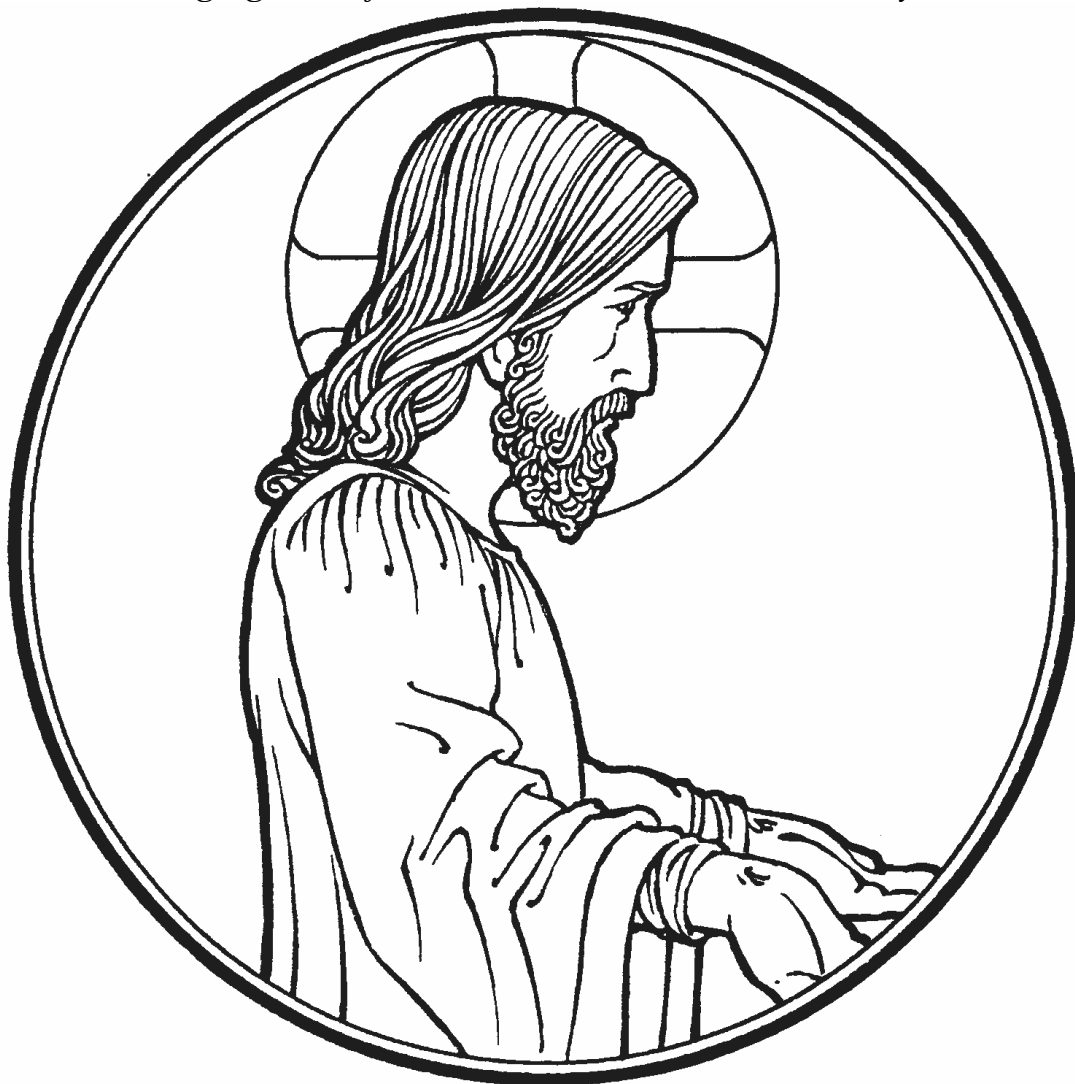


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Second Sunday of Easter

Divine Service One

April 12, 2026

Vol. 128-20

Processional Hymn

#490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -
2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is
3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the gate of life im -



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!
giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,
liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,
sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell
mor - tal; This shall calm my trem - bling breath



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er
Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is
Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I
Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will
When I pass its gloom - y por - tal. Faith shall



scenes will then com - mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
faith - ful; doubt - ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.
need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
cry, as fails each sense; Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

Text: Christian Fürchtegott Gellert, 1715–69; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–97, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
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 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.

