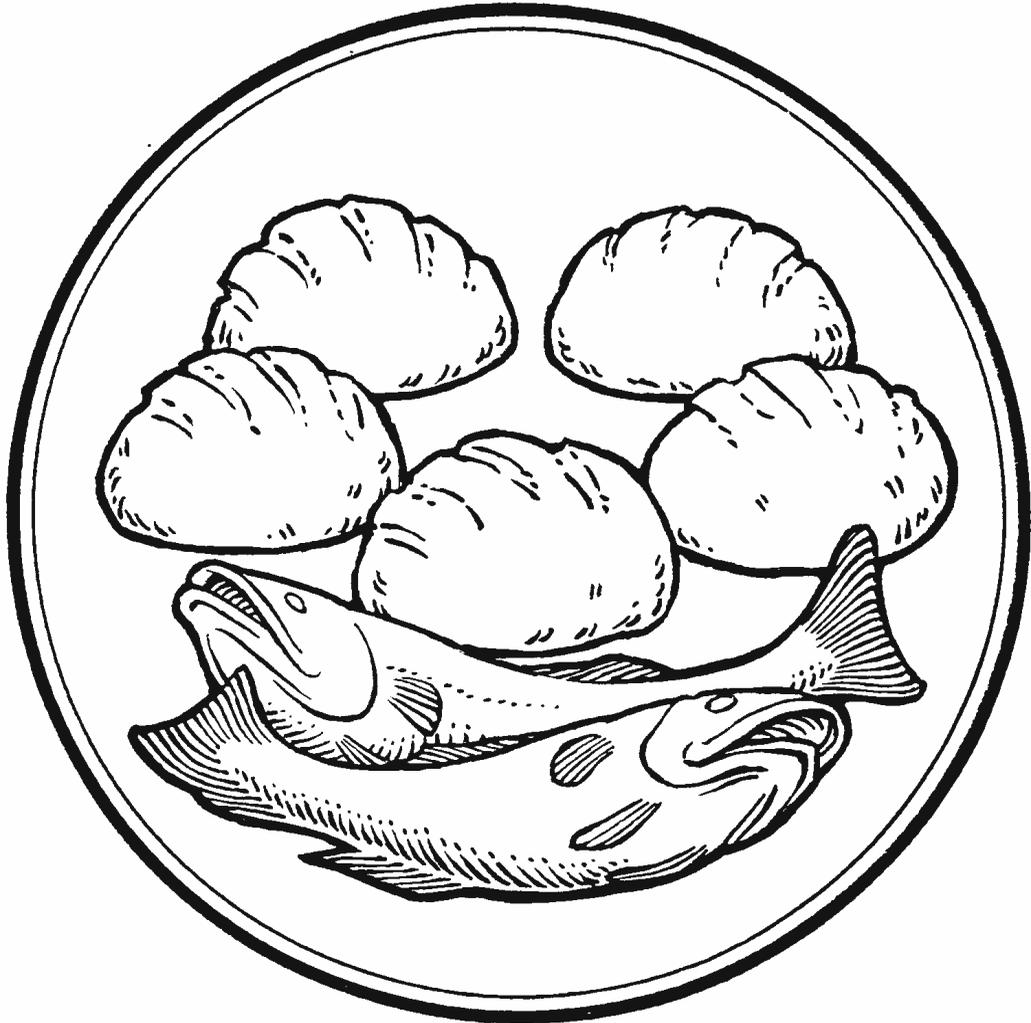


# Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

*A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*



## *Fourth Sunday in Lent*

*“Laetare”*

Divine Service – Setting Three

March 15, 2026

Vol. 128-16

## Opening Hymn

## #423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,  
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -  
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior  
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your  
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,  
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us  
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the  
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your  
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.  
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.  
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452-98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826-96, alt.  
Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, 1745, Basel  
Text and tune: Public domain

## 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*)



Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,\*  
all you who | love her;

**that you may nurse and be | satisfied\*  
from her con- | soling breast.**

I was glad when they | said to me,\*  
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD!”

**Our feet have been | standing\*  
within your gates, O Je- | rusalem!**

Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!\*

May they be secure who | love you!

