

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Fourth Sunday after Easter

Divine Service One

May 11, 2025

Vol. 127-24

Processional Hymn

#756 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, Though their weight
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, And I will
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, For I am
 5 Now in Christ, death can - not slay me, Though it might,



With His cheer; Nev - er will He leave me.
 May be great, They will not de - feat me.
 Trust Him still, When He sends me sad - ness.
 His dear lamb, He, my Shep - herd ev - er.
 Day and night, Trou - ble and dis - may me.



Who can rob me of the heav - en That God's Son
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sends them; He who knows
 God is good; His love at - tends me Day by day,
 I am His be - cause He gave me His own blood
 Christ has made my death a por - tal From the strife



For me won When His life was giv - en?
 All my woes Knows how best to end them.
 Come what may, Guides me and de - fends me.
 For my good, By His death to save me.
 Of this life To His joy im - mor - tal!

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; (sts. 1-3): tr. Christian Worship, 1993; (sts. 4-5): tr. Stephen P. Starke, 1955
 Tune: Johann G. Ebeling, 1637-76
 Text (sts. 4-5): © 2004 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
 Text (sts. 1-3) and tune: Public domain

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.

C 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.

C 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 ~~the~~ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word pg. 151

Introit (sung responsively)



Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Alle- | luia.*

Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Alle- | luia.

Say to God, “How awesome | are your deeds!”*

So great is your power that your enemies come cringing | to you.”

Come and see what | God has done:*

he is awesome in his deeds toward the chil- | dren of man.

Bless our God, O | peoples;*

let the sound of his | praise be heard,

who has kept our soul among the | living*

and has not let our | feet slip.

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**

and to the Holy | Spirit;

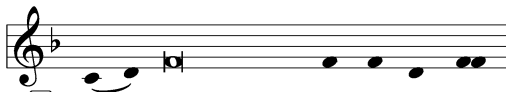
*as it was in the be- | ginning,**

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Alle- | luia.*

Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Alle- | luia.

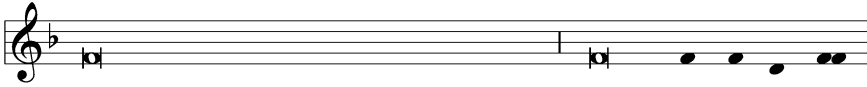
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



G Lord, have mer - cy.



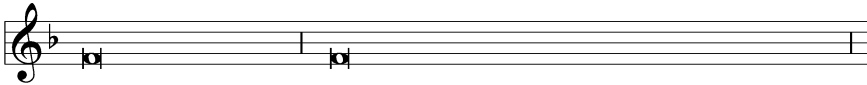
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



G Lord, have mer - cy.



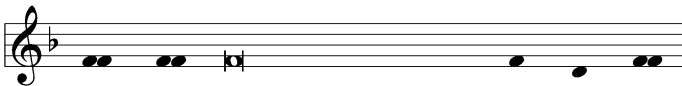
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



G A - men.

This Is the Feast

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You show those in error the light of Your truth so that they may return to the way of righteousness. Grant faithfulness to all who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Church that they may avoid whatever is contrary to their confession and follow all such things as are pleasing to You; 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.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:25–31

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?

He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name,
by the greatness of his might,
and because he is strong in power
not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

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

Epistle

1 John 3:1–3

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

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

Alleluia and Verse




C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 16:16–22

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁶[Jesus said:] **“A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.”** ¹⁷So some of his disciples said to one another, **“What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?”** ¹⁸So they were saying, **“What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.”** ¹⁹Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, **“Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’?”** ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²²So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

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.

Sermon

Rite of Adult Holy Confirmation: Destiny Laley, Alie Newnum
Ronald and Mariah Trammel

Prayer of the Church

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

Raven Baker (daughter of Ryan and Kari)
Ron Whitesel, Donna Schumm
Hildegarde Bauermeister, Gail Werling
Judy Morris (friend of Mike and Linda Bultemeier)
Carla Wiederbold (cousin of Otto Clausen battling cancer)
Ellie Anderson (friend of Sarena Wirgau)
Brandon Tomlinson (son-in-law of the Brinkleys)
Sandra Flum (Susan Grafi's sister)

Adult Confirmation Blessing: Destiny, Alie, Ronald and Mariah

In time of comfort and sadness: The passing of Craig Knox
(wife Joni, son-inlaw of Gregg and Dalene Springer)

We pray for our expectant mothers: Wendy Boehm, Destiny Laley, Shaeli Streeks
Abigail (Springer) Mayer, Molly Kleppinger, Betsy Dodgers, Caroline (Meyer) Fenker

Mother's Day Blessings:

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)
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

The Board of Christian Education in search of a candidate for 1-2 Grade Teacher

We pray for all military personnel

Offering

Offertory

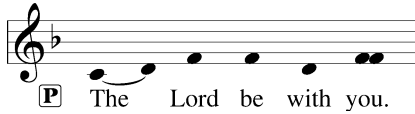
What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament pg. 160

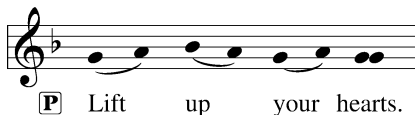
Preface



P The Lord be with you.



