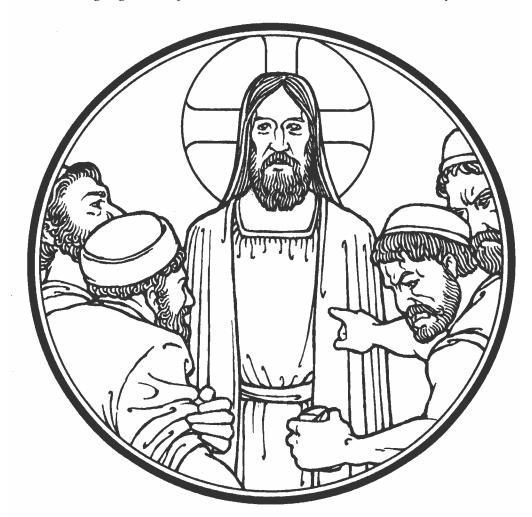
Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Fifth Sunday in Lent

"Judica"
Divine Service- Setting One
March 26, 2023

Invocation (Please stand)

- **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.
- 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.
- 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)



Vindicate me, O God,*

and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,

from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver me!*

For you are the God in whom I take | refuge.

Send out your light and your truth; let them | lead me;*

let them bring me to your holy hill and to your | dwelling!

Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my ex- | ceeding joy,* and I will praise you with the lyre, O | God, my God.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil with- in me?* Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

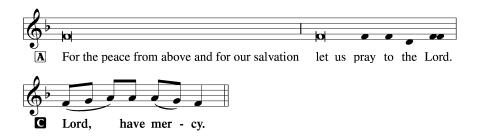
Vindicate me. O God.*

and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,

from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver me!*
For you are the God in whom I take | refuge.

Kyrie







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



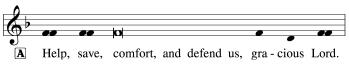




A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise









Salutation and Collect of the Day





P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1-14

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said,

"Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

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

Gradual

Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!*

Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God!

[You] delivered me from my | enemies;*

you rescued me from the man of | violence.

Epistle Hebrews 9:11–15

¹¹When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹²he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. ¹³For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. ¹⁵Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

