210)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Hymns:

- "Your Table I Approach " LSB 628
- "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" LSB 770
- " Away from Us!" the Demon Cried" LSB 541

Nunc Dimittis: (p.211)
Post Communion Collect (p.212)
Benediction (p.212)

Hymn: "God Bless Our Native Land" LSB 965

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

Please Note Council Dates were printed on the wrong dates in the July Calendar. Correct Dates Are

Beth: **Mon. July 08 Elders Meeting 6pm**
Mon. July 08 Council Meeting 7pm

Beth: Tue. July 09 VBS 4:30 – 7pm
Wed. July 10 VBS 4:30 – 7pm

STJ: **Tue. July 09 Elders Meeting 6pm**
Tue. July 09 Council Meeting 7pm

Beth:
STJ: Sat. July 13 VBS All Staff mtg 9:00am

Next Week at Bethlehem and St. John

STJ: Sat. July 20 STJ VBS Staff Meeting 9am

Upcoming meetings and events for St. John VBS

STJ: VBS July 22nd to July 26th
Fri., July 26th VBS Closing Picnic at 6:00 pm

LWML Brat and Hot Dog & Baked Goods Sale Friday July 21st 10:30am to 3:00pm at the Cenex Station, HWY 13, Dorchester. If you would like to donate pies. (disposable tins & Identify the Flavor) or baked goods (identify the type) or if you would like to volunteer to attend or help at the sale. Call Janean Morrow 715-383-6128 or email we2morrow@gmail.com

St. John will be hosting the Dual Parish Service this year on August 11, 2024. Watch for further information in the coming weeks.

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



What is the “Office of the Keys”?

When you hear this question, you might think that there is an office somewhere in the church building that holds a lot of keys. But this use of “office” means duty and obligation. For example, when someone is elected to Congress, they are elected to a public office with authority and certain duties. The Office of the Keys is an authority given by Christ to His Church with the duty to forgive repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

Why is this authority called “keys”?

This authority given to the Church works just like a set of keys that locks and unlocks the gates of heaven. When forgiveness is withheld, the door of heaven is locked. When forgiveness is given, the door of heaven is opened and God’s forgiveness in Christ is poured out on the repentant person!



Parents: Trying to understand why the Church would withhold forgiveness may be difficult. Be sure to study John 20:22–23 and Matt. 18:18 with your child. Discuss what it means to be unrepentant as opposed to repentant. An unrepentant person is not sorry for their sins and does not believe in Jesus Christ. A repentant person is sorry for their sins out of love for God and believes in Jesus Christ for salvation!

