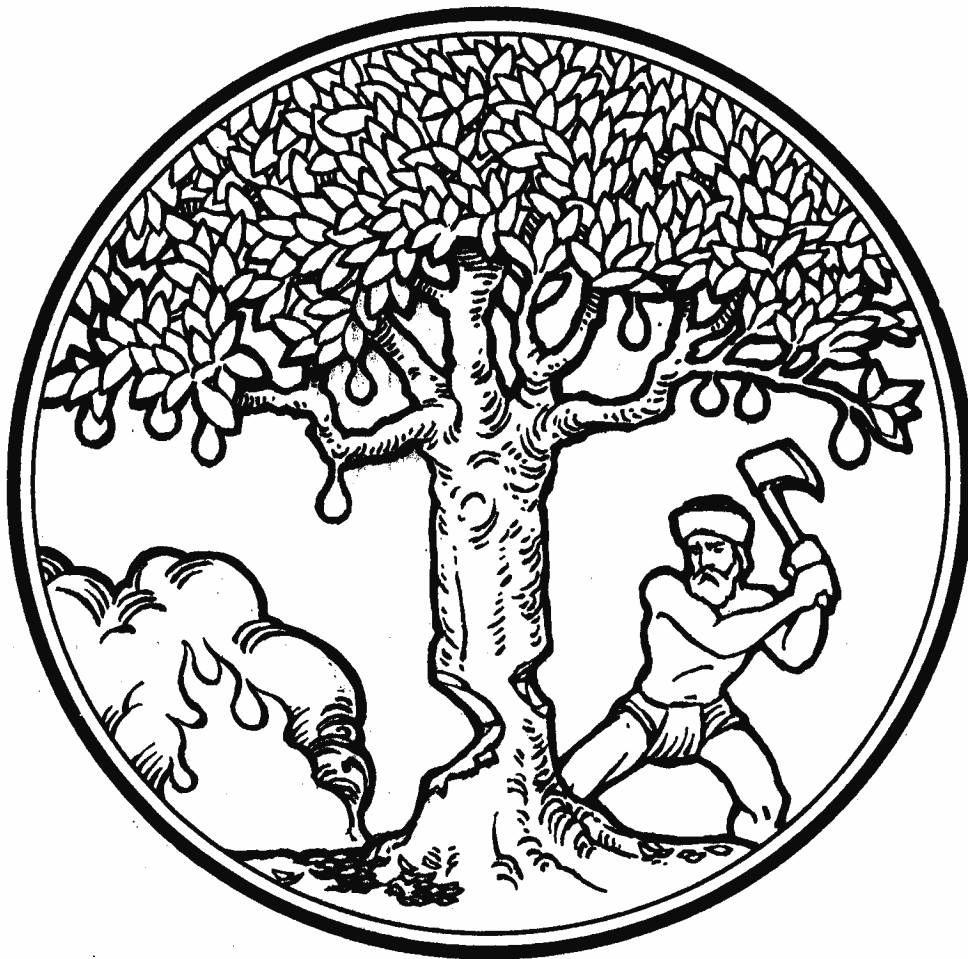


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Eighth Sunday after Trinity

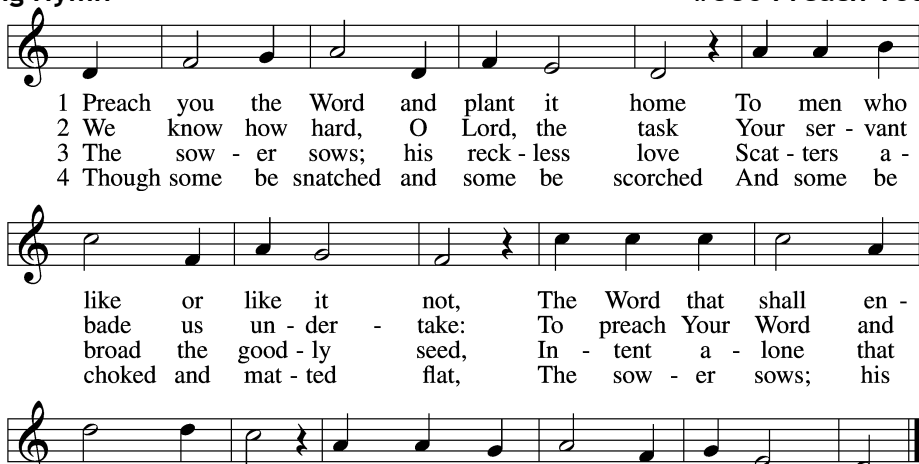
Divine Service Three

July 26, 2026

Vol. 128-35

Opening Hymn

#586 Preach You the Word



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

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

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

- 5 Of all his scattered plenteousness
 One-fourth waves ripe on hill and flat,
 And bears a harvest hundredfold:
 "Ah, what of that, Lord, what of that!"
- 6 Preach you the Word and plant it home
 And never faint; the Harvest Lord
 Who gave the sower seed to sow
 Will watch and tend His planted Word.

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

Tune: Rheinfeilssisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch, 1666, Augsburg

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

Tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God
 our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word pg. 184

Introit (sung responsively)



We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God,*
in the midst of your | temple.

As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth.*

Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised*
in the city of our God, his holy | mountain.

Within her | citadels*

God has made himself known as a | fortress.

Let Mount Zion | be glad!*

Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your | judgments!

This is God, our God forever and | ever.*

He will guide us for- | ever.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

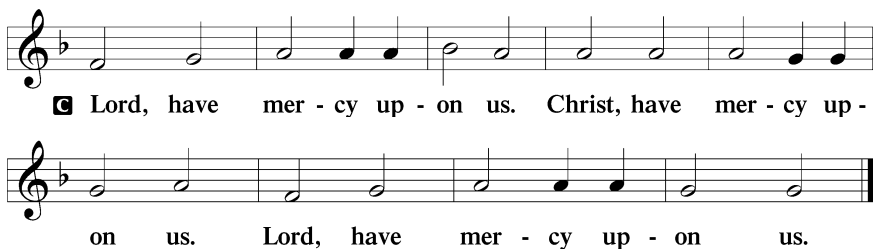
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God,*
in the midst of your | temple.

As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth.*

Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

Kyrie



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

Gloria in Excelsis



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; 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

Jeremiah 23:16–29

¹⁶Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. ¹⁷They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’”

