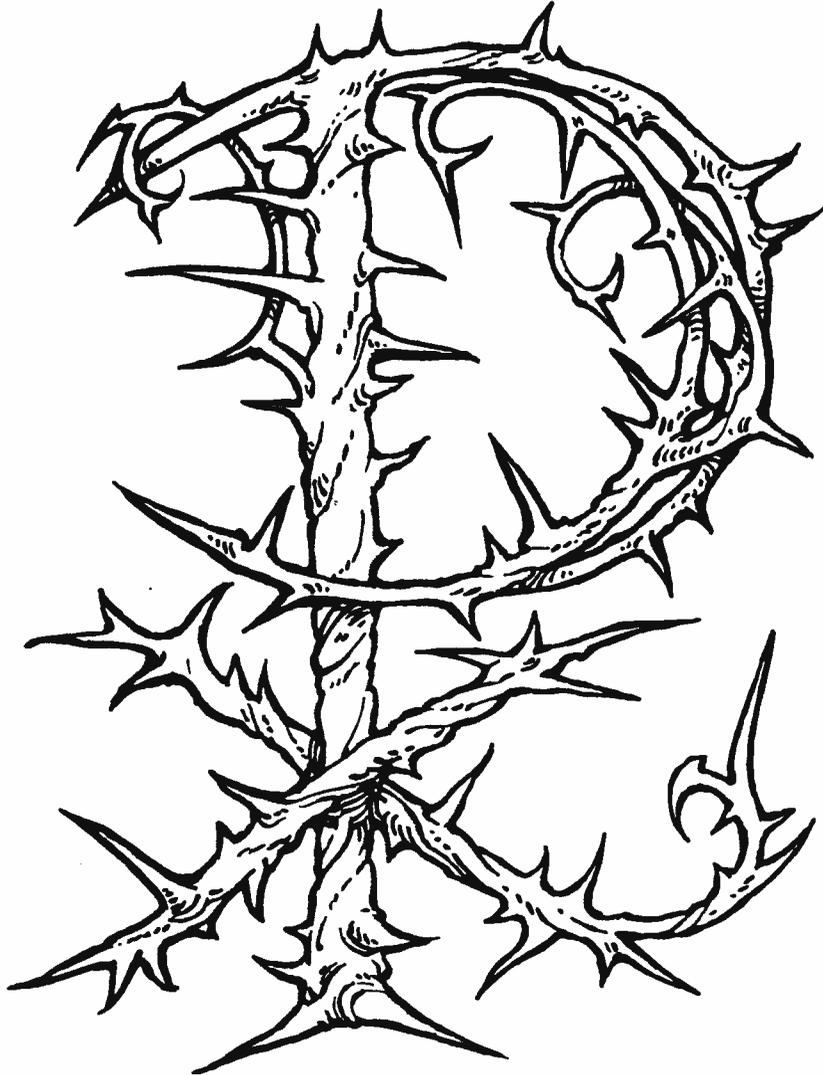


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



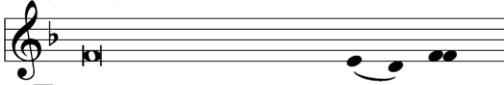
Lenten Mid-week

Evening Prayer with Holy Communion

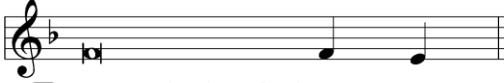
February 25, 2026

Service of Light pg. 243

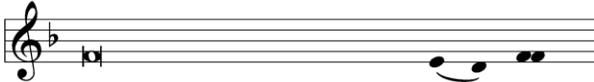
Versicles (Lent)



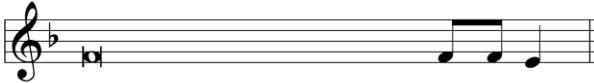
L Now is the time of God's fa - vor;



C now is the day of sal - va - tion.



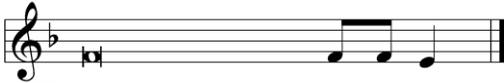
L Turn us again, O God of our sal - va - tion,



C that the light of Your face may shine on us.



L May Your justice shine like the sun;



C and may the poor be lift - ed up.

Phos Hilaron



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the

set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.

We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:

You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -

ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:

the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

☐ Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,

who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of

fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;

may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;

for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion



and we, Your creatures, glo-ri-fy You, Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it.



C A - men.

Psalm 141



C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice



when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.

II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref-uge.
 Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in
 the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.
 Let my prayer rise be-fore You as in-cense,
 the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

Psalm Prayer

- L** Let us pray.
 Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.
- C** Amen.

Psalmody (*sung responsively*)

Psalm 32

- ¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
 whose sin is | covered.
- ²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,*
 and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.
- ³For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away*
 through my groaning | all day long.

4For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me; *
my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.

5I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my in- | iquity; *
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

6Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found; *
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not | reach him.

7You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from | trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

8I will instruct you and teach you in the way | you should go; *
I will counsel you with my eye up- | on you.

9Be not like a horse or a mule, without under- | standing, *
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay | near you.

10Many are the sorrows of the | wicked, *
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

11Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O | righteous, *
and shout for joy, all you up- | right in heart!