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

Lenten Tract

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"Greatly have they afflicted me | from my youth"—*
let Israel | now say—
"Greatly have they afflicted me | from my youth,*
yet they have not prevailed a- | gainst me.
The plowers plowed up- | on my back;*
they made long their | furrows."
The LORD is | righteous;*
he has cut the cords of the | wicked.
```

Holy Gospel John 8:42–59

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



⁴²Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? ⁴⁷Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."48The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" ⁴⁹Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge, ⁵¹Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." 52The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death,' 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" ⁵⁴Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say. 'He is our God.' 55But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." ⁵⁷So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." ⁵⁹So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

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

#430 My Song Is Love Unknown

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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

Brian Scheumann (hip surgery)

Makayla Berkey (3rd grade student diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma)

Norwin Bauermeister, Lee Braselton

Deanna Sinn (daughter of Imogene Bultemeier)

Vicki Tomlinson (friend of the Brinkleys battling cancer)

Joellen Meyer, David Nahrwold

We pray for our members shut-in:

Jackie Werling, Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare) Imogene Bultemeier, (Woodcrest) Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)

We pray for our schools

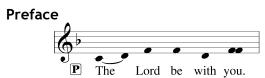
We pray for our Church and all her workers

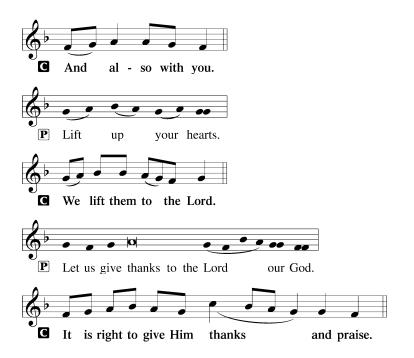
We pray for all military personnel

Offering



Service of the Sacrament pg. 160

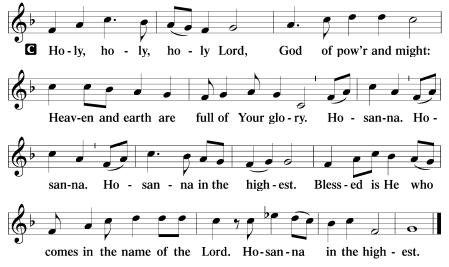




Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

Sanctus



Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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

C Amen.

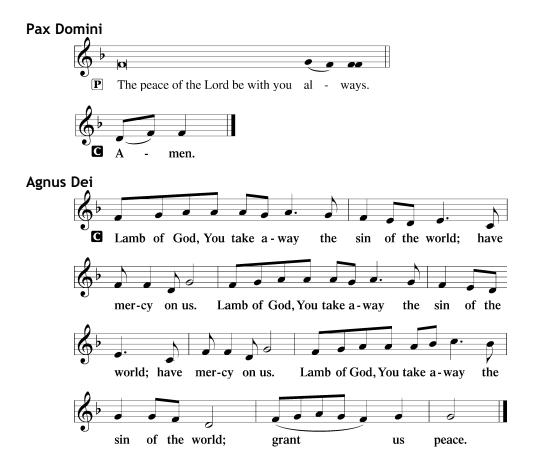
Lord's Prayer

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

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."



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 #637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord #428 Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow #427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory #563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.







P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.



Closing Hymn

#655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

WE WELCOME ALL OUR VISITORS this morning to our church and worship service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We ask that you please complete a green visitor's card from the pew and place in the offering plate. Also, please be sure to introduce yourself to the Pastor and to others in attendance and feel free to worship with us again.

Announcements can be emailed to the church secretary at <u>bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com</u> or by calling the church office at 597-7121. https://www.youtube.com/bethlehemlutheranchurchossian 9:00 a.m. Livestream

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Celebrant	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Fieldworkers	Sem. Isaac Spangler and Sem. Morgan Phillips
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Lloyd Meyer
Elders on Duty	Bruce Werling and Dave Flesch
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Organist	Emilie Meyer
Acolyte	Luke Harkless and Jacob Bultemeier
Altar Guild Chairman	Amy Schueler and Tisha Laley
Ushers	Gavin Laley, Cale Schumm, Ted Schumm
	Evan Springer, Grant Scheumann, Nathan Meyer

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.BethlehemOssian.org		

TODAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion	
	10:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class and Sunday School	
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)	
MONDAY	5:30-7:00 p.m.	Around the World Progressive Dinner (school)	
	NO	Handbell Choir Practice	
TUESDAY	7:30 p.m.	Public School Catechesis	
WEDNESDAY	10:15 a.m.	Chapel Service	
	4:00-6:00 p.m.	Kindergarten Roundup	
	5:30-6:00	Individual Confession and Absolution	
	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Dinner	
	7:00 p.m.	Evening Lenten Service	
	Adult Choir Practice		
THURSDAY	5:30 p.m.	Board of Christian Education	
FRIDAY	NO SCHOOL - Bethlehem Teacher In-Service		
	5:30-8:00 p.m.	Bethlehem PTL – Parents vs Kids Basketball Event	
SUNDAY	9:00 a.m.	Palm Sunday Service with Holy Communion	
	10:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class and Sunday School	
	11:30 a.m.	Board of Elders Meeting	

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE SEASON OF LENTEN SERVICES

Everyone is welcome to join us for Evening Prayer with Holy Communion on Wednesday's March 1-29th beginning at 7:00 pm. Also, feel free to attend the morning Chapel Service at 10:15 am. The Bethlehem Youth Group will be serving a Lenten Dinner beginning at 6:00p. Menu for Wednesday, March 29th will be Brats.

HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE Palm Sunday Divine Service will be held April 2nd at 9:00 a.m. *Procession of Palms - We will have the children participate in the procession of palms next Sunday (April 2). All the children are invited to participate in this at the beginning of the service. Please arrive 10 minutes before the service. If you have any questions, see Deaconess Boehm.*

Maundy Thursday Divine Service held on April 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service on April 7th at 7:00 p.m

Easter Sunday Divine Services held on April 9th with Sunrise at 6:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and at 9:00 a.m. Easter Day Service.

Good Friday Tre Ore - Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be participating with other congregations in our circuit in a Good Friday Tre Ore service at St. John-Bingen from noon-3 on April 7. This service is comprised of three separate 1-hour services taking place at the hours of noon, one, and two. You are welcome to come to any or all of them. Let pastor know if you have any questions.

