

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Divine Service Three

July 13, 2025

Vol. 127-33

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)



The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to eat | up my flesh,*

my adversaries and foes, it is they who stum- | ble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart | shall not fear;*

though war arise against me, yet I will be | confident.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:*

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days | of my life.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;*

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- | on a rock.

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.*

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to eat | up my flesh,*

my adversaries and foes, it is they who stum- | ble and fall.

Kyrie

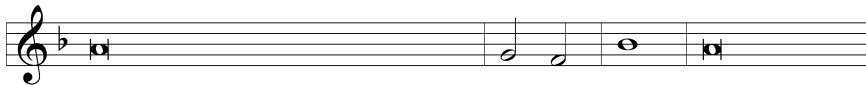
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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.



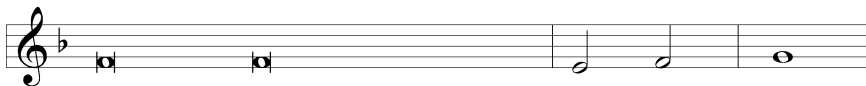
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



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.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P O Lord, grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by Your governance that Your Church may joyfully serve You in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.” ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷‘Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Atone for our sins, for your | name’s sake!*

Why should the nations say, “Where | is their God?”

Help us, O God of our sal- | vation,*

for the glory of your name de- | liver us.

Epistle

Romans 12:14–21

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 6:36–42

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] **“Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.**

³⁷**“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.” ³⁹He also told them a parable: “Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. ⁴¹Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴²How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye.”**

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, 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.

Hymn of the Day

#696 O God, My Faithful God

Sermon

Offertory

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 -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

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

Carolyn Brinkley (recovering from Pneumonia)

Freyja Hancock (daughter of Alie Newnum recovering from surgery)

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

Time of sorrow due to death: friends and family of Erik Todd (former member of Bethlehem)

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

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

Landrie Levitz, sister of Mariab Trammel who is in the Middle East

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. 194

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

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

☐ 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



☐ 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

- #632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee
- #633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing
- #718 Jesus, Lead Thou On
- #845 Where Charity and Love Prevail
- #609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory 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,

C 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

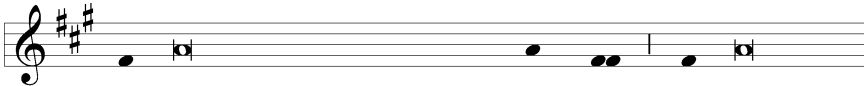


A Bless we the Lord.

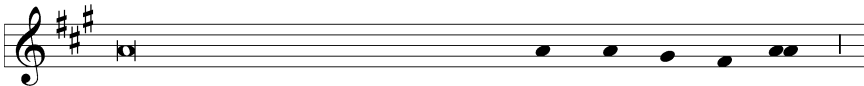


G Thanks be to God.

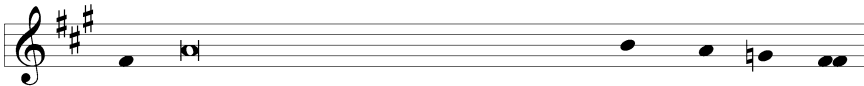
Benediction



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



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



G A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn

#544 O Love, How Deep

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. Samuel Wirgau |
| Celebrant | Rev. Anthony Dodgers |
| Fieldworker | Sem. Brandon Streeks |
| Deaconess | Wendy Boehm |
| Head Elder | Glen Werling |
| Elders on Duty | Steve Conrad and Bruce Meyer |
| Kantor | Richard Brinkley |
| Acolytes | Elders |
| Altar Guild Chairman | Cheryl Louison and Deann Oliver |
| Ushers | Jared Meyer, 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 |
| <i>Website for Church and School: www.BethlehemOssian.org</i> | |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| TODAY | 9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion |
| | NO Adult Bible Class or Sunday School |
| | 11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7) |
| | 10:30 a.m. Board of Elders Meeting |
| WEDNESDAY | 7:00 p.m. Evening Spoken Service |
| SUNDAY | 9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion |
| | NO Adult Bible Class or Sunday School |
| | 11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7) |

Announcements can be emailed to the church secretary at bethlehemossoniansec@gmail.com or the church office at 597-7121.
<https://www.youtube.com/bethlehemplutheranchurchossian> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

***Installation of the newly elected church officers will be held on
Sunday July 13th during the Divine Service.***

VBS: We were blessed to have 39 students attend and 33 dedicated volunteers serving in areas such as youth leadership, snacks, chapel, story time, crafts, music, games, and registration. This year, we also partnered with The Shepherd's Hand Community Outreach Center in Fort Wayne for a special donation drive. Thanks to the generosity of our VBS families and supporters, we collected 75 books, 28 school supply items, and 5 hygiene products to support local children and families in need. Thank you for helping us share God's love in both word and action!

BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER - We wish Don Lutz blessings on his 97th birthday on July 6! If you wish to send him a card, his address is 6723 South Anthony Boulevard, Apt. S310, Fort Wayne, IN 46816. Congratulations to Don!

CHURCH AND SCHOOL CUSTODIAL BIDS are now being accepted. Please submit your bid for the 2025-2026 school year to our Head Trustee, Jay Werling.

The current school custodian is asking for 2 weeks of limited access to the school in order to prep and wax floors. If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you for your consideration.

DC Trip Coffee Fundraiser - Good news coffee lovers! You can now support the Washington DC group by ordering Old Canal coffee online oldcanalroasters.com. Use coupon code **AHZAVZFWRH** for a \$2 discount, and to credit our fundraiser. \$25 order minimum, items shipped directly to your home. We will continue to offer in person sales occasionally, but this option online is available any time. Speak with DoRena Wirgau for more information.

Andy's Knockout Chicken Fundraiser - Be a winner - try a chicken dinner for the Washington DC group! Sunday, July 27, 10:30-2:30 at New Hope. Presale tickets encouraged, and will be available after church July 13 & 20, or any time from 7/8th graders. Cost is \$9 for half chicken, and \$3 for potatoes. Contact Jason Rekeweg for more information.

WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM - Join us for a day of food, fun and fellowship on September 6! We will be going to Shipshewana for some shopping, then going to the Blue Gate Theater where we will have a buffet meal and see "The Rise and Fall of Miss Fannie's Biscuits," an exciting mystery musical! Tickets are \$62.95 and include your show ticket and meal. All are welcome to join us. Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP to Jill Holtzclaw or Melissa Tolson by July 27.

Metal dumpster is back!!! The metal recycling dumpster is back in business and will run for about a month. Spread the word and bring us your metal! Located at the same place. 4126 E 800 N. Thank you from the Washington DC group for your support!

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 September 1.** 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.

Fall Banquet You're invited to join Right to Life of Northeast Indiana on Tuesday, October 14th at 5:30 pm at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum for the Fall Banquet with **keynote speaker Kirk Cameron!** Come celebrate our 51st year as an organization. Sponsorships, tables, and tickets are available for purchase. This event is expected to be a record-breaking size. Tables purchased sooner will be closer to the stage.

Offering July 6, 2025

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Average weekly need | \$13,818 |
| Home Fund Env. | \$11,463.63 |
| Synod | |
| Loose | 380.75 |
| Scholarship Fund | 125.00 |
| Sunday School | |
| Improvement Fund | 500.00 |
| Endowment Fund | 25.00 |
| Organ Fund | |
| Total | <u>\$12,494.38</u> |

Financial Report

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Home Fund Balance | \$4,789.77 |
| Next week bills due: | \$13,000 |
| Bills due two weeks: | \$5,000 |
| Savings Account Balance | \$32,715.63 |
| Borrowed from Savings: | \$24,000 |
| Operating Loan Debt: | \$8,450 |

Church Attendance

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| Sunday | 150/103 |
| Wednesday | 14/10 |

Here is the monthly report for the Bethlehem Lutheran School Endowment Fund by the Lutheran Foundation. The following information is accurate as of May 31, 2025:

\$366,427.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009
223,383.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched
332,817.99 - Amount generated since 2009
-149,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009
\$773,128.81 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of May 31, 2025

Dr. David Nahrwold Fund
\$ 90,078.93 - Amount sent in since November 2024
2,621.67 - Amount generated since November 2024
\$ 92,700.60 - Value of Dr. David Nahrwold Fund as of May 31, 2025

Andy's Knockout Chicken

*July 27th
10:30 to 2:30*

*New Hope Lutheran
Church, Ossian*



*Proceeds benefit Bethlehem Lutheran
7th & 8th grade Washington DC trip*

Bethlehem Lutheran School Ossian, Indiana Coffee Fundraiser



Instructions: Scan the QR code. Add your selections to the shopping cart. When you've finished with your selections, check out using your preferred payment method. The discount code (AHZAVZFWRH) should appear on your checkout page. \$25 minimum purchase required. **A discount of \$2 will be subtracted from your order total and BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL will be credited for your purchase.** Use this code every time you place an order. Share it freely.

If the discount code does not appear automatically, enter it manually. The code must be used to receive your discount and for Bethlehem Lutheran School to receive proper credit.

Your order will be prepared and shipped promptly.

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OLD CANAL ROASTERS

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.**

**Having gone through Luther's Small Catechism we will spend some
time learning-by-heart some hymns of the Church.**

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

"Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain" – Lutheran Service Book 865 (stz. 1-2)

**(1) Lord, help us ever to retain
The Catechism's doctrine plain
As Luther taught the Word of truth
In simple style to tender youth**

**(2) Help us Your holy Law to learn,
To mourn our sin and from it turn
In faith to You and to Your Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One.**