- P** 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 ~~the~~ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

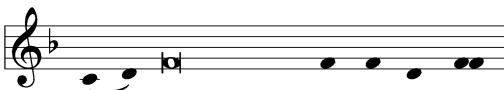
Service of the Word pg. 151

Introit (sung responsively with the choir)



Like newborn infants, Alle- | lua,*
long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | lua.
Sing aloud to | God our strength;*
shout for joy to the God of | Jacob!
In distress you called, and I de- | livered you,*
I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.
I am the | LORD your God,*
who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it;*
and with honey from the rock I would sat- | isfy 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.
Like newborn infants, Alle- | lua,*
long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | lua.

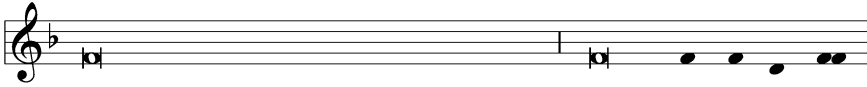
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



G Lord, have mer - cy.



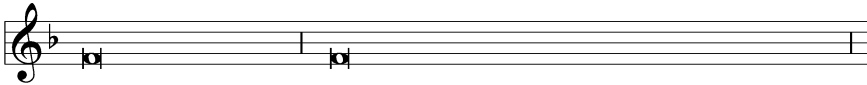
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



G Lord, have mer - cy.



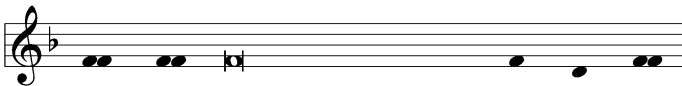
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



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



G A - men.

This Is the Feast

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response “We all rejoice on this glad day”

Epistle

1 John 5:4–10

⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Procession

Alleluia and Verse (sung by choir)

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “**Peace be with you.**” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “**Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.**” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “**Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.**”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “**Peace be with you.**” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “**Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.**” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹Jesus said to him, “**Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

#470 O Sons and Daughters of the King



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful
3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and
4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!
wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
came their mas - ter dear And said, "My peace be with you here."



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be."
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 8 How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 9 On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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

Ralph Bauermeister, Donna Schumm

Rev. Raymond and Abigail Doubrava (New Hope Lutheran Church)

Joyce Schaper, Cameron Sprunger (nephew of Stan and Pat Meyer)

Darlene Jester (sister of Melissa Tolson)

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)

The blessing of a baby girl to Alec and Kaitlin (Meyer) Blair

A prayer for protection as our 7-8th grade students and parents travel to Washington D.C. this week

We pray for our expectant mothers 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)

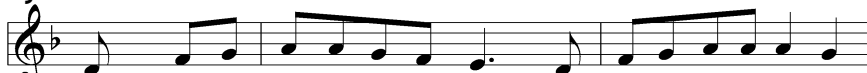
We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

The Board of Education seeking qualified candidates for teaching positions.


We pray for all military personnel

Offering

Offertory



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



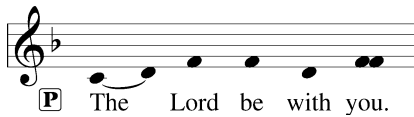
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will



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

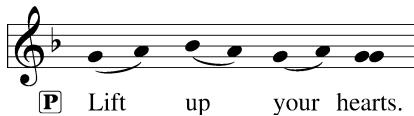
Preface



P The Lord be with you.



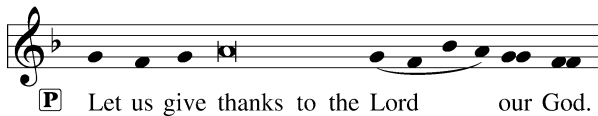
C And al - so with you.



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,

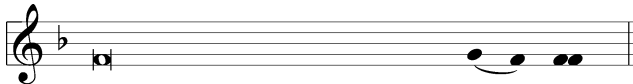
**hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power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

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.



C A - men.