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION - For all the Wednesdays of Lent Pastor will be available for Individual Confession and Absolution (LSB page 292) from 5:30-6:00 in the sanctuary of Bethlehem for those who would desire this as part of the Lenten devotions. As with the rite of Confession and Absolution that begins each of our Sunday services, the rite for individuals is yet another opportunity for us to confess our sins and receive forgiveness from Christ through the pastor. Every sin does not need to be listed nor do any particular sins need to be named. But for those sins "which we know and feel in our hearts" (Small Catechism) this is a wonderful opportunity to hear and receive the comforting forgiveness of Christ. Pastor will never speak of the sins confessed as he vowed in his ordination. He is happy to familiarize you with the rite either before Wednesday or when you come in. He is also available at other times by appointment. If you have questions, reach out to him.

<u>Letter from Luther Classical College</u> - If you did not receive a letter last week, please take an extra located in the narthex.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER INGATHERING for Sem. Morgan and Amelia Phillips, who are expecting their first child in April. During the month of March, we will have a table set up in the church hallway for gifts and cards. They are currently registered at babylist.com and would also welcome gift cards to Walmart, Target and Amazon. They will be using cloth diapers and would like to keep the items gender neutral. Thank you

The Trustees are now taking CHURCH AND SCHOOL LAWNCARE BIDS - Please see Cale Schumm for a bid-sheet.

BOOK CLUB: Our next book club pick will be "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle. You can do an audio book, online or physical copy of the book. If you need help getting a copy or are interested in joining, please contact Deaconess Wendy Boehm. We will meet in person on April 29th at 9am at Crimson House.

SPRING CLEANING-The Bethlehem Youth Group is volunteering to help our members with any outdoor spring cleaning. If you or someone you know is needing help with any outdoor projects, please let the youth know by signing up on the bulletin board. Additional helping hands may be needed for some of these projects so if you'd like to volunteer, please see the sign-up sheet also posted. Contact Deaconess Boehm if you have any questions.

BETHLEHEM VBS 2023 is scheduled for June 26-29 from 9am – noon here at Bethlehem. For those interested in registering their child or volunteering for this event, please see the registration forms on the table located in the hallway or go to bethlehemossian.org/vbs.

Bethlehem annual Dan's FISH FRY: Mark your calendars today! Saturday April 29th from 4:30 -7:00 p.m. at Lighted Gardens. Offering both dine in and carry out. Meal will consist of Fish, cheesy potatoes, green beans, applesauce, roll, & dessert. Adult \$14.00 presale thru April 23rd, \$15.00 at the door. Children ages 5-10, Dine-in only \$7.00 pre-sale, \$8.00 at the door. Children age 4 and under are free. Contact Cheryl Louison or Pat Meyer

Flyers are available in the hallway for anyone to take and post in their workplace. A volunteer sign-up sheet has been put out on the tables for needed helpers. Please consider helping with this event.

Also, either monetary donations or GFS gift cards maybe given to Pat Meyer. Proceeds will benefit the "Feeding Tomorrow's Future Today Back-Pack Program and Bethlehem Lutheran Church Project Fund.

Further questions, contact Kathy Nahrwold 260-705-6257.

To all the women of Bethlehem Women's Group – The summer 2023 trip will be on Monday, June 12th. It is an all-day coach bus trip to the The Ark in Kentucky. We will leave Walmart, Decatur parking lot at 7:00 am and return to the same area at 9:00 pm. The cost is \$89.00 for adults and seniors. This is for the admission and coach ride. All meals are on you own. We have a limited number of seats. After those seats are filled then we may be able to add more people if room is available on the bus. At that point men, children and friends can be added. There is a price break for children. Payment needs to be received at time of reservation. Deadine for first 25 people is April 12. Make checks payable to Patty Baker. Call to Joellen Meyer 260-273-9114 or Patty Baker 260-760-6056, if you have questions.

NEW HOPE LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER – Thursday, April 20th 5:30-7:00 pm. All you can eat Pasta, Salad, Garlic Bread, Desserts. Free will offering will be accepted to help New Hope Lutheran Preschool replace old and broken items, purchase educational materials and provide various art and craft supplies.

40 Days for Life- Closing Prayer Join Right to Life of Northeast Indiana on Sunday, April 2nd at 2pm in front of Planned Parenthood for a closing prayer with Mike Spencer of Project LifeVoice and Pastor Chris Dourson of Seminary Church in Roanoke. Planned Parenthood is located at 2930 Lake Ave, Fort Wayne, IN 46805. Parking is available at the Right to Life office on 3106 Lake Ave.

SCRIP Thank you for supporting the scrip program. For questions or to place an order, please call or text Melissa Price at 260-433-5307.

Offering March 19, 2023				
Average weekly need \$	11,342			
Home Fund Env.	\$10,192.17			
Synod	91.83			
Loose	453.57			
Scholarship Fund				
Improvement Fund	45.85			
Endowment Fund				
Music Fund				
Sound System/Video				
Sunday School	3.50			
Tuition	2,112.04			
Cemetery Fund	150.00			
Total	\$13,048.96			

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance \$9,650.21

Next week bills due: \$27,000 Bills due two weeks: \$5,000

Savings Account Balance \$32,684.36

Borrowed from Savings: PAID Operating Loan Debt: \$4,000

Church/Communion Attendance

Sunday 138/124 Wednesday 65/40

RECITATION & PRAYER FOR CLASSROOM AND HOME

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.

A hymn may be sung.

Recite Together:

The Ten Commandments

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it Holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Additional Memory Work for the week may be recited.

Scripture Reading and/or Devotion Lesson

Prayers and Intercessions

The 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.

Learn-by-heart all or some of the provided text as age and ability of your household allows.

What is Confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

What sins should we confess?

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer, but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

Which are these?

Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?