

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Divine Service One

May 10, 2026

Vol. 128-24

Processional Hymn

#663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray



1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a - wak -
 2 Watch a - gainst the dev - il's snares Lest a - sleep he find
 3 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de - feat
 4 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you tri -
 5 But while watch - ing, al - so pray To the Lord un - ceas -



en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a - wares o'er -
 you; For in - deed no pains he spares To de - ceive and
 you Lest with bold de - cep - tions hurled It be - tray and
 fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's mer - cy
 ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and faith in -



tak - en; For the foe, Well we know, Is a
 blind you. Sa - tan's prey Oft are they Who se -
 cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less
 sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your
 creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.
 cure are sleep - ing And no watch are keep - ing.
 friends to charm you, Who but seek to harm you.
 hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.
 nite to serve Him And for - ev - er love Him.

Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671–1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Hundert . . . geistlicher Arien, 1694, Dresden, alt.
 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word pg. 151

Introit (*sung responsively with the choir*)



[With a voice of singing,] declare this with a shout of joy to the end of the earth. Alle- | luia.*

The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob! Alle- | luia.

**Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;*
sing the glory | of his name.**

I cried to him | with my mouth,*
and high praise was | on my tongue.

**But truly God has | listened;*
he has attended to the voice | of my prayer.**

Blessèd | be God,*
because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast | love from me!

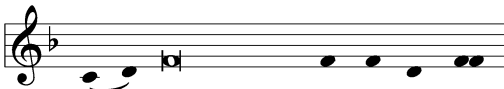
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

[With a voice of singing,] declare this with a shout of joy to the end of the earth. Alle- | luia.*

The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob! Alle- | luia.

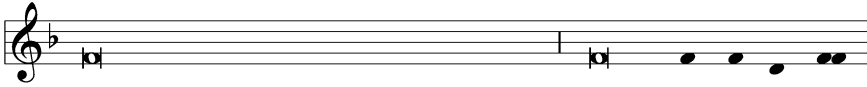
Kyrie



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.



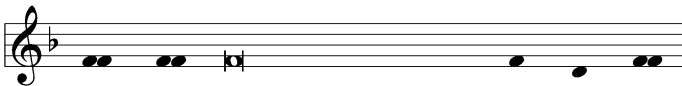
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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

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.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response “Jesus Priceless Treasure”

Epistle


1 Timothy 2:1-6

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



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 16:23–33

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²³[Jesus said:] “In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

²⁵“I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

²⁹His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” ³¹Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³²Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

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 ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

#766 Our Father, Who from Heaven Above



1 Our Fa - ther, who from heav'n a - bove Bids all of us to
 2 Your name be hal - lowed. Help us, Lord, In pu - ri - ty to
 3 Your king - dom come. Guard Your do - main And Your e - ter - nal
 4 Your gra - cious will on earth be done As it is done be -



live in love As mem - bers of one fam - i - ly And
 keep Your Word, That to the glo - ry of Your name We
 righ - teous reign. The Ho - ly Ghost en - rich our day With
 fore Your throne, That pa - tient - ly we may o - bey Through -



pray to You in u - ni - ty, Teach us no thought-less words to
walk be - fore You free from blame. Let no false teach - ing us per-
gifts at - ten - dant on our way. Break Sa - tan's pow'r, de - feat his
out our lives all that You say. Curb flesh and blood and ev - 'ry



say But from our in - most hearts to pray.
vert; All poor de - lud - ed souls con - vert.
rage; Pre - serve Your Church from age to age.
ill That sets it - self a - gainst Your will.

- 5 Give us this day our daily bread,
And let us all be clothed and fed.
Save us from hardship, war, and strife;
In plague and famine, spare our life,
That we in honest peace may live,
To care and greed no entrance give.
- 6 Forgive our sins, Lord, we implore,
That they may trouble us no more;
We, too, will gladly those forgive
Who hurt us by the way they live.
Help us in our community
To serve each other willingly.
- 7 Lead not into temptation, Lord,
Where our grim foe and all his horde
Would vex our souls on ev'ry hand.
Help us resist, help us to stand
Firm in the faith, a mighty host,
Through comfort of the Holy Ghost.
- 8 From evil, Lord, deliver us;
The times and days are perilous.
Redeem us from eternal death,
And, when we yield our dying breath,
Console us, grant us calm release,
And take our souls to You in peace.
- 9 Amen, that is, so shall it be.
Make strong our faith in You, that we
May doubt not but with trust believe

That what we ask we shall receive.
Thus in Your name and at Your Word
We say, “Amen, O hear us, Lord!”

