Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church 6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Third Sunday in Lent Oculi

Divine Service – Setting Three March 3, 2024 Vol. 126-14

Invocation (Please stand)

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ⅓ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word pg. 184

Introit (sung responsively with the choir)



My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*

for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,*

for I am lonely and af- | flicted.

To you, O LORD,*

I lift | up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;*

let not my enemies exult | over me.

The troubles of my heart | are enlarged;* bring me out of my dis- | tresses.

Consider my affliction and my | trouble,* and forgive | all my sins.

Oh, guard my soul, and de- | liver me!*

Let me not be put to shame, for I take ref- uge in 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.

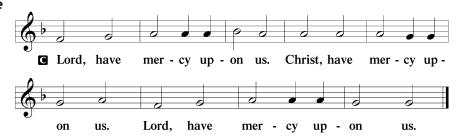
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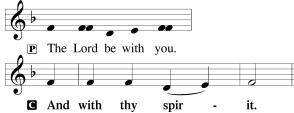
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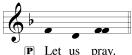
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.

Kyrie



Salutation and Collect of the Day





P Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



¹In the beginning of the reign of Jehojakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the LORD: 2"Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD's house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the LORD all the words that I command you to speak to them; do not hold back a word. 3It may be they will listen, and every one turn from his evil way, that I may relent of the disaster that I intend to do to them because of their evil deeds. 4You shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD: If you will not listen to me, to walk in my law that I have set before you, ⁵ and to listen to the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently, though you have not listened, 6then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth." The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. ⁸And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, "You shall die! Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, 'This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant'?" And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD. 10 When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, "This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears," ¹²Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, "The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears."

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

Choral Response "What God Ordains is Always Good"

Ephesians 5:1–9

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ³But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ⁴Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. ⁵For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

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

Tract

To you I lift | up my eyes,*
O you who are enthroned in the | heavens!
Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their | master,*
so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy up- | on us.
Have mercy upon us, | O LORD,*
have mercy up- | on us.

Holy Gospel

Luke 11:14–28

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



¹⁴Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. ¹⁵But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," ¹⁶while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. 19 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon vou. ²¹When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²²but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. ²⁴ When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' 25And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. 26Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first."²⁷As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!" ²⁸But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

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

#659 Lord of Our Life

Sermon





Offering

Prayer of the Church

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

Ron Whitesel

Shelby Evans (stage 4 lung cancer), Sandy Avey

Joellen Meyer, Norwin Bauermeister

Ellie Anderson (friend of Sarena Wirgau)

Brandon Tomlinson (son in-law of the Brinkleys)

Tom Black (father of Ed Black), Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)

Barbara Murphy (Melissa Price's grandmother)

We pray for our expectant mothers: Sierra Patrick, Abigail (Springer) Mayer,

Megan Morrow, Margaret Moore, Reese Springer, Lauren Stoppenhagen

We pray for protection: Pastor and Mrs. Moehring's son Stephen in Israel.

We pray for our members shut-in:

Jackie Werling, Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare)

Imogene Bultemeier- in Hospice, Marilyn Meyer (Kingston)

Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)

Gloria Siela (home), Charlotte Bultemeier (StoryPoint West)

Rev. Donald Lutz (Lutheran Life Village)

We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel

Service of the Sacrament pg. 194

Preface



Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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







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

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 Holood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

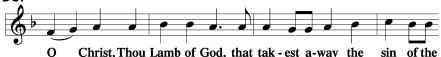


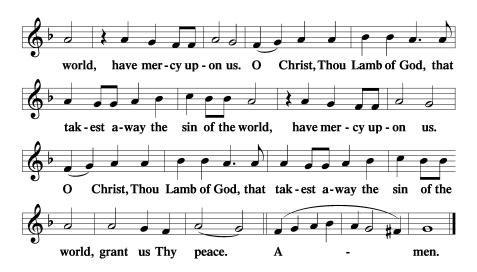


P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



Agnus Dei





Distribution

<u>Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper</u> 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.

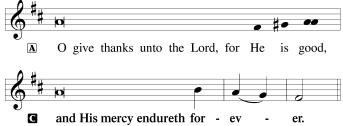
Distribution Hymns

#431 Not All the Blood of Beasts #716 I Walk in Danger All the Way #714 Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode #663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray





Thanksgiving



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.



