

# Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

*A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*



## *First Sunday in Lent*

Divine Service – Setting Three

February 22, 2026

Vol. 128-13

## Opening Hymn

## #569 In Adam We Have All Been One



1 In Ad - am we have all been one, One huge re - bel - lious man;  
2 We fled Thee, and in los - ing Thee We lost our broth - er too;  
3 But Thy strong love, it sought us still And sent Thine on - ly Son  
4 O Thou who, when we loved Thee not, Didst love and save us all,



We all have fled that eve - ning voice That sought us as we ran.  
Each sin - gly sought and claimed his own; Each man his broth - er slew.  
That we might hear His Shep - herd's voice And, hear - ing Him, be one.  
Thou great Good Shep - herd of man - kind, O hear us when we call.

5 Send us Thy Spirit, teach us truth;  
Thou Son, O set us free  
From fancied wisdom, self-sought ways,  
To make us one in Thee.

△ 6 Then shall our song united rise  
To Thine eternal throne,  
Where with the Father evermore  
And Spirit Thou art one.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76  
Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven  
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## 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 with the choir*)



When he calls to me, I will | answer him;\*

I will rescue him and | honor him.

**With long life I will sat- | isfy him\*  
and show him my sal- | vation.**

He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High\*  
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

**I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my | fortress,\*  
my God, in | whom I trust.”**

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—\*  
the Most High, who is my | refuge—

**no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,\*  
no plague come | near your tent.**

You will tread on the lion and the | adder;\*  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.

**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.**

When he calls to me, I will | answer him;\*

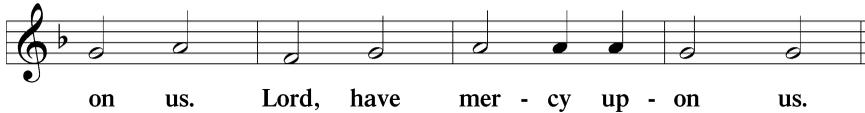
I will rescue him and | honor him.

**With long life I will sat- | isfy him\*  
and show him my sal- | vation.**

Kyrie



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



## 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 God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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

*Genesis 3:1–21*

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. <sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup>And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup>He

said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,  
cursed are you above all livestock  
and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel.”

<sup>16</sup>To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;  
in pain you shall bring forth children.  
Your desire shall be for your husband,  
and he shall rule over you.”

<sup>17</sup>And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife  
and have eaten of the tree  
of which I commanded you,  
‘You shall not eat of it,’  
cursed is the ground because of you;  
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;  
<sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;  
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

<sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face  
you shall eat bread,  
till you return to the ground,  
for out of it you were taken;  
for you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.”

<sup>20</sup>The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Choral Response “My Inmost Heart Now Raises”

### Epistle

*Hebrews 4:14–16*

<sup>14</sup>Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Tract

He who dwells in the shelter of the | **Most High\***  
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.  
He will cover you with his | pinions,\*  
and under his wings you will find | refuge.  
When he calls to me, I will | answer him;\*  
I will be with him in | trouble.  
With long life I will sat- | isfy him\*  
and show him my sal- | vation.

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 4:1–11*

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



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup>But he answered, “**It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”**”<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup>and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you,’ and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.””<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “**Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’**” <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup>And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “**Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”**”<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

**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

# #656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,  
 2 With might of ours - can naught be done,  
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,  
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;  
 Soon were our loss ef - fact - ed;  
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,  
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need  
 But for us fights the val - iant One,  
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;  
 He's by our side up - on the plain



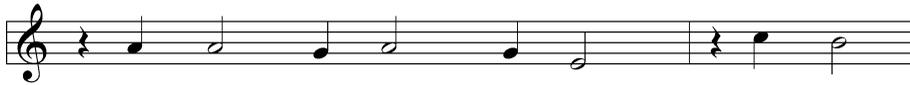
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.  
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.  
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.  
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means  
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus  
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce  
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might  
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,  
 as he will, He can harm us none.  
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth  
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds  
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -  
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.  
 the field for - ev - er.  
 tle word can fell him.  
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Text: tr. composite  
 Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## 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:**

*Lydia Critchley (grandmother of Danielle Critchley)*

*Darlene Jester (sister of Melissa Tolson), Jerry Springer (cancer)*

*Amelia Phillips*

*Jenny Peterson (friend of Cheryl Louison)*

*Kenneth Werling, James DeFrain*

*Dan Bush (stepfather of Chad Dunham)*

*Grace Anderson (friend of Macie Saalfrank)*

*Hazel Krenzke (granddaughter of Dan and Sue Buchinger)*

*Brittany (Conrad) Clausius*

*Brandon Tomlinson (son in-law of the Brinkleys), Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)*

