

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Third Sunday of Easter

Divine Service One

April 19, 2026

Vol. 128-21

Processional Hymn

#711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
 2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
 let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
 fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.
 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68
 Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word pg. 151

Introit *(sung responsively)*



The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alle- | luia.*

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alle- | luia.

Shout for joy in the LORD, O you | righteous!*

Praise befits the | upright.

Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who | fear him,*

on those who hope in his | steadfast love,

that he may deliver their | soul from death*

and keep them alive in | famine.

Our soul waits | for the LORD;*

he is our help | and our shield.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

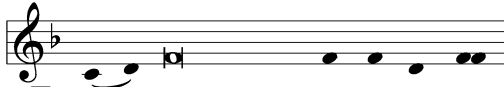
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alle- | luia.*

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alle- | luia.

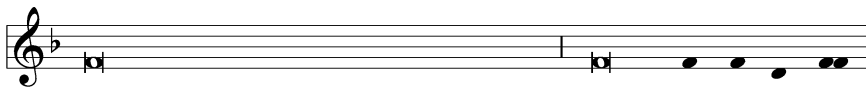
Kyrie



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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



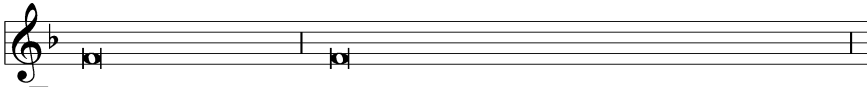
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



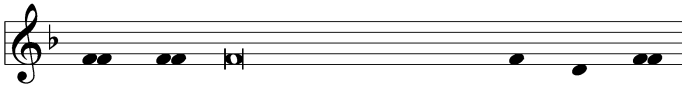
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

This Is the Feast



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

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.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and

eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11–16

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my | shepherd;*

I | shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green | pastures.*

He leads me beside still | waters.

³He re- | stores my soul.*

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his | name’s sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for you are | with me;*

your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my | enemies;*

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup | overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days | of my life,*

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for- | ever.

Epistle

1 Peter 2:21–25

²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 10:11–16

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

- 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,



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love He sought me And on His shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77
Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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

Ralph Bauermeister, Donna Schumm

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)

Baptism Blessing *Wyatt Paul Graham*

We pray for our expectant mothers *Reese Springer, Lillyan Laley, Jessica Schumm, Shelby Todd
Grace (Stoppenhagen) Mandeville, Kristin Gresley, Abigail Doubrava*

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)

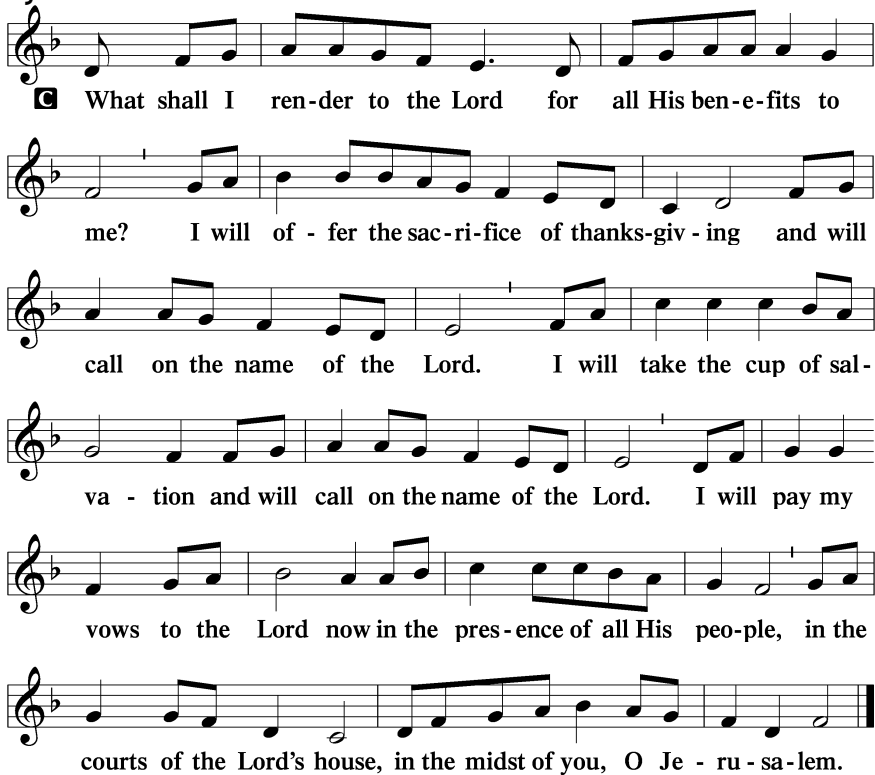
We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

The Board of Education seeking qualified candidates for teaching positions.

