

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Sexagesima

Divine Service – Setting One

February 8, 2026

Vol. 128-11

Opening Hymn

#586 Preach You the Word



1 Preach you the Word and plant it home To men who
2 We know how hard, O Lord, the task Your ser - vant
3 The sow - er sows; his reck - less love Scat - ters a -
4 Though some be snatched and some be scorched And some be



like or like it not, The Word that shall en -
bade us un - der - take; To preach Your Word and
broad the good - ly seed, In - tent a - lone that
choked and mat - ted flat, The sow - er sows; his



ture and stand When flow'rs and men shall be for - got.
nev - er ask What pride - ful prof - it it may make.
all may have The whole - some loaves that all men need.
heart cries out, "Oh, what of that, and what of that?"

5 Of all his scattered plenteousness
One-fourth waves ripe on hill and flat,
And bears a harvest hundredfold:
"Ah, what of that, Lord, what of that!"

6 Preach you the Word and plant it home
And never faint; the Harvest Lord
Who gave the sower seed to sow
Will watch and tend His planted Word.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76, alt.

Tune: Rheinfeilsisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch, 1666, Augsburg

Text: © 1971 The Franzmann Family. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

Tune: Public domain

Invocation *(please stand)*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not

loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

- ☐ Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ~~†~~ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- ☐ Amen.

Service of the Word pg.151

Introit (sung responsively with the choir)



Awake! Why are you sleeping, | O Lord?*

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us for- | ever!

For our soul is bowed down | to the dust.*

Rise up; come | to our help!

O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have | told us,*
what deeds you performed in their days, in the | days of old:
you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you | planted;*
you afflicted the peoples, but them you | set free.

But you have saved us | from our foes*
and have put to shame those who | hate us.

In God we have boasted con- | tinually,*
and we will give thanks to your name for- | ever.

*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.

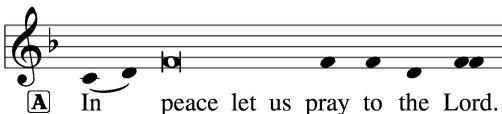
Awake! Why are you sleeping, | O Lord?*

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us for- | ever!

For our soul is bowed down | to the dust.*

Rise up; come | to our help!

Kyrie





C Lord, have mer - cy.



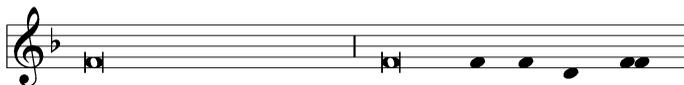
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



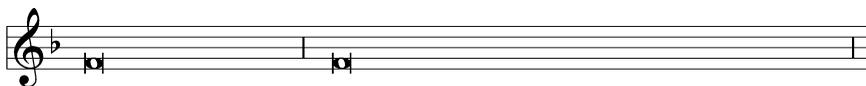
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



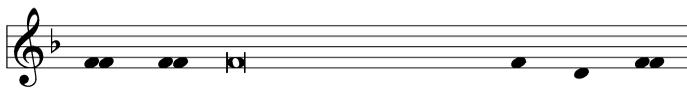
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response “From God Shall naught Divide Me”

Epistle

Hebrews 4:9–13

⁹So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. ¹¹Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 8:4–15

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁴When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to [Jesus], he said in a parable: ⁵“**A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. ⁶And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. ⁷And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. ⁸And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.**” As he said these things, he called out, “**He who has ears to hear, let him hear.**” ⁹And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, ¹⁰he said, “**To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’**” ¹¹Now the parable is this: **The seed is the word of God. ¹²The ones along the path are those who have heard. Then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. ¹⁴And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.”**

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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

#823 May God Bestow on Us His Grace



1 May God be-stow on us His grace, With bless-ings rich pro-
2 Thine o - ver all shall be the praise And thanks of ev - 'ry
△ 3 O let the peo-ple praise Thy worth, In all good works in -



vide us; And may the bright-ness of His face
na - tion; And all the world with joy shall raise
creas - ing; The land shall plen - teous fruit bring forth,



To life e - ter - nal guide us, That we His
The voice of ex - ul - ta - tion. For Thou shalt
Thy Word is rich in bless - ing. May God the



sav - ing health may know, His gra - cious will and plea - sure,
judge the earth, O Lord, Nor suf - fer sin to flour - ish;
Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Spir - it bless us!



And al - so to the na-tions show Christ's rich - es with-out
Thy peo-ple's pas - ture is Thy Word Their souls to feed and
Let all the world praise Him a - lone, Let sol - emn awe pos -



mea - sure And un - to God con - vert them.
nour - ish, In righ - teous paths to keep them.
sess us. Now let our hearts say, "A - men!"