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1, 6, 8–9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 2–5, 7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.
Tune: attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546
Text (sts. 1, 6, 8–9): Public domain
Text (sts. 2–5, 7): © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
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Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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

Heidi Kleppinger (surgery)

Rev. Raymond and Abigail Doubrava and unborn child (New Hope pastor)

Ralph Bauermeister, Donna Schumm

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

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)

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

We pray for ALL mothers on this Mother's Day including our expectant mothers:

*Reese Springer, Lilyan Laley, Jessica Schumm, Shelby Todd,
Grace (Stoppenhagen) Mandeville, Kristin Gresley, Mariel Kleppinger*

We pray for our members shut-in:

Sandy Avey (Ossian Healthcare)

Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare)

Marilyn Meyer (Kingston)

Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)

Rev. Donald Lutz (Lutheran Life Village)

Norwin and Martha Bauermeister (Astral in Auburn)

We pray for our Church, School and all her workers -

We pray for all military personnel

Offering

Offertory




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



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

Service of the Sacrament pg. 160


Preface



P The Lord be with you.



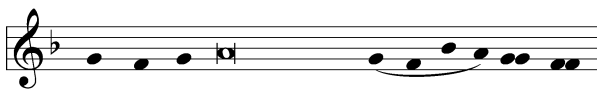
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

Sanctus



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



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



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



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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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

C Amen.

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

#641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Refrain

You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart With gift of fin-est wheat.
Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.

- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, They know and
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to You Our praise and
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of
- 4 The mys - t'ry of Your pres - ence, Lord, No mor - tal
- 5 You give Your - self to us, O Lord; Then self - less



heed his voice; So when You call Your
 grat - i - tude That You should count us
 Christ out - poured? Do not one cup, one
 tongue can tell: Whom all the world can -
 let us be, To serve each oth - er



fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - joice.
 wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.
 loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?
 not con - tain Comes in our hearts to dwell.
 in Your name In truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97

Tune: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922-96

Text and tune: © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia, admin. International Liturgy Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

#724 If God Himself Be for Me



1 If God Him - self be for me, I may a host de - fy;
 2 I build on this foun - da - tion, That Je - sus and His blood
 3 Christ Je - sus is my splen - dor, My sun, my light, a - lone;
 4 He can - celed my of - fens - es, De - liv - ered me from death;



For when I pray, be - fore me My foes, con - found - ed, fly.
 A - lone are my sal - va - tion, My true, e - ter - nal good.
 Were He not my de - fend - er Be - fore God's judg - ment throne,
 He is the Lord who cleans - es My soul from sin through faith.



If Christ, my head and mas - ter, Be - friend me from a - bove,
 With - out Him all that pleas - es Is val - ue - less on earth;
 I nev - er should find fa - vor And mer - cy in His sight,
 In Him I can be cheer - ful, Cou - ra - geous on my way;



What foe or what dis - as - ter Can drive me from His love?
 The gifts I have from Je - sus A - lone have price - less worth.
 But be - destroyed for - ev - er As dark - ness by the light.
 In Him I am not fear - ful Of God's great Judg - ment Day.

- 5 For no one can condemn me
Or set my hope aside;
Now hell no more can claim me:
Its fury I deride.
No sentence now reproves me,
No guilt destroys my peace;
For Christ, my Savior, loves me
And shields me with His grace.
- 6 Who clings with resolution
To Him whom Satan hates
Must look for persecution;
For him the burden waits
Of mock'ry, shame, and losses
Heaped on his blameless head;
A thousand plagues and crosses
Will be his daily bread.
- 7 From me this is not hidden,
Yet I am not afraid;
I leave my cares, as bidden,
To whom my vows were paid.
Though life from me be taken
And ev'rything I own,
I trust in You unshaken
And cleave to You alone.
- 8 No danger, thirst, or hunger,
No pain or poverty,
No earthly tyrant's anger
Shall ever vanquish me.
Though earth should break asunder,
My fortress You shall be;
No fire or sword or thunder
Shall sever You from me.
- 9 No angel and no gladness,
No throne, no pomp, no show,
No love, no hate, no sadness,
No pain, no depth of woe,
No scheming, no contrivance,
No subtle thing or great
Shall draw me from Your guidance
Nor from You separate.

