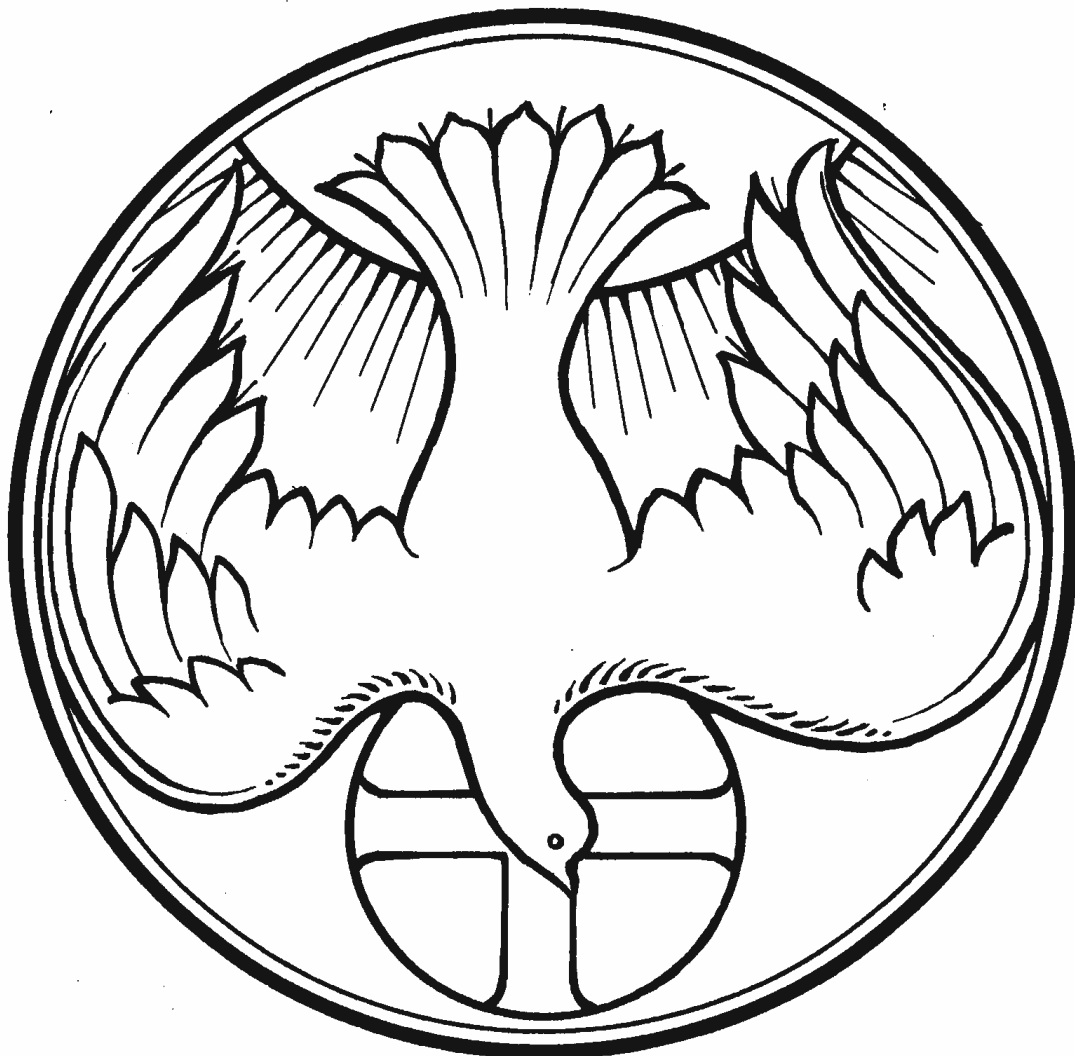


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Fifth Sunday after Easter

Divine Service One

May 18, 2025

Vol. 127-25

Processional Hymn

#559 Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion



1 Oh, how great is Your com - pas - sion, Faith - ful Fa - ther,
 2 Your great love for this has striv - en That we may, from
 3 Firm - ly to our soul's sal - va - tion Wit - ness - es Your
 4 Lord, Your mer - cy will not leave me; Ev - er will Your
 5 I will praise Your great com - pas - sion, Faith - ful Fa - ther,



