# Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

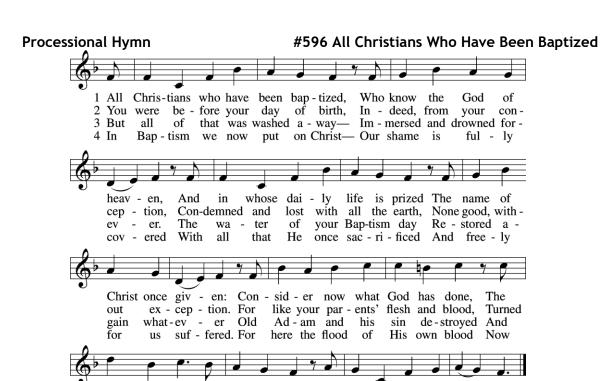
6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Baptism of our Lord

Divine Service - Setting One January 12, 2025 Vol. 127-07



in - ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly de - nied Him.

sin - ful selves em-ployed Ac - cord-ing to our na - ture. ho - ly, right, and good Be - fore our heav'n-ly Fa - ther.

Bap-tized in - to Christ Je - sus!

5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift And give God thanks forever! It gives the power to uplift In all that you endeavor. When nothing else revives your soul, Your Baptism stands and makes you whole And then in death completes you.

He gives to ev - 'ry - one

So use it well! You are made new— 6 In Christ a new creation! As faithful Christians, live and do Within your own vocation, Until that day when you possess His glorious robe of righteousness Bestowed on you forever!

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961 Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

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gifts

makes us

our

#### Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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. 151

## Introit (sung responsively)



Behold the Lord, the rul- er, has come,\*

and the kingdom and the power and the glory are | in his hand.

I have found David, my | servant;\*

with my holy oil I have a- | nointed him.

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, for- | ever;\*

with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- ations.

He shall cry to me, "You are my | Father,\*

my God, and the Rock of my sal- | vation."

And I will make him the | firstborn,\*

the highest of the kings | of the earth.

My steadfast love I will keep for him for- | ever,\*

and my covenant will stand | firm for him.

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.

Behold the Lord, the rul- | er, has come,\* and the kingdom and the power and the glory are | in his hand.

I have found David, my | servant;\*

with my holy oil I have a- | nointed him.

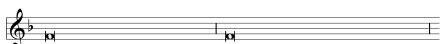
#### **Kyrie**



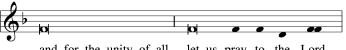


A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.





A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

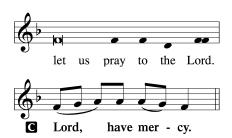


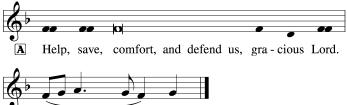
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.





A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



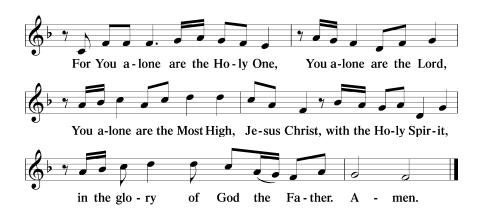


#### Gloria in Excelsis





You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



### Salutation and Collect of the Day



#### **P** Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 42:1-7

<sup>1</sup>Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.
<sup>2</sup>He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;
<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;

he will faithfully bring forth justice.

4He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

5Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it:

6"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,

7 to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,

from the prison those who sit in darkness.

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

#### Gradual

Blessèd be the LORD, the God of | Israel,\*
who alone does | wondrous things.
Blessèd be his glorious name for- | ever;\*
may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and | Amen!

#### **Epistle**

1 Corinthians 1:26–31

<sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

### Alleluia and Verse



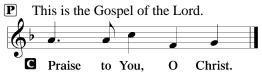


Holy Gospel Matthew 3:13–17

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



<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."



#### Nicene Creed

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 + of the world to come. Amen.

