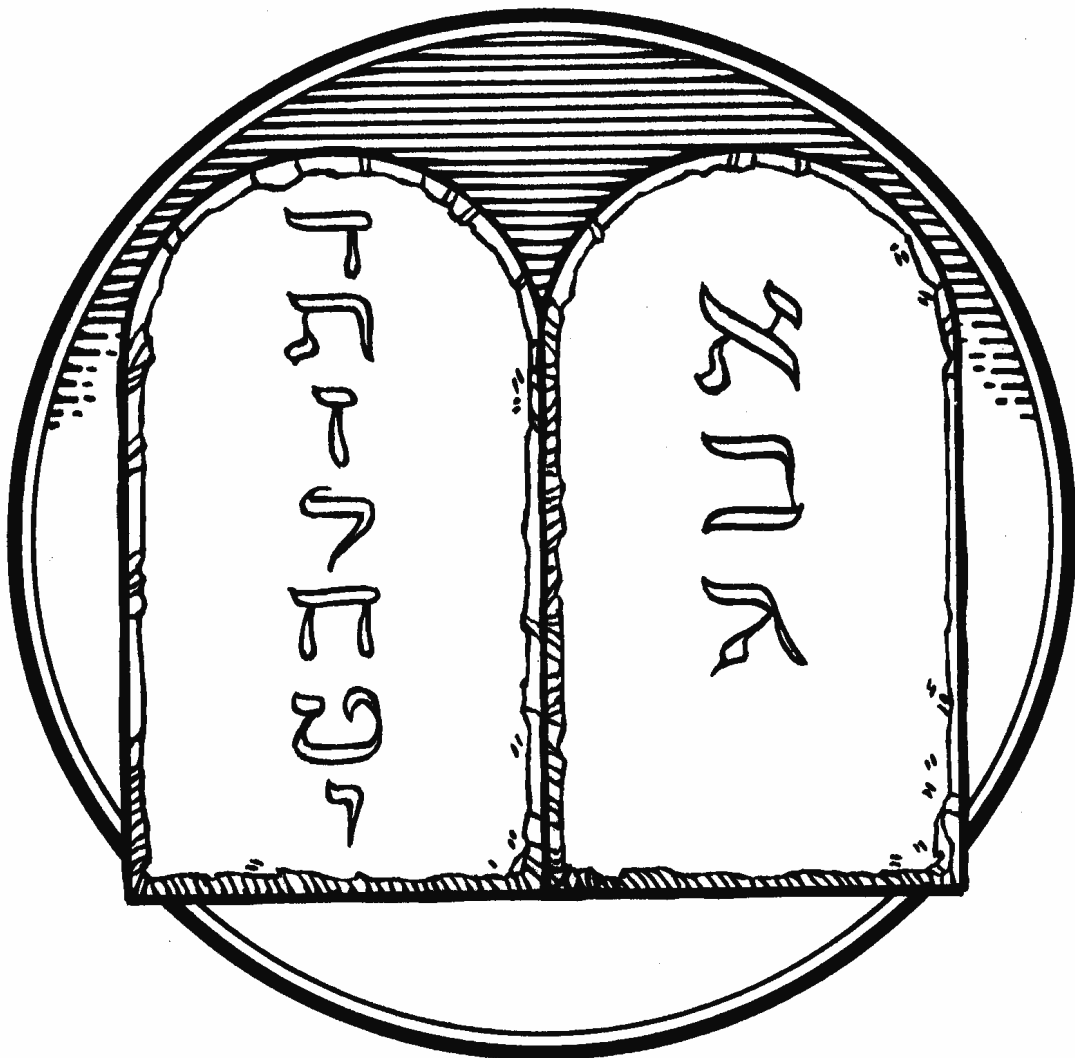


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Divine Service Three

July 27, 2025

Vol. 127-35

Invocation

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 the strength of his | people;*
he is the saving refuge of his a- | nointed.

Save your people and bless your | heritage!*

Be their shepherd and carry them for- | ever.

To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not | deaf to me,*

lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down | to the pit.

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to | you for help,*

when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctu- | ary.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and | I am helped,*
my heart exults, and with my song I give | thanks to 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.*

The LORD is the strength of his | people;*
 he is the saving refuge of his a- | noointed.

Save your people and bless your | heritage!*

Be their shepherd and carry them for- | ever.

Kyrie

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

Gloria in Excelsis

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

Matthew 5:17–26

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁷[Jesus said:] “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.”