**We pray for our expectant mothers** Hannah Stuckwisch, Makena Graham, Kaitlin (Meyer) Blair  
Reese Springer, Lillyan Laley, Jessica Schumm, Shelby Todd, Grace (Stoppenhagen) Mandeville

**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.

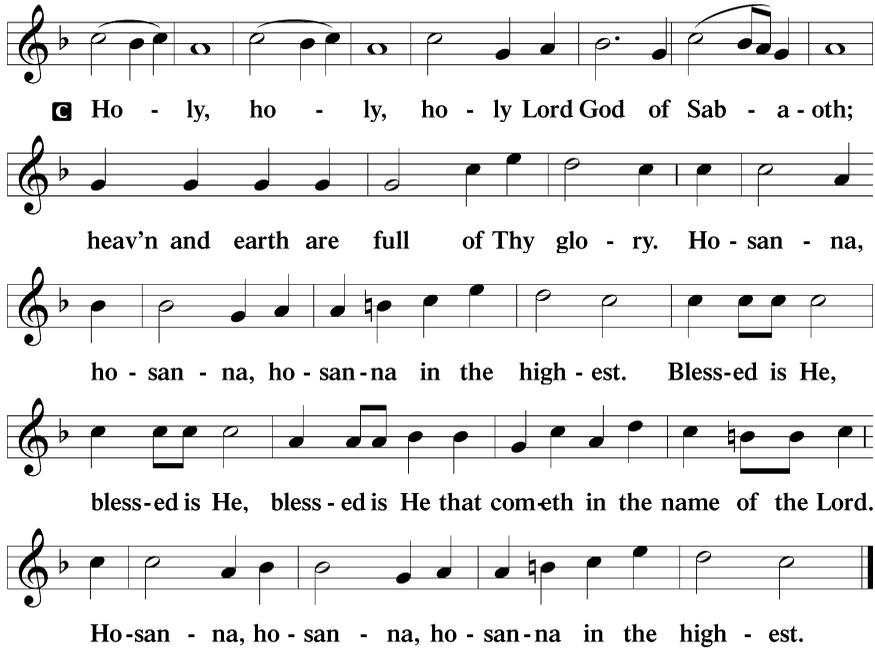


**C** It is meet and right so to do.

### 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 Hymn's

#627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's  
 2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious  
 3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you  
 4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this



wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe  
 food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,  
 are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,  
 food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,



He saved us from the e - vil foe.  
 And with the wine the blood He shed.  
 His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.  
 Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

- 5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken  
 That this food is to be taken  
 By the sick who are distressed,  
 By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 6 Agony and bitter labor  
 Were the cost of God's high favor;  
 Do not come if you suppose  
 You need not Him who died and rose.
- 7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,  
 And receive My grace and favor:  
 Those who feel no pain or ill  
 Need no physician's help or skill.
- 8 "For what purpose was My dying  
 If not for your justifying?  
 And what use this precious food  
 If you yourself were pure and good?"
- 9 If your heart this truth professes  
 And your mouth your sin confesses,  
 You will be your Savior's guest,  
 Be at His banquet truly blest.

10 Let this food your faith so nourish  
 That its fruit of love may flourish  
 And your neighbor learn from you  
 How much God's wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.  
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.  
 Text (sts. 3, 6, 8, 10): © 1980 and 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711  
 Text (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9) and tune: Public domain

## #628 Your Table I Approach



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.  
 2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;  
 3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,  
 4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.  
 A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.  
 Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.  
 God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,  
 That earth and hell combined  
 May not about this sacrament  
 Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail  
 To thank You day and night  
 For Your true body and true blood,  
 O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.  
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## #562 All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall



1 All man - kind fell in Ad - am's fall; One com - mon  
 2 Through all our pow'rs cor - rup - tion creeps And us in  
 3 From hearts de - praved, to e - vil prone, Flow thoughts and  
 4 But Christ, the sec - ond Ad - am, came To bear our



sin in - fects us all. From one to all the  
 dread - ful bond - age keeps; In guilt we draw our  
 deeds of sin a - lone; God's im - age lost, the  
 sin and woe and shame, To be our life, our



curse de - scends, And o - ver all God's wrath im - pends.  
 in - fant breath And reap its fruits of woe and death.  
 dark - ened soul Seeks not nor finds its heav'n - ly goal.  
 light, our way, Our on - ly hope, our on - ly stay.

5 As by one man all mankind fell  
 And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,  
 So by one Man, who took our place,  
 We all were justified by grace.

