

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Divine Service Three

August 2, 2026

Vol. 128-36

Opening Hymn

#536 One Thing's Needful



1 One thing's need - ful; Lord, this trea - sure Teach me high - ly
 2 How were Mar - y's thoughts de - vot - ed Her e - ter - nal
 3 Wis - dom's high - est, no - blest trea - sure, Je - sus, is re -
 4 Noth - ing have I, Christ, to of - fer, You a - lone, my
 5 There - fore You a - lone, my Sav - ior, Shall be all in



to re - gard. All else, though it first give plea - sure,
 joy to find As in - tent each word she not - ed,
 vealed in You. Let me find in You my plea - sure,
 high - est good. Noth - ing have I, Lord, to prof - fer
 all to me; Search my heart and my be - hav - ior,



Is a yoke that press - es hard! Be - neath it the
 At her Sav - ior's feet re - clined! How kin - dled her
 And my way - ward will sub - due, Hu - mil - i - ty
 But Your crim - son - col - ored blood. Your death on the
 Root out all hy - poc - ri - sy. Through all my life's



heart is still fret - ting and striv - ing, No true, last - ing hap - pi - ness
 heart, how de - vout was its feel - ing, While hear - ing the les - sons that
 there and sim - plic - i - ty reign - ing, In paths of true wis - dom my
 cross has death whol - ly de - feat - ed And there - by my righ - teous - ness
 pil - grim - age, guard and up - hold me, In lov - ing for - give - ness, O



ev - er de - riv - ing. This one thing is need - ful; all oth - ers are
 Christ was re - veal - ing! All earth - ly con - cerns she for - got for her
 steps ev - er train - ing. If I learn from Je - sus this knowl - edge di -
 ful - ly com - plet - ed; Sal - va - tion's white rai - ments I there did ob -
 Je - sus, en - fold me. This one thing is need - ful; all oth - ers are



vain— I count all but loss that I Christ may ob - tain!
 Lord And found her con - tent - ment in hear - ing His Word.
 vine, The bless - ing of heav - en - ly wis - dom is mine.
 tain, And in them in glo - ry with You I shall reign.
 vain— I count all but loss that I Christ may ob - tain!

Rite of Holy Baptism (Please refer to yellow inserted service folder)
Everett Steven Laley
Eleanor Grace Springer

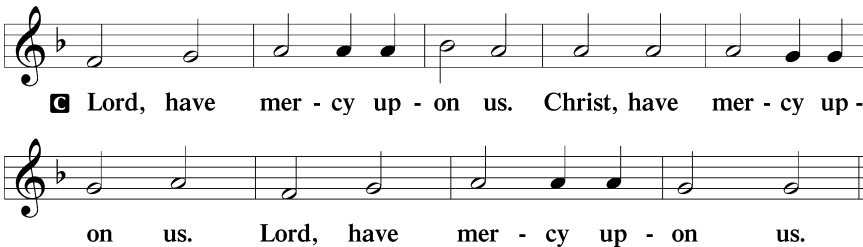
Service of the Word pg. 184

Introit (sung responsively)



Behold, God is my | helper;*
the Lord is the upholder | of my life.
**He will return the evil to my | enemies;*
in your faithfulness put an | end to them.**
O God, save me, | by your name,*
and vindicate me | by your might.
**O God, | hear my prayer;*
give ear to the words | of my mouth.**
For strangers have risen against me; ruthless men | seek my life;*
they do not set God be- | fore themselves.
**For he has delivered me from every | trouble,*
and my eye has looked in triumph on my | enemies.**
*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.
Behold, God is my | helper;*
the Lord is the upholder | of my life.
**He will return the evil to my | enemies;*
in your faithfulness put an | end to them.**

Kyrie



Gloria in Excelsis



The musical score is written on ten staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some words aligned under specific notes. The lyrics are: "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,"

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,



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 22:26–34

- ²⁶“With the merciful you show yourself merciful;
with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;
²⁷with the purified you deal purely,
and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous.
²⁸You save a humble people,
but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down.
²⁹For you are my lamp, O LORD,
and my God lightens my darkness.
³⁰For by you I can run against a troop,
and by my God I can leap over a wall.
³¹This God—his way is perfect;
the word of the LORD proves true;
he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.
³²“For who is God, but the LORD?
And who is a rock, except our God?

