

# Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

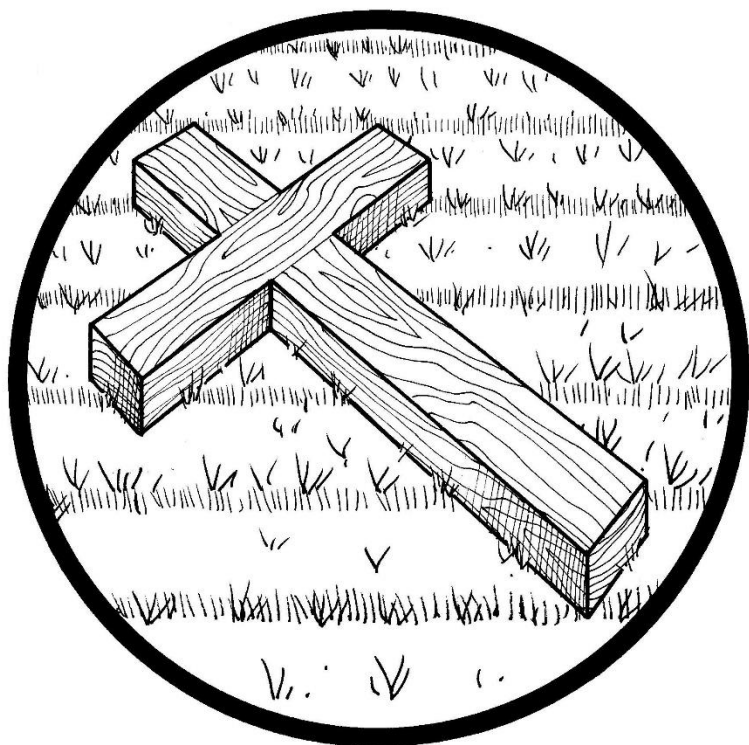
- The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod -

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



Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2026

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 Thoughts: June 28 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** – Jesus said:

“And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward” (Matthew 10: 42). God does not demand from us that we have success with everyone to whom we proclaim the Word of God. God knows the hearts of men. He knows that many have turned their hearts from hearing God's Word and desire death and not life. They desire to stay in their sins and not hear God's mercy and love for them. They will still kill their children, murder their elders, and seek to destroy life at every step because of who their father is. But we as God's children are to speak the truth even when it is received with hostility and even when it seems meager and worthless. For God says if we even give a cup of cold water, God will bless us. If we seek to save the life of a human being according to God's Word, God will bless us.

**Life Quotes: June 28** “God always makes life, and He always makes life worth it. The Good Giver of Life also accompanies each one as the Almighty Lord of ‘my power is made perfect in weakness’ (2 Corinthians 12: 9). The crucifixion forgiveness of Jesus Christ proves that He constantly populates the adversities themselves with delights.” *Rev. Michael Salemink, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**LCMS National Mission: June 28 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Matthew 10: 42* – “And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.” The tithes and offerings you give to the Lord's work in His church go toward supporting all manner of discipleship. They provide for a minister of the Gospel to preach, teach and conduct the Sacraments; they provide for our missionaries and ministries of mercy here and abroad; and they make sure that the folks in your area have a place to go to worship the Lord. The Lord is pleased with this work, and He wants to bless you through your support of it.

# Divine Service IV

*Hymn: "The Law of God Is Good and Wise"*

LSB 579

## Confession and Absolution (p. 203)

### Service of the Word

Psalm 119:153-160

Kyrie (p. 204)

Gloria in Excelsis (p. 204)

### Salutation and Collect of the Day (p. 205)

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.**

### Old Testament: *Jeremiah 28:5-9*

<sup>5</sup>Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

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:**           *Romans 7:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? <sup>2</sup>Thus a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. <sup>3</sup>Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

<sup>4</sup>Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. <sup>5</sup>For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. <sup>6</sup>But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.

<sup>7</sup>What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” <sup>8</sup>But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law, sin lies dead. <sup>9</sup>I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. <sup>10</sup>The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. <sup>11</sup>For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. <sup>12</sup>So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

<sup>13</sup>Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia and Verse** (p. 205)

**The Holy Gospel:**       *Matthew 10:34–42*

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

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

<sup>34</sup>[Jesus said:] “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a

daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup>And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup>And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

<sup>40</sup>“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. <sup>41</sup>The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. <sup>42</sup>And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Apostles' Creed (p.207)

*Office Hymn:* “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

LSB 685

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offering

## **Service of the Sacrament**

Preface (p.208)

Sanctus (p.208)

Prayers of Thanksgiving (p. 209)

The Lord's Prayer (p.209)

The Words of Our Lord (p.209)

Pax Domini (p. 209)

Agnus Dei (p.210)

Distribution of the Sacrament

*Distribution Hymns:*

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

LSB 621

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LSB 781

“God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets' Son”

LSB 682

Nunc Dimittis: (p.211)

Post Communion Collect (p.212)

Benedicamus and Benediction (p.212)

*Hymn:* “Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”

LSB 848

# Announcements

## Prayers

- Remember in our prayers our home bound members
- Remember the Ortman family as they grieve the loss of a loved one. Lord, may Your peace guard their hearts and minds, and may they find solace in Your promises of eternal life.
- Remember God's work through the Synod's church workers as you pray: with thanksgiving for the many dedicated church workers in the LCMS.