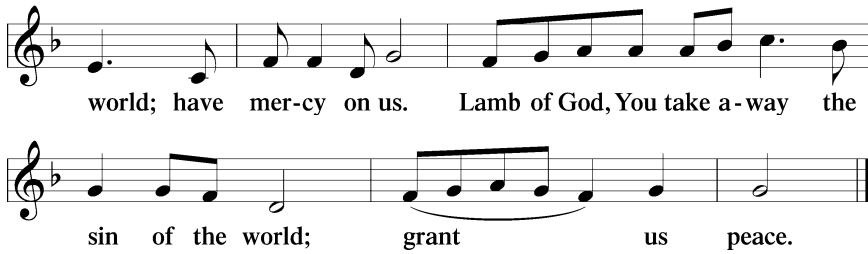
Agnus Dei



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



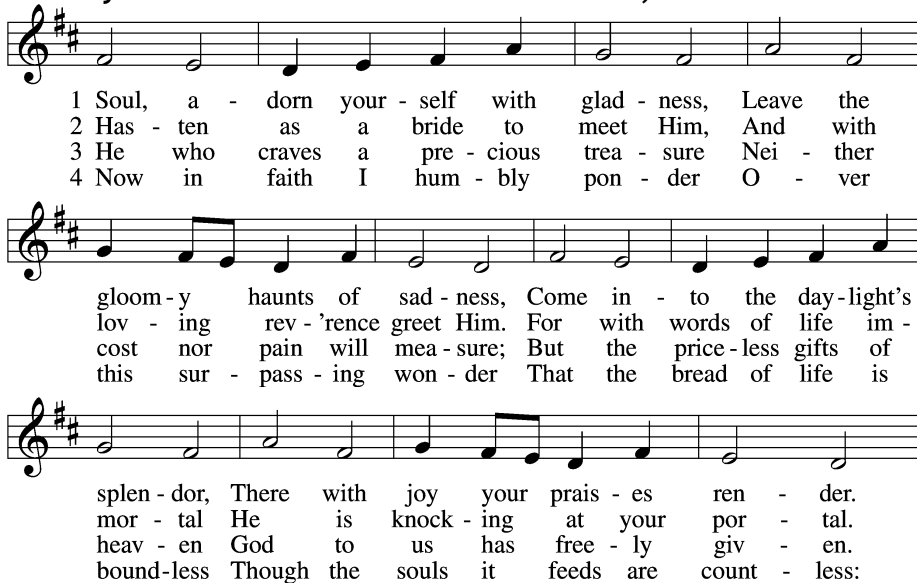
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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

#636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther
4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver

gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of
this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is

splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
bound-less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un-bound - ed This a - maz - ing
O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding,
Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You;
Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You
And, so favored, never leave You.

6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Your glory, given.

7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Your blood in sadness.

By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited,
Be Your love with love requited;
By this Supper let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; (sts. 1, 4-5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2-3, 6-8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
Text (sts. 1, 4-5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
Text (sts. 2-3, 6-8) and tune: Public domain

#597 Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying



1 Wa - ter, blood, and Spir - it cry - ing, By their wit - ness
2 In a wa - t'ry grave are bur - ied All our sins that
3 Dark the way, yet Christ pre - cedes us, Past the scowl of
4 Though a - round us death is seeth - ing, God, His two - edged
5 Spir - it, wa - ter, blood en - treat - ing, Work - ing faith and



tes - ti - fy - ing To the One whose death - de - fy - ing
Je - sus car - ried; Christ, the Ark of Life, has fer - ried
death He leads us; Spreads a ta - ble where He feeds us
sword un - sheath - ing, By His Spir - it life is breath - ing
its com - plet - ing In the One whose death - de - feat - ing



Life has come, with life for all.
Us a - cross death's rag - ing flood.
With His bod - y and His blood.
Through the liv - ing, ac - tive Word.
Life has come, with life for all.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
Tune: Jeffrey N. Biersch, 1967
Text: © 1999 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
Tune: © 2003 Jeffrey N. Biersch. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

#602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me
2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
3 The gifts of grace and peace From ab - so - lu - tion flow;
4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho - sen, saved and free!
New life He gives that makes Us His and His a - lone.
The pas - tor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
God's chil - dren lis - ten, hear, Re - ceive, and they are fed.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil - dren who pro - claim
Here He for - gives our sins With wa - ter and His Word;
For - give - ness that we need Is grant - ed to us there;
Christ fills them with Him - self, Blest words that give them life,



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
The tri - une God Him - self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
The Lord of mer - cy sends Us forth in His blest care.
Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's strife.

- 5 The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.
- 6 All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!