**For my brothers and com- | panions’ sake\*  
I will say, “Peace be with- | in you!”**

*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.*

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,\*  
all you who | love her;

**that you may nurse and be | satisfied\*  
from her con- | soling breast.**

## Kyrie

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

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Let us pray.

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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

*Exodus 16:2–21*

<sup>2</sup>And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, <sup>3</sup>and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. <sup>5</sup>On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.” <sup>6</sup>So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, <sup>7</sup>and in the morning you

shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?”<sup>8</sup> And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, ‘Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.’”<sup>10</sup> And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.<sup>11</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, <sup>12</sup>“I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

<sup>13</sup>In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp.<sup>14</sup> And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground.<sup>15</sup> When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.<sup>16</sup> This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.’”<sup>17</sup> And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less.<sup>18</sup> But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat.<sup>19</sup> And Moses said to them, “Let no one leave any of it over till the morning.”<sup>20</sup> But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them.<sup>21</sup> Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 122:1, 7*

**I was glad when they | said to me,\***  
**“Let us go to the house | of the LORD!”**  
**Peace be with- | in your walls\***  
**and security within your | towers!**

## Second Reading

*Acts 2:41–47*

<sup>41</sup>So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.<sup>42</sup> And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.<sup>43</sup> And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.<sup>44</sup> And all who believed were together and had all things in common.<sup>45</sup> And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.<sup>46</sup> And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,<sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Tract

*Psalm 125:1-2, 5b*

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount | Zion,\*  
which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.

As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his | people,\*  
from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon | Israel!

## Holy Gospel

*John 6:1-15*

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



**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**

**#743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure**



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,  
 2 In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo - lest me  
 3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de - cry thee;  
 4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish  
 Can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,  
 Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me  
 Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?  
Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.  
Nor thy threats a - larm me While I sing of peace.  
Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer  
Light - nings flash And thun - ders crash; Yet, though sin and  
God's great pow'r Guards ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its  
Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.  
hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.  
depths a - dore Him, Si - lent bow be - fore Him.  
Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.

- 5 Evil world, I leave thee;  
Thou canst not deceive me,  
Thine appeal is vain.  
Sin that once did blind me,  
Get thee far behind me,  
Come not forth again.  
Past thy hour,  
O pride and pow'r;  
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,  
Leave thee now forever.

- 6 Hence, all fear and sadness!  
For the Lord of gladness,  
Jesus, enters in.  
Those who love the Father,  
Though the storms may gather,  
Still have peace within.  
Yea, whate'er  
I here must bear,  
Thou art still my purest pleasure,  
Jesus, priceless treasure!

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662  
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:**

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

*Amelia Phillips, James DeFrain, Kenneth Werling*

*Jenny Peterson (friend of Cheryl Louison)*

*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, Kristin Gresley*

**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

*The Board of Education seeking qualified candidates for teaching positions.*

We pray for all military personnel

## Service of the Sacrament pg. 194

### Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.



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



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



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

### Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

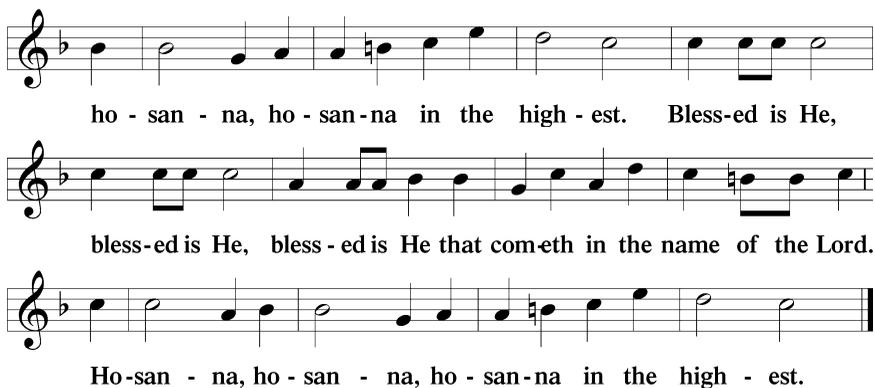
### Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,  
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