We pray for all military personnel

Offering


Offertory



C 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.



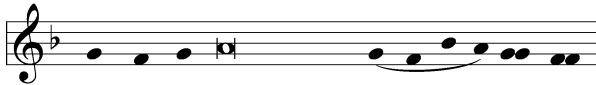
C And al - so with you.



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:

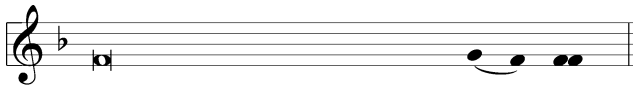
- C** **Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine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

#637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
 With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
 O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
 Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
 Text and tune: Public domain

#710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I
 4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He
 walk doth make With - in the paths of
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
 of my foes; My head Thou dost with
 fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
 righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.
 oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.
 ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, 1650, Edinburgh
 Tune: William Gardiner, 1770-1853
 Text and tune: Public domain

#740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at
 2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
 3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
 Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
 In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He
 By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.
 bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
 to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724-82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
 Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, 1784, Leipzig
 Text and tune: Public domain

#735 Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a -
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to



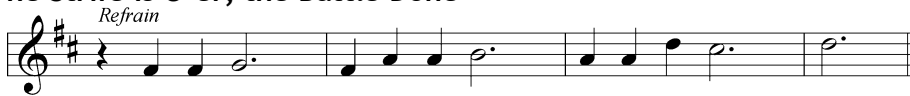
flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To
 flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In
 bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up -
 God, For He stays close be - side you, In



give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!
 all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text (sts. 2-4): Marjorie A. Jillson, 1931-2010
 Text (st. 1) and tune: Heinz Werner Zimmermann, 1930-2022
 Text and tune: © 1973 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

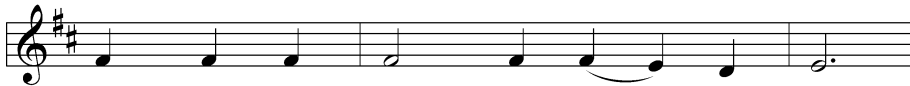
#464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



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



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;
 But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.
 He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.

The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!

4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell;
 The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
 Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.
 Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
 From death's dread sting Thy servants free
 That we may live and sing to Thee.
 Alleluia! Refrain

Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, 1695, Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909, alt.
 Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525-1594, adapt.
 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

#685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bid - e; I shall fol - low where You guide.
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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

Tune: Public domain

IN HIS SERVICE

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Preaching | Vicar Charles McLain |
| Celebrant | Rev. Samuel Wirgau |
| 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 |
| Organist | Emilie Meyer |
| Acolytes | Alex Fuhrmann and Jude Wirgau |
| Crucifer | Jonah Bultemeier |
| Altar Guild Chairman | Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm |
| Ushers | Travis Avey, Jeff Gresley, Dean Scheuman Peyton Laley, Gavin Laley, Kyle Patrick, Aaron Anthony |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| 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. | Church Council Meeting |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7) |
| MONDAY | 6:30 p.m. | Handbell Choir Practice |
| 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 |
| THURSDAY | 5:30 p.m. | Board of Christian Education Meeting |
| FRIDAY | | Grandparent's Day – School Dismissal at noon |
| SATURDAY | 4:30-7:00 p.m. | Fish Fry (Lighted Gardens Drive thru) |
| SUNDAY | 9:00 a.m. | Divine Service with Holy Communion |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Adult Bible Class and Sunday School |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Voter's Assembly 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

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!

BAPTIZED TODAY into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is Wyatt Paul Graham newborn son of Preston and Makena Graham. Sponsors for Wyatt are Grant Scheumann and Landon Geiger. We welcome Wyatt to the Kingdom of God and joint heir with us of all God's blessings.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – TODAY AT 11:30 A.M.

VOTER'S ASSEMBLY MEETING – SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH AT 11:30 A.M.

Election for next year's church officers is on the agenda. Slate of candidates is posted to the bulletin boards.

CARD SHOWER – Please help us to shower Donna Schumm with our love for her 91st birthday on April 21st. Her address is 1734 N William Wells, Bluffton, IN 46714

ATTENTION WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM – Please join us for our next meeting scheduled for Sunday, May 3rd at 8:00 a.m.