³³This God is my strong refuge
and has made my way blameless.
³⁴He made my feet like the feet of a deer
and set me secure on the heights.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

O | LORD, our Lord,*
how majestic is your name in | all the earth!
You have set your | glory*
above the | heavens.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:6–13

⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.
⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.
¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

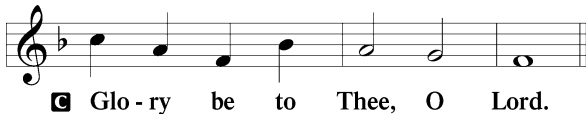
Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Luke 16:1–13

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



¹[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ²And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ ³And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since

my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ ⁷Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ ⁸The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

¹⁰“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, 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

#730 What Is the World to Me



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,
I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Offertory

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

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)

Ordination blessing - Rev. Morgan Phillips

Wedding Anniversary blessing: Brandon and Erin Schumm 14 years of marriage

Baptismal blessing: Everett Steven Laley

Eleanor Grace Springer

We pray for our expectant mothers: 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.

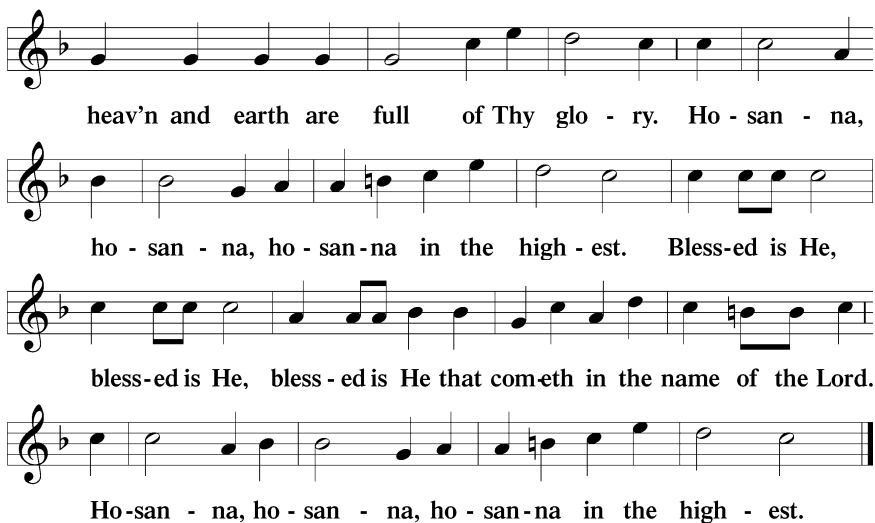
Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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.



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

#639 Wide Open Stand the Gates



1 Wide o - pen stand the gates a - dorned with pearl, While
 2 He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless: "This
 3 The cher - u - bim, their fac - es veiled from light, While

round God's gold - en throne The choirs of saints in
is My flesh and blood!" He bids us eat and
saints in won - der kneel, Sing praise to Him whose

end - less cir - cles curl, And joy - ous praise the Son!
drink with thank - ful - ness This gift of ho - ly food.
face with glo - ry bright No earth - ly masks con - ceal.

They watch Him now de - scend - ing To vis - it wait-ing earth.
All hu - man thought must fal - ter— Our God stoops low to heal,
This sac - ra - ment God gives us Binds us in u - ni - ty,

The Lord of Life un - end - ing Brings dy - ing hope new birth!
Now pres - ent on the al - tar, For us both host and meal!
Joins earth with heav'n be - yond us, Time with e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: J. K. Wilhelm Loehe, 1808–72; tr. Herman G. Stuenkel, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: Christlich Neu-vermehrt . . . , Gesangbuch, 1663, Erfurt

