

# Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

*A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*



## *Holy Cross Sunday*

*Divine Service Three*

*September 14, 2025*

*Vol. 127-42*

# Processional Hymn

# #455 The Royal Banners Forward Go



1 The roy - al ban - ners for - ward go;  
 2 Where deep for us the spear was dyed,  
 3 Ful - filled is all that Da - vid told  
 4 On whose hard arms, so wide - ly flung,



The cross shows forth re - demp - tion's flow, Where He, by  
 Life's tor - rent rush - ing from His side, To wash us  
 In sure pro - phet - ic song of old, That God the  
 The weight of this world's ran - som hung, The price of



whom our flesh was made, Our ran - som  
 in the pre - cious blood Where flowed the  
 na - tions' king should be And reign in  
 hu - man - kind to pay And spoil the



in His flesh has paid:  
 wa - ter and the blood.  
 tri - umph from the tree,  
 spoil - er of his prey.

5 O tree of beauty, tree most fair,  
 Ordained those holy limbs to bear:  
 Gone is thy shame, each crimsoned bough  
 Proclaims the King of Glory now.

△ 6 To Thee, eternal Three in One,  
 Let homage meet by all be done;  
 As by the cross Thou dost restore,  
 So guide and keep us evermore.  
 Amen.

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, c. 530-609; (sts. 1-4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.; (sts. 5-6): tr. The Hymnal 1982  
 Tune: Paul D. Weber, 1949  
 Text: Public domain  
 Tune: © 2003 Paul D. Weber. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.



## 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** Merciful God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, was lifted high upon the cross that He might bear the sins of the world and draw all people to Himself. Grant that we who glory in His death for our redemption may faithfully heed His call to bear the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

### Old Testament Reading

*Numbers 21:4-9*

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.”

<sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

**“Behold, I will lift up my hand to the | nations,\*  
and raise my signal to the peoples,” | [says the Lord.]  
So must the Son of Man be | lifted up,\*  
that whoever believes in him may have e- | ternal life.**

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 1:18–25*

<sup>18</sup>The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

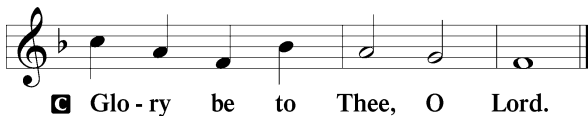
## Alleluia



## Holy Gospel

*John 12:20–33*

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



<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>And Jesus answered them, **“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal**

life. <sup>26</sup>If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. <sup>27</sup>“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

**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

#454 Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

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

Prayer of the Church

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

*Brittany (Conrad) Clausius, Sandy Avey*

*Eleanor Fenker (granddaughter of Peter and Sandy Meyer)*

*Elaine Scallon (cousin of Loren Dathe battling cancer)*

*Steve Ashcroft (grandfather of Ron Trammel)*

*Raven Baker (daughter of Ryan and Kari)*

*Ron Whitesel, Donna Schumm, 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)*

Thanksgiving for the birth of a baby girl to Pastor Anthony and Betsy Dodgers

We pray for our expectant mothers Grace (Bauermeister) Cornman,  
Hannah Stuckwisch (sister inlaw of Wirgaus)

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)

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.

