

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches

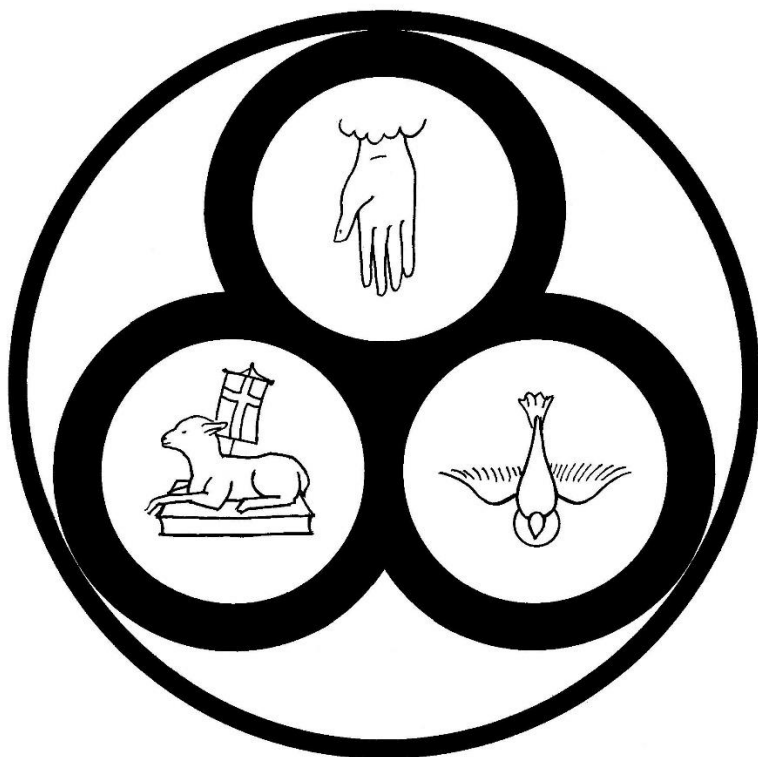
- The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod -

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The Holy Trinity

May 31, 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: May 31 – The Holy Trinity: First Sunday after Pentecost – “O Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!” (Psalm 8: 1). The Triune God who made heaven and earth and all things, and who breathed into Adam the breath of life (Genesis 1), is the same God into whose name we are baptized—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28: 19-20). This Jesus, who was crucified by men, but whom God raised from the dead (Acts 2: 23-24), brings hope and courage to those who have lost their way in life. Through the forgiveness of sins in Christ, the past can no longer haunt us, and we are free to live in the light of God's Word. Whether the woman facing an unexpected pregnancy, or the person who has received a terminal medical diagnosis, or the one who feels as though their life no longer has purpose or value, Jesus—the Lord of Life—will not forsake us. The promise of Christ stands: “I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28: 20).

Life Quotes: May 31 “If we want to save more Trinitarian-valued lives, then we need to knock a Humpty Dumpty way of thinking about words off the wall. We need to speak of the reality behind the word ‘abortion’ and use such a time as this to speak of the reality behind the Word made flesh to dwell among us and in us and for us. You have been called for such a time as this.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

LCMS National Mission: May 31 – The Holy Trinity
Matthew 28:19–20 – “**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.**” Behold the threefold Name of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We are baptized into this Name. We have been made a part of God's family. Now, we are called to live in harmony with our new family, to be godly and live in God's image. As God is loving, kind and generous, so are we all called to be.

Divine Service III

Hymn: “Father Most Holy”

LSB 504

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Exhortation (p.184)

Corporate Confession (p.184)

Service of the Word

Psalm 8

Kyrie (p.186)

Gloria in Excelsis (p.187)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Genesis 1:1—2:4a*

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And

it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. ²⁵And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over

every living thing that moves on the earth.”²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.”³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ²And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation. ⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.
On your wondrous works, I will meditate,
and I will declare your greatness.

Second Reading *Acts 2:14a, 22–36*

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

²²“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

²⁹“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,
“‘The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, ³⁵until I make your enemies your footstool.’” ³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Alleluia (p.190)

Holy Gospel *Matthew 28:16-20*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Athanasian Creed (p.319)

Office Hymn: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

LSB 507

Sermon

Offertory (p.192)

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (p.194)

Sanctus (p.195)

The Lord's Prayer (p.196)

The Words of Our Lord (p.197)

Pax Domini (p. 197)

Agnus Dei (p.198)

Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymns:

"O Lord, We Praise Thee" LSB 617

"Voices Raised to You We Offer" LSB 795

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" LSB 821

Nunc Dimittis: (p.199)

Thanksgiving (p.200)

Post Communion Collect (p.201)

Salutation and Benedicamus (p.201)

Benediction (p.202)

Hymn: "Glory Be to God the Father" LSB 506

Announcements

Prayers

*Remember in our prayers our Shut-ins

*Remember God's work in His Church as you pray: for all those still living in darkness, that the Gospel will be their light and life.

This Week at Bethlehem and St. John

STJ: Mon. June 1 Able- Light 10:00 am

Beth: Wed. June 3 LWML 10:00 am

Beth: Wed. June 3 VBS Planning Mtg 6:00 pm

STJ: Thurs. June 4 LWML 9:30 am

Next SUNDAY at Bethlehem and St. John

Beth: Sun. June 7 Worship Service 8:00 am

Beth: Sun. June 7 Worship Service 10:30 am

Baptism of Monroe and Magnolia

Next SUNDAY Acolytes and Greeters

Beth: Sun. June 7 Acolyte: Aubree Kirschner

Greeters: James Freimund & Dale Ploeckelman

STJ: Sun. June 7 Acolyte: Lauryn Hartwig

Presentation by Paul and Courtney Mroczenski today, May 31st in-between services.

Bethlehem VBS planning meeting will be Wednesday, June 3, at 6:00 for anyone interested in helping.

Save the Date The Edgar parade! Sunday, June 21 at 1:00 pm

Looking for volunteers to help with the float decorating and being in the parade. Contact Mary Schultz, Mel Niemann, or Traci Pehlke.



Bethlehem LWML Ladies will be hosting Undie Sunday

Destitute people around the world need basic necessities. Thousands of people helped by The Grain Train do not have good underwear or socks. For Undie Sunday, please bring NEW underwear (all sizes, men's women's, girl's and boy's) and socks to church. Arlette will be collecting at Bethlehem and Jeff W. will collect at St. John. Undies and socks will be collected through Sunday, June 14th.



SAVE THE DATE: Bethlehem VBS Shipwrecked - Rescued by God

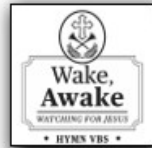
July 13th and 14th from 4: 30-7: 00. Join us for two fun-filled days of Vacation Bible School where kids will learn to trust God through life's storms. Enjoy Bible stories, music, crafts, and games in an exciting, shipwrecked adventure! Anyone willing to help, please contact Janessa, Tammi, Beth or Patti.



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.



It is almost time for the Higher Things Youth Conference

in St. Louis, MO at Washington University. Our group will be leaving Sunday, June 21st. We will take a couple of days to do some sightseeing in St. Louis, MO. The Conference begins Tuesday afternoon with Divine Worship. Many opportunities for worship, spiritual growth and fellowship are planned.

We appreciate all the support our congregations have given to us to help us attend this event. If you haven't already, please join the Youth Facebook group. We will give regular updates, pics and some live videos of our trip together.

Thank you for your continued prayers. Please keep Pastor, Deb, Ronda, Kelly, Lauryn, Jaydn, Isabelle and Kassidy all in your prayers as the Lord prepares their hearts and minds for this experience!