Text: © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711

Tune: Public domain

#640 Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior

1 Thee we a - dore, O hid - den Sav - ior, Thee,
2 In this me - mo - rial of Thy death, O Lord,
3 Thou, like the pel - i - can to feed her brood,
4 Foun - tain of good - ness, Je - sus, Lord and God:
5 O Christ, whom now be - neath a veil we see,

Who in Thy Sac - ra - ment art pleased to be;
Thou dost Thy bod - y and Thy blood af - ford:
Didst pierce Thy - self to give us liv - ing food;
Cleanse us, un - clean, with Thy most cleans - ing blood;
May what we thirst for soon our por - tion be:



Both flesh and spir - it in Thy pres - ence fail,
Oh, may our souls for - ev - er feed on Thee,
Thy blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to win
In - crease our faith and love, that we may know
To gaze on Thee un - veiled and see Thy face,



Yet here Thy pres - ence we de - vout - ly hail.
And Thou, O Christ, for - ev - er pre - cious be.
For - give - ness for our world and all its sin.
The hope and peace which from Thy pres - ence flow.
The vi - sion of Thy glo - ry, and Thy grace. A - men.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225–1274; (sts. 1–2, 4–5): tr. James R. Woodford, 1820–85, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Stephen P. Starke, 1955
Tune: Processionale, 1697, Paris, mode V
Text (sts. 2–3): © 1998 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
Text (sts. 1, 4–5) and tune: Public domain

#743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure



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



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



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



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



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

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

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

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
 Text and tune: Public domain

#732 All Depends on Our Possessing



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
 2 He who to this day has fed me And to man - y
 3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting O - ver tri - fles
 4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, Hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, Though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
 joys has led me Is and ev - er shall be mine.
 and in get - ting Things that have no sol - id ground.
 heart will quick - en; All my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en By their God are
 He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, He who dai - ly
 I shall strive to win a trea - sure That will bring me
 To His lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der Soul and bod - y



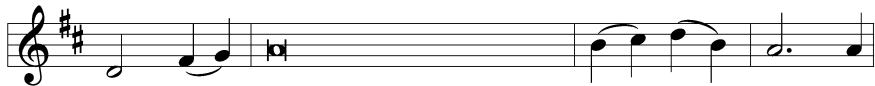
not for - sak - en And will keep a daunt - less heart.
 guides and rules me Will re - main my help di - vine.
 last - ing plea - sure And that now is sel - dom found.
 I sur - ren - der, For on God a - lone I build.

- 5 Well He knows what best to grant me;
 All the longing hopes that haunt me,
 Joy and sorrow, have their day.
 I shall doubt His wisdom never;
 As God wills, so be it ever;
 I commit to Him my way.

- 6 If my days on earth He lengthen,
 God my weary soul will strengthen;
 All my trust in Him I place.
 Earthly wealth is not abiding,
 Like a stream away is gliding;
 Safe I anchor in His grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645-1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758
 Text and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis



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



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

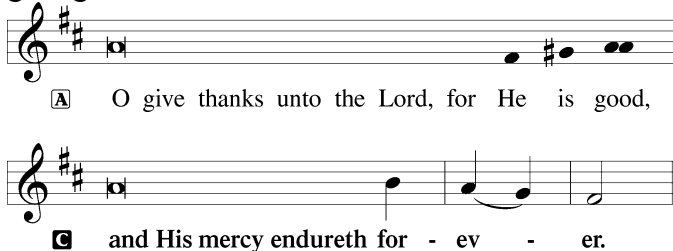


which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



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.

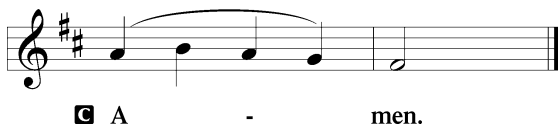
Thanksgiving



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.



G And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

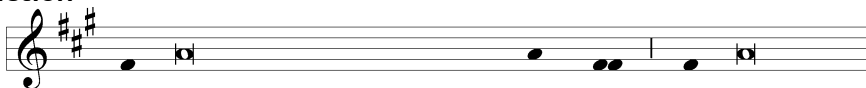


A Bless we the Lord.