¹⁸For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD
to see and to hear his word,
or who has paid attention to his word and listened?

¹⁹Behold, the storm of the LORD!
Wrath has gone forth,
a whirling tempest;
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.

²⁰The anger of the LORD will not turn back
until he has executed and accomplished
the intents of his heart.

In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

²¹“I did not send the prophets,
yet they ran;
I did not speak to them,
yet they prophesied.

²²But if they had stood in my council,
then they would have proclaimed my words to my people,
and they would have turned them from their evil way,
and from the evil of their deeds.

²³“Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God afar off? ²⁴Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ ²⁶How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 31:2b, 1a

**Be a rock of refuge for me,*
a strong fortress to save me!
In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;*
let me never be put to shame.**

Second Reading

Acts 20:27–38

²⁷[Paul said:] “For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to

give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, **'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'** ³⁶And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. ³⁷And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, ³⁸being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

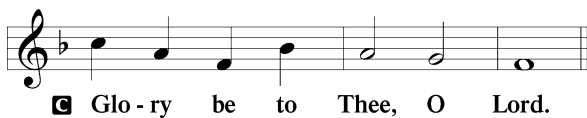
Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Matthew 7:15–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventh chapter.



¹⁵[Jesus said:] “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

²¹“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,

**maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

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

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

Hymn of the Day

#745 In God, My Faithful God



1	In	God,	my	faith - ful	God,	I	trust	when	dark	my	road;	
2	My	sins	fill	me	with	care,	Yet	I	will	not	de - spair.	
3	If	death	my	por - tion	be,	It	brings	great	gain	to	me;	
4	O	Je - sus	Christ,	my	Lord,	So	meek	in	deed	and	word,	
5	"So	be	it,"	then,	I	say	With	all	my	heart	each	day.



