

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Divine Service Three

September 22, 2024

Vol. 126-42

Invocation (Please stand)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word pg. 184

Introit (sung responsively)



Righteous are you, | O LORD,*
and right are your | just decrees.

Deal with your servant according to your | steadfast love,*
and teach me your | statutes.

Blessèd are those whose way is | blameless,*
who walk in the law | of the LORD!

Blessèd are those who keep his testi- | monies,*
who seek him with their | whole heart.

Oh that my ways may be | steadfast*

in keeping your | statutes!
Then I shall not be | put to shame,*
having my eyes fixed on all your com- | mandments.
*Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**
and to the Holy / Spirit;
*as it was in the be- / ginning,**
is now, and will be forever. / Amen.
 Righteous are you, | O LORD,*
 and right are your | just decrees.
Deal with your servant according to your | steadfast love,*
and teach me your | statutes.

Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
 men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
 O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
 O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 25:6–14

- ⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king’s presence
or stand in the place of the great,
⁷for it is better to be told, “Come up here,”
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.
What your eyes have seen
⁸do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to shame?
⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
and do not reveal another’s secret,
¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.
¹¹A word fitly spoken
is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.
¹²Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold
is a wise reprover to a listening ear.
¹³Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest
is a faithful messenger to those who send him;
he refreshes the soul of his masters.
¹⁴Like clouds and wind without rain
is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

**Blessèd is the nation whose God | is the LORD,*
the people whom he has chosen as his | heritage!
By the word of the LORD the heav- | ens were made,*
and by the breath of his mouth | all their host.**

Epistle

Ephesians 4:1–6

¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

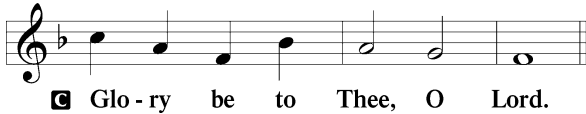
Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Luke 14:1–11

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



¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “**Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?**” ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, “**Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?**” ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸“**When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.** ¹⁰**But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you.** ¹¹**For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”**

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,

begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father,
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

#557 Seek Where You May to Find a Way

Sermon

Offertory

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



Offering

Installation of Fieldworker Sem. Brandon Streeks

Prayer of the Church

We remember all those in need of continued strength and healing

Mike Schumm, Martha Bauermeister

Macie Saalfrank, Garrett Werling

Bryce Bonman, Ron Whitesel, Sandy Avey

Ellie Anderson (friend of Sarena Wirgau)

Brandon Tomlinson (son in-law of the Brinkleys)

Tom Black (father of Ed Black), Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)

We pray for our expectant mothers: *Lynae Laley, Danielle Campbell, Amelia Phillips, Reese Springer*

We pray for protection: *Pastor and Mrs. Moebring's son Stephen in Israel.*

We pray for our members shut-in:

Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare)

Marilyn Meyer (Kingston)

Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)

Gloria Siela (living with son, Gary)

Charlotte Bultemeier (StoryPoint West)

Rev. Donald Lutz (Lutheran Life Village)

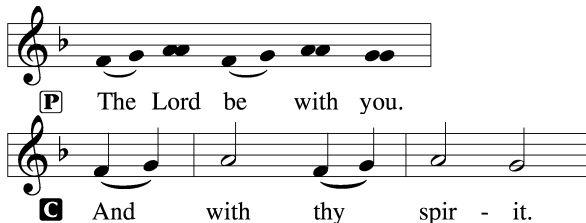
Norwin Bauermeister (Astral in Auburn)

We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel

Service of the Sacrament pg. 194

Preface





P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,

**Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.**

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



A - men.

Agnus Dei



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

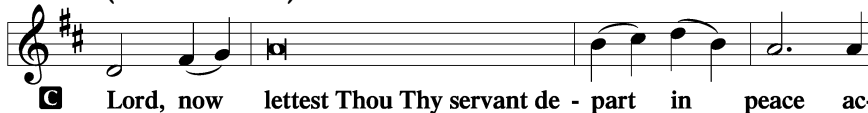
Distribution

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper in our worship. Bethlehem Lutheran Church administers this Holy Supper in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive, along with the Bread and Wine, the very Body and Blood of Jesus through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Furthermore, the communicants as a body of believers make a confession of the unity of their faith. **Those desiring to receive the Sacrament with us, who are not communicant members of Bethlehem or of a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, are asked to please speak with the Pastor before the service.**