10 My heart with joy is springing;
 I am no longer sad.
 My soul is filled with singing;
 Your sunshine makes me glad.
 The sun that cheers my spirit
 Is Jesus Christ, my King;
 The heav'n I shall inherit
 Makes me rejoice and sing.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; (sts. 1, 3-5, 10): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1907, Pittsburgh, alt.; (sts. 2, 6-9): tr. Richard Massie, 1800-87, alt.
 Tune: Vierundzwanzig geistliche Lieder, 1609, Augsburg
 Text and tune: Public domain

#773 Hear Us, Father, When We Pray



1 Hear us, Fa - ther, when we pray, Through Your Son and
 2 When we know not what to say And our wound - ed
 3 Je - sus, ad - vo - cate on high, Sac - ri - ficed on
 4 By Your Spir - it now at - tend To our prayers and



in Your Spir - it. By Your Spir - it's Word con - vey
 souls are plead - ing, May Your Spir - it, night and day,
 Cal - v'ry's al - tar, Through Your priest - ly blood we cry:
 sup - pli - ca - tions, As like in - cense they as - cend



All that we through Christ in - her - it,
 Groan with - in us in - ter - ced - ing;
 Hear our prayers, though they may fal - ter;
 To Your heav'n - ly hab - i - ta - tions.



That as bap - tized heirs we may Tru - ly pray.
 By His sighs, too deep for words, We are heard.
 Place them on Your Fa - ther's throne As Your own.
 May their fra - grance waft a - bove, God of love.

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970
 Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen
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#668 Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You



1 Rise! To arms! With prayer em-ploy you, O Chris-tians, lest the
2 Cast a - far this world's vain plea - sure And bold - ly strive for
3 Wise - ly fight, for time is fleet - ing; The hours of grace are



foe de-destroy you; For Sa - tan has de-signed your fall.
heav'n-ly trea - sure. Be stead-fast in the Sav - ior's might.
fast re - treat - ing; Short, short is this our earth - ly way.



Wield God's Word, the weap - on glo - rious; A - gainst all foes be
Trust the Lord, who stands be - side you, For Je - sus from all
When the Lord the dead will wak - en And sin - ners all by



thus vic - to - rious, For God pro-TECTS you from them all.
harm will hide you. By faith you con-quer in the fight.
fear are shak - en, The saints with joy will greet that day.



Fear not the hordes of hell, Here is Em - man - u - el.
Take cour - age, wea - ry soul! Look for - ward to the goal!
Praise God, our tri - umph's sure. We need not long en - dure



Hail the Sav - ior! The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield,
Joy a - waits you. The race well run, Your long war won,
Scorn and tri - al. Our Sav - ior King His own will bring



And we, the vic - tors, hold the field.
Your crown shines splen - did as the sun.
To that great glo - ry which we sing.

Text: Wilhelm Erasmus Arends, 1677-1721; tr. John M. Sloan, 1835-after 1890, alt.
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608
Text and tune: Public domain

#895 Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count-less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
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

#549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyr's of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.

6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.

7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.

Text (sts. 1-5): Edward Perronet, 1726-92, alt.; (sts. 6-7): A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.
Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765-1844
Text and tune: Public domain

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS this morning to our church and worship service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please take a moment to sign one of the register books located in each of the church foyers. If you would like to be contacted by the pastor or an elder, then please take a moment to fill out one of the green cards on the narthex tables and give it to an elder or drop it in the offering collection plate. Please be sure to introduce yourself to the Pastor and to others in attendance and feel free to worship with us again. Thank you!