Great woes may o - ver - take me, Yet He will not for - sake me.
I build on Christ, who loves me; From this rock noth - ing moves me.
It speeds my life's en - deav - or To live with Christ for - ev - er.
You suf - fered death to save us Be - cause Your love would have us
Dear Lord, we all a - dore You, We sing for joy be - fore You.



My trou - bles He can al - ter; His hand lets noth - ing fal - ter.
To Him I will sur - ren - der, To Him, my soul's de - fend - er.
He gives me joy in sor - row, Come death now or to - mor - row.
Be heirs of heav'n - ly glad - ness When ends this life of sad - ness.
Guide us while here we wan - der Un - til we praise You yon - der.

Text: Veer schöne nye Geistlike Leder, before 1603, Lübeck; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Tune: Kurtzweilige deutsche Lieder, 1576, Nürnberg, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Offertory



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Offering

Installation of Church Officers

Prayer of the Church

For those in need of strength and healing:

Peter Meyer, Susan Stump (sister of Peggy Goede)
Sharolyn Stoppenhagen (wife of Ian Stoppenhagen)
Gail Werling, Alie Newnum,
Denny Nahrwold, Ron Whitesel, Ralph Bauermeister
Rev. Raymond and Abigail Doubrava and unborn child (New Hope pastor)
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)

Marriage blessing Kyle and Alli Patrick wed on July 25th

Blessing of a baby girl to Evan and Reese Springer

We pray for our expectant mothers: Lillyan Laley, Kristin Gresley,
Mariel Kleppinger, Nicole Meyer, Sierra Patrick

We pray for our members shut-in:

Sandy Avey (Ossian Healthcare)
Marilyn Meyer (Kingston)
Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)
Rev. Donald Lutz (Lutheran Life Village)
Martha Bauermeister (Astral in Auburn)

We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel

Service of the Sacrament pg. 194

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



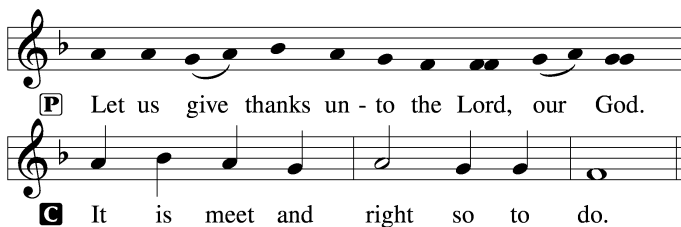
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



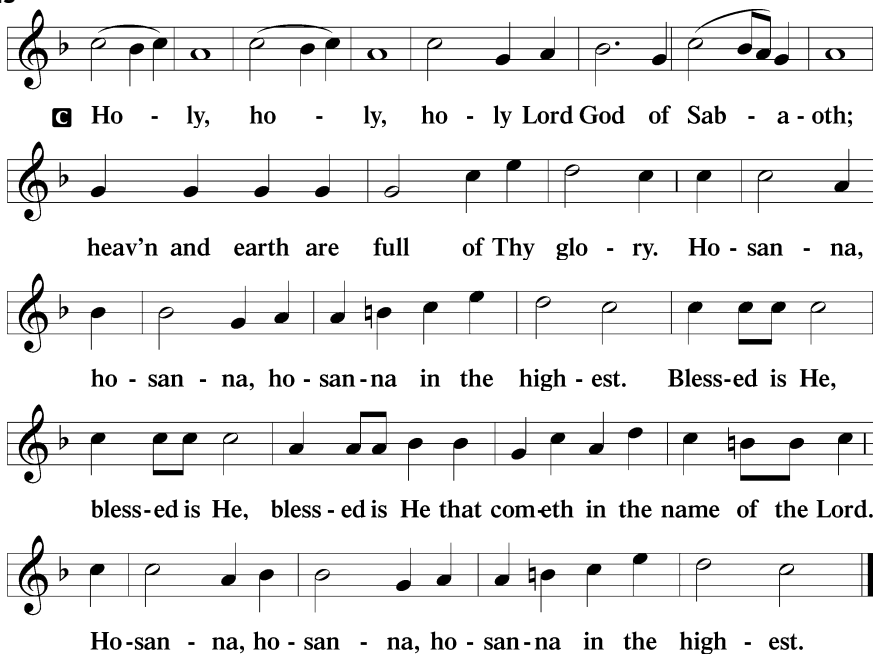
P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