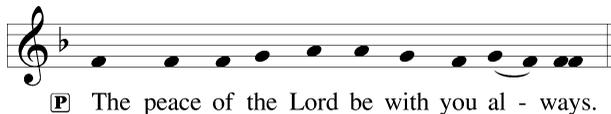
**Our Father who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be Thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come,  
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
 give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### The Words of Our Lord

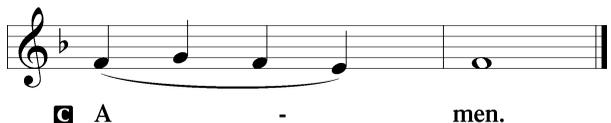
**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

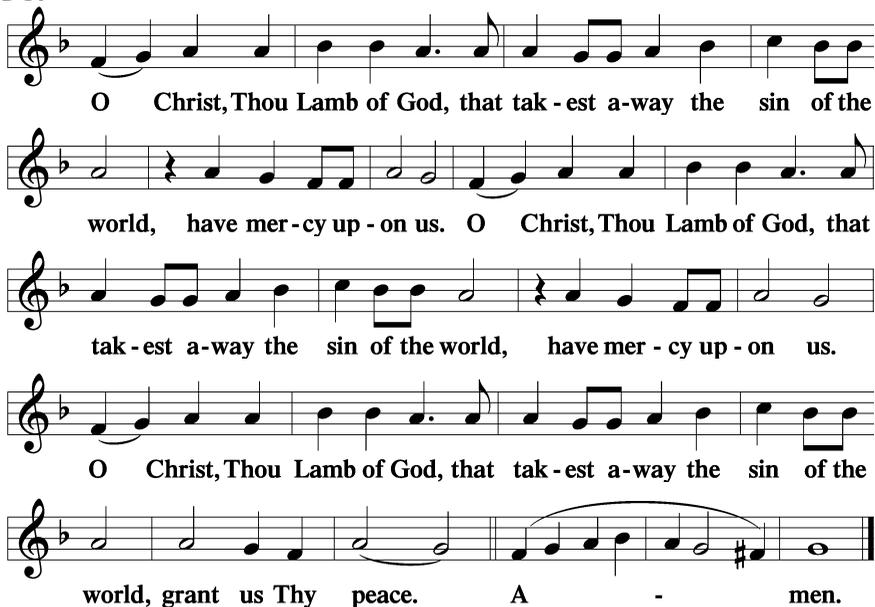


**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**G** A - men.

## Agnus Dei



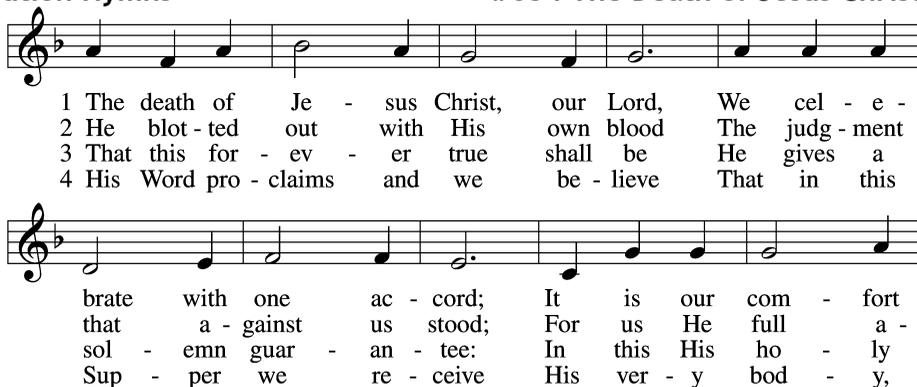
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

## Distribution

**Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper** in our worship. Bethlehem Lutheran Church administers this Holy Supper in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive, along with the Bread and Wine, the very Body and Blood of Jesus through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Furthermore, the communicants as a body of believers make a confession of the unity of their faith. **Those desiring to receive the Sacrament with us, who are not communicant members of Bethlehem or of a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, are asked to please speak with the Pastor before the service.**

## Distribution Hymns

### #634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -  
2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment  
3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a  
4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this  
brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort  
that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -  
sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly  
Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.  
tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.  
Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.  
as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

5 We dare not ask how this can be,  
But simply hold the mystery  
And trust this word where life begins:  
“Given and shed for all your sins.”

