

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



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025

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 rightly honor our dead who are near to us in time, realizing this is but a passing phase of memory, that in another already-determined Time, all the graves shall be opened, and all shall rise to meet the Judge of the Living and the Dead, whose Kingdom shall have no end. Memory eternal.” *James M. Kushiner, Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Life Thoughts: Paul encourages Timothy, “Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus” (2 Timothy 2:3). Sharing in the suffering of Christ sometimes comes when we share Christ and apply His Word of Life to spiritual issues that are also controversial. But faithfulness to the truth means to “endure everything for the sake of the elect” (2:10). Faithful Lord, permit me to share You in the sufferings of my neighbors as You share in all my own. Amen.

Divine Service I

Easter Proclamation:

P Alleluia! Christ is Risen
C He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

Hymn: “Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice ” LSB 556 (1-5)

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.151)

Corporate Confession (p.151)

Service of the Word

Psalm 67

Kyrie (p.152)

This Is the Feast (p.155)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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 *Acts 16:9-15*

A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, and from there to

Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Christ has risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle *Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27*

⁹Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹²It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— ¹³on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. . . .

²¹And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass.

²²And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia (p.156)

Holy Gospel: *John 16:23-33*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²³Jesus said “In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

²⁵“I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

²⁹His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” ³¹Jesus answered them, “Do

you now believe? ³²Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed (p.158)

Office Hymn:

“Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” LSB 556 (6-10)

Sermon

STJ: Welcoming of New Members

Prayer of the Church

Offertory (p.159)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.160)

Sanctus (p.161)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (p.161)

The Words of Institution (p.162)

Proclamation of Christ (p. 162)

The Lord’s Prayer (p.162)

Pax Domini (p. 163)

Agnus Dei (p.163)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Hymns:

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray” LSB 623

“Jerusalem the Golden” LSB 672

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen” LSB 474

Post Communion Canticle (p. 164)

Post Communion Collect (p.166)

Benediction (p.166)

Hymn: “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” LSB 469

Announcements

Remember in our Prayers:

Our Shut-ins

This Week for Bethlehem and St. John

STJ: Thurs. May 29 Ascension Day Worship 7:00 pm

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth: Sun. June 1 Sunday Worship & Confirmation 8:00 am

STJ: Sun. June 1 Sunday Worship 10:30am

Confirmation and Graduation Party for Kelly Mathey

Date: May 31, 2025

Time: 2 pm – 6 pm

Location: St. John Lutheran Church

RSVP: Sunday, May 25 to Deb (715) 216-6634

St. John Church will be hosting a reception for Kelly after worship service on June 1st. Plan to attend and give her our blessings.

The 2025 Convention of the North Wisconsin District welcomes guest speaker Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of the LCMS. Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison will preach the opening worship service. All are welcome!

Date: June 1, 2025

Time: 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Location: Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 6205 Alderson Street, Weston, WI

The theme for the convention is “Alive” based on Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword...”

Thank you – I would like to thank everyone from Bethlehem and St. John Churches for their cards and gifts recognizing my 16 years of service as church secretary and a special thank you to the Sunday School Children for singing for us.

- Sharon B.

St. John Brewer Trip

Date: Wednesday, June 25th.

Cost: \$85 includes ticket, sack lunch, water, soda and charter bus to drop off and pick up at the door.

To reserve your spot contact Stacey VanHoy 715-506-0207.

Edgar area Memorial Day Services will be conducted by the Edgar V.F.W. Post 10187 and American Legion Post 393. They will pay tribute at the following cemeteries on May 26, 2025.

8:30 am	Holy Family Church	Poniatowski
9:00 am	St. John Lutheran	High Steeple
9:20 am	Hope Lutheran	Hwy 97
9:40 am	St. John Lutheran	Hwy N
9:50 am	Joint Township	Hwy N
10:05 am	Fenwood	Fenwood
11:00 am	Edgar Veteran Memorial	Oak St. Park

Military Honors at the Town of Wien/Frankfort Cemetery on May 26, 2025

Edgar Homeschoolers are hosting a celebration at the Edgar Village Hall in the afternoon (12:30-3:30) commemorating “Wisconsin in the Civil War” (160 Years). We will be honoring Charles (Carl) Marquardt at the Civil War Veteran buried in the Town Cemetery. NOTE: He was one of the founding fathers of the Town of Wien and St. John Church. St. John’s own Charlotte Murkowski is a direct descendant of his.

Thank you for the beautiful quilt and the wonderful preservice gathering. – Maryn Schafer

Blood Drive

Location: Community Bible Church in Stratford

Date: June 19th, 2025.

Time: 1:00 - 6:00