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

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. ***PLEASE Sign-up 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 TODAY, **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. For questions, please contact Deaconess Boehm,

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!

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. Special orders are due TODAY. **For questions or for placing an order, please contact Jill Holtzclaw 260-301-1965 our current PTL representative.**

Offering April 12, 2026
Average weekly need \$14,000

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Home Fund Env. | \$8,696.04 |
| Synod | 200.00 |
| Loose | 298.16 |
| Scholarship Fund | 125.00 |
| Sunday School | |
| Improvement Fund | 50.00 |
| Endowment Fund | 1,025.00 |
| Organ Fund | |
| Music Fund | |
| Memorials | 609.00 |
| DC Group Donation | <u>1,200.00</u> |
| Total | \$12,203.20 |

Financial Report

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Home Fund Balance | \$12,435.02 |
| Next week’s bills due: | \$30,000 |
| Bills due two weeks: | \$5,000 |
| Savings Account Balance | \$68,335.08 |
| Borrowed from Savings: | \$12,378.81 |
| Operating Loan Balance | \$30,000 |
| Borrowed from Op Loan | \$0.00 |

Church Attendance

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| Sunday | 188/130 |
| Wednesday | 17/15 |



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.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, USA IT'S BOOK FAIR TIME!

Find wholesome, high-quality books for the entire family.
Enjoy 10% off your purchase, and 10% of sales will support BLCs.

BOOK FAIR HIGHLIGHTS:

- New and classic titles for Kindergarten to 8th Grade and Parents too!
- American History selections, in recognition of America's 250th anniversary this year
- Bibles, devotionals, and outstanding Christian fiction
- Family read-alouds for all ages

HOW TO SHOP:

- 1 Select Books Online**
April 19-26 at storyglorykids.org/bethlehem
- 2 Enter Student Details on the Cart Page**
Enter your student's name and homeroom teacher
- 3 Apply Promo Code**
Enter **BETHLEHEM** to receive 10% off and benefit your school
- 4 Choose Your Shipping Method on the Checkout Page**
Receive your order at school around May 11 by selecting **free "Ship-to-school"** shipping, OR receive books at home by selecting USPS Media Mail



Storyglory Kids Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (EIN 33-2429105). To put more good books into the hands and hearts of children, visit storyglorykids.org/donate. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law.

The House of Daily Bread

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



Our Lord Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:11–16). He is not like the hireling, who cares nothing for the sheep and only for himself, who flees when he sees the wolf coming. Rather, Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks out His scattered sheep to deliver them (Ezek. 34:11–16). He gathers them and feeds them in rich pasture. He binds up the broken and strengthens the sick. He lays down His life for wandering and wayward sheep. On the cross, Christ bore in His body the attacks of the predators of sin and death and the devil for you that you might be saved. He now lives to restore your soul in the still waters of baptism, to lead you in the paths of righteousness by the voice of His Gospel, to prepare the table of His holy supper before you, that you may dwell in the house of the Lord forever (Psalm 23). "For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls" (1 Peter 2:25).

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: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" LSB #709

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."

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

Psalm Ps 23 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listen below.

| Daily Psalm | Sun. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thu. | Fri. | Sat. |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|
| A.M. | 14, 15 | 18 | 19, 20 | 22 | 26, 27 | 30 | 32 |
| P.M. | 13 | 16, 17 | 21 | 23, 24 | 25 | 28, 29 | 31 |

Daily Bible Reading

| | |
|-------|--|
| Mon. | Exodus 16:1-15, 31 - The Bread from Heaven Exodus 33:1-23 |
| Tues. | Exodus 17:1-7 - Water from the Rock Exodus 34:1-28 |
| Wed. | Exodus 32:1-20- The Golden Calf Exodus 34:29-35:21 |
| Thu. | Luke 8:40-56- Touching the Hem of His Garment Exodus 38:21-39:8, 22-23, 27-31 |
| Fri. | Mark 14:22-25- Jesus Institutes the Lord's Supper Exodus 39:32-40:16 |
| Sat. | <i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i> |

Prayers

Collect of the Day

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, 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: Ralph, Joyce, Donna, Cameron, Darlene, Amelia, James, Kenneth, Jenny, Dan, Grace, Hazel, Brinity, Brandon, Sandra **Expectant mothers:** Reese, Lillyan, Jessica, Shelby, Grace; Kristin, Abigail **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: The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:25-31 Epistle: 1 Peter 2:11-20; Gospel: John 16:16-22; Hymns: 684, 483, 639, 462, 474, 477, 646