

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

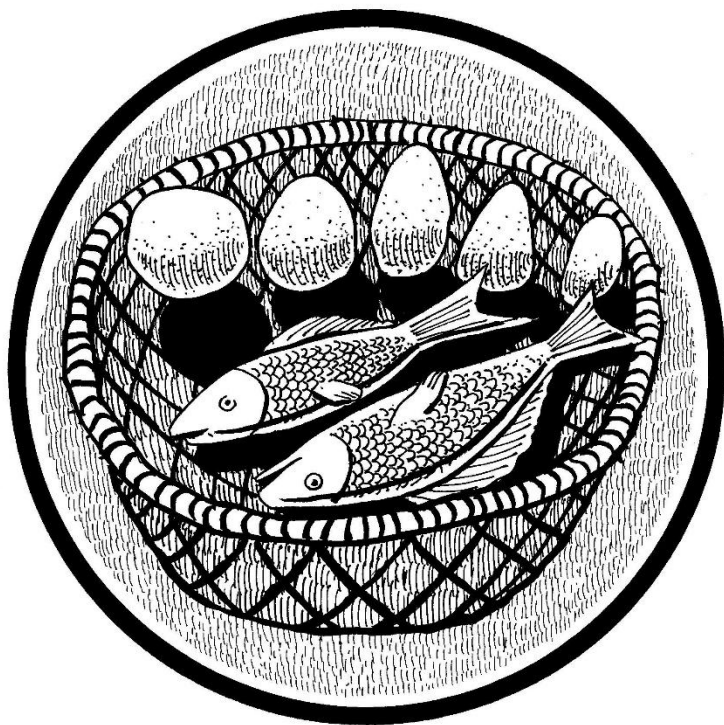
~ The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod ~

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



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 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: August 2 – Pentecost 10 – Our God is the Lord and Giver of life! “Come ... incline your ear to me, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live” (Isaiah 55: 3)! “He who gives food to all flesh, for His steadfast love endures forever” (Psalm 136: 25) also gives nourishment to every born and preborn life He knits together fearfully and wonderfully. Even while I “have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart” (Romans 9: 2) over the spiritually lost and the violence of abortion and euthanasia, we continue to eat and be satisfied (Matthew 14: 20) from Jesus Christ, our Bread of Life.

Life Quotes: August 2 “And so, our life finds its meaning in Him. Our path is directed by Him. Our future is secure in Him. Though life may take a very unexpected turn, whether with a pregnancy, an illness, depression, or sudden loss, there is hope, there is peace, and there is comfort in the compassion and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave Himself for us.” *Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

LCMS National Mission: August 2 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 14: 17–18 – “They said to him, ‘We have only five loaves here and two fish.’ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’” The five loaves and two fish were all that the disciples had. But when they handed them over to the Lord, the multitudes were fed. Apart from Jesus, all we do and all we have comes to nothing. But in Jesus, the Lord blesses all we do and all we have for His gracious work.

Divine Service I

Hymn: “Greet the Rising Sun”

LSB 871

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.151)

Corporate Confession (p.151)

Service of the Word

Psalm 136

Kyrie (p.152)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.154)

Salutation and Collect of the Day (p.156)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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 55:1–5*

¹“Come, everyone who thirsts,

come to the waters;

and he who has no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;

hear, that your soul may live;

and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.”

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 9:1–13*

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— ²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

⁶But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ⁸This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. ⁹For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁰And not only so, but also when Rebecca had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, ¹¹though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of his call— ¹²she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” ¹³As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (p.156)

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

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

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

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the death of John], he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ**

Nicene Creed (p.158)

Office Hymn: "O Living Bread from Heaven"

LSB 642

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offertory (p.159)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.160)

Sanctus (p.161)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (p. 161)

The Lord's Prayer (p.162)

The Words of Our Lord (p.162)

Pax Domini (p. 163)

Agnus Dei (p.163)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymns:

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” LSB 633

“Seek Ye First” LSB 712

“Shepherd of Tender Youth” LSB 864

Thank the Lord (p. 164)

Post Communion Collect (p.166)

Benediction (p.166)

Hymn “Now Thank We All Our God” LSB 895

Announcements

Prayers

- Remember in our prayers our Shut-ins
- Remember God’s work in Lutheran schools as you pray: for the children attending Lutheran schools, that their eyes, ears, hearts and minds would be open to God’s Word.