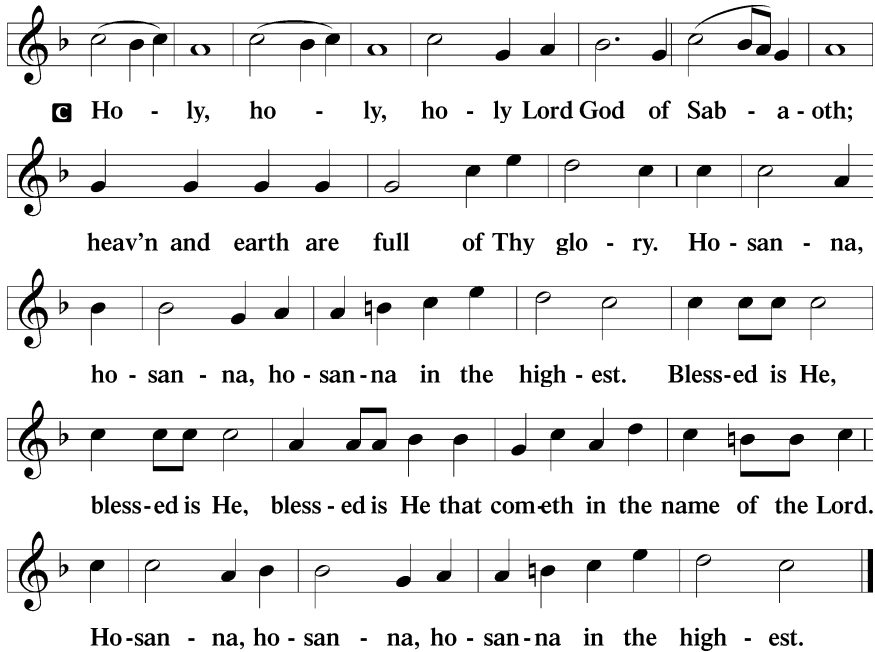


**C** It is meet and right so to do.

### 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

**O**ur 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.  
**F**or 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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

#628 Your Table I Approach

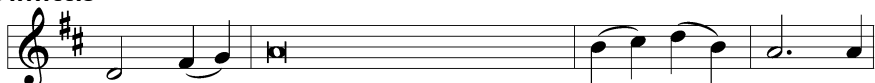
#629 What Is This Bread

#427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

#560 Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed

#425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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

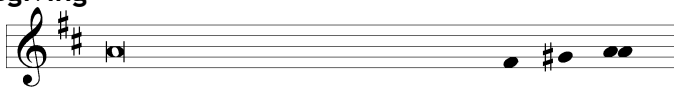


to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

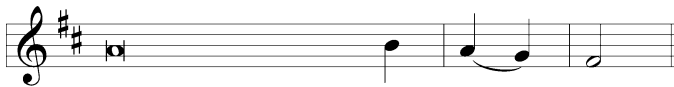


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving



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



**G** 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.



**G** A - men.

## Salutation



**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And with thy spir - it.

## Benedicamus

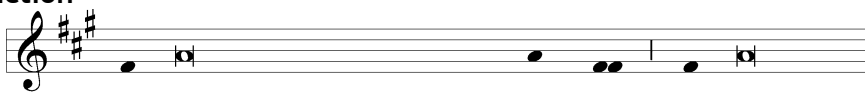


**A** Bless we the Lord.

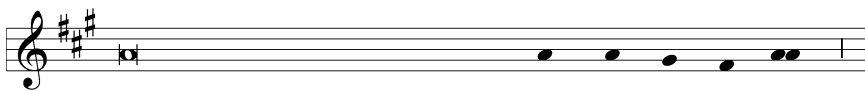


**G** Thanks be to God.

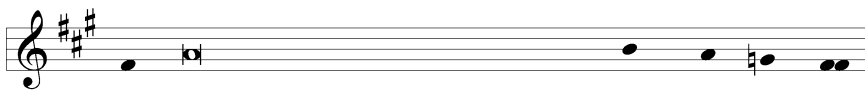
## Benediction



**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.



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

## Closing Hymn

## #837 Lift High the Cross

**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 / Celebrant	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Vicar	Sem. Charles McLain
Fieldworker	Sem. Brandon Streeks
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Bruce Werling
Elders on Duty	Bruce Meyer and Steve Conrad
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Acolytes	Jude Wirgau and Alex Fuhrmann
Crucifer	Hunter Householder
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
( <a href="mailto:Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com">Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com</a> )	
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: <a href="http://www.blcsossian.org">www.blcsossian.org</a>	

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Divine Service with Holy Communion</b>
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Class – Sunday School
	11:30 a.m.	Board of Elders Meeting
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
	4:00-6:30 p.m.	Fall Festival
<b>MONDAY</b>	2:00 p.m.	WOB Bible Study
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Chapel Service</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Evening Spoken Service</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	5:30 p.m.	Board of Christian Education Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	WOB Bible Study
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Practice
<b>SATURDAY</b>	7:00-7p.m.	Craft for Cause (Fellowship Hall)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Divine Service with Holy Communion</b>
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Class – Sunday School
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)

*Announcements can be emailed to the church secretary at [bethlehemossoniansec@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemossoniansec@gmail.com) or the church office at 597-7121.*  
<https://www.youtube.com/bethlehelutheranchurchossian> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

**IT'S A GIRL!** – The Women of Bethlehem are having a Baby Ingathering for Rev. Anthony and Betsy Dodgers. A table is set up in the church hallway for cards, gifts, diapers and wipes.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who came and participated at our Rally Day potluck, it was a wonderful time of food and fellowship

**REMINDER** – Widows Group will meet after church on Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> to eat at The Pickle in Markle. Contact Gail Werling if interested in attending.

