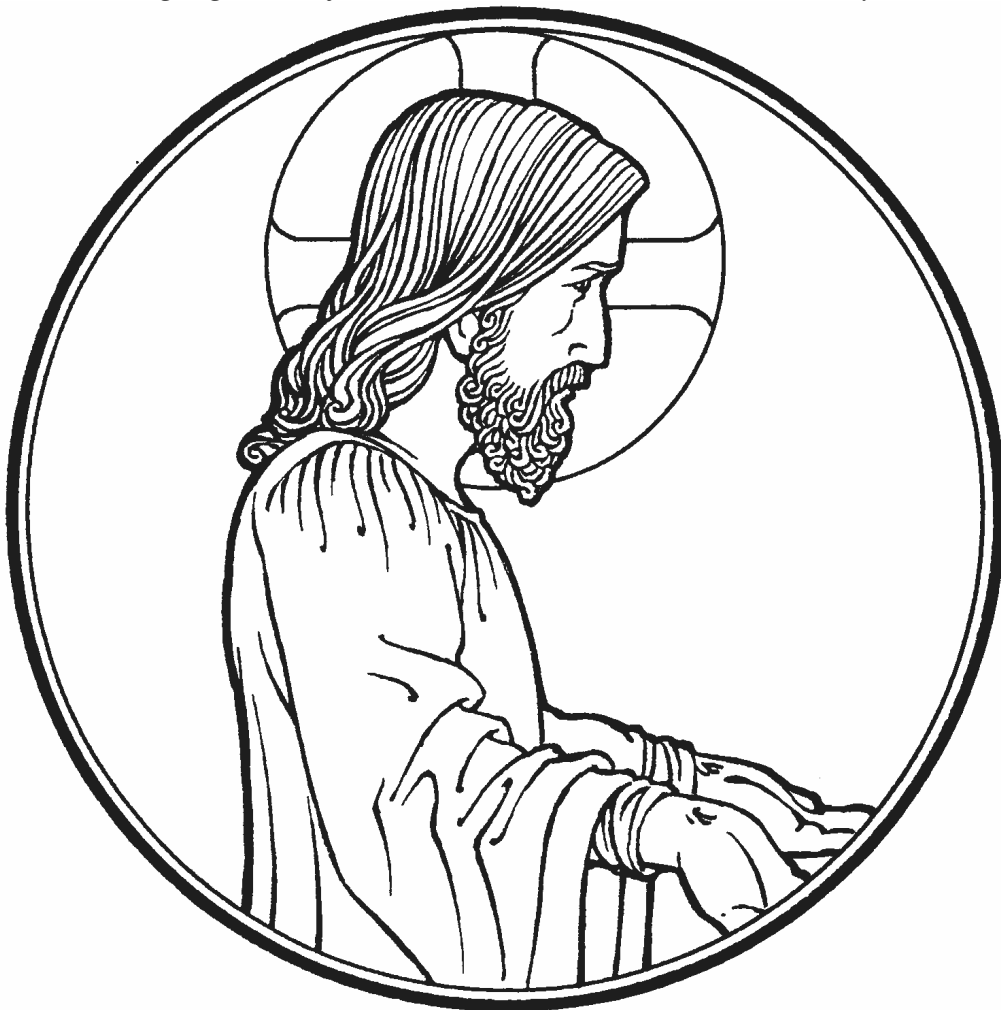


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Second Sunday of Easter

Quasímodo Genítí

Divine Service One

April 16, 2023

Vol. 125-20

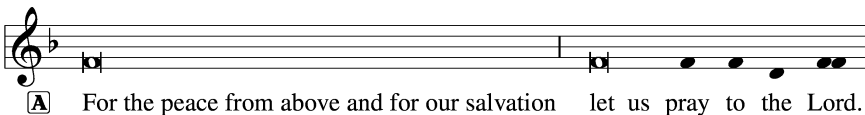
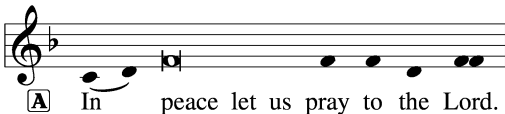
Service of the Word pg. 151

Introit (sung responsively)



Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,*
 long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.
Sing aloud to | God our strength;*
shout for joy to the God of | Jacob!
 In distress you called, and I de- | livered you;*
 I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.
I am the | LORD your God,*
who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.
 Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it;*
 and with honey from the rock I would sat- | isfy you.
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.
 Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,*
 long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.

Kyrie





C Lord, have mer - cy.