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

STJ:	Mon.	Aug 3	Able-Light	10 am
Beth:	Wed.	Aug 5	LWML	10 am
STJ:	Thurs.	Aug 6	LWML	9: 30 am

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

STJ: Sun. Aug. 9
Dual Parish Worship Service Worship and Picnic 10 am

Next SUNDAY Acolytes and Greeters

STJ: Sun. Aug. 9 Acolyte: Christian Pehlke

Dual Parish Picnic and Church Service

August 9, 2026, hosted by St. John.

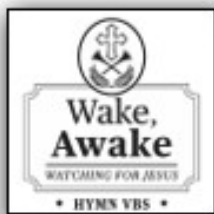
Divine Service will be in the Sanctuary at St. John at **10 am**. Potluck lunch to follow.

Bethlehem members will provide salads and desserts.

St. John members will be providing main dishes which include hamburgers, hot ham and hot dogs.

Attention St. John members: Please sign up for main dishes to bring to the Dual Parish Picnic. Examples: potato dish or beans. Signup sheet is located in the carport area.





St. John VBS Recap: We had 10 children ranging in ages 3 through those going into 6th grade. We had a wonderful group of over 12 youth helpers, and about 13 adult workers. This year we followed the hymn “Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying” to learn that Christ, who came once, will come again. We need His salvation, and we need to prepare for his return with the means of grace. We rejoice

that Christ comes to rescue us from suffering, because He is the source of **ALL JOY!** We participated in fellowship, activities, wonderful snacks, creative crafts, singing, and a lot of fun. It is wonderful to see everyone working together, enjoying the craziness of all the children, and sharing God’s love with all present.

Mission Fundraisers

This year we collected food for local area food pantries, Athens, Edgar, and Stratford. We collected **206 Food Items** during the week and the kids and staff delivered the grocery bags to the 3 local Circle of Joy drop offs at VBS closing on Friday.

Our second mission was Ringle Tornado relief, in conjunction with North Wisconsin District LCMS Disaster Relief. **We collected over \$ 2,252 from VBS with the congregation’s help!**

We closed VBS with an evening church service on Friday, followed by a picnic style supper in the parish hall. The kids enjoyed showing off their new songs to families and friends.

Praise be to God! Thank you to all the children and families that made this possible.

Traci Pehlke - VBS Director

Save the Date: St John’s Harvest Supper

October 3, 2026. Signup sheets for donations and volunteer jobs will be out in the next few weeks.



LWML Brat and Hot Dog, Pie and Baked Goods Sale

Brats were not the only things “frying” on Friday!!

The truck parked by the gas pumps and store were also ablaze!!! It was really on fire!! That was pretty scary for a while! We showed our appreciation by giving the

firemen a brat and water. So many thanks to everyone who Served the Lord with Gladness!!! We will be depositing

\$2,322.06!!! Last year, we made around \$1900.

Thank you, and God Bless You!!

Janean Morrow (Zone 10 President)



Lutheran Hour Sponsorship: Looking for three more churches and/or individuals to sponsor the last three Sundays. We need to fill in these dates soon. A full sponsorship is \$94 for a half-hour broadcast. Please contact Lisa Snorheim at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Spencer at 715-659-4006 or send an email to trinity.spencer.wi@gmail.com to request a date. Checks can be made payable to “Lutheran Hour WDLB” and mailed to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 109, Spencer, WI 54479
Dates available: September 6 & 13 and December 13

If anyone asks, yes, we are accepting sponsorships for 2027. Thank you so much for your support. I couldn't do this without all of your help.

NWD, SWD, and Disaster Relief for the Appleton/Menasha

Tornado on July 27, 2026: For **RIGHT NOW** we are asking people to pray for the families that have been impacted. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please send money marked “**Disaster Response**” to:

North Wisconsin District
3103 Seymour Lane
Wausau, WI 54401

We will provide more updates as we have them. We ask that anyone wishing to volunteer please stand by as there will certainly be opportunities to serve. Thank you.

Liturgical Glossary

Nicene Creed (nye-SEEN) Composed in A.D. 325 at a council of bishops (pastors) in Nicaea as a defense against the false teaching that Jesus was not true God. The creed was expanded to its present form at the Council of Constantinople in A.D. 381. It has been used in the Divine Service as a corporate confession of the faith for centuries.