**VISUAL FAITH MINISTRY** - THANK YOU to everyone who came out for our first WFM workshop. Mark your calendar for our next **workshop on Tuesday, October 14th from 6 - 8 pm** in the school Art Room. We will be exploring a scripture/prayer writing practice called 'open spaces' and creating faith mail to give/send to a friend. Register online at <https://blcsossian.org/visual-faith-ministry/> or reach out to Deann Oliver via text at 616-894-0144 or by email [deannrene@outlook.com](mailto:deannrene@outlook.com). No cost to attend, but donations will be appreciated to help with supply costs.

**ATTENTION THRIVENT POLICY HOLDERS** – If you currently hold a Thrivent product and are willing to let a Bethlehem group apply for an Action Team card to help reimburse expenses, please sign your name to the sheet posted on the bulletin board.

**CHOIR REHEARSALS TO BEGIN – Wednesday September 17, at 7:30 pm.**

Do you enjoy singing hymns? If you do, and you can carry the tune then you could sing in the choir! If you wish to join the choir speak with Kantor Brinkley or just simply come to the first rehearsal.

**HANDBELL CHOIR** – The bell choir's first rehearsal will be Monday September 22 at 7:00 pm. We need several additional ringers. You do not need to read music to participate. We can teach you what you need to know to be successful!

**NEW (and Revised) CATECHESIS CLASS** - Mark your calendars. Pastor Wirgau will be offering a class on Christian Doctrine from the Small Catechism for anyone who is interested beginning Wednesday, October 1 at 5:30-6:30 pm. This class will serve as a refresher for current members who would like to continue their catechesis as well as an introductory class to the Christian faith and the teaching of our Church for all who are not members of Bethlehem. All are invited and encouraged to attend and to bring family and friends who may be interested. If you have questions or need more details, please contact Pastor Wirgau.

**PORK CHOP DINNER** The annual Smoked Pork Chop Dinner is fast approaching! Please get your meals (smoked pork chop, cheesy potatoes, green beans a dinner roll all for \$15!) reserved with Pat Meyer (260-227-0400) or Cheryl Louison (260-414-5126) TODAY, the sooner the better! Please consider helping with the event that takes place at Lighted Gardens carryout only on October 5th 11-1p, signup sheets are in north hallway.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** – The Bethlehem History Committee is looking for volunteers to help organize and safely store documents and photos. Nathan Bienz a church historian, has kindly agreed to teach us how to properly organize these items on Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:30pm in the church Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in helping with this huge but historical project, please join us. Contact Deaconess Boehm or Heidi Kleppinger if you have any questions.

**The Friends of Wyneken** will host a Germanfest at the historic Wyneken House on Saturday, September 27, from 5:30-9:00 PM. There will be German and American food and beverages, a silent auction, music by the duo String Theory, and plenty of *gemutlichkeit*. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Call or text (260) 437-0420 for information or to reserve tickets. The Wyneken House is located at 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, Indiana.

**Save the Date—Right to Life Workshop at St. Paul, Preble** When: **September 20th, 2025 9am-12pm**. The workshop will take place at **St. Paul Lutheran Preble (4510 W 750 N, Decatur, IN 46733)**. This workshop is open to adults and students 7th grade and older. \*Please register at [www.ichooselife.org/prebleworkshop](http://www.ichooselife.org/prebleworkshop). \$5 at the door or online. For questions, please call 260-471-1849 or email [lucy@ichooselife.org](mailto:lucy@ichooselife.org). Registration by cash is available at the door.

**The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Right to Life Banquet** is being held on Tuesday October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum with Keynote Speaker, Actor, Filmmaker Kirk Cameron. Our congregation members are invited to attend. Cost is \$50 per person or a table of 8 for \$400. For more information and details, please go to [www.ichooselife.org/banquet](http://www.ichooselife.org/banquet).