#468 I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives



1 I am con-tent! My Je - sus ev - er lives, In whom my
2 I am con-tent! My Je - sus is my head; His mem - ber
3 I am con-tent! My Je - sus is my light, My ra - diant
4 I am con-tent! At length I shall be free, A - wak - ened



heart is pleased. He has ful-filled the Law of God for me,
I shall be. He bowed His head when on the cross He died
sun of grace. His cheer - ing rays beam bless-ings forth for all,
from the dead, A - ris - ing glo - rious ev - er - more to be



God's wrath He has ap-peased. Since He in death
With cries of ag - o - ny. Now death is brought
Sweet com - fort, hope, and peace. This Eas - ter sun
With You, my liv - ing head. The chains that hold



could per - ish nev - er, I al - so shall
in - to sub - jec - tion For me by Je -
has brought sal - va - tion And ev - er - last -
my bod - y, sev - er; Then shall my soul



not die for - ev - er. I am con-tent! I am con - tent!
sus' res - ur - rec - tion. I am con-tent! I am con - tent!
ing ex - ul - ta - tion. I am con-tent! I am con - tent!
re - joice for - ev - er. I am con-tent! I am con - tent!

Text: attr. Johann Joachim Möller, 1660–1733; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73
Text and tune: Public domain

#920 Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go



1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;
5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show



Christ to the world with joy we bring;
 King - ship with Him His ser - vants gain;
 This world of time to con - se - crate,
 Proph - ets are we whose deeds pro - claim
 That in His Church all na - tions find



Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
 With Christ the Ser - vant - Lord of all,
 This world of sin by grace to heal,
 Christ's truth in love that we may be
 Their hearth and home where Christ re - stores



Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
 Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.
 Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.
 Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.
 True peace, true love to all man - kind.

Text: James Quinn, 1919-2010
 Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.
 Text: © 1969, 1987 OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
 Tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis



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



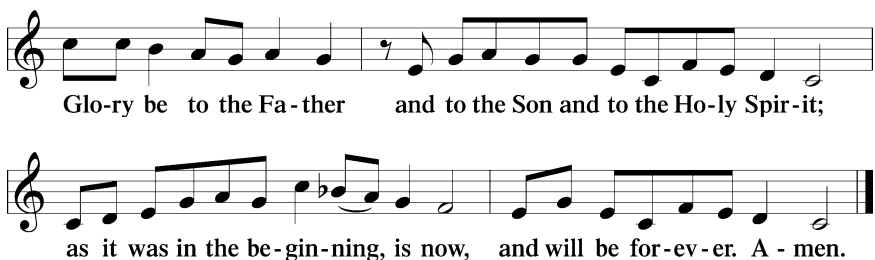
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -



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.

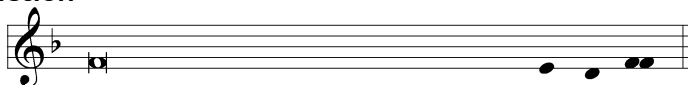
Post-Communion Collect

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

#473 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free



1 Our Pas - chal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sac - ri - ficed. O keep
2 Let all our lives now cel - e - brate The feast; let mal - ice die.
3 Let all our deeds, u - nan - i - mous, Con - fess Him as our Lord



The feast of free-dom gal-lant-ly; Let al-le-lu-ias leap:
Let love grow strong a-new, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie.
Who by the Spir-it lives in us, The Fa-ther's liv-ing Word.

Refrain



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! A-



gain Sing al-le-lu-ia, cry a-loud: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

Tune: Walter L. Pelz, 1926

Text and tune: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

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!

He IS 
Risen 

IN HIS SERVICE

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Preaching / Celebrant | Rev. Samuel Wirgau |
| Vicar | Sem. Charles McLain |
| Fieldworkers | Sem. Brandon Streeks, Sem. Nolan Wolf |
| Deaconess | Wendy Boehm |
| Head Elder | Bruce Werling |
| Elders on Duty | Bruce Werling and Mike Schumm |
| Kantor | Richard Brinkley |
| Choir | Adult Choir |
| Acolytes | Alex Fuhrmann and Jude Wirgau |
| Crucifer | Matthew Rekeweg |
| Altar Guild Chairman | Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm |
| Ushers | Jared Meyer, Cale Schumm, Nathan Meyer, Grant Scheumann Adam Lambert, Evan Springer |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| 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.blcsossian.org | |