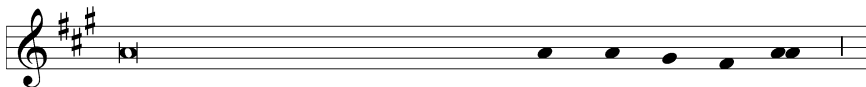


G Thanks be to God.

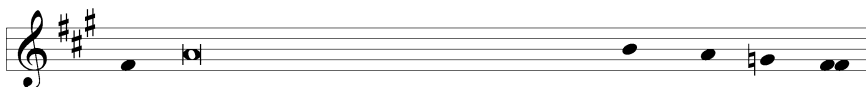
Benediction



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



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



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



G A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn

#714 Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode



1 Who trusts in God A strong a - bode In heav'n and
2 Though Sa - tan's wrath Be - set our path And world - ly
3 In all the strife Of mor - tal life Our feet will



earth pos - sess - es; Who looks in
 scorn as - sail us, While You are
 stand se - cure ly; Temp - ta - tion's

love To Christ a - bove, No fear that heart op -
 near, We shall not fear; Your strength will nev - er
 hour Will lose its pow'r, For You will guard us

press - es. In You a - lone, Dear Lord, we own Sweet
 fail us. Your rod and staff Will keep us safe And
 sure - ly. O God, re - new With heav'n - ly dew Our

hope and con - so - la - tion, Our shield from foes, Our balm for
 guide our steps for - ev - er; Nor shades of death Nor hell be -
 bod - y, soul, and spir - it Un - til we stand At Your right

woes, Our great and sure sal - va - tion.
 neath Our lives from You will sev - er.
 hand Through Je - sus' sav - ing mer - it.

Text: tr. Benjamin H. Kennedy, 1804–99, alt.; (st. 1): Joachim Magdeburg, c. 1525–after 1587; (sts. 2–3): Harmonia cantionum, 1597, Leipzig
 Tune: Claudin de Sermisy, c. 1490–1562
 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!

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.

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching / Celebrant	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Vicar	Sem. Erik Preus
Fieldworker	Sem. Nolan Wolf
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Steve Conrad
Elders on Duty	Steve Conrad and Jeff Gresley
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Acolytes	Volunteers
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	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
	10:30 a.m.	Family Bible Class
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
WEDNESDAY	7:00 p.m.	Spoken Divine Service
THURSDAY	5:30 p.m.	Back to School Info and Registration Night
SATURDAY	1:00 p.m.	Painting Class (Fellowship Hall)
SUNDAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion
	10:30 a.m.	Family Bible Class
	11:15 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

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026

BAPTIZED TODAY into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is Everett Steven Laley, newborn son of Gavin and Lilliyan Laley. Sponsor for Everett is Kaden Laley and Amelia Raines as a witness. We welcome Everett into the Kingdom of God and joint heir with us of all God's blessings.

BAPTIZED TODAY into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is Eleanor Grace Springer, newborn daughter of Evan and Reese Springer. Sponsor for Eleanor is Grant Scheumann. We welcome Eleanor into the Kingdom of God and joint heir with us of all God's blessings.

THE FLOWERS PLACED ON THE ALTAR this morning have been given to the Glory God by Erin Schumm to praise Him for 14 years with my best friend! Thank you for the shade!

PASTOR'S CALENDAR – Pastor Wirgau will be attending and preaching at the ordination of Rev. Morgan Phillips in South Dakota and will not be in the office until Tuesday, August 4th. If pastoral care is needed, please contact our head elder, Steve Conrad. ***Those that would like to send cards to the Phillips family can do so by sending them to 201 Birch Ave SW, Wagner, SD 57380***

DOOR COLLECTION TODAY – as a thank you for his service to Bethlehem, we will be taking a door collection for Vicar-Elect Brandon Streeks who has been assigned to Zion Lutheran Church in Decatur.