6 We thank You, Christ; new life is ours,  
 New light, new hope, new strength, new pow'rs.  
 This grace our ev'ry way attend  
 Until we reach our journey's end.

Text: Lazarus Spengler, 1479-1534; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.  
 Tune: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-61  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## #529 Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus



1 Since our great High Priest, Christ Je - sus, Bears the name a -  
 2 Since we have a priest who suf - fered, Know - ing weak - ness,  
 3 Sac - ri - fice and suf - f'ring o - ver, Now He sits at  
 4 Love's ex - am - ple, hope's at - trac - tion, Faith's be - gin - ning



bove all names, Reign - ing Son of God, sur - pass - ing  
 tears, and pain, Who like us was tried and tempt - ed,  
 God's right hand, Crowned with praise, no more an out - cast,  
 and its end, Pi - o - neer of our sal - va - tion,



Oth - er ti - tles, pow'rs and claims— Since to heav'n our  
 Un - like us, with - out a stain— Since He shared our  
 His pre - em - i - nence long - planned; Such a great High  
 Might-y ad - vo - cate and friend; Je - sus, high in



Lord has passed, Let us hold our wit - ness fast!  
low - ly place, Let us bold - ly seek His grace.  
Priest we have, Strong to help, su - preme to save.  
glo - ry raised, Our as - cend - ed Lord be praised!

Text: Christopher M. Idle, 1938

Tune: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1698, Darmstadt

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Tune: Public domain

## #773 Hear Us, Father, When We Pray



1 Hear us, Fa - ther, when we pray, Through Your Son and  
2 When we know not what to say, And our wound - ed  
3 Je - sus, ad - vo - cate on high, Sac - ri - ficed on  
4 By Your Spir - it now at - tend To our prayers and



in Your Spir - it. By Your Spir - it's Word con - vey  
souls are plead - ing, May Your Spir - it, night and day,  
Cal - v'ry's al - tar, Through Your priest - ly blood we cry:  
sup - pli - ca - tions, As like in - cense they as - cend



All that we through Christ in - her - it,  
Groan with - in us in - ter - ced - ing;  
Hear our prayers, though they may fal - ter;  
To Your heav'n - ly hab - i - ta - tions.



That as bap - tized heirs we may Tru - ly pray.  
By His sighs, too deep for words, We are heard.  
Place them on Your Fa - ther's throne As Your own.  
May their fra - grance waft a - bove, God of love.

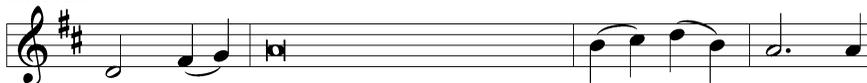
Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen

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## 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,

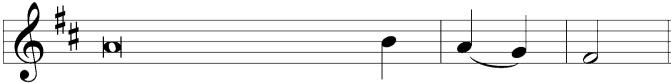


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving



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



**B** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled

constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### Salutation



**P** The Lord be with you.



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

### Benedicamus



**A** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

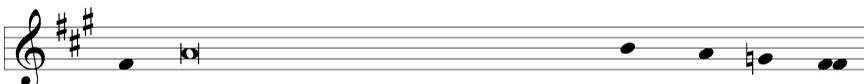
### Benediction



**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

## #418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And



prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance  
faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your  
fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -  
all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal



for our sin, And free us from our past.  
skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.  
ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.  
Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930–2024

Tune: The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter, 1635, Edinburgh

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

Tune: Public domain

***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!

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

## IN HIS SERVICE

<b>Preaching</b>	<b>Rev. Samuel Wirgau</b>
<b>Celebrant</b>	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
<b>Vicar</b>	Sem. Charles McLain
<b>Fieldworker</b>	Sem. Brandon Streeks
<b>Deaconess</b>	Wendy Boehm
<b>Head Elder</b>	Bruce Werling
<b>Elders on Duty</b>	Ted Schumm and Andrew Stoppenhagen
<b>Kantor</b>	Richard Brinkley
<b>Organist</b>	Emilie Meyer
<b>Acolytes</b>	Matthew Rekeweg and Jonah Bultemeier
<b>Altar Guild Chairman</b>	Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm
<b>Ushers</b>	Jared Conrad, Mike Nahrwold, Jacob Meyer
	Trent Bultemeier, Andrew Stoppenhagen, Nathanael Werling, Jacob Werling