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---|
| TODAY | 9:00 a.m. | Divine Service with Holy Communion |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Adult Bible Class and Sunday School |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Board of Elders Meeting |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7) |
| MONDAY | NO | Handbell Choir Practice |
| TUESDAY | 6:00 p.m. | Visual Faith (Fellowship Hall) |
| WEDNESDAY | 10:00 a.m. | Chapel Service |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Adult Catechesis Class |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Spoken Divine Service |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Adult Choir Practice |
| SATURDAY | 8:00 a.m. | WOB Book Club (Crimson House) |
| SUNDAY | 9:00 a.m. | Divine Service with Holy Communion |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Adult Bible Class and Sunday School |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Church Council Meeting |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7) |

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

PASTORS CALENDAR - Pastor Wirgau and Pastor Dodgers will be chaperoning the 7-8th grade students to Washington D.C. next week. If pastoral care is needed during that time, please contact our Head Elder, Mr. Bruce Werling.

THANK YOU to everyone for their prayers, cards and well wishes. Your thoughts and kindness are very much appreciated. Norwin and Martha Bauermeister

YOUTH FUNDRAISER - The Bethlehem youth are hosting a fundraiser night at East of Chicago Pizza in Ossian on Saturday, April 18th from 5–8 PM. All proceeds will go toward their trip to the Higher Things Conference this June. Come out, enjoy a meal, and support our youth!

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL ENDOWMENT -Every year, our church and school are given a dollar amount to match by The Lutheran Foundation as we contribute to Bethlehem's Endowment. This current year, that amount is \$14,900. We have currently sent about \$9,000 to the Endowment. Our final contributions need to be in by June 1. We have met this match every year so far. Would you please consider donating to the Endowment as you are able? Every gift is a blessing to our students and every gift counts! Thank you for all your support!

FOOD DRIVE –collection of non-perishable food items for the Concordia Seminary and Northern Wells Food Pantries will continue for another couple of weeks. Collection boxes are located in the church foyer. Please keep your donations coming! Thank you

WIDOWS GROUP EVENT – Please plan to join us TODAY Sunday, April 12th after church for lunch at Millies in Bluffton. Please contact Gail Werling with any questions 260-443-1413.

BOOK CLUB reminder – plan to meet on Saturday, April 18 at 8am at Crimson House. **Bethlehem will be hosting a FISH FRY**- Saturday, April 25th from 4:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. ***Drive-thru only at Lighted Gardens***. Cost is \$15.00 a meal. Menu: Fish, cheesy potatoes, green beans, roll and cookie. Funds will benefit the Wells County Backpack program and the church Pavillion Project. More details are coming. ***Sign-up sheets for both pre-sale numbers and workers are available in the narthex hallway"***

BOOK FAIR Support our school by purchasing high quality books for all ages (adults, too!) through our Storyglory Book Fair. Starting **Sunday, 4/19**, access book fair at storyglorykids.org/bethlehem. Use promo code **BETHLEHEM** at checkout, which provides a 10% discount and earmarks 10% of sales for our school. A display of sample books and printed catalogs will be available in the school hallway. Speak with DoRena if you have questions or need help placing an order.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – The theme for this year's VBS is "Created in Christ". June 8-11 Registration forms are available on the scrip table

Camp Lutherhaven –Adventure, community, and growth await this summer at Camp Lutherhaven. For kayaking and hiking to evening under the stars, campers experience God’s creation while building friendships and faith. Programs are available for students in grades K-12, families, and Servant Events for grades 8-12. Each program is designed to encourage connection, reflection, and a deeper relationship with Christ. Register today at lutherhaven.org or call 260-636-7101 for more information.

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

Offering April 5, 2026

Average weekly need \$14,000

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Home Fund Env. | \$11,582.99 |
| Synod | 5.00 |
| Loose | 504.35 |
| Scholarship Fund | |
| Sunday School | |
| Improvement Fund | |
| Endowment Fund | |
| Organ Fund | |
| Music Fund | |
| Maundy Thursday | 1,013.72 |
| Good Friday | 885.00 |
| LCMS Grant | 5,000.00 |
| Copy Machine Use | 5.80 |
| Memorial | 40.00 |
| Total | <u>\$19,036.86</u> |

Financial Report

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Home Fund Balance | \$7,691.14 |
| Next week’s bills due: | \$5,000 |
| Bills due two weeks: | \$15,000 |
| Savings Account Balance | \$65,835.61 |
| Borrowed from Savings: | \$12,378.81 |
| Operating Loan Balance | \$30,000 |
| Borrowed from Op Loan | \$0.00 |