THANK YOU – to everyone who came out and supported the students in the DC Group last Sunday. We had a very successful day! It would not have been possible without everyone's support. **THANK YOU** – I would like to thank the members of Bethlehem for all the cards, phone call and prayers. I am continuing my road to recovery. Also, a special thanks to Pastor Wirgau, Vicar Charles McLain and Deaconess Wendy Boehm for their many visits. Dennis Nahrwold

BETHLEHEM BACK TO SCHOOL – PARENT INFORMATION – REGISTRATION is being held on Thursday, August 6th beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Women of Bethlehem will be hosting a meal. The ladies are asking all those we are not Bethlehem school parents to donate a dish or help serve the meal! Please consider signing up on the Perfect Potluck link or contact Lisa Gresley or Emily Anthony for questions. <https://www.perfectpotluck.com/DYGH7222>

PAINTING CLASS – RESCHEDULED for Saturday, August 8th at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Women of Bethlehem will be hosting a Painting class with Ruth Green. She will be showing us how to paint a girl picking flowers for the cost of \$10. Everyone is welcome to attend! Please join us!

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.

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.

INSTALLATION OF NEW TEACHERS will be held during the Divine Service on Sunday, August 9th.

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 26, 2026

Average weekly need \$14,000

Home Fund Env.	\$6,504.67
Synod	
Loose	266.22
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	
Improvement Fund	
Endowment Fund	
Organ Fund	
Music Fund	
Flooring Project	3,500.00
Special Donation	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total	\$13,270.89

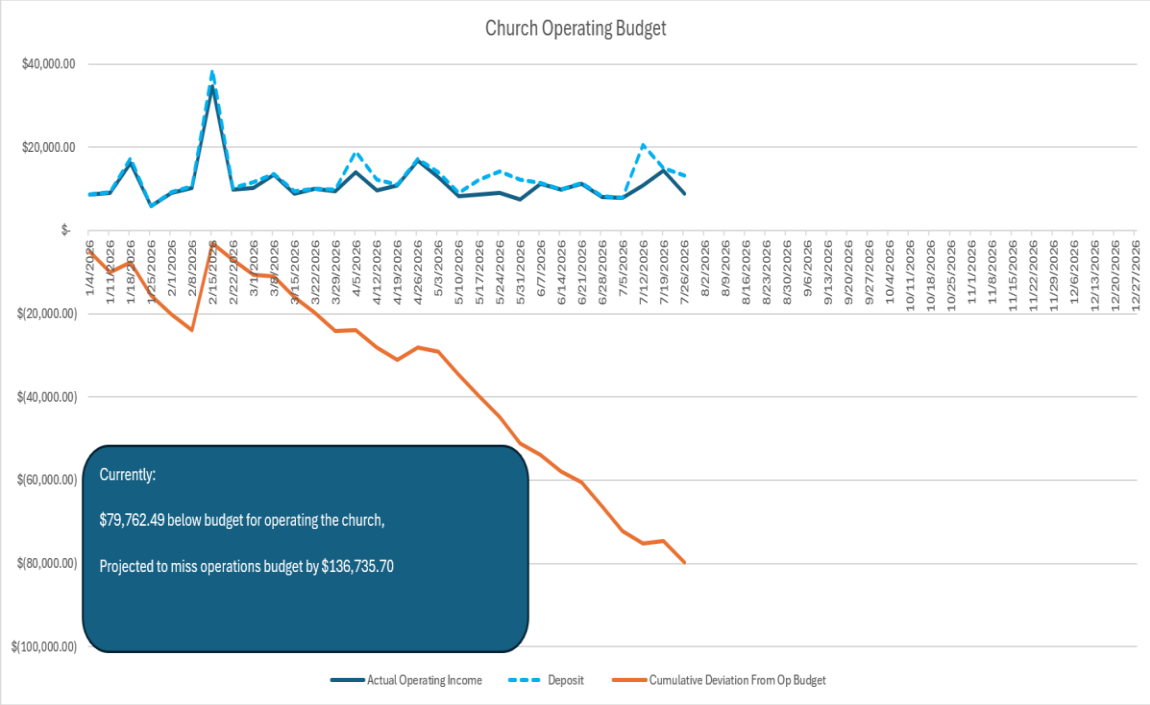
Financial Report

Home Fund Balance	\$12,072.54
Next week's bills due:	\$5,000
Bills due two weeks:	\$15,000
Savings Account Balance	\$107,976.87
Borrowed from Savings:	\$21,502.65
Special Project Fund	\$49,821.16
Operating Loan Balance	\$30,000
Borrowed from Op Loan	\$0.00