6 They who this word do not believe  
This food unworthily receive,  
Salvation here will never find—  
May we this warning keep in mind!

7 But blest is each believing guest  
Who in these promises finds rest;  
For Jesus shall in love remain  
With all who here His grace obtain.

8 Help us sincerely to believe  
That we may worthily receive  
Your Supper and in You find rest.  
Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text (sts. 1-4, 6-8): Haquin Spegel, 1645-1714; (sts. 1-4, 6-8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841-1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite  
Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742  
Text and tune: Public domain

## #420 Christ, the Life of All the Living



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a  
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might  
4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur-round Thee, Treat - ing Thee with



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,  
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,  
shame - ful scorn And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned Thee.



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'ings,  
O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my  
Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of  
All dis - grace Thou, Lord, hast borne, That as Thine Thou



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.  
might - est own me And with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,  
That from pain I might be free;  
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:  
Thence I gain security;  
Comfortless Thy soul did languish  
Me to comfort in my anguish.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction  
And hast borne it patiently,  
Even death by crucifixion,  
Fully to atone for me;  
Thou didst choose to be tormented  
That my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,  
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,  
For Thine anguish in the Garden,  
I will thank Thee evermore,  
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,  
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,

For that last triumphant cry,  
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605-81; (sts. 1-2, 5, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.; (sts. 3-4, 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis  
Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt  
Text and tune: Public domain

## #729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;  
2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,  
3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;  
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.  
For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.  
Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.  
Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

5 I am trusting Thee for power;  
Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me  
Must prevail.

6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;  
Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever  
And for all.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79  
Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77  
Text and tune: Public domain

## #845 Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There  
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His  
3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let



God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er  
char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and  
we our faults con - fess, And let us love each  
all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry



by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.  
 mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.  
 oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.  
 that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

5 Let us recall that in our midst  
 Dwells Christ, His only Son;  
 As members of His body joined  
 We are in Him made one.

6 For love excludes no race or clan  
 That names the Savior's name;  
 His family embraces all  
 Whose Father is the same.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt.  
 Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760-1842  
 Text: © 1960 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711  
 Tune: Public domain

## #510 A Multitude Comes from the East and the West



1 A mul - ti - tude comes from the east and the west  
 2 O God, let us hear when our Shep - herd shall call  
 3 All tri - als shall be like a dream that is past,  
 4 The heav - ens shall ring with an an - them more grand



To sit at the feast of sal - va - tion  
 In ac - cents per - sua - sive and ten - der,  
 For - got - ten all trou - ble and mourn - ing.  
 Than ev - er on earth was re - cord - ed.



With A - bra - ham, I - saac, and Ja - cob, the blest,  
 That while there is time we make haste, one and all,  
 All ques - tions and doubts have been an - swered at last,  
 The blest of the Lord shall re - ceive at His hand



O - bey - ing the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion.  
 And find Him, our might - y de - fend - er.  
 When ris - es the light of that morn - ing.  
 The crown to the vic - tors a - ward - ed.



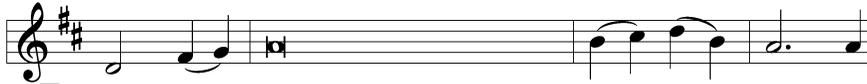
Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!  
Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!  
Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!  
Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!

Text: Magnus Brostrup Landstad, 1802-80; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856-1921, adapt.