Sanctus



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

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

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,

bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

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

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ 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.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

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

Distribution Hymns

#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.

#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

#691 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing

1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en
 2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er
 3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern
 4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till
 and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,
 loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
 and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
 har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,
 Rich in love and joy and peace.
 Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
 Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
 Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024
 Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, 1932–2024

#707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



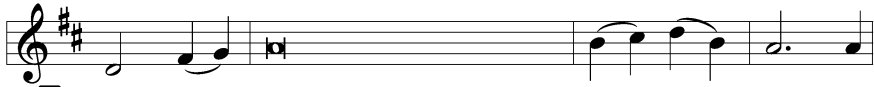
1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat-utes still!
2 Or - der my foot-steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin-cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict-er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in Thy com-mands—'Tis a de-light-ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!
Let sin have no do-min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.
And should I e'er for-get Thy way, Re-store Thy wan-d'ring sheep.
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of-fend a-gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870
Text and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de-part in peace ac-



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre-pared be-fore the face of all people,



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy



peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and

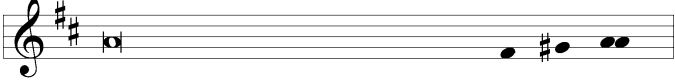


to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

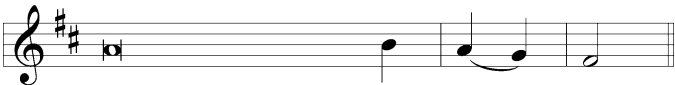


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.

Salutation



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

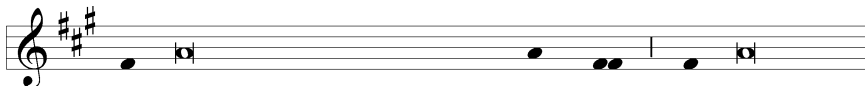


[A] Bless we the Lord.

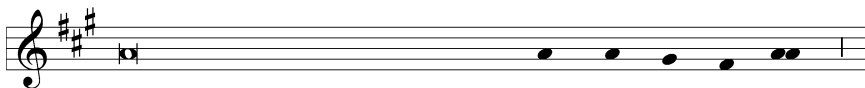


C Thanks be to God.

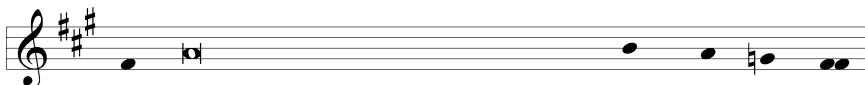
Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn

#689 Let Me Be Thine Forever



1 Let me be Thine for - ev - er, My faith - ful God and Lord;
2 Lord Je - sus, my sal - va - tion, My light, my life di - vine,
3 And Thou, O Ho - ly Spir - it, My com - fort - er and guide,



Let me for-sake Thee nev - er Nor wan - der from Thy Word.
My on - ly con - so - la - tion, O make me whol - ly Thine!
Grant that in Je - sus' mer - it I al - ways may con - fide,



Lord, do not let me wa - ver, But give me stead - fast - ness,
For Thou hast dear - ly bought me With blood and bit - ter pain.
Him to the end con - fess - ing Whom I have known by faith.



And for such grace for - ev - er Thy ho - ly name I'll bless.
Let me, since Thou hast sought me, E - ter - nal life ob - tain.
Give me Thy con - stant bless - ing And grant a Chris - tian death.