**Martini Hog Roast is BACK!!** September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025!! Doors open at 4:30pm - 7:30pm. Online ticket sales are now LIVE on the Martini Lutheran Church website. Adults are \$15 and children 12 and under are free.

**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 October 5th**. 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.

**Offering September 7, 2025**

*Average weekly need \$14,000*

Home Fund Env.	\$19,972.03
Synod	75.00
Loose	452.75
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	
Improvement Fund	270.00
Endowment Fund	
Organ Fund	10.00
Memorials	<u>5,000.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,779.78</b>

**Financial Report**

**Home Fund Balance \$29,552.39**

Next week's bills due: \$5,000

Bills due two weeks: \$15,000

**Savings Account Balance \$14,026.56**

Borrowed from Savings: \$46,000

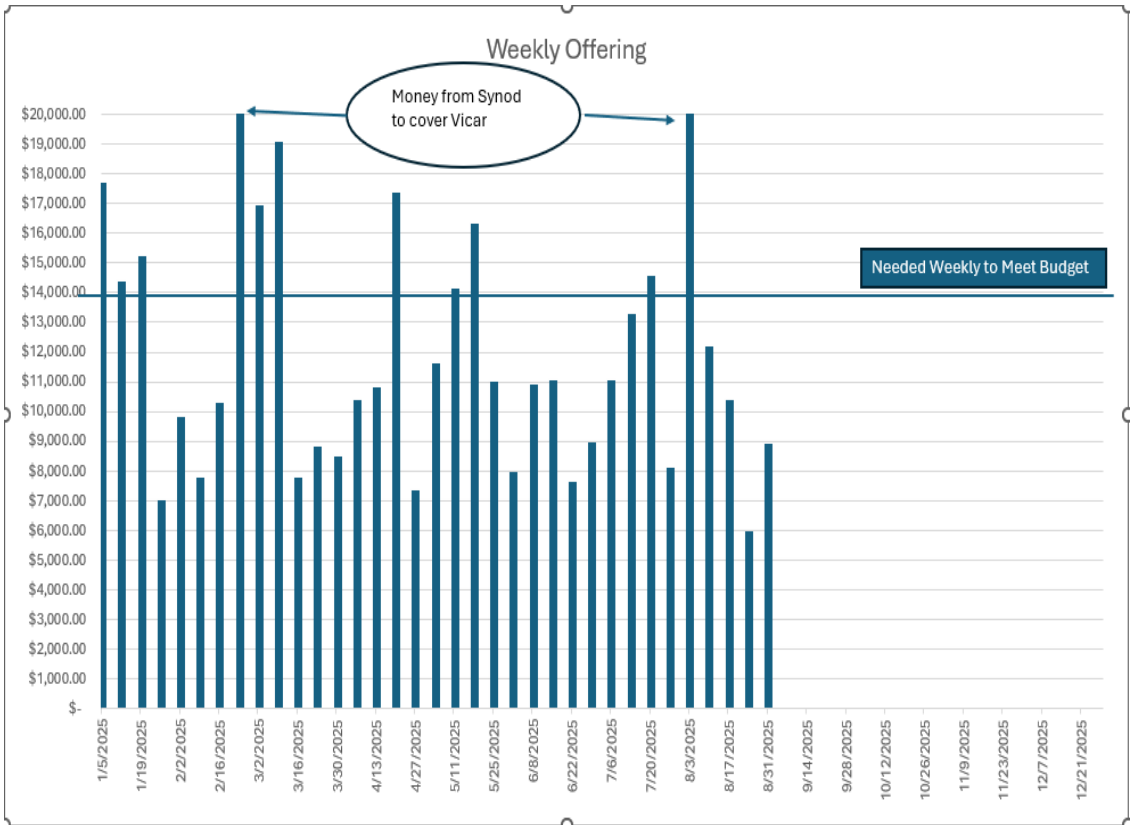
**Operating Loan Balance \$848.38**

Borrowed from Op Loan \$29,151.62

**Church Attendance**

Sunday 185/121

Wednesday 26/18





# FALL FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 14

4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

## Food

Sloppy Joes

Hot Dogs

Cheesy Potatoes

## Games & Activities

4:00-5:30

### Bingo

5:30-6:30



## Bounce House

4:00-5:30

### Hay Ride

5:30-6:30

\*Pies and Ice Cream by WOB\*

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



## DRIVE - THRU Pork Chop Dinner

Lighted Gardens

10794 N State Road 1, Ossian, IN

Sunday, October

5th 11am—1 pm

Cost: \$15.00



Dinner includes:

Smoked Pork Chop, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans and Roll

**TO PREORDER YOUR DINNERS CONTACT:**

Pat Meyer 260-227-0400 - [spmeyer82@gmail.com](mailto:spmeyer82@gmail.com)  
Cheryl Louison 260-414-5526 - [clouison@ymail.com](mailto:clouison@ymail.com)  
Deadline for orders is Monday, September 29th

**CASH OR CHECKS ONLY MADE PAYABLE TO  
WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM**

**Proceeds Benefit Northern Wells/Ossian Food Pantry  
and Women of Bethlehem Project Fund**

# *The House of Daily Bread*

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer following  
The week following Holy Cross Day



“Sir, we wish to see Jesus” (John 12:21). Then look to His holy cross. For just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness, so Jesus, when He is “lifted up from the earth, will draw all people” to Himself (John 12:32). “He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross” to save us (Phil. 2:8). “Everyone who is bitten” by the ancient serpent’s venom of sin, “when he sees” Christ “shall live” (Num. 21:8). The true holy cross is lost to history, and we cannot return to Calvary to find our salvation. So, Christ brings the New Testament in His blood to us. “We preach Christ crucified .... the power of God and the wisdom of God,” though foolishness to the unbelieving world (1 Cor. 1:23–24). It pleases God, “through the folly” of the cross we preach, “to save those who believe” (1 Cor. 1:21). We find the fruit and benefit of this holy cross poured out in Holy Baptism, spoken in the preaching of Holy Absolution, and delivered in the body and blood given and shed there for us. Thus are we strengthened to take up our crosses, sanctified by His (John 12:25–26).

## **The Order of Meditation and Prayer**

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer  
you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate.  
Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

*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.**

***Hymn of the Week: “Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle” LSB 454***

***Recite the Ten Commandments and the Apostles’ Creed (LSB pg. 264)***

### ***The Catechism:***

#### **What is the Ninth Commandment?**

You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.

#### **What does this mean?**

We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our  
neighbor’s inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears  
right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

#### **What is Hebrews 13:5?**

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you  
have, for He has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Hebrews 13:5

***Psalm 40:1-11 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listen below.***

Daily Psalm	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
A.M.	78	80	82, 84	85	88	89	91
P.M.	79	81	83	86	87	90	93

***Daily Bible Reading***

Mon.	1 Kings 21:1-16 - Ahab Covets Naboth's Vineyard 2 Chronicles 34:1-4, 8-11, 14-33
Tues.	Genesis 3:1-8 - The Fall of Man into Sin 2 Chronicles 35:1-7, 16-25
Wed.	James 4:1-8 - Warning Against Wordliness 2 Chronicles 36:1-23
Thu.	Exodus 3:1-22 - God Calls Moses through a Burning Bush Nehemiah 1:1-2:10
Fri.	Exodus 4:1-31 The LORD Goes with Moses to Egypt Nehemiah 2:11-20; 4:1-6
Sat.	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

***Prayers***

*Collect of the Day*

Merciful God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, was lifted high upon the cross that He might bear the sins of the world and draw all people to Himself. Grant that we who glory in His death for our redemption may faithfully heed His call to bear the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Daily Themes For Prayer*

***Sunday:*** *For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.*

**Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

**Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

**Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

**Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

**Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

**Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.

**In our Prayers this week: Strength and healing:** Brittany, Sandy, Elaine, Eleanor, Steve, Raven, Ron, Donna, Gail, Judy, Carla, Brandon, Sandra **Expectant mothers:**, Grace, Hannah

**Protection:** Stephen, **Homebound:** Ruth, Marilyn, Marilyn, Donald, Norwin and Martha.

**Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism**  
(LSB pg. 266)

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**

**Looking forward to Sunday Morning: St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**

Old Testament: Ezekiel 2:8–3:11; Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-16; Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13; Hymns: 594, 730, 630, 631, 682, 525, 783, 582