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-87, alt.
Tune: Der Lxvj. Deus Misereatur, 1524, Magdeburg
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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

Amelia Phillips

Jenny Peterson (friend of Cheryl Louison)

Kenneth Werling, James DeFrain

Dan Bush (stepfather of Chad Dunham)

Grace Anderson (friend of Macie Saalfrank with brain tumor)

Lisa Imbody (Layne Fisher's sister)

Hazel Krenzke (granddaughter of Dan and Sue Buchinger)

Brittany (Conrad) Clausius

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

For those in mourning: *Elaine Scallon (cousin of Loren Dathe)*

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)

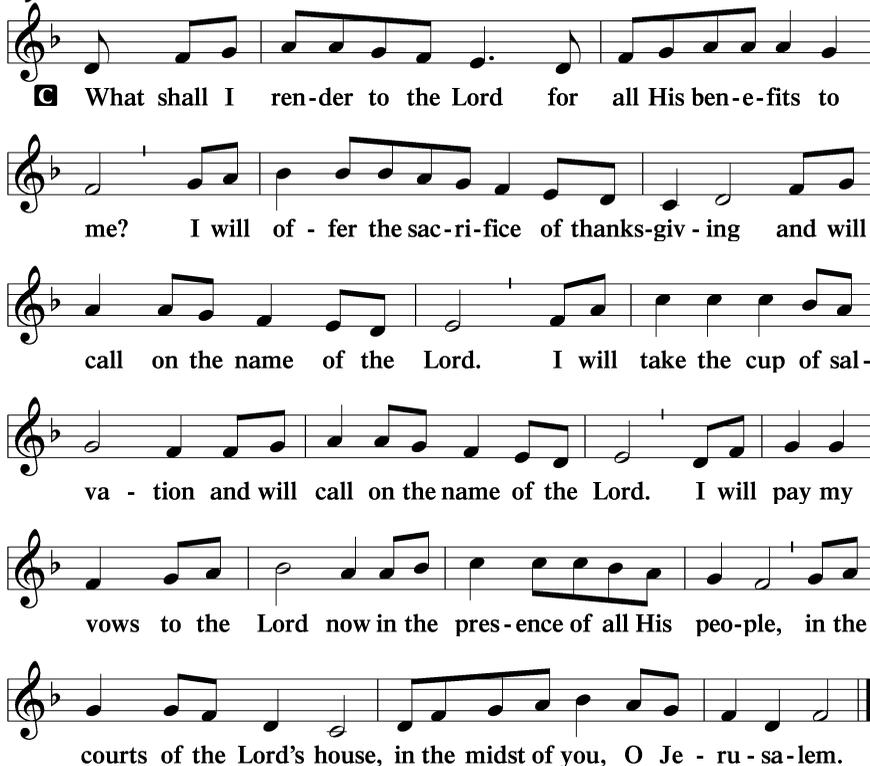
Norwin and Martha Bauermeister (Astral in Auburn)

We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel

Offering

Offertory



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament pg. 160

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



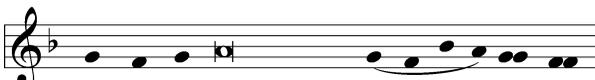
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- C** **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."

Distribution Hymn's

#622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for
 2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel
 3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y
 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious



our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y
 hosts are dwell - ing; And in Your pres - ence
 hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent
 Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y



and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion
 they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,
 e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.
 and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.



As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to
 And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry
 Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are



You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.
 and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,
 an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.
 pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

5 Though reason cannot understand,
 Yet faith this truth embraces:
 Your body, Lord, is even now
 At once in many places.
 I leave to You how this can be;
 Your Word alone suffices me;
 I trust its truth unailing.

6 Lord, I believe what You have said;
 Help me when doubts assail me.
 Remember that I am but dust,
 And let my faith not fail me.

Your supper in this vale of tears
 Refreshes me and stills my fears
 And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive
 Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
 And, truly grieving for our sins,
 May prove by our behavior
 That we are thankful for Your grace
 And day by day may run our race,
 In holiness increasing.

8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,
 Be praised throughout all ages!
 Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
 The world against it rages.
 Grant that this sacrament may be
 A blessèd comfort unto me
 When living and when dying.