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 1): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92; (sts. 2–3): Gesang-Büchlein, 1688, Rudolstadt
Tune: Musika Teutsch, 1532, Nürnberg
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!

Installation of the 2026-2027 Church Officers
TODAY Sunday, July 26th during the Divine Service

Vice Chairman – Dave Flesch

Board of Elders – Dan Springer, Brian Scheumann, Jeff Gresley

Board of Christian Education – Brandon Schumm, Jacob Meyer, Aaron Anthony

Board of Trustees – Jay Werling, Gary Oliver, Todd Ottinger

Board of Finance – Dan Buchinger, Brian Bauermeister, Jay Louison

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching	Vicar-elect Brandon Streeks
Celebrant	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Vicar	Sem. Erik Preus
Fieldworker	Sem. Nolan Wolf
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Bruce Werling
Elders on Duty	Bruce Werling and Mike Schumm
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Guest Organist	Amy Uffelman
Acolytes	Volunteers
Altar Guild Chairman	Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm
Ushers	Todd Ottinger, Ethan Ottinger, Landon Geiger Jay Werling, Collin Laley, Kaden Laley, Chad Dunham

Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wirgau	260-273-7595
(Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com)	
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Office	260-597-7121
Bethlehem Lutheran School	260-597-7366
Assoc. Pastor, Headmaster: Rev. Anthony Dodgers	616-648-6489
Kantor: Mr. Richard Brinkley	260-705-4105
Deaconess: Wendy Boehm	260-415-8526
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
	10:30-2:30 p.m.	DC Group Fundraiser (White Barn Event Center hwy 1)
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
WEDNESDAY	7:00 p.m.	Spoken Divine Service
SUNDAY	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)

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

A FRIENDLY REMINDER FOR COMMUNION- As you enter the sanctuary, please take a moment to sign the communion register located near the center doors. Your participation helps our altar volunteers and pastors prepare the proper amount of communion elements, ensuring everything is ready for worship with care and reverence. Thank you for supporting this important part of our communion preparation.

THE FLOWERS PLACED UNDER THE HYMNBOARD this morning have been given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the marriage of Kyle and Alli Patrick.

The Friends of Wyneken will host an ice cream social at the historic Wyneken House TODAY, Sunday, July 26 from 1-5 PM. Come and enjoy an afternoon of food, fun and fellowship! There will be a waterslide and other activities for the kids (and those young at heart). The first floor of the building is now accessible via a newly-installed ramp. The Wyneken House is located at 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, Indiana.

LOOKING FOR SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS-We have two new teachers in our school! We are excited to welcome Mrs. Anabelle Demalija in our 1st & 2nd Grade Classroom and also Mrs. Anastasia Loest in our Kindergarten Classroom. As these women are brand new to teaching, we want to make sure they have plenty of support, so we are looking for some volunteers to help both in and out of the classrooms. If you are happy to work with kids, we could use your assistance in 1st & 2nd Grade. If you would prefer to help behind the scenes (making copies, prepping supplies), we could use your help with any of our teachers. Please contact Pastor Dodgers if you are interested in helping or have any questions.

DC Trip Fundraiser - Chicken Dinner & Kona Ice - If you purchase advanced tickets, please remember to come get your Andy's Knockout Chicken Dinners TODAY, Sunday, July 26 from 10:30am to 2:30pm. At the White Rock Barn on Highway 1. Meals will be sold at a first come first service basis if tickets are not purchased. Kona Ice will also be there so you can get something cold and refreshing! Thank you for supporting our Bethlehem students!

Book Club Reminder! Our next Book Club gathering will be **Saturday, August 15, at 8:00 a.m.** at **Crimson House** in Ossian. We'll be discussing ***Rebellion 1776*** by **Laurie Halse Anderson**. Whether you've been with us from the beginning or are joining for the first time, **everyone is welcome!** We'd love to have you for a great discussion and fellowship over breakfast.