Distribution Hymns

- #625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread
- #627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior
- #857 Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way
- #783 Take My Life and Let It Be
- #662 Onward, Christian Soldiers

Nunc Dimittis (Please stand)



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

B and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

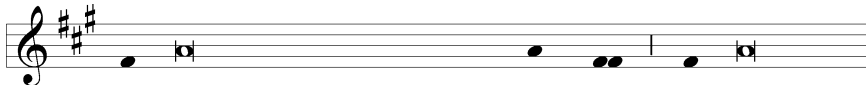


A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction



IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Celebrant	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Vicar	Sem. Morgan Phillips
Fieldworker	Sem. Brandon Streeks
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Glen Werling
Elders on Duty	Ted Schumm and Jerry Meyer
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Organist	Emilie Meyer
Acolytes	Jude Wirgau and Matthew Rekeweg
Altar Guild Chairman	Tisha Laley and Cheryl Louison
Ushers	Gavin Laley, Cale Schumm, Nathan Meyer Evan Springer, Grant Scheumann, Adam Lambert

Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wirgau	260-273-7595
(Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com)	
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Office	260-597-7121
Bethlehem Lutheran School	260-597-7366
Assoc. Pastor, Headmaster Rev. Anthony Dodgers	616-648-6489
Kantor Mr. Richard Brinkley	260-705-4105
Deaconess Wendy Boehm	260-415-8526
Vicar Morgan Phillips	605-391-4770
<i>Website for Church and School: www.blcsossian.org</i>	

TODAY	9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
	10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class and Sunday School
	11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
	12:00 noon Adult Fellowship Group
	6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study
MONDAY	2:00 p.m. LWML Bible Study
	6:00 p.m. Wholyfit
	7:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m. Chapel Service
	5:30 p.m. Adult Catechesis Class
	5:30 p.m. Girls Volleyball vs St. Louis
	7:00 p.m. Spoken Divine Service
	7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice
THURSDAY	1:00 p.m. Blanket Sewing (school basement)
	6:00 p.m. Wholyfit
	7:00 p.m. Lutheran Classical College presentation

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Congregational Forum
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)

WE WELCOME ALL OUR VISITORS this morning to our church and worship service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We ask that you please complete a green visitor's card from the pew and place it in the offering plate. Also, please be sure to introduce yourself to the Pastor and to others in attendance and feel free to worship with us again.

Bulletin announcements can be emailed to the church secretary at bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com or by calling the church office at 260-597-7121.

Please welcome Bethlehem's new Fieldworker - Congratulations to Sem. Brandon Streeks who was assigned to Bethlehem for his fieldwork over the next two years.

Renovated Nursery Room – A big thank you to Erin Schumm and our anonymous donor for the newly renovated nursery room in the church narthex. Please be sure to check out this beautiful room for our members and guests to use for their little ones.

**Tuesday, October 1 – Women of Bethlehem Board meeting
at 7pm in the church Fellowship Hall**

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM: PART 2 - The elders of Bethlehem are calling another congregational forum to continue our discussion of First Communion prior to Confirmation during the Bible Study hour on **Sunday, September 29th**. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate. If you have questions or would like to submit questions for the forum, please speak to Pastor Wirgau or the Elders.

The **Bethlehem Pork Chop Carry-Out Fundraiser** will be held on Sunday, October 6th, 11:00 am until 1:00 pm at Lighted Gardens. Please be sure to place your order prior to September 30th. To place your order, please contact Pat Meyer, 260-227-0400, spmeyer82@gmail.com OR Cheryl Louison 260-414-5526, clouison@ymail.com. Dinners will be \$14 each and will include a Smoked Pork Chop, Baked Potato, Green Beans, and dinner roll. Helpers are needed. Sign-up sheets are on the tables in the north hallway.

Employment Opportunity - The Bethlehem Board of Christian Education along with the Lutheran Special Education Ministries is looking for someone to fill a part-time resource room teacher position. Applicants must hold a current Indiana Teaching License and have a special education certification/endorsement. Interested applicants looking for more

information or wishing to submit a resume are asked to contact Rev. Anthony Dodgers at pastordodgers@blcsossian.org or Richard Schumacher at (734) 748-5253 or email him at rschumacher@luthsped.org

You are invited to the LWML Decatur Circuit workshop at St Paul Preble on Saturday, October 5. Registration begins at 8:45, Devotions at 9:00, and then the workshop. We will be highlighting Bibles for the Prison Ministries at Adams and Wells County Jails and Hope Clinic. All supplies will be available for you at the workshop.