God of grace, That with all our fall - en race
 sin made free, Live with You e - ter - nal - ly.
 Spir - it, Lord, In Your Sac - ra - ments and Word.
 truth a - bide. Then in You I will con - fide.
 God of grace, That with all our fall - en race



In our depth of deg - ra - da - tion You had mer - cy
 Your dear Son Him - self has giv - en And ex - tends His
 There He sends true con - so - la - tion, Giv - ing us the
 Since Your Word can - not de - ceive me, My sal - va - tion
 In our depth of deg - ra - da - tion You had mer - cy



so that we Might be saved e - ter - nal - ly!
 gra - cious call, To His sup - per leads us all.
 gift of faith That we fear not hell nor death.
 is to me Safe and sure e - ter - nal - ly.
 so that we Might be saved e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: Schäffer-Belustigung . . . Hirthen-Lieder, 1653, Altdorf
 Text 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

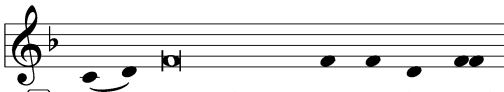
Service of the Word pg. 151

Introit (sung responsively)



Sing to the LORD a new song, Alle- | lua,*
for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. Alle- | lua.
His right hand and his | holy arm*
have worked salva- | tion for him.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!
*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.
Sing to the LORD a new song, Alle- | lua,*
for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. Alle- | lua.

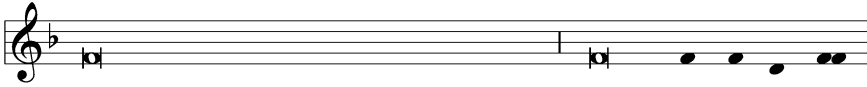
Kyrie



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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



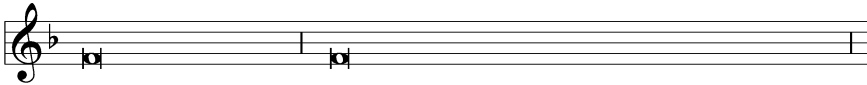
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



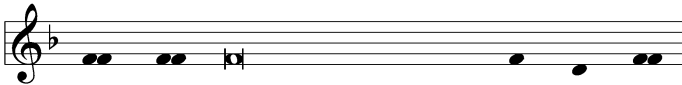
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C 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.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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 12:1–6

The LORD Is My Strength and My Song

¹You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

²“Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.”

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 1:16–21

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. ¹⁹Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires. ²¹Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

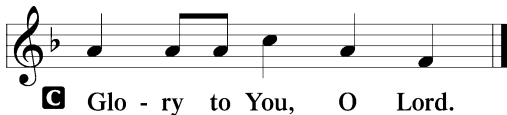


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 16:5–15

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁵[Jesus said:] “**But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’**” ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. ¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Rite of Holy Confirmation: Vincent Fuhrmann, Kyndal Fuller, Emma Wirgau

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
Hildegard Bauermeister, Gail Werling
Judy Morris (friend of Mike and Linda Bultemeier)
Carla Wiederhold (cousin of Otto Clausen battling cancer)
Ellie Anderson (friend of Sarena Wirgau)
Brandon Tomlinson (son-in-law of the Brinkleys)
Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)

Blessings on the birth of a baby boy to Josh and Deaconess Wendy Boehm

Confirmation Blessing: Vincent, Kyndal, Emma

In time of comfort and sadness: Friends and Family of Craig Knox
(wife Joni, son-in-law of Gregg and Dalene Springer)

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

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

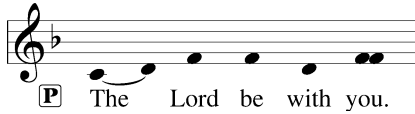
What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will



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

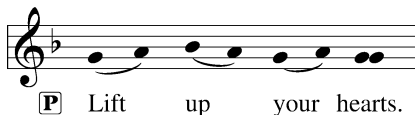
Preface



P The Lord be with you.



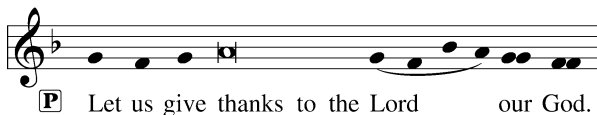
C And al - so with you.