Text: Samuel Kinner, 1603–68; tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841–1931, alt.
 Tune: Peter Sohren, c. 1630–c. 1692, alt.
 Text and tune: Public domain

#623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray That we may
 2 Give us, who share this won-drous food, Your bod - y
 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the
 4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, Re - joic - ing
 5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us



feast on You to - day; Be - neath these forms of
 bro - ken and Your blood; The grate - ful peace of
 gift of love re - told; All that You are we
 in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim Your love un -
 stead - fast till that day When each will be Your



bread and wine En - rich us with Your grace di - vine.
 sins for - giv'n, The cer - tain joys of heirs of heav'n.
 here re - ceive, And all we are to You we give.
 til You come To bring Your scat - tered loved ones home.
 wel - comed guest In heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932, alt.
Tune: Canticale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim
Text and tune: Public domain

#748 I'm But a Stranger Here



1 I'm but a strang - er here, Heav'n is my home;
2 What though the tem - pest rage, Heav'n is my home;
3 There - fore I mur - mur not, Heav'n is my home;



Earth is a des - ert drear, Heav'n is my home.
Short is my pil - grim - age, Heav'n is my home;
What - e'er my earth - ly lot, Heav'n is my home;



Dan - ger and sor - row stand Round me on ev - 'ry hand;
And time's wild win - try blast Soon shall be o - ver - past;
And I shall sure - ly stand There at my Lord's right hand;



Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.

Text: Thomas R. Taylor, 1807–35
Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900
Text and tune: Public domain

#730 What Is the World to Me



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
 But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,
 I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:
 My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
 My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!
 My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
 Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701
 Text and tune: Public domain

#655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
 Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
 u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
 we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
 Text and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now You let Your ser - vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -

pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.
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.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C A - men.

Closing Hymn

#577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt.
Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London
Text and 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 bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com or the church office at 597-7121.
<https://www.youtube.com/bethlehemlutheranchurchossian> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

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

Ted Schumm and Andrew Stoppenhagen

Kantor

Richard Brinkley

Acolytes

Matthew Rekeweg and Jonah Bultemeier

Altar Guild Chairman

Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm

Ushers

Todd Ottinger, Ethan Ottinger, Landon Geiger

Jay Werling, Collin Laley, Kaden Laley, Chad Dunham

Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wirgau	260-273-7595
(Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com)	
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Office	260-597-7121
Bethlehem Lutheran School	260-597-7366
Assoc. Pastor, Headmaster: Rev. Anthony Dodgers	616-648-6489
Kantor: Mr. Richard Brinkley	260-705-4105
Deaconess: Wendy Boehm	260-415-8526
<i>Website for Church and School: www.blcsossian.org</i>	

TODAY

9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class or Sunday School

11:30 a.m. Church Council Meeting

11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)

3-4:30 p.m. Folk Dancing (school gym)

MONDAY

2:00 p.m. WOB Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Wholyfit (downstairs music room)

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice

TUESDAY

6:00 p.m. Visual Faith

WEDNESDAY

10:00 a.m. Chapel Service

5:30 p.m. Catechesis Class

7:00 p.m. Spoken Divine Service

Adult Choir Practice

THURSDAY

5:30 p.m. Wholyfit (downstairs music room)

6:30 p.m. WOB Bible Study

FRIDAY

NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-service

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. WOB Meeting

9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

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 for both the Northern Wells Food Bank and the Food Co-op at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. In addition, we will have donation boxes out for physical donations for the Northern Wells Food Bank as well as the Food and Clothing Co-op at the Seminary.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – Today, February 8th after Bible Class

SPECIAL VOTER'S ASSEMBLY MEETING – Sunday, February 22nd after Bible Class

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN SERVICES - Please join us Ash Wednesday, February 18th at 7:00 p.m. and each Wednesday evening through Holy Week.

CARD SHOWER for Ralph Bauermeister celebrating his 93rd Birthday, February 10th. Please send cards to: 8075 N 750 E, Ossian, IN 46777

ATTENTION – The next Women of Bethlehem meeting will be held Sunday February 15th at 8:00 a.m. in the church Fellowship Hall.

FOLK DANCING – TODAY - Sunday, February 8th from 3:00 to 4:30 pm in the school gym. Adults and children are invited to attend. No experience is required. Instructions will be given before each dance. Admission: \$1 per person or \$5 per family. For questions contact Kantor Brinkley. Please join us for this fun event!

PICK UP YOUR SUPER BOWL SUB TODAY! Super Bowl subs can be picked up at the gym kitchen or you can drive up to the doors at the gym entrance and we will bring them out to you after church from 10:15 am - 11:30 am. **We have many subs left to sell.** We have them ready to purchase for **\$12.00 each.** Profits go to the Bethlehem Seminary Scholarship Fund.

OPEN HOUSE – Bethlehem Lutheran School plans to hold an “Open House” on Saturday, February 28th 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.