Tune: Swedish, 1694

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

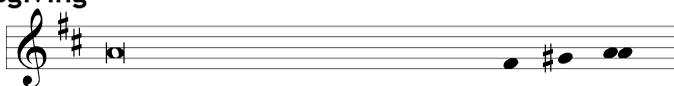


to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



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

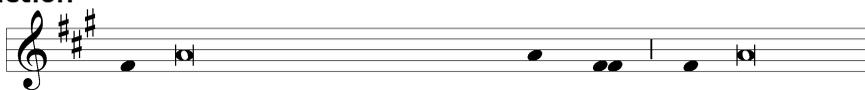


**A** Bless we the Lord.

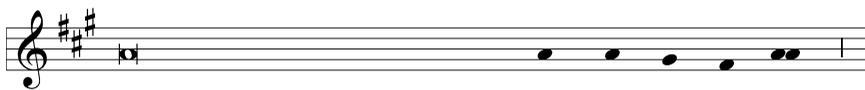


**G** Thanks be to God.

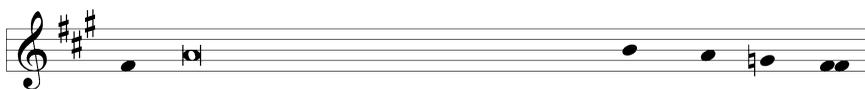
## Benediction



**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

## #774 Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy



Feed Thy chil - dren, God most ho - ly; Com - fort sin - ners



poor and low - ly. O Thou Bread of Life from heav-en, Bless the



food Thou here hast giv - en! As these gifts the bod-y nour - ish,



May our souls in grac - es flour - ish Till with saints in



heav'n - ly splen - dor At Thy feast due thanks we ren - der.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

Tune: Public domain

## IN HIS SERVICE

<b>Preaching</b>	Vicar Charles McLain
<b>Celebrant</b>	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
<b>Fieldworker</b>	Sem. Brandon Streeks
<b>Deaconess</b>	Wendy Boehm
<b>Head Elder</b>	Bruce Werling
<b>Elders on Duty</b>	Bruce Meyer and Steve Conrad
<b>Kantor</b>	Richard Brinkley
<b>Organist</b>	Emilie Meyer
<b>Acolytes</b>	JT Holtzclaw and Lucas Werling
<b>Altar Guild Chairman</b>	Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm
<b>Ushers</b>	Josh Boehm, Ed Black, Aspen Fisher, Brandon Schumm Don Schueler, Graham Stoppenhagen, Coty Newnum, Jason Rekeweg

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
<i>Website for Church and School: <a href="http://www.blcsossian.org">www.blcsossian.org</a></i>	

<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. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
<b>MONDAY</b>	2:00 p.m. WOB Bible Study
	5:30 p.m. Wholyfit (downstairs music room)
	6:00 p.m. PTL Meeting
	6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>2 hour delay for school (teacher inservice)</b>
	<b>11:15 a.m. Chapel Service</b>
	4:00 p.m. Kindergarten Roundup
	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>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion</b>
	NO Adult Bible Class – Sunday School
	11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)

**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](mailto:bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com) or the church office at 597-7121.***  
<https://www.youtube.com/bethlehmlutheranchurchossian> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

**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, March 18th Pulled Pork Sandwiches and Macaroni and Cheese.*

**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.

**EASTER CARDS** – Members, please take a moment and sign an Easter card for our shut-in members that are located on the table in the north hallway. Thank you

**THANK YOU** to everyone for their door offering donation to the Seminary and Northern Wells Food Pantries. We will continue to have boxes available for physical donations throughout the Lenten season in the church foyer.

***Due to Spring Break, we will not be having Sunday School or Adult Bible Class March 22<sup>nd</sup>***

**Palm Sunday, March 29th Divine Service at 9:00 a.m.** A family style Bible Class will be held after the service with Vicar McLain leading. We would like all the Sunday School children to participate in the Palm Processional. Children should arrive at 8:45am and meet in the church Narthex. Sunday School teachers will help the children find their parents after the processional.

## **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES**

March 30, 31, April 1 Spoken Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m.

April 2 Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 p.m.

April 3 Good Friday Chief Service with Holy Communion at 12 noon

Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 7:00 p.m.

April 4 Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil at St. John, Bingen starting at 8:00 p.m.

April 5 Easter Sunday Services – Sunrise 6:30 a.m. and Morning 9:00 a.m.

*The Bethlehem Youth- Easter breakfast starting at 7:30 a.m. in the school gym.*

**PLEASE WELCOME this morning,** Seminarian Nolan Wolf as our new fieldworker.

**LAWN CARE BIDS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN.** Please submit your bids to our Head Trustee, Jay Werling.

**St. John Bingen annual Dan's Fish and Tenderloin Dinner – TODAY,** 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.

**POE FIRE DEPT – ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE** - Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> from 9-1:00 pm. Adults \$10, Children 6-12 \$5, Children under 6 Free. Carry out also available.