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;

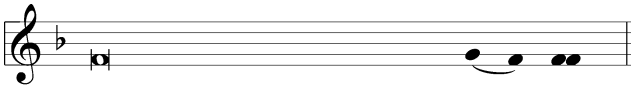
**and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.**

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

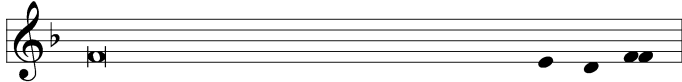
A Let us pray.

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

#643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

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	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Celebrant	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Vicar	Sem. Morgan Phillips
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	Hunter Householder
Altar Guild Chairman	Cheryl Louison and Deann Oliver
Ushers	Rory Geiger, Lane Harkless, Isaac Harkless Luke Harkless, Darren Patrick, Cole Patrick, Mark Patrick

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)
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m. Chapel Service
	7:00 p.m. Evening Spoken Service
THURSDAY	Last Day of School
	9:30 a.m. Closing Chapel
SUNDAY	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)

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

THE CONGREGATION IS INVITED to a Confirmation Reception for all our 8th grade confirmands in the church fellowship hall at noon TODAY, Sunday, May 18th.

Baby Hayden has arrived! Deaconess Wendy and Josh are back home with baby and big sisters. We all know how exciting and challenging these first few weeks can be so we'd like to support them by sending some comfort **food** their way starting May 21st. If you have questions or need help signing up, you can reach out to Emily Anthony. 260-750-6232 link is also on Women's of Bethlehem facebook page. The link is <https://mealtrain.com/gvm8d8>

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.

2025 GRADUATE RECOGNITION Sunday, June 1st- We would like to recognize our Bethlehem Lutheran School 8th grade graduates and also all of our member 2025 High School and College graduates with a special bulletin insert. Please submit students' name, any special awards, and their future plans to the church office ASAP.

"Big and Bold Faith" VBS will be June 23-26. There is a poster in the north hallway that has more information including child registration, volunteer opportunities, and items needed. You can also find registration information on our website, blcsossian.org.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – We are excited to announce several improvements taking place in the school. Contractors and church trustees will be installing new flooring and partitions in the locker room / restrooms. Also those rooms along with the gym and hallways will be getting a fresh coat of paint. The gym floor will also be getting re-varnished which means activity in the school will need to be limited. If you have any questions, please contact our AD, Mr. Brandon Schumm or the school office. Thank you

Jigsaw Puzzle Adoption Program - Who doesn't like to do a Jigsaw Puzzle! Bethlehem members are encouraged to participate in an Adult / Child jigsaw puzzle exchange program. Basically, take a puzzle / leave a puzzle or just take a puzzle! All for fun! We currently have quite a few that are ready for adoption and will be placed on a table in the north church hallway for your selection or exchange, starting Sunday, June 1st. We will see how the response goes for the month of June then go to a once-a-month date starting in July. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

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.

Support our School Endowment & Make Your Money Multiply!

Every year, our church and school are given a dollar amount to match by The Lutheran Foundation as we contribute to Bethlehem's Endowment. This current year, that amount is \$15,000. So, if we put in \$15,000, The Lutheran Foundation will also add \$15,000. But there's more! If we meet our match, The Lutheran Foundation will also give our School a special grant of another \$15,000! So your donation is worth three times as much! We have met this match every year so far, but this year we still need some help to meet it. Would you please consider donating to the Endowment as you are able? Every gift is a blessing to our students and every gift counts! Thank you for all your support!

Funds needed to achieve our match: \$15,000
 - 11,800 Approximate funds on hand
\$ 3,200 Needed by June 1

Offering May 11, 2025

Average weekly need \$13,818

Home Fund Env.	\$8,303.48
Synod	50.00
Loose	244.85
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	5.50
Improvement Fund	270.00
Endowment Fund	2,500.00
Organ Fund	
Salary Reimb.	<u>2,469.25</u>
Total	\$11,013.60

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance	\$8,847.75
Next week bills due:	\$16,000
Bills due two weeks:	\$
Savings Account Balance	\$53,946.67
Borrowed from Savings:	\$3,000
Operating Loan Debt:	\$29,950.00

Church/Communion Attendance

Sunday	213/155
Wednesday	13/10

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. 3-4)

(3) In You, with graces sevenfold,

We God's almighty hand behold

While You with tongues of fire proclaim

To all the world His holy name.

(4) Your light to every thought impart,

And shed Your love in every heart;

The weakness of our mortal state

With deathless might invigorate.