PAVILION & SIDEWALK PROJECT – Bethlehem Church & School has been awarded a matching capital grant for \$42,554.00 from The Lutheran Foundation for the construction of a new pavilion adjacent to the playground area, a new sidewalk along the east side of the church, the replacement of existing sidewalk between the church & parsonage, and replacement of sidewalks at the parsonage. The work will occur during the summer and/or early fall timeframe.

DISCONTINUED - ALUMINUM CANS – The Washington DC Group has decided to temporarily discontinue the aluminum can collection as their fundraiser until a more suitable storing location is established. If you are willing to help this group with an area to store large amounts or have a hopper trailer that can be used, please contact Pastor Dodgers. Thank you

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

Offering July 19, 2026

<i>Average weekly need \$14,000</i>	
Home Fund Env.	\$11,851.66
Synod	50.00
Loose	534.25
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	
Improvement Fund	50.00
Endowment Fund	200.00
Organ Fund	49.47
Music Fund	
Memorials	180.00
Special Donation	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total	\$14,915.38

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance	\$24,553.92
Next week's bills due:	\$15,000
Bills due two weeks:	\$5,000
Savings Account Balance	\$103,476.87
Borrowed from Savings:	\$27,986.95
Special Project Fund	\$48,554.00
Operating Loan Balance	\$30,000
Borrowed from Op Loan	\$0.00

Church Attendance

Sunday 196/148
Wednesday 18/14

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL PRESENTS

ANDY'S KNOCKOUT CHICKEN & KONA ICE



10:30 AM - 2:30 PM

SUNDAY JULY 26

KONA ICE WILL START AT 11:00 AM

PICK UP @
WHITE ROCK BARN & TERRACE
1542 SR-1055W, IN 46777



All proceeds will go to
fund student trip to
Washington DC

The House of Daily Bread

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer following
The Eighth Sunday after Trinity



“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves” (Matt. 7:15). Deceit has its strength in masquerading as the truth. False prophets speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the Lord (Jer. 23:16–29). They deny the judgment of the Lord, speaking peace to the unrepentant, when in truth there is condemnation and wrath. “You will recognize them by their fruits” (Matt. 7:20). The “fruits” of a true prophet are not outward righteousness or success but faithfulness in proclaiming the Word of the Lord. This is the will of the Father in heaven, that pastors take heed to the flock, the Father’s adopted ones (Rom. 8:12–17), warning them against the wolves and their lies, and shepherding the Church of God which He purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:27–38). For indeed, the cross is that good tree bearing good fruit—namely, the body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

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: “In God, My Faithful God” LSB 745

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

The Catechism:

What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” Mark 16:16.

Psalm Ps 26 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listen below.

Daily Psalm	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
A.M.	109	112, 113	115	117, 118	119:1-24	119:49-72	119:89-112
P.M.	110, 111	114	116	120, 121	119:25-48	119:73-88	119:113-136

Daily Bible Reading

Mon.	Matthew 21:12-17 Jesus Cleanses the Temple 1 Samuel 12:1-25
Tues.	Matthew 21:18-27 The Fruitless Fig Tree 1 Samuel 13:1-18
Wed.	Matthew 21:28-32 The Parable of the Two Sons 1 Samuel 14:47-15:9
Thu.	Matthew 21:33-46 The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers 1 Samuel 15:10-35
Fri.	Matthew 22:1-14 The Parable of the Wedding Feast 1 Samuel 16:1-23
Sat.	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

Prayers

Collect of the Day

Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; 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: Peter, Peggy, Susan, Sharolyn, Gail, Alie, Ron, Denny, Raymond and Abigail, Ralph, Cameron, James, Jenny, Dan, Grace, Hazel, Brandon, Sandra;

Expectant mothers: Reese, Kristin, Mariel, Nicole, Sierra;

Homebound: Marilyn, Marilyn, Donald, 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: Ninth Sunday After Trinity

Old Testament: 2 Samuel 22:26-34; Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:6-13;

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13; Hymns: 536, 730, 639, 640, 743, 732, 714