**PASSION CHORAL VESPERS** – Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at Concordia Theological Seminary Kramer Chapel. The Schola Cantorum and soloists will sing The Passion According to St. Matthew.

**Camp Lutherhaven** – Looking for a meaningful summer experience? Camp Lutherhaven offers adventure, friendship and time rooted in God's Word. Campers might spend the day shooting, archery, swimming in the lake or conquering challenges with cabinmates – then gather for worship, Bible study, and reflection. Summer 2026's theme is "RUN" (1 Timothy 6:11), inviting campers to explore how God calls us to live with purpose and faith. Register before April 1 to receive the Early Bird Discount. Learn more at [lutherhaven.org](http://lutherhaven.org) or call 260-636-7101.

**St. John Flatrock's Spring Rummage Sale** will be Friday, March 27 from 8-5, with a bag sale Saturday, March 28. 12912 Franke Rd, Monroeville, Indiana 46773. The bag sale will be \$3 for a brown paper bag, \$6 for a 13 gallon kitchen garbage bag, and half off all priced items.

**SCRIP** – Please be sure to check out our new scrip certificate order sheet and ordering dates posted on the bulletin board. Deadline for special orders is due TODAY. *Next order date will be April 19th.* **For questions or for placing an order, please contact Jill Holtzclaw 260-301-1965 our current PTL representative.**

**Offering March 8, 2026**

*Average weekly need \$14,000*

Home Fund Env.	\$12,932.01
Synod	50.00
Loose	367.57
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	5.21
Improvement Fund	250.00
Endowment Fund	
Organ Fund	
Music Fund	
Total	<u>\$13,604.79</u>

**Financial Report**

**Home Fund Balance \$37,750.34**

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

Bills due two weeks: \$30,000

**Savings Account Balance \$60,004.56**

Borrowed from Savings: \$14,983.81

**Operating Loan Balance \$30,000**

Borrowed from Op Loan \$0.00

**Church Attendance**

Sunday 205/125

Wednesday 59/34



# BETHLEHEM

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

## KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

**When:** March 18, 2026

**Time:** 4pm-6pm

**Where:** 7545 N. 650 E. Ossian, IN  
Ossian, IN 46777

**Who:** Anyone who is interested in sending their child to kindergarten at Bethlehem for the 2026-2027 school year



## *The House of Daily Bread*

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



The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness (Ex. 16:2–21). Now He who is Himself the living bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the five thousand (John 6:1–15). This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude had followed Jesus across the sea, and when He went up on a mountain. Seen in this way, Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mount Sinai and makes us free children of the promise (Gal. 4:21–31). Five loaves become twelve baskets—that is, the five books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the bread of life, which is the body of Christ together with His precious blood, and in the prayers (Acts 2:41–47). So it is that God's people "shall not hunger or thirst" (Is. 49:8–13). For He abundantly provides for us in both body and soul.

## **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: "Jesus, Priceless Treasure" LSB #743***

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

***The Catechism:***

***What is the Office of the Keys?***

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not Repent.

***What is Matthew 16:19?***

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Matthew 16:19

***What is 1 John 1:8-9?***

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9

***Psalm 132:8-18 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listen below.***

Daily Psalm	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
A.M.	80	82, 84	85	88	89	91	92
P.M.	81	83	86	87	90	93	94

***Daily Bible Reading***

Mon.	Exodus 16:1-21 - Bread from Heaven Genesis 42:1-34, 38
Tues.	John 6:1-15- Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand Genesis 43:1-28
Wed.	Matthew 5:43-6:4 - Love Your Enemies and Give to the Needy Genesis 44:1-18, 32-34
Thu.	Matthew 6:19-24 - Lay Up Treasures in Heaven Genesis 45:1-20, 24-28
Fri.	Matthew 6:25-34 - Do Not Be Anxious Genesis 47:1-31
Sat.	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

***Prayers***

*Collect of the Day*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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:** Darlene, Jerry, Dale, Brianne, 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: Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica)**

Old Testament: Genesis 22:1-14 Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15; Gospel: John 8:42-59; Hymns: 438; 430; 636; 798; 428; 606; 718