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. Divine Service with Holy Communion</b>
	10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class or Sunday School
	11:30 a.m. Special Voter's Assembly Meeting
	11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
<b>MONDAY</b>	2:00 p.m. WOB Bible Study
	5:30 p.m. Wholyfit (downstairs music room)
	NO Handbell Choir Practice
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Chapel Service</b>
	5-5:30 p.m. Confession and Absolution
	5:30 p.m. Adult Catechesis Class
	6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper
	<b>7:00 p.m. Divine Service</b>
	Adult Choir Practice
<b>THURSDAY</b>	5:30 p.m. Wholyfit (downstairs music room)
	6:30 p.m. WOB Bible Study
<b>SATURDAY</b>	9-11:00 a.m. School Open House
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. 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)

**DOOR OFFERING for Food Banks** - During the season of Lent we increase emphasis on almsgiving. In the past Bethlehem has taken a door offering on the First Sunday in Lent for our Emergency Relief Fund to assist member families facing financial hardships. That fund has been so generously supported that the Elders have decided to collect a door **offering TODAY, FEBRUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>** for both the Northern Wells Food Bank and the Food Co-op at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. ***In addition, we will have boxes out for physical donations.***

**SPECIAL VOTER'S ASSEMBLY MEETING – TODAY, February 22<sup>nd</sup> after Bible Class**

**WORSHIP SERVICES FOR THE SEASON OF LENT –** Please join us for Evening Prayer with Holy Communion on Wednesday evenings beginning at 7:00 pm. Also, feel free to attend the morning Chapel Services at 10:00 am. *The Bethlehem Youth and parents will be serving a Lenten Dinner beginning at 6:00pm. and the meal for Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> is Ham and Cheese Sliders, broccoli, chips and cookies.*

**INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** - As in years past, for all the Wednesdays of Lent Pastor will be available for Individual Confession and Absolution (LSB page 292) from 5:00-5:30 in the sanctuary of Bethlehem for those who would desire this as part of the Lenten devotions. As with the rite of Confession and Absolution that begins each of our Sunday services, the rite for individuals is yet another opportunity for us to confess our sins and receive forgiveness from Christ through the pastor. Every sin does not need to be listed nor do any particular sins need to be named. But for those sins "which we know and feel in our hearts" (Small Catechism) this is a wonderful opportunity to hear and receive the comforting forgiveness of Christ. Pastor will never speak of the sins confessed as he vowed in his ordination. He is happy to familiarize you with the rite either before Wednesday or when you come in. He is also available at other times by appointment. If you have questions, reach out to him.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONALS** are once again available for anyone to pick up. The illustrations were designed by our Bethlehem school students. Thank you to Pastor Wirgau, Deaconess Boehm and Vicar McClain for all your hard work.

**THANK YOU –** Mr. and Mrs. Keith Krick would like to extend a special thanks to all who sent a card, gifts, prayers and phone calls. Wishing us a blessed 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. God has blessed us with our family and many friends that made our day very special

**OPEN HOUSE –** Bethlehem Lutheran School plans to hold an “Open House” on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> from 9-11:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to come tour the school, meet teachers, and ask questions regarding enrollment. If you know of anyone that might be looking for an alternative to public school or will be enrolled in kindergarten next year, please be sure to let them know about the Open House. There is a tuition discount given to those families who have given a successful referral.

**BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER** for: Hildegard Bauermeister, 93 years young, on February 24th, 8075 N 750 E, Ossian, IN 46777

**EASTER FLOWER ORDERS** – The Bethlehem Altar Guild is once again taking orders for Easter flowers. Please see the inserted order form for a list of flowers, colors and cost. Orders are due by March 8<sup>th</sup> and can be turned into the church office. Thank you

**Next book club pick:** "Hannah Coulter" by Wendell Berry. We will meet at 8am at Crimson House on Saturday, April 18th. *Hannah Coulter* is told in the voice of an elderly woman reflecting on her life, family, and deep ties to the farming community of Port William, Kentucky. The novel affirms the enduring value of love, land, and community amid loss and modern change. *\*If you are interested or need help finding a copy, please contact Deaconess Boehm.*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR and REGISTER NOW for CRAFT FOR A CAUSE!**

Saturday, March 7 from 7am-7pm - Join us for a day of crafting fun! Bring your craft supplies and enjoy good food, fellowship and 12 hours of crafting time. Forms are available on the table in the front hall. ***Deadline to register is February 27<sup>th</sup>.*** Contact Deann Oliver with questions 616-894-0144.

**St. John Bingen annual Dan's Fish and Tenderloin Dinner** – Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:30-1:00 pm, at Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School. Adults \$15.00; Children (6-12) \$10.00, 5 & under free. All proceeds go to the HVAC Fund. Drive thru and carry out available.