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

#562 All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall

Sermon

Offertory



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Offering

Installation of church officers

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 Nennum recovering from surgery)

Steve Ashcroft (grandfather of Ron Trammel)

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)

Brandon Tomlinson (son in-law of the Brinkleys)

Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)

Safe travels – Pastor Wirgau's trip to Africa

Sorrow in the time of death: family and friends of our sister in Christ, Charlotte Bultemeier

In Thanksgiving of 10 years of marriage to Lee and Danielle Werling

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

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)

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:

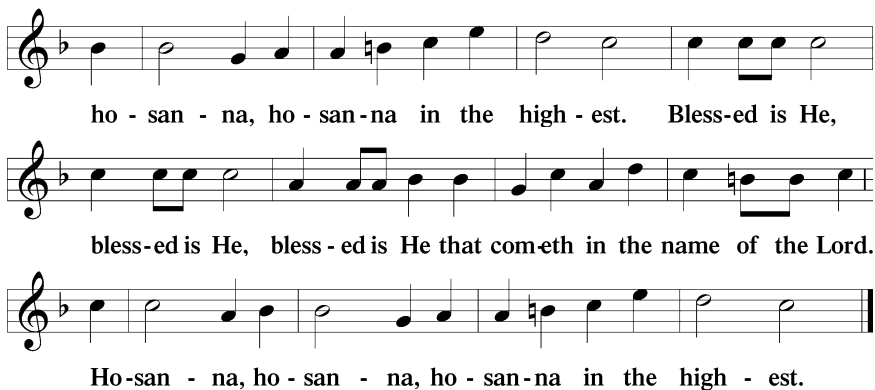
Sanctus



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

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.



G 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.

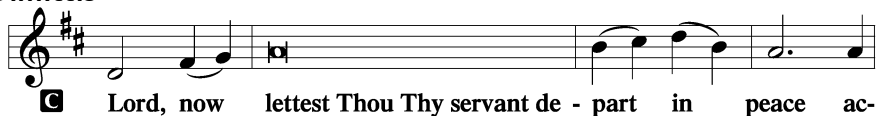
Distribution

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

- #637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord
- #639 Wide Open Stand the Gates
- #581 These Are the Holy Ten Commands
- #579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise
- #580 The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

Nunc Dimittis



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



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



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



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



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

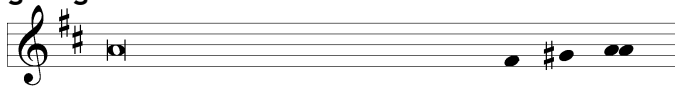


to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

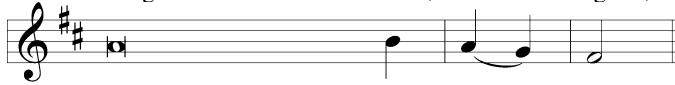


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving



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



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.

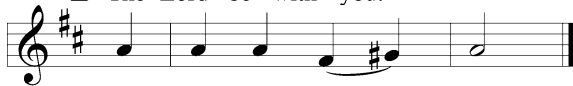


C A - men.

Salutation



P The Lord be with you.

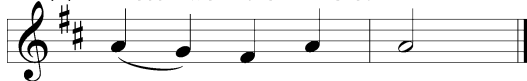


C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

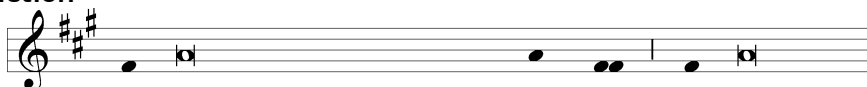


A Bless we the Lord.

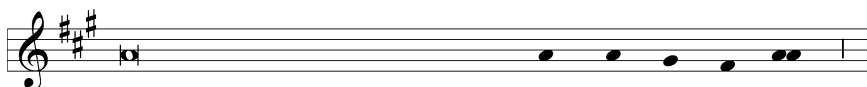


C Thanks be to God.

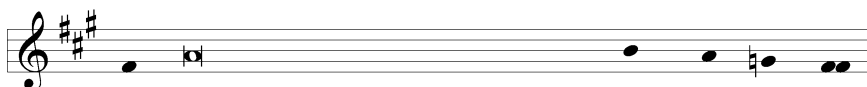
Benediction



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.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn

#865 Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching	Vicar Charles McLain
Celebrant	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Deacon	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Fieldworker	Sem. Brandon Streeks
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Glen Werling
Elders on Duty	Steve Conrad and Bruce Meyer
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Organist	Emilie Meyer
Acolytes	Elders
Altar Guild Chairman	Cheryl Louison and Deann Oliver
Ushers	Josh Boehm, Ed Black, Aspen Fisher, Brandon Schumm Don Schueler, Graham Stoppenhagen, Coty Newnum, Jason Rekoweg

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)
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

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!