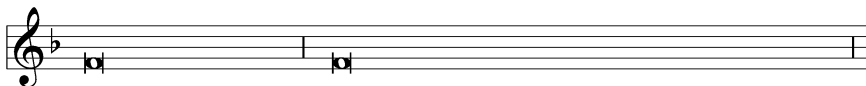
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



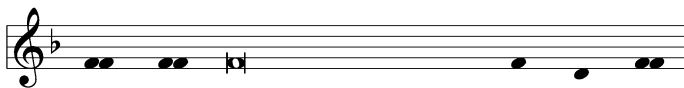
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

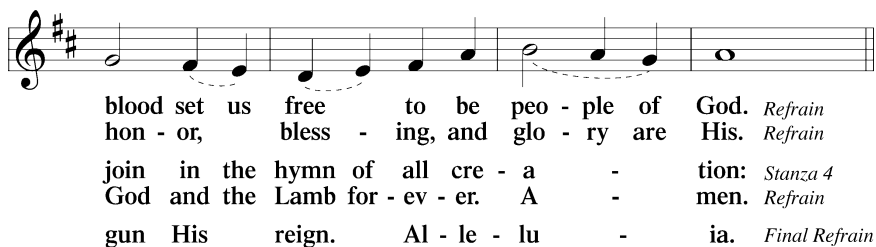
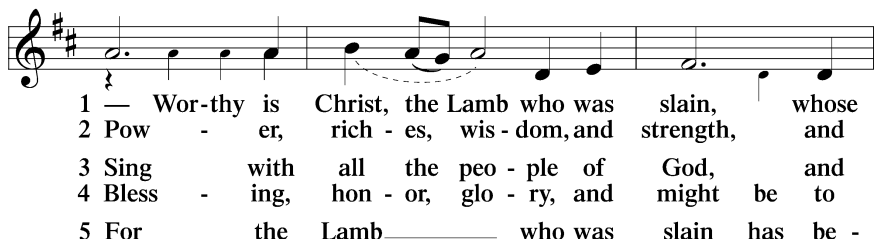


A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

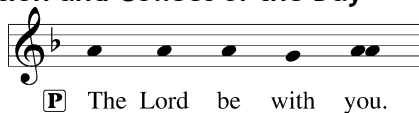


C A - men.

This Is the Feast



Salutation and Collect of the Day





C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1–14

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 John 5:4–10

⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. ¹⁰Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#459 Christ Is Arisen

1 Christ is a - ris - en From the grave's dark
pris - on. So let our joy rise full and free;
Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

2 Were Christ not a - ris - en, Then death were still
our pris - on. Now, with Him to life re - stored,
We praise the Fa - ther of our Lord. Al - le - lu - ia!

3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



Text: German, 12th–15th cent.; tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909–67, alt.
Tune: Latin, c. 1100; Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
Tune: Public domain

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “**Peace be with you.**” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “**Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.**” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “**Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.**”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “**Peace be with you.**” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “**Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.**” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹Jesus said to him, “**Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

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

#470 O Sons and Daughters of the King

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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

Otto Clausen

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

*Norwin Bauermeister, Lee Braselton
Brandon Tomlinson and Vicki Tomlinson
Joellen Meyer, David Nahrwold*

Baptismal Blessing: *Elijah Dale Campbell*

Safe travels: *Bethlehem School student and parents travelling to Washington DC.*

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

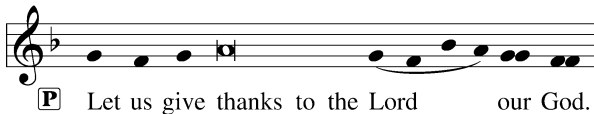
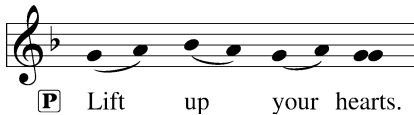
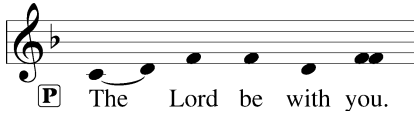
Offertory



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

Service of the Sacrament pg. 160

Preface



Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

Sanctus





Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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

- C** Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

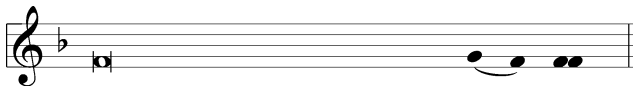
- C** Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is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

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

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

Distribution Hymns

- #621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
- #622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared
- #472 These Things Did Thomas Count as Real
- #473 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free
- #602 The Gifts Christ Freely Gives
- #603 We Know That Christ Is Raised

Nunc Dimittis (Please stand)



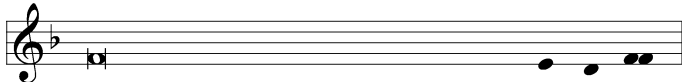
Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



Closing Hymn

#597 Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

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 bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com 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
Fieldworkers	Sem. Isaac Spangler and Sem. Morgan Phillips
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Lloyd Meyer
Elders on Duty	Glen Werling and Bruce Werling
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Organist	Emilie Meyer
Crucifer	Luke Harkless
Acolyte	Breanna Biggs
Altar Guild Chairman	Amy Schueler and Tisha Laley
Ushers	Todd Ottinger, Ryan Ottinger, Ethan Ottinger Jay Werling, Collin Laley, Kaden Laley, Landon Geiger