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	Ted Schumm and Andrew Stoppenhagen
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Choir	Adult Choir
Acolytes	Hunter Householder, Matthew Rekeweg
Crucifer	Alex Fuhrmann
Altar Guild Chairman	Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm
Ushers	Rory Geiger, Lane Harkless, Isaac Harkless Mark Patrick, Darren Patrick, Cole Patrick

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
	NO	Adult Bible Class and Sunday School
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
MONDAY	6:00 p.m.	PTL Meeting
TUESDAY	6:00 p.m.	Visual Faith
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m.	Chapel Service
	5:30 p.m.	Adult Catechesis Class
	7:00 p.m.	Ascension Eve Divine Service
THURSDAY	7:00 p.m.	Public Examination Service
SUNDAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion
		“Confirmation Sunday”
	NO	Adult Bible Class and Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Board of Elders 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

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES IN MAY - *Please note the change in dates:* Ascension Eve Divine Service, Wednesday, May 13th at 7:00 p.m. Public Examination Service, Thursday May 14th at 7:00 p.m. Confirmation Sunday, May 17th at 9:00 a.m.

MOTHER'S DAY CARNATIONS – Each year, Right to Life of NE Indiana recognizes the gift of life and the calling of mothers through beautiful flowers. This project is a wonderful way for our church to demonstrate its support for the pro-life mission. We invite all families to grab a beautiful carnation TODAY Sunday, May 10th to honor Mother's Day. A suggested \$2.00 per flower donation is appreciated.

OUT OF THE OFFICE - I will be out of the church and school office until May 18th due to a needed surgery. Sarena and Emma Wirgau have graciously offered to help with answering phone calls and taking care of other tasks for me. Feel free to correspond by sending emails to bethlehemoasiansec@gmail.com or contact Pastor Wirgau or Pastor Dodgers if immediate help is needed. Your thoughts and prayers are very much appreciated. Thank you Heidi Kleppinger

THANK YOU for all the cards, prayers, and visits to me in celebration of my 91st birthday and my recent illness. They brought much joy and were greatly appreciated! Donna Schumm

WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM - May 12 is our next Visual Faith Workshop from 6-8pm. We will explore how to pray using scripture and make a fun envelope booklet to store your scripture prayers and/or sermon notes. Sign up to reserve your spot! <https://blcsossian.org/visual-faith-ministry/> This will be our last workshop until we start back up again in the fall.

LWML Mite Boxes- Just a reminder that mite boxes can be found by the church bulletins in the church entrance. These mite boxes (for small offerings) are used to support mission outreach, church worker scholarships, and humanitarian aid projects. When a mite box is filled, it can be dropped off in the LWML slot in the church office. Thank you!

Siberian Lutheran Mission Society: Dr. Timothy Quill and Rev. Alexei Streltsov from the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society will be visiting and presenting on May 24. To help raise funds for this society, a board will be set up in the narthex with 100 envelopes. Each envelope is labeled with a number; participants are invited to take an envelope and donate the amount shown on it. Envelopes along with your donation can be placed in the church offering collection plate or in the church office. For more information about the mission, you can visit: <https://siberianlutheranmissions.org/>
(If all envelopes are taken, we will raise approximately \$5,000 for the mission.)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – The theme for this year's VBS is "Created in Christ". June 8-11 Registration forms and donation tags are available on the table in the hallway. For questions, please contact Deaconess Boehm. **VBS T-SHIRT ORDERS MUST BE IN BY MAY 27TH.**

2026 GRADUATE RECOGNITION will be held on Sunday, June 7th- We would like to recognize our Bethlehem Lutheran School 8th grade graduates and also all of our member 2026 High School and College graduates with a special bulletin insert. Please submit students' names, any special awards, and their future plans to bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com or to the church office.

The DC Group is once again having a **METAL RECYCLING DRIVE – NOW** till the end of May, a dumpster will be available at Jay Werling's house (4126 E 800 N Ossian) for any metal to be recycled. Aluminum cans are also welcome. Proceeds are to help the next group of students attend a class trip to Washington DC.

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

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 currently have \$10,700 for that goal. 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!

