

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



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8th, 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: "Let us never forget and continue to trust in God as our only resource when we face difficult life issues. Continue to pray for our country as some leaders continue to pursue making laws that jeopardize precious lives and challenge God's plan for life. Let us put our trust in God, not man." *Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts: – Those who see abortion as just "another issue" and would support or encourage a woman to make such a choice fail to understand the scriptural concept of "neighbor" and have a false sense of what it means to love. Those who see both mother and unborn child as "neighbor" and take action to bring help and hope fulfill the second greatest commandment in the Law and reflect the love of Christ (Matthew 22:34-40).

Divine Service III

Hymn "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

LSB 524

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.184)

Corporate Confession (p.184)

Service of the Word

Psalms 146

Kyrie (p.186)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.187)

Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; 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: *Isaiah 35:4-7a*

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,

"Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance,

with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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: *James 2:1–10, 14–18*

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. . . .

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Alleluia (p.190)

Holy Gospel: Mark 7:24–37

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

G Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁴From there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. ²⁵But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophoenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to Thee O Christ.

Nicene Creed (p.191)

Office hymn: "Praise the Almighty"

LSB 797

Sermon

Stand

Offertory (p.192)

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

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:

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

LSB 621

"Amazing Grace"

LSB 744

"Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"

LSB 848

Nunc Dimittis: (p.199)

Post Communion Collect (p.201)

Benediction (p.202)

Hymn: "Jesus Shall Reign"

LSB 832

Announcements

Remember in our Prayers:

Our Shut-ins

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth: Mon. Sept. 9 Elders 6:00pm

Beth: Mon. Sept 9 Council 7:00pm

STJ: Tue. Sept. 10 Elders 6:00pm

STJ: Tue. Sept. 10 Council 7:00pm

STJ: Wed. Sept. 11 Dual Parish Budget 7:00pm

LWML: Fri. Sept 13 Fall Rally Trinity Medford Reg. 8-8:30am

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

Next Week at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth: Wed. Sept. 18 Confirmation 6pm

Beth: Wed. Sept. 18 Youth Bible Class Grades 9-12 6:00pm
STJ: VBS July 22nd to July 26th 9am to Noon

Sunday Adult Bible Studies after Church at Bethlehem and St. John
Starting September 8th after Church Services



SAVE THE DATE!!

Harvest Supper Sat Oct 5th, 2024 Sign up sheets
and donation lists on the table in carport area. Pick
your job and time ASAP

Dual Parish Council Meeting on Monday, Sept. 16 at Bethlehem at
7pm.

Bethlehem Sunday School Kickoff will be Sunday, September
22. The congregation is welcome to join us. Sunday School will
go from 9:15 to 10:00 for ages 3 through 6th grade.

Sunday School Teachers and Helpers Installed Today

Gloria Cornelius, Beth Kosik, Lori Schmitt, Tayler Bender, Tasha
Cornelius, Phil Carlson, Deana Parker, Bart Schreiber and Patti
Hammel.

St. John Sunday School staff installed today:

Mary Schultz and Traci Pehlke Co-superintendents

Teachers: Joan Christensen Mary Schultz

Substitute teachers: Tricia VanDerLeest Ronda Durkee

Teaching Assistant: Kelly Mathey

Helper: Sam VanDerLeest

Music: Peter VanDerLeest Delores Telschow

Youth Leader: Deb Mathey

God's Blessing and Thank you from our congregation

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