Church Attendance

Sunday	170/135
Wednesday	23/18

As of	July 29, 2026							
BETHLEHEM FINANCIAL REPORT								
Cash			Special Accounts					
Checking	\$	12,072.54	Improvement Fund:	\$	36,644.23			
Savings	\$	107,976.87	Scholarship Fund:	\$	17,426.10			
Total Cash	\$	120,049.41	Music Fund:	\$	4,063.36			
Operating Loan	\$	- of \$30,000 max available	Relief Fund:	\$	1,481.83			
			Organ Fund:	\$	7,814.02			
Special Account (Pavilion)	\$	49,821.16	Endowment:	\$	250.00			
			Synod/Seminary Fund:	\$	325.00			
			Reserved (Sing, Pray, Praise)	\$	5,000.00			
			Special Account - Vicar Program	\$	54,005.72			
			Reserved (TBD):	\$	2,469.26			
			Total	\$	129,479.52			
	\$	21,502.65	added to checking account from special accounts to operate church					
Bills Due:	8/3/2026	\$ 5,000.00						
	8/10/2026	\$15,000.00						



The House of Daily Bread

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



"The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness" (Luke 16:1–9). The steward's shrewdness is praiseworthy for two reasons. First, he knew the master would be merciful. He trusted that the master would honor the debts he forgave in the master's name. In the same way, though we have squandered our heavenly Father's possessions in selfishness and sin, Jesus is the Steward who has canceled our debt, knowing that His forgiveness will be honored by the Father because of the holy cross. Secondly, the steward was shrewd in using oil and wheat to provide for his earthly welfare. So also do these earthly elements aid us when pressed into heavenly use in the anointing of baptism and the wheat of the Lord's Supper. Those who have the Sacraments will have an eternal home when their earthly home fails. These provide us aid in times of temptation (1 Cor. 10:6–13). For the Lord is our strength and a shield to all who trust in Him (2 Sam. 22:26–34).

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: “What Is the World to Me” LSB #730

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

The Catechism:

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God’s word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: “He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.” Titus 3:5-8.

Psalm Ps 51:1-12 and/or the appointed daily Psalms listen below.

Daily Psalm	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
A.M.	119:137-152	122, 123	125, 126	128, 129	131, 132	135	137, 138
P.M.	119:153-176	124	127	130	133, 134	136	139

Daily Bible Reading

Mon.	Matthew 22:15-22 Render to Caesar the Things That Are Caesar's 1 Samuel 12:1-25
Tues.	Matthew 22:23-33 Questions About the Resurrection 1 Samuel 13:1-18
Wed.	Matthew 22:34-46 The Greatest Commandment 1 Samuel 14:47-15:9
Thu.	Matthew 23:1-36 Woe to the Scribes and Pharisees 1 Samuel 15:10-35
Fri.	Matthew 23:37-24:14 Jesus Predicts the Signs of the End 1 Samuel 16:1-23
Sat.	<i>Look ahead to Sunday's Readings</i>

Prayers

Collect of the Day

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; 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, Susan, Sharolyn, Gail, Alie, Ron, Denny, Raymond and Abigail, Ralph, James, Kenneth, Jenny, Dan, Grace, Hazel, Brandon, Sandra; Expectant mothers:* *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: Tenth Sunday After Trinity

Old Testament: Jeremiah 8:4-12; Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Gospel: Luke 19:41-48; Hymns: 909, 644, 641, 642, 645, 540, 873