Church Attendance

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Easter Sunrise | 100/90 |
| Easter Day | 207/145 |
| Wednesday | 19/15 |

PIZZA

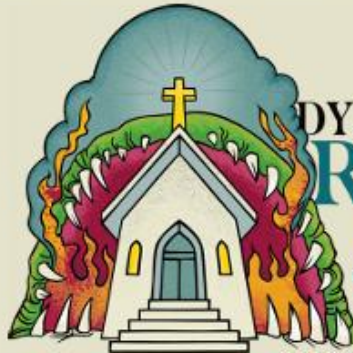
TIME



East of Chicago
PIZZA

BETHLEHEM & NEW HOPE LUTHERAN YOUTH GROUP

*Proceeds will support our youth attending the
Higher Things Conference at
Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, in June 2026.*



DYING CHURCH RISING HOPE

Higher Things Conference 2026

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

EAST OF CHICAGO PIZZA

1100 DEHNER DR, OSSIAN, IN 46777

*EAST OF CHICAGO WILL DONATE \$2 FOR EVERY
ADULT BUFFET SOLD THAT EVENING PLUS ANY TIPS
GIVEN.*

5 PM

THROUGH

8 PM

LET'S RAISE SOME DOUGH



Dan's Fish Fry

Carry-Out

Date: Saturday, April 25, 2026

Time: 4:30 to 7:00 pm

Place: Lighted Gardens—10794 N St Rd 1, Ossian, IN

Menu: Fish, Cheesy Potato Casserole, Green Beans,
Applesauce, Roll, and Cookie

Tickets: \$15.00 per meal

Contact: To reserve meals call Pat Meyer 260-227-0400,
Email: spmeyer1982@gmail.com or
Call Lighted Gardens 260-622-4023

Sponsored By: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Ossian

Proceeds to Benefit: Feeding Tomorrow's Future Today Back-Pack Program &
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Pavillion Project.

The House of Daily Bread

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer following
The Second Sunday of Easter



"For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood" (1 John 5:7). These three point to Christ and flow from Christ. Jesus shows His disciples His hands side, from which blood and water flowed, saying "Peace be with you." He presents the wounds which turn our fear to gladness and which restore us to the Father. Jesus breathes on His disciples and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:23). His breath, His words are Spirit and life. They raise up our dry, dead bones and give us new and everlasting life (Ezek. 37:1-14). Christ now gives His ministers to speak His forgiving, Spirit-filled words to the penitent in His stead. Our Lord continues to come to His people, presenting His wounds to us in the Sacraments of water and blood. He bids us to touch His side at His table, to receive His risen body and blood in true faith, that believing we may have life in His name.

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: "O Sons and Daughters of the King" LSB #470

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

The Catechism:

[Where is this written?] What are the Words of Institution?

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write:
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."

Psalm Ps 33 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listen below.

| Daily Psalm | Sun. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thu. | Fri. | Sat. |
|-------------|------|------|----------|------|------|------|--------|
| A.M. | 144 | 147 | 148 | 1, 2 | 5 | 8, 9 | 10 |
| P.M. | 145 | 146 | 149, 150 | 3 | 4, 6 | 7 | 11, 12 |

Daily Bible Reading

| | |
|-------|---|
| Mon. | Genesis 2:4-17 - The Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life Exodus 22:20-23:13 |
| Tues. | Genesis 3:1-24 - Man Eats the Forbidden Fruit Exodus 23:14-33 |
| Wed. | Exodus 12:1-14, 17 - The Passover Exodus 24:1-18 |
| Thu. | John 2:1-11- The Wedding in Cana of Galilee Exodus 25:1-22 |
| Fri. | Matthew 26:17-29 - Jesus Institutes the Lord's Supper Exodus 31:1-18 |
| Sat. | <i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i> |

Prayers

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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: Raymond, Abigail, Joyce, Cameron, Dariens, Amelia, James, Kenneth, Jenry, Dan, Grace, Hazel, Brinity, Brandon, Sandra Expectant mothers: Reese, Lillyan, Jessica, Shelby, Grace; Kristin Hamshound: 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: The Resurrection of Our Lord

Old Testament: Ezekiel 34:11-16 Epistle: 1 Peter 2:21-25; Gospel: John 10:11-16; Hymns: 711, 709, 637, 710, 740, 735, 464, 685