#### Hymn of the Day

#406 To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord

#### Sermon

#### Prayer of the Church

#### We remember all those in need of continued strength and healing

Ed Thiele (brother of Martha Bauermeister in hospice), Hildegarde Bauermeister

Enoch Krenzke (Dan and Sue Bachinger's grandson recovering from pace maker surgery)

Cathie Kammer (friend of Sylvia Wann recovering from a broken wrist and hip)

Carla Wiederhold (cousin of Otto Clausen battling cancer)

Sandy Avey, Dale Meyer, Gail Werling, Garrett Werling

Bryce Bowman, Ron Whitesel

Ellie Anderson (friend of Sarena Wirgau)

Brandon Tomlinson (son in-law of the Brinkleys)

Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)

We pray for our expectant mothers: Amelia Phillips, Reese Springer, Allie Nahrwold

Wendy Boehm, Destiny Laley, Shaeli Streeks

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

### We pray for our members shut-in:

Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare)

Marilyn Meyer (Kingston)

Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)

Charlotte Bultemeier (StoryPoint West)

Rev. Donald Lutz (Lutheran Life Village)

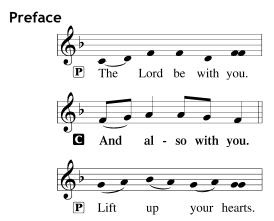
Norwin and Martha Bauermeister (Astral in Auburn)

## We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel



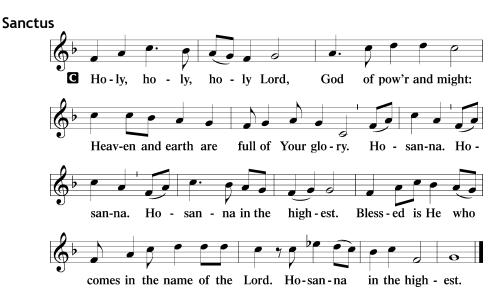
## Service of the Sacrament pg. 160





#### **Proper Preface (Abbreviated)**

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



### Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb

in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

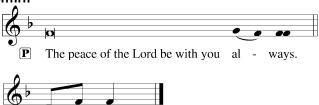
Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the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

#### The Words of Our Lord

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 Holood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini



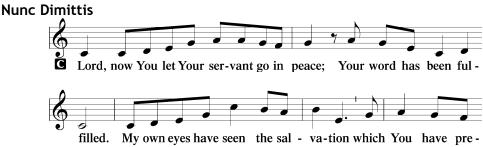


#### Distribution

<u>Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper</u> 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**

#629 What Is This Bread #722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me #405 To Jordan's River Came Our Lord #404 Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered #602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives





#### **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.



#### **Benediction**



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



#### **Closing Hymn**

#### 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	Steve Conrad and Bruce Meyer
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Acolytes	Jude Wirgau and Matthew Rekeweg
Altar Guild Chairman	Cheryl Louison and Deann Oliver
Ushers	Rory Geiger, Lane Harkless, Isaac Harkless
	Darren Patrick, Mark Patrick, Cole Patrick

(a new usher schedule is available in the church office)

Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wirgau	260-273-7595	
( <u>Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com</u> )		
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	
Website for Church and School: <u>www.blcsossian.org</u>		

TODAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion		
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Class and Sunday School		
	11:30 a.m.	Board of Elders Meeting		
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)		
	6:30 p.m.	Middle School and High School Youth Bible Study		
MONDAY	7:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Practice		
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m.	Chapel Service		
	5:30 p.m.	Adult Catechesis Class		
	7:00 p.m.	Spoken Divine Service		
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Practice		
THURSDAY	WOB Blanket Sewing			
FRIDAY – SATURDAY Bethlehem Varsity Boys Tournament				
SUNDAY	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)		

Announcements can be emailed to the church secretary at <a href="mailto:bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com">bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com</a> or the church office at 597-7121.

<a href="https://www.youtube.com/bethlehemlutheranchurchossian">https://www.youtube.com/bethlehemlutheranchurchossian</a> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

**WE WELCOME ALL 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. If you are a visitor to today's service, please take a moment to sign one of the register books located in each of the church foyers. If you would like to be contacted by the pastor or an elder, then please take a moment to fill out one of the green cards on the narthex tables and give it to an elder or drop it in the offering collection plate. Thank you!

<u>First Communion Forum</u> - The Elders are planning to hold a third meeting in February to discuss First Communion and we would love to hear from you! A date for the forum will be set at the January 11th Elders meeting. If you have a question that you would like to have addressed at the forum about the practice of First Communion, then take a moment to speak to pastor or the Elders. If you would prefer, write it on a piece of paper and give it to an Elder before or after the service. Or email me at <u>glen.werling@icloud.com</u> or pastor at <u>Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com</u>. If you wish to remain anonymous, that's perfectly fine. We would love to hear from you!