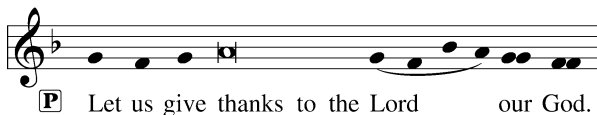
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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:

C **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;

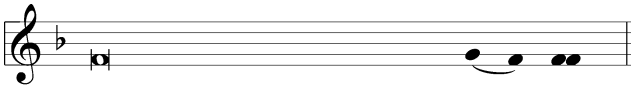
**and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.**

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.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the

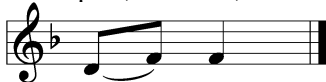


as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

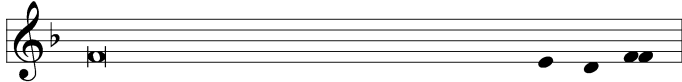
A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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.

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.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn

#737 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS this morning to our church and worship service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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. Please be sure to introduce yourself to the Pastor and to others in attendance and feel free to worship with us again. Thank you!

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching	Vicar Morgan Phillips
Celebrant	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Deacon	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Fieldworker	Sem. Brandon Streeks
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Glen Werling
Elders on Duty	Glen Werling and Bruce Werling
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Organist	Emilie Meyer
Acolytes	Jude Wirgau and Matthew Rekeweg
Crucifer	Vinny Fuhrmann
Altar Guild Chairman	Cheryl Louison and Deann Oliver
Ushers	Todd Ottinger, Ethan Ottinger, Landon Geiger Jay Werling, Chad Dunham, Collin Laley, Kaden Laley

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
Website for Church and School: www.BethlehemOssian.org	

TODAY	9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
	NO Adult Bible Class and Sunday School
	11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
TUESDAY	6:30 p.m. Board of Christian Education Meeting
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m. Chapel Service
	7:00 p.m. Evening Spoken Service
THURSDAY	7:00 p.m. Public Examination Service
SUNDAY	9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
	“Confirmation Sunday”
	NO 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 bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com or the church office at 597-7121.
<https://www.youtube.com/bethlehemplutheranchurchossian> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

MOTHER'S DAY CARNATION PROJECT- Celebrate moms, grandmoms, and all those that embody the calling of motherhood with a beautiful carnation this Mother's Day. Proceeds from this free-will donation fundraiser will benefit Right to Life of Northeast Indiana and help continue our life-saving work in our region. Look for these flowers after church today!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY – May 18, 2025 during the 9:00 a.m. Divine Service.
Please also join us for Public Examination on Thursday, May 15th at 7:00 p.m.

The congregation is invited to a Confirmation Reception for all our 8th grade confirmands in the church fellowship hall at noon on Sunday, May 18th.

BABY SHOWER – We would like to shower Josh and Deaconess Wendy Boehm who are expecting their third child in May with an ingathering of Cards, Diapers, and Gift Cards. There will be a table set up in the church foyer for items to be left. They are excited to be expecting a baby boy!

The Washington DC group-Metal Recycling – Thank you all for the overwhelming support with bringing us your scrap metal. We have temporarily suspended the recycling since we have filled the container. We are thinking about bringing it back after June 1. Stay tuned for the upcoming announcement! Contact Jason Rekeweg or Jay Werling for any questions.

SUMMER BOOK CLUB: Our next book club pick is "The Count of Monte Cristo" by Alexandre Dumas. We will pick a date to meet when it gets closer to August, so everyone has enough time through the summer to read the book. Be aware there are abridged and unabridged versions of the book. Keep an eye out for information about the Wells County Summer Reading Program to earn fun prizes through the library.

SCRIP – Please be sure to check out our new scrip certificate order sheet and ordering dates posted on the bulletin board. The next order date is June 1st so all orders need to be received by noon that day. Ordering dates are set to reduce shipping costs. For questions or for placing an order, please contact Mariah Trammel at 260-267-1614, our PTL representative.

GARAGE SALE – New Hope Lutheran Church- Friday, May 16 9-5, Saturday, May 17 9-1.

Offering May 4, 2025

<u>Average weekly need \$13,818</u>	
Home Fund Env.	\$8,368.62
Synod	150.00
Loose	214.35
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	6.91
Improvement Fund	270.00
Endowment Fund	300.00
Organ Fund	10.00
Vicarage Reimb.	700.00
Memorials	<u>1,755.00</u>
Total	\$11,774.88

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance \$262.10

Next week bills due: \$15,000

Bills due two weeks: \$16,000

Savings Account Balance \$53,897.20

Borrowed from Savings: \$3,000

Operating Loan Debt: \$29,950.00

Church/Communion Attendance

Sunday 165/135

Wednesday 18/13

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.

“Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest” – Lutheran Service Book 498/499 (stz. 1-2)

**(1) Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
And make our hearts Your place of rest;
Come with Your grace and heavenly aid,
And fill the hearts which You have made.**

**(2) To You, the Counselor, we cry,
To You, the gift of God Most High;
The fount of life, the fire of love,
The soul's anointing from above.**