**SCRIP** – Please be sure to check out our new scrip certificate order sheet and ordering dates posted on the bulletin board. Next order date will be March 15<sup>th</sup>. **For questions or for placing an order, please contact Jill Holtzclaw 260-301-1965 our current PTL representative.**

**Offering February 15, 2026**

<b><u>Average weekly need \$14,000</u></b>	
Home Fund Env.	\$11,441.80
Synod	200.00
Loose	480.48
Scholarship Fund	125.00
Sunday School	6.25
Improvement Fund	
Endowment Fund	25.00
Organ Fund	1,049.47
Music Fund	
Memorial Fund	50.00
Reimb. Trustee Exp.	2,700.00
Lutheran Foundation	<u>22,500.00</u>
Total	\$38,578.00

**Financial Report**

<b>Home Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$52,232.75</b>
Next week's bills due:	\$15,000
Bills due two weeks:	\$5,000
<b>Savings Account Balance</b>	<b>\$55,790.23</b>
Borrowed from Savings:	\$14,983.81
<b>Operating Loan Balance</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
Borrowed from Op Loan	\$0.00

**Church Attendance**

Sunday	202/151
Ash Wednesday	122/71



# EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Please return your advanced order with payment to the church office  
by Sunday, March 8th

.....

- Easter Lilies ..... \$11.00 ea.    # \_\_\_ White
- Tulips ..... \$ 9.50 ea.    # \_\_\_ Purple # \_\_\_ Yellow
- Geraniums.....\$13.00 ea.    # \_\_\_ Red # \_\_\_ Salmon
- Mums .....\$15.50 ea.    # \_\_\_ Yellow
- Hydrangeas.....\$29.50 ea.    # \_\_\_ Pink # \_\_\_ Blue

(Make checks payable to Women of Bethlehem) **Total Order** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ordered by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Loving Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Flowers may be picked up after the April 5th 9:00 a.m. Easter Service.  
Please call Kay Schumm (260-273-7402) or Gina Craft (260-273-5035) for questions.**

## *The House of Daily Bread*

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer following  
The week following The First Sunday in Lent



In the Garden, man exalts himself to be a god in place of God (Gen. 3:1–21). He succumbs to the temptation of the devil, and eating of the forbidden fruit, he receives death. But in the sin-cursed wilderness, God humbles Himself to become man in place of man (Mt. 4:1–11). He does not eat but fasts and bears the onslaughts of the devil for us that we may be restored to life. Jesus stands as David in our place to do battle against the Goliath, Satan (1 Samuel 17:40–51). Though outwardly Jesus appears weak, yet He comes in the name of the Lord of hosts. He draws from the five smooth stones of the books of Moses and slings the Word of God. The stone sinks into the forehead, and the enemy falls. In Christ we are victorious over the devil. Let us therefore not receive the grace of God in vain (2 Cor. 6:1–10), but seeing that we have a great High Priest, let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain help in time of need (Heb 4:14–16).

## **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: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" LSB #656***

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

***The Catechism:***

***What is the Conclusion to the Lord's Prayer?***

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and glory forever and ever.  
Amen.

***What does this mean?***

This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us.  
Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

***What is 2 Corinthians 1:20?***

For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. 2 Corinthians 1:20

***Psalm 32 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listen below.***

Daily Psalm	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
A.M.	26, 27	30	32	33	35	37	40
P.M.	25	28, 29	31	34	36	38	39, 41

***Daily Bible Reading***

Mon.	John 17:9-17 - Jesus' High Priestly Prayer Genesis 6:1-7:5
Tues.	Matthew 18:15-20- "Where Two or Three Are Gathered" Genesis 7:11-8:12
Wed.	Numbers 6:23-27 - The Aaronic Benediction Genesis 8:13-9:17
Thu.	Isaiah 12:1-6 - The LORD Is My Strength and My Song Genesis 11:27-12:20
Fri.	Ezekiel 36:22-23 - God Will Vindicate the Holiness of His Name Genesis 13:1-18
Sat.	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

***Prayers***

*Collect of the Day*

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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:** Lydia, Darlene, Jerry, Dale, Brienne, Jenny, James, Kenneth, Dan, Grace, Hazel, Brittany, Brandon, Sandra **Expectant mothers:** Hannah, Makena, Kaitlin, Reese, Lillyan, Jessica, Shelby, Grace **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: Second Sunday in Lent (Reminiscere)**

Old Testament: Genesis 32:22-32 Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7; Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28; Hymns: 713; 615; 629; 630; 770; 779; 708; 693