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
<i>Website for Church and School: www.BethlehemOssian.org</i>	

TODAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class and Sunday School
	11:15 a.m.	Church Council Meeting
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
MONDAY	7:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY	10:15 a.m.	Chapel Service
	5:00 p.m.	Public School Catechesis
	7:00 p.m.	Spoken Divine Service
		Adult Choir Practice
THURSDAY	1:00 p.m.	Blanket Sewing
SATURDAY	9:00 a.m.	LWML Spring Rally (Bethlehem hosted)
SUNDAY	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)

BAPTIZED TODAY into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is Elijah Dale Campbell, newborn son of Collin and Danielle Campbell. Sponsors for Elijah are Cale and Jessica Schumm. We welcome Elijah as a member of the Kingdom of God and joint heir with us of all God's blessings.

THANK YOU to all who helped at Deanna Sinn's funeral on Wednesday. The food was absolutely delicious, and the help was wonderful. We could not have done it with your help. It was greatly appreciated. The Funeral Committee

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – TODAY, April 16th, 2023 at 11:15 a.m.

Voter's Assembly Meeting – Sunday, April 30th, 2023 at 11:15 a.m.

Please see the 2023 Church Officer Ballot posted to the bulletin boards.

Bethlehem Women's Group is offering a summer 2023 trip, 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 admission and coach ride. Meals are not included. We are now opening reservations to all members, men and children. Payment needs to be received at time of reservation. Make checks payable to Patty Baker. Call Joellen Meyer 260-273-9114 or Patty Baker 260-760-6056, if you have questions.

Bethlehem will host the Decatur Zone LWML Spring Rally on Saturday, April 22.

Registration will begin at 8:30 and at 9:00 the program will begin. Tomra Cardin from Redemption House will be the speaker. Redemption House is a transition home for women that serves as an alternative to incarceration. Following the presentation there will be a meeting and lunch served by our Bethlehem ladies. Everyone is encouraged to attend. We will be collecting cleaning supplies for Redemption House. A table is in the entryway for your donations. Thank you.

CARD SHOWER – Imogene Bultemeier will be turning 97 on April 17th and we would like to help her celebrate by having a card shower for her. Please send your best wishes to her at Woodcrest Garden PO Box 416 apt. 992 Decatur, IN 46733.

SPRING CLEANING-The Bethlehem Youth Group is volunteering to help our members with any outdoor spring cleaning. If you or someone you know needs 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 annual Dan's FISH FRY: *Saturday April 29th from 4:30 -7:00 p.m. at Lighted Gardens.* Offering both dine in and carry out. Meal includes: Fish, cheesy potatoes, green beans, applesauce, roll, & dessert. Adult \$14.00 **pre-sale 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 260-414-5526 clouison@ymail.com or Pat Meyer 260-227-0400 spmeyer82@gmail.com

Flyers are available in the hallway for anyone to take and post in their workplace. ***Please consider helping with this event.*** Volunteer sign-up sheets are posted in the church hallway.

Also, monetary donations or GFS gift cards may be given to Pat Meyer. We also need 10 cases of bottled water donated for the event. Either leave at church or bring to Lighted Gardens by April 29th.

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.

Diana Thorpe is offering Silk Cemetery Saddles for sale. Contact her at 260-438-7159.

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.

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.

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.

To benefit the MaKayla Berkey family (student at Bethlehem with cancer), the Women of Bethlehem will be sponsoring a 5K on Saturday, May 6th at the Archbold-Wilson Park in Ossian. Registration begins at 8:30am with the walk/run beginning at 9:00am. Cost is \$20 entry fee or \$25 day of the race. Everyone is welcome to participate! Registration is available online on Bethlehem's website (<https://www.bethlehemossian.org/5-k>) or by calling Rhonda Flesch (260) 438-9725 or Kathy Nahrwold (260) 705-6527.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help set up the stage and side walls for the school spring musical. If you are able to help on Saturday, April 22nd at 10:00 am, please RSVP to Mr. Meyer or to the school office. Thank you

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 April 9, 2023

<u>Average weekly need \$11,342</u>	
Home Fund Env.	\$10,742.57
Synod	201.83
Loose	535.01
Scholarship Fund	125.00
Improvement Fund	165.85
Endowment Fund	25.00
Music Fund	
Sound System/Video	
Sunday School	7.32
Copy Machine Reimb.	801.34
Church Mutual Refund	<u>56.00</u>
Total	\$12,659.92

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance	\$7,695.97
Next week bills due:	\$6,000
Bills due two weeks:	\$14,000
Savings Account Balance	\$33,077.74
Borrowed from Savings:	PAID
Operating Loan Debt:	\$4,000

Church/Communion Attendance

Maundy Thursday	96
Good Friday	147
Easter Sunrise	101/90
Easter Day	191/120
Wednesday	14/9

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 the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

What is 1 Corinthians 10:16?

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? 1 Corinthians 10:16