Installation of the newly elected church officers:

Secretary: Josh Boehm

Treasurer: Ed Black

Board of Elders: Steve Conrad, Mike Schumm, Andrew Stoppenhagen

Board of Trustees: Darrin Werling, Dan Kleppinger, Lee Werling

Board of Finance: Rory Geiger, Jason Laley, Collin Laley

Board of Christian Education: Jeff Holtzclaw, Darren Patrick, Nathan Householder

PASTOR'S CALENDAR – Pastor Wirgau will be gone July 30-August 5 assisting Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria, South Africa in their efforts to train future pastors for southern Africa through the St. Philip Lutheran Mission Society. If there are any pastoral needs during this time please contact Pastor Dodgers or one of the Elders.

Funeral plans for Charlotte Bultemeier – Visitation will be held on Saturday, August 2nd 3-6pm at Elzey Patterson in Ossian, Funeral Service will be held on Sunday, August 3rd at Bethlehem beginning at 4:00 pm with visitation an hour before. The Committal Service will be held on August 16th in Southern Illinois alongside other family members.

BABY SHOWER – The Women of Bethlehem are hosting a Baby Ingathering for Seminarian Brandon and Shaeli Streeks. A table is set up in the church foyer for cards, gifts, diapers and wipes. They are due anytime and are expecting a boy!

Shakespeare in the Garden - All are invited to the Dodgers' Home to read through Shakespeare's tragedy: "Macbeth" - the Scottish play about the man who killed his king. The Parlor City Shakespeare Company (including a couple of our own church members) will be performing this play in September. Reading through it in a group will help make it easier to fully enjoy the performance. We will meet on **Saturdays, August 2, 9, and 16, from 9-11am**. Drinks will be provided. Snacks to share are welcome, but not necessary. Weather permitting, we will sit outside, so if you have a lawn chair, please bring it, but we will have several available. Copies of the play will also be available. And if you don't like to read out loud, feel free to just come and listen.

WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM - Join us for a day of food, fun and fellowship on September 6! We will be carpooling 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 TODAY after church**.

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! **TODAY July 27, 10:30-2:30 at New Hope.** Cost is \$9 for half chicken, and \$3 for potatoes. Contact Jason Rekeweg for more information.

Our first event was such a success we are doing it again this fall!!!

You're invited to join the Women of Bethlehem for Craft for a Cause on September 20th from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm. Lots of food, fellowship, prizes and 12 hours of crafting FUN!!! Registration form can be downloaded at <https://blcsossian.org/craftforacause/>. SPACE IS LIMITED and will fill up! Be sure to register EARLY! Questions? Text or Call Deann Oliver at 616-894-0144 or via email at deannrene@outlook.com Proceeds benefit the Women of Bethlehem Ministry.

Looking for Volunteers in our School- We would like to find a few more volunteers for the upcoming school year. If you are interested, or if you know someone in the area, please speak to Pastor Dodgers. He wants to make sure our teachers have the support they need as they teach our kids. There are several possibilities: volunteers could work in the classrooms, or one on one with students, or work outside the classrooms by helping the teachers with making copies, etc. Thank you for your consideration!

The Friends of Wyneken will host an ice cream social at the historic Wyneken House on **TODAY, July 27 from 2-5 PM.** There will be ice cream with lots of fixings, as well as games and a water slide for the kids. Come see what's new at the house and learn more about Rev. Friedrich Wyneken, a pioneer circuit rider who also served as the president of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod from 1850 to 1864. The Wyneken House is located at 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, Indiana.

Last call for the metal recycling dumpster !!! Jay Werling at 4126 E 800 N. **until Thursday, July 31st.** 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.

GARDEN OVERLOAD!! There will be a table set up in the north hallway to donate or adopt your excess garden vegetables, fruits and flowers.

Offering July 20, 2025

Average weekly need	\$13,818
Home Fund Env.	\$7,946.88
Synod	50.00
Loose	1,257.25
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	
Improvement Fund	60.00
Endowment Fund	
Organ Fund	
Total	<hr/> \$9,314.13

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance	\$3,720.61
Next week bills due:	\$14,000
Bills due two weeks:	\$12,000
Savings Account Balance	\$33,105.10
Borrowed from Savings:	\$24,000
Operating Loan Debt:	\$8,450

Church Attendance

Sunday	158/113
Wednesday	18/15

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.

"With the Lord Begin Your Task" – Lutheran Service Book 865 (stz. 1-2)

(1) With the Lord begin your task;

Jesus will direct it.

For His aid and counsel ask;

Jesus will perfect it.

Every morn with Jesus rise,

And when day is ended,

In His name then close your eyes;

Be to Him commended

(2) Let each day being with prayer,

Praise and adoration.

On the Lord cast every care;

He is your salvation.

Morning, evening, and at night

Jesus will be near you,

Save you from the tempter's might,

With His presence cheer you