<u>THANK YOU</u> - Dear Members of Bethlehem, Thank you so much for the love and support you have shown to us through your words and gifts this Christmas season. We are so thankful for all the support you have given to our family. Thank you for everything. We feel so thankful and blessed to be here at Bethlehem. God's blessings to you all, The Streeks Family

<u>THANK YOU</u> to all the members donating their end of year Thrivent Choice dollars to Bethlehem. Your gracious gifts are very much appreciated.

<u>LUTHERAN BIBLE INSTITUTE</u> – Make it your New Year's resolution to come and learn at the 56<sup>th</sup> annual Decatur Lutheran Bible Institute. Classes meet at Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School January 28-February 18th. Students and adults can choose from four stimulating courses. Please see today's insert for more information or contact our Bethlehem representatives Ted and Denise Schumm.

Reminder LWML Bible Study- Monday, January 13th at 2 PM, everyone is welcome to join.

**BOOK CLUB:** Our next book club pick will be "The Things We Cannot Say" by Kelly Rimmer. *About the Book:* Slipping between Nazi-occupied Poland and the frenetic pace of modern life, Kelly Rimmer creates an emotional and finely wrought narrative. *The Things We Cannot Say* is an unshakable reminder of the devastation when truth is silenced...and how it can take a lifetime to find our voice before we learn to trust it. We will meet at Crimson House on Saturday, March 8th (date has been changed) at 8:00am.

**Bethlehem is invited to the Ordination of Zachary Bultemeier**, Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church 2315 N Parham Road Henrico, VA 23229. The service will also be available on livestream https://www.tlcrva.org/Worship

<u>Chapel Mission Project</u> – Bethlehem will be having a "Penny War" between the chapel families to help with our next chapel offering to Lutheran Senior Ministries. There will be opportunities for the church and school to work together on donations. There are jars located in the hallway during school days and in the church on weekends. Each jar has the name of a chapel family. How to play: Pennies and dollars (\$1, \$5, \$10, etc.) count as positive points, silver coins (nickels, dimes, quarters) count as negative points. The chapel family with the most points at the end of the third quarter wins. All are encouraged to participate in this race!

<u>Lutheran Special Education Ministries</u> is looking for a full-time resource room teacher position at Lutheran South Unity School in Fort Wayne, IN. 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 Richard Schumacher at (734)748-5253 or email at <a href="mailto:rschumacher@luthsped.org">rschumacher@luthsped.org</a>.

Offering January	5, 2025	<u>Financial Report</u>
Average weekly need	\$13,818	Home Fund Balance \$1,047.03
Home Fund Env.	\$13,884.35	Next week bills due: \$15,000
Synod	15.15	Bills due two weeks: \$14,000
Loose	140.06	Savings Account Balance \$48,422.11
Scholarship Fund		Borrowed from Savings: \$16,300
Sunday School		Operating Loan Debt: \$0.00
Improvement Fund	375.50	
Endowment Fund	275.00	<b>Church/Communion Attendance</b>
Music Fund	282.00	Sunday 199/140
New Year's Eve	2,505.29	Wednesday 27/19
Reimb Vicarage Re	nt <u>700.00</u>	
Total	\$18,177.35	

Here is the monthly report for the Bethlehem Lutheran School Endowment Fund by the Lutheran Foundation. The following information is accurate as of November 31, 2024:

\$221,427.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009

208,383.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched

317,329.88 - Amount generated since 2009

-149,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009

\$597,640.70 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of November 30, 2024

#### 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 is the First Petition of the Lord's Prayer? Hallowed be Thy name.

What does this mean?

God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

How is God's name kept holy?

God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this dear Father in heaven!

But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this heavenly Father!

What is Matthew 18:20?

[Jesus said] For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them. Matthew 18:20



## Decatur Lutheran Bible Institute

2025 Sessions: January 28, February 4, 11 & 18

#### Choose one of these stimulating courses:

The Mind and the Soul - How God Cares for Both

Rev. Dr. Todd A. Peperkorn - Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

Love is All You Need? Depends on What You Mean.

Rev. David H. Petersen - Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne

Mission Belongs to the Church Like Heat to Fire

Rev. Dr. Klaus Detley Schulz - Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

Petty Tyrants: Humanity's Quest for Power When Authority Isn't Enough

Rev. Matthew T. Ulmer - Zion Friedheim Lutheran Church, Decatur

Tuition: \$10 per adult (covers 4 sessions), FREE for all students?

Bring your own personal Bible.

Enrollment: Opening night at 6:30 pm followed by classes from 7-9:15 pm

Location: Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School,

US Hwy 27, just north of Decatur

Minimal Time Commitment! Low Cost! No Homework!