Spring Women's Bible Study: "Christ in the Psalms". Beginning the week of February 9th, we will study the appointed psalm for each Lenten week, correlating with Bethlehem's Lenten services and our Lenten devotional. We will incorporate Visual Faith practices, explore multiple Bible translations, and reflect on key words and phrases. We will meet on Monday's at 2:00 and Thursday's at 6:30p.m. in the Youth Room. Please let Deaconess know if you're interested.

New Hope is hosting a Senior Dinner on February 19th at 11:30 am. The speaker will be Jody Heaston, a naturalist from Ouabache State Park. Please call 260-622-7954 or 260-223-4830 for reservations. 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. Contact Deann Oliver with questions 616-894-0144.

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

Offering February 1, 2026

<u>Average weekly need \$14,000</u>	
Home Fund Env.	\$8,749.86
Synod	
Loose	268.35
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	
Improvement Fund	
Endowment Fund	
Organ Fund	200.00
Music Fund	
Fellowship Hall Rent	<u>90.00</u>
Total	\$9,308.21

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance	\$36,512.66
Next week's bills due:	\$16,000
Bills due two weeks:	\$6,000
Savings Account Balance	\$55,065.76
Borrowed from Savings:	\$14,983.81
Operating Loan Balance	\$30,000
Borrowed from Op Loan	\$0.00

Church Attendance

Sunday	175/122
Wednesday	25/20

The 2025 Offering Tax Statements are now available in the north church hallway.

The trustees are looking for church or school keys. Please return any unused keys to the church office. Thank you.

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

\$373,427.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009
230,383.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched
403,585.35 - Amount generated since 2009
-179,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009
\$827,896.17 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of December 31, 2025

Dr. David Nahrwold Fund
\$ 90,078.93 - Amount sent in since November 2024
10,651.94 - Amount generated since November 2024
-10,000.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2024
\$ 90,730.87 - Value of Dr. David Nahrwold Fund as of December 31, 2025



Folk Dancing
Sunday, February 8th
from 3:00 to 4:30 pm
in the school gym.

Adults and children are invited to attend. No experience is required. Instructions will be given before each dance. Admission: \$1 per person or \$5 per family. For questions contact Kantor Brinkley. Please join us for this fun event!

The House of Daily Bread

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer following
The week following Sexagesima Sunday



The Sower sows the seed of His Word (Luke 8:4–15). This Word is living and powerful (Heb. 4:9–13) to conceive new life in those who hear it. But the planting of Christ is attacked by the devil, the world, and the flesh. Satan snatches the Word away from hard hearts. The riches and pleasures of this life choke off faith. Shallow and emotional belief withers in time of temptation and trouble. But see how Christ bears this attack for us! Christ's cross was planted in the hard and rocky soil of Golgotha. A crown of thorns was placed upon His head. Satan and His demons hellishly hounded and devoured Him. Yet, through His dying and rising again, He destroyed these enemies of ours. Jesus is Himself the Seed which fell to the ground and died in order that it might sprout forth to new life and produce much grain. In Him, the weak are strong (2 Cor. 11:19–12:9). He is the Word of the Father which does not return void (Is. 55:10–13) but yields a harvest hundredfold.

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: "May God Bestow on Us His Grace" LSB 823

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

The Catechism:

What is the Fifth Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against
us.

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our
sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the
things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that
He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely
deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and
gladly do good to those who sin against us.

What is Psalm 130:3-4?

If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness,

that You may be feared.

Psalm 130:3-4

Psalm 84 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listen below.

Daily Psalm	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
A.M.	135	137, 138	140, 141	144	147	148	1, 2
P.M.	136	139	142, 143	145	146	149, 150	3

Daily Bible Reading

Mon.	Matthew 8:23-27 - Jesus Stills the Storm Job 6:1-13
Tues.	Matthew 8:28-34- Two Demon-Possessed Men Are Healed Job 6:14-30
Wed.	Matthew 9:1-8 - Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralytic Job 7:1-21
Thu.	Matthew 9:9-13 -Matthew the Tax Collector Job 8:1-22
Fri.	Matthew 9:14-26- A Girl Is Raised and a Woman Is Healed Job 9:1-35
Sat.	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

Prayers

Collect of the Day

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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: Brianne, Jenny, James, Kenneth, Dan, Grace, Lisa, Hazel, Brittany, Brandon, Sandra **Expectant mothers:** Hannah, Makena, Kaitlin, Reese, Lillyan, Jessica, Shelby, Grace **Homebound:** Ruth, Marilyn, Marilyn, Donald, Norwin and Martha. **Mourning:** family and friends of Elaine Scallon

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: Sexagesima

Old Testament: Isaiah 35:3-7 Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Gospel: Luke 18:31-43; Hymns: 556, 849, 624, 625, 744, 685, 861