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 May 17th. **For questions or for placing an order, please contact Jill Holtzclaw 260-301-1965 our current PTL representative.**

Offering May 3, 2026

Average weekly need \$14,000

Home Fund Env.	\$12,699.93
Synod	
Loose	150.25
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	9.25
Improvement Fund	1,000.00
Endowment Fund	
Organ Fund	
Music Fund Mem.	
Funeral Video	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$13,879.43

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance	\$11,440.00
Next week's bills due:	\$5,000
Bills due two weeks:	\$30,000
Savings Account Balance	\$71,281.17
Borrowed from Savings:	\$13,378.81
Operating Loan Balance	\$30,000
Borrowed from Op Loan	\$0.00

Church Attendance

Sunday	213/164
Wednesday	18/14

Here is the monthly report for the Bethlehem Lutheran School Endowment Fund by the Lutheran Foundation. The following information is accurate as of March 31, 2026:

\$373,427.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009
230,383.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched
400,547.48 - Amount generated since 2009
-179,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009
\$828,858.30 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of March 31, 2026

Dr. David Nahrwold Fund

\$ 90,078.93 - Amount sent in since November 2024
10,327.70 - Amount generated since November 2024
-10,000.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2024
\$ 90,406.63 - Value of Dr. David Nahrwold Fund as of March 31, 2026

Library Fund

\$5,000.00 - Amount sent in since March 2026
(29.81)- Amount generated since March 2026
\$4,970,19 - Value of the Library Fund as of March 31, 2026

The House of Daily Bread

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



"Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you" (John 16:23). To pray in Jesus' name is to pray as one who has been baptized. For it is in the water that He put His name upon you, claiming you as His own, making you a son of God with access to the Father. By His incarnation and crucifixion, our Lord Jesus broke through the barrier of sin which separated us from God, opening a portal to the Father. To pray in Jesus' name is to pray with faith in Him as the one Mediator between God and men, who gave Himself a ransom for all (1 Tim. 2:1-6). Like Moses in the wilderness, Jesus is our go-between and intercessor before the throne of heaven. He was lifted up for us on the cross that we might be saved and restored to fellowship with the Father (Num. 21:4-9). Looking into this perfect teaching of liberty (James 1:22-27) we pray with boldness and confidence as dear children of God.

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: "Our Father, Who from Heaven Above" LSB
#556***

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

The Catechism:

**"Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest" – Lutheran Service Book 498/499
(str. 1-2)**

(1) Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
And make our hearts Your place of rest;
Come with Your grace and heavenly aid,
And fill the hearts which You have made.

(2) To You, the Counselor, we cry,
To You, the gift of God Most High,
The fount of life, the fire of love,
The soul's anointing from above.

Psalm Ps 107:1-9 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listed below.

Daily Psalm	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
A.M.	71	73	75, 76	78	80	82, 84	85
P.M.	72	74	77	79	81	83	86

Daily Bible Reading

Mon.	<i>John 21:1-25 - Jesus Appears to the Disciples and Restores Peter Numbers 8:5-26</i>
Tues.	<i>Matthew 28:16-20 - The Great Commission Numbers 9:1-23</i>
Wed.	<i>Luke 24:44-53 - Jesus Opens the Scriptures to the Disciples Numbers 10:11-36</i>
Thu.	<i>Acts 1:1-14 - The Ascension of Our Lord Numbers 11:1-23, 31-35</i>
Fri.	<i>Mark 16:9-20 - Jesus' Command to Preach the Gospel Numbers 11:24-29; 12:1-16</i>
Sat.	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

Prayers

Collect of the Day

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; 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: Heidi, Rev. Raymond and Abigail, Ralph, Donna, Joyce, Cameron, James, Jenny, Dan, Grace, Hazel, Brandon, Sandra; **Expectant mothers:** Reese, Lilyan, Jessica, Shelby, Grace; **Kristin, Mariel;** **Homebound:** Ruth, Marilyn, Marilyn, Donald, Norwin and Martha, and Sandy.

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 Seventh Sunday of Easter
Old Testament: Ezekiel 36:22-28 Epistle: 1 Peter 4:7-14; Gospel:
John 15:26-16:4; Hymns: 564; 539; 617; 501; 913; 722; 689; 643