Adult Fellowship Group (formally widows club) will be meeting after Sunday School TODAY in the fellowship hall for a carry in potluck. Card games will be available to play as well. Contact Gail Werling for more info.

Circuit Forum Recap - Our circuit met in a forum last Sunday with delegates from Bethlehem. Two items of business are of note. First, the circuit elected Pastor Wirgau to be the next Circuit Visitor. His duties will begin after the 2025 District Convention in June. Second, an Overture was approved to be sent to the District to take up at the 2025 District convention to give thanks to God and seek to continue serving and supporting the mission and mercy work in Tanzania.

A Visit from Luther Classical College - Rev. Timothy Rossow will be at Bethlehem this Thursday, September 26, at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall to share the work being done at Luther Classical College in Wyoming and to thank Bethlehem for their support in the past. Please consider visiting with him to learn more about this great work.

Immanuel Lutheran Church – Hog Roast, September 29th 10:30-12:30 p.m. Tickets \$12.00 Drive thru available.

Zion Lutheran Church -Soup and Sandwich Day – Friday, October 4th 11-1:00 and 4-6:30pm. Carryout is available. See flyer on bulletin board for more information.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church (Soest) Fall Rummage & Bake Sale on Thursday, October 17th, from 8am-4pm and on Friday, October 18th, from 8am-noon.

Singing the Psalms: Join us on Sunday, November 3, at 3 p.m. at Zion Friedheim for an afternoon of Psalm singing and fellowship! This event will feature singers and instrumentalists from various local Lutheran churches and schools. Refreshments will follow in the Family Life Center.

SAVE THE DATE: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and New Hope Lutheran Church will be hosting a “Trunk or Treat” event together on Saturday, October 26th from 4-6 p.m (rain location in the gym). If you are interested in hosting a trunk, there are forms in the narthex or online on Bethlehem’s website (parishioners only). Prize will be given out to

the best decorated trunk. This is a FREE event, everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact Deaconess Wendy Boehm or Tina Bauermeister for more information. Hope to see you there!

Final 175th Anniversary Celebration Worship Service On Sunday, October 6, at 9:00 a.m. St. John Lutheran Church (Flatrock) will complete a year-long celebration of 175 years of being a Lutheran congregation. We will celebrate God's faithfulness through His Word and Sacrament under the theme: *Remember, Renew, Rejoice* (based on Psalm 105:1–3). The Rev. Peter K. Lange, LCMS First Vice-President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is the guest preacher for this service.

Offering September 15, 2024

<u>Average weekly need \$13,818</u>	
Home Fund Env.	\$8,883.24
Synod	65.15
Loose	161.50
Scholarship Fund	125.00
Improvement Fund	50.50
Endowment Fund	25.00
Music Fund	
Sunday School	<u>26.00</u>
Total	\$9,336.39

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance \$5,757.51

Next week bills due: \$15,000

Bills due two weeks: \$18,000

Savings Account Balance \$107,719.22

Borrowed from Savings: \$26,300

Operating Loan Debt: \$0.00

Church/Communion Attendance

Sunday 171/134

Wednesday 28/17

FREE ITEMS – due to more organization and cleaning out, we have several items in the school gym that are for the taking. Please be sure and check it out and mark any big items that need picked up at a later date. Contact the school office if you have any questions.

RECITATION & PRAYER FOR SCHOOL AND HOME

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

What are the Ten Commandments?

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it Holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What is the Apostles' Creed?

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

- *Additional Memory Work for the week may be recited.*
- *A hymn may be sung.*
- *Scripture Reading and Devotion Lesson*
- *Prayers and Intercessions*

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Learn-by-heart all or some of the provided text as age and ability of your household allows.

What does God say about all these commandments?

He says: "I, the Lord, your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sins of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments." Exodus 20:5-6

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

DRIVE - THRU Pork Chop Dinner

Lighted Gardens

10794 N State Road 1, Ossian, IN

Sunday, October 6th

11am—1 pm

Cost: \$14.00



Dinner includes:

Smoked Pork Chop, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans and Roll

TO PREORDER YOUR DINNERS CONTACT:

Cheryl Louison 260-414-5526 - clouison@ymail.com

Pat Meyer 260-227-0400 - spmeyer82@gmail.com

Deadline for orders is Monday, September 30th

CASH OR CHECKS ONLY MADE PAYABLE TO
WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM

Proceeds Benefit Northern Wells/Ossian Food Pantry
and Women of Bethlehem Project Fund