## This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth: Wed. July 1 LWML 10:00 am  
STJ: Thurs. July 2 LWML 9:30 am  
Fri. July 3 Office Closed  
Sat. July 4 Due Date for announcements for 7/12 bulletin

## Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth: Sun. July 5 Worship Service 8:00 am  
*Acolyte: Evan Strack Greeters: Dennis Venzke & Kurt Denzine*  
STJ: Sun. July 5 Worship Service 10:30 am  
*Acolyte: Samuel Hartwig*



**Starting on July 5<sup>th</sup> church service will resume at St. John with a 10:30 am worship service.**

Portals of Prayer for July – September are available.

July Newsletters are available.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting July 19<sup>th</sup>

Beth: 9:15 am St. John: 11:45 am

**Undie Sunday** – A big THANK YOU to everyone that supported Undie Sunday. We collected 342 pairs of ladies, and men's underwear and t-shirts, girls' and boys' underwear and ladies, men, and kids' socks. Thank you, Jeff and Arlette.



**St. John Sunday School Missions** St. John Sunday School has given \$55.96 (undies and socks) to the Orphan Grain Train. Our students faithfully bring offerings to Sunday School, and we share Jesus by giving to others. Praise the Lord!

**Church secretary will be out of the office July 7<sup>th</sup> – July 10<sup>th</sup>.**

Please have all announcements for the July 12<sup>th</sup> bulletin to the church secretary by July 4<sup>th</sup>.



## **Bethlehem VBS Shipwrecked - Rescued by God**

July 13th and 14th from 4: 30-7: 00. Join us for two fun-filled days of Vacation Bible School where kids will learn to trust God through life's storms. Enjoy Bible stories, music, crafts, and games in an exciting, shipwrecked adventure! Anyone willing to help, please contact Janessa, Tammi, Beth or Patti.

## **LWML Brats and Hot Dogs, Pies and Baked Goods Sale**

Date: Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10: 30 am to 5: 00 pm

Where: Cenex, Hwy 13, Dorchester

Sponsored by Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) from area Lutheran Missouri Synod churches

How can you help?

- Donate pies (using disposable pie tins & identify the flavor)
- Donate baked goods (identify the type)
- Attend and/or help at the sale

## **Join as a volunteer for St. John's window replacement project**

When: Saturday, July 18th, starting at 8: 00 AM

Rain Date: Saturday, July 25th

Who: Volunteers of all skill levels are welcome to assist with the window replacement. Volunteers are needed to help with removing the old windows, installing the new windows and general clean-up.

If interested in volunteering, contact Pete.



## **St. John VBS: Wake, Awake, Watching for Jesus Hymn VBS**

is July 20-24, 9: 00am- Noon. Please contact Traci if you can help, would like to register a child, or if you have any questions.

**VBS Missions:** We will be supporting two local missions this year.

We will be supporting **The North Wisconsin District LCMS**

**Disaster Relief** for the Ringle tornado with a monetary donation, and we will be donating food items to the local food pantries. We will have donation boxes up starting Sunday, July 5. Please help support our VBS with your donations. **DATES to SAVE:** VBS

Planning meeting: July 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm and VBS all staff meeting and decorating: July 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am



**Edgar Parade Float:** The theme was “fishers of men”, which will be a story in our VBS. Thanks to all the people that borrowed the boat to us, decorated and rode in the parade. The children were armed with bubble guns and were shooting the entire route.



### **Obey God Rather Than Man**

After the Ascension, Peter and the Apostles boldly preached the good news of Jesus, drawing crowds hungry for healing and hope. Their witness angered the rulers, who arrested and imprisoned them to silence the gospel. But God sent His angel to free them, commanding them to return to the Temple and speak “all the words of this Life.” Released by God, they continued proclaiming Christ with courage, refusing to be silenced by earthly authority.

Their defiance was not rebellion for rebellion's sake. It was faithful resistance—obedience to divine authority when human authority attempted to overstep its God-given bounds. The Apostles honored earthly rulers where they could, but they refused to surrender the proclamation of Christ, the worship of God, or the conscience bound to His Word.

So it remains today. God's people do not resist government simply because they dislike its decrees. Christian disobedience is never rooted in pride or stubbornness; it is grounded in obedience to God. Civil government possesses legitimate, limited authority, but it is not ultimate. When the state issues rules or regulations that contradict God's commands, we obey God, not man.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for Religious Liberty.

## **LEARN MORE ABOUT THE LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**



<https://www.lcrlfreedom.org>