*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.*

Office Hymn

#766 (vs 1,2,9) Our Father, Who from Heaven Above



1 Our Fa - ther, who from heav'n a - bove Bids all of us to
2 Your name be hal - lowed. Help us, Lord, In pu - ri - ty to
9 A - men, that is, so shall it be. Make strong our faith in



live in love As mem-bers of one fam - i - ly And
keep Your Word, That to the glo - ry of Your name We
You, that we May doubt not but with trust be - lieve That



pray to You in u - ni - ty, Teach us no thought-less words to
walk be - fore You free from blame. Let no false teach - ing us per -
what we ask we shall re - ceive. Thus in Your name and at Your



say But from our in - most hearts to pray.
vert; All poor de - lud - ed souls con - vert.
Word We say, "A - men, O hear us, Lord!"

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; (sts. 1, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 2): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001, alt.
Tune: attr. Martin Luther, 1483-1546
Text (sts. 1, 9): Public domain
Text (st. 2): © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
Tune: Public domain

Reading

John 17:1-25

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, **“Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. ⁶“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. ²⁰“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me**

where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Final Reading Response

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon

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.

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, Lilyan Laley, Jessica Schumm, Shelby Todd, Grace (Stoppenbagen) 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

Offering

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,



bles - ed is He, bles - 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.



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

#440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;
But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

- 5 If my sins give me alarm
And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm;
Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won
By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son,
God must have compassion!

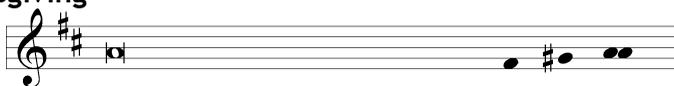
6 Graciously my faith renew;
 Help me bear my crosses,
 Learning humbleness from You,
 Peace mid pain and losses.
 May I give You love for love!
 Hear me, O my Savior,
 That I may in heav'n above
 Sing Your praise forever.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.
 Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615
 Text and tune: Public domain

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.

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.



G A - men.

Salutation



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

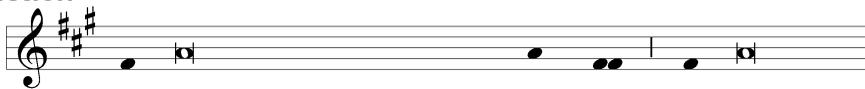


A Bless we the Lord.

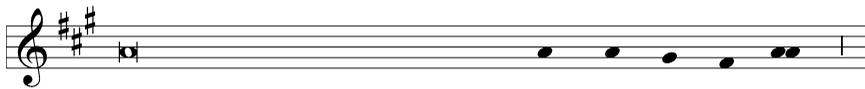


G Thanks be to God.

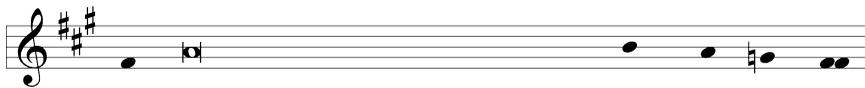
Benediction



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

#877 God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven



1 God, who made the earth and heav - en, Dark - ness and light:
2 And when morn a - gain shall call us To run life's way,
3 Guard us wak - ing, guard us sleep - ing, And when we die,
△ 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, throned in heav - en, All - ho - ly Son,



You the day for work have giv - en, For rest the night. May Your
May we still, what - e'er be - fall us, Your will o - bey. From the
May we in Your might - y keep - ing All peace - ful lie. When the
Ho - ly Spir - it, free - ly giv - en, Blest Three in One: Grant us



an - gel guards de - fend us, Slum - ber sweet Your mer - cy send us,
pow'r of e - vil hide us, In the nar - row path - way guide us,
last dread call shall wake us, Then, O Lord, do not for - sake us,
grace, we now im - plore You, Till we lay our crowns be - fore You



Ho - ly dreams and hopes at - tend us All through the night.
Nev - er be Your smile de - nied us All through the day.
But to reign in glo - ry take us With You on high.
And in wor - thier strains a - dore You While a - ges run.

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching / Celebrant

Vicar

Fieldworker

Deaconess

Head Elder

Elders on Duty

Kantor

Acolytes

Altar Guild Chairman

Ushers

Rev. Samuel Wirgau

Sem. Charles McLain

Sem. Brandon Streeks

Wendy Boehm

Bruce Werling

Ted Schumm and Andrew Stoppenhagen

Richard Brinkley

Matthew Rekeweg and Jonah Bultemeier

Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm

Jared Conrad, Mike Nahrwold, Jacob Meyer

Trent Bultemeier, Andrew Stoppenhagen, Nathanael Werling, Jacob Werling

Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wirgau

(Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com)

260-273-7595

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Office

260-597-7121

Bethlehem Lutheran School

260-597-7366

Assoc. Pastor, Headmaster: Rev. Anthony Dodgers

616-648-6489

Kantor: Mr. Richard Brinkley

260-705-4105

Deaconess: Wendy Boehm

260-415-8526

Website for Church and School: www.blcssossian.org

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS this evening 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 bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com or the church office at 597-7121.
<https://www.youtube.com/bethlehemplutheranchurchossian> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