Salutation



P The Lord be with you.



Benedicamus





Benediction





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



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



IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching Rev. Samuel Wirgau Rev. Anthony Dodgers Celebrant Fieldworker Sem. Morgan Phillips Wendy Boehm Deaconess Head Elder Glen Werling **Elders on Duty** Glen Werling and Bruce Werling Kantor Richard Brinkley Choir Bethlehem Junior Choir Alex Fuhrmann and Vinny Fuhrmann **Acolytes** Altar Guild Chairman Tisha Laley and Cheryl Louison Travis Avey, Jeff Gresley, Dean Scheumann Ushers Peyton Laley, Jared Meyer, Kyle 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.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	7:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Practice	
6:00p.m	and 7:00 p.m.	WholyFit Class (Fellowship Hall)	
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m.	Chapel Service	
	5:00-5:30 p.m.	Private Confession and Absolution	
	5:30 p.m.	Adult Catechesis Class	
	6:00. p.m.	Lenten Supper	
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Evening Service	
	8:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Practice	
THURSDAY	1:00 p.m.	Blanket Sewing	
	7:00 p.m.	WholyFit Class (Fellowship Hall)	
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)	

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

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 it 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.

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION - As in years past, for all the Wednesdays of Lent Pastor will be available for Individual Confession and Absolution (LSB page 292) from 5:00-5:30 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.

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR THE SEASON OF LENT

Everyone is welcome to join us for Evening Prayer with Holy Communion on Wednesday's beginning at 7:00 pm. Also, feel free to attend the morning Chapel Service at 10:00 am. The Bethlehem Youth and parents will be serving a Lenten Dinner beginning at 6:00pm. and the meal for Wednesday, March 6th is sloppy joes, tater tots, cupcakes and brownies.

<u>CHURCH RESTROOMS</u>— The remodeling of the church restrooms has begun! During the remodel, members are asked to use the school restrooms in the back hallway or upstairs. It is estimated to take 3 weeks for completion. Mothers with babies may use the nursery room in the narthex which is also equipped with a changing table. Thank you for your patience.

We have a military display board in the church hallway. If you have a family member who is currently serving in the military and would like to add them to the board, please send Deaconess Boehm the following information: military picture, name, rank, branch and any other information you would like to add. If you have a family member who was a veteran please send: name, rank and time served. Thank You!

Please take a moment to write a brief note and sign an Easter greeting for our shutins. Cards are located on the table in the back hallway by the shut-in bulletin board.

FISH FRY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING - Tuesday, March 12th 6:30pm

<u>Funeral Pre-planning forms</u> - For those interested in pre-planning, there are church funeral planning forms available on the narthex table. Please return to the church office to be filed. Contact our church secretary, Heidi Kleppinger if questions.

Donations for New Library Bookshelves - Library Improvement Phase II

We are now raising funds for Phase II, which will improve our library with new bookshelves. These will be wooden bookshelves, handmade by a member of our church. This project will also create more space for books, with shelves for all three walls of the new library, which will add room for our collection to grow. Please consider making a donation to this beautiful and useful project. Make checks out to Bethlehem Lutheran School and include a memo: Library Phase II.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURH FRIEDHEIM-Church Dinner, Craft and Custom Dessert Boxes Sale, Sunday, March 10th held in the Dahling Family Life Center. Menu includes homemade chicken noodle and ham and bean soups, pulled pork, sloppy joe and hot dog sandwiches, a variety of homemade salads and pies. The meal is served from 10:30-1:30pm. With din-in and carry out service. The Joyful Voices Choir and Instrumentalists directed by Allison Ulmer will be featured from 11:30-12:30 pm during the meal service. Free-will donations will be accepted with proceeds going towards debt reduction.

<u>Hoagland Fastpitch Softball reunion</u> at the Hayloft on Sunday, March 10, 2024, from noon to 4:00 p.m. Feel free to bring any team memorabilia to share. If there are questions, please contact Dave Flesch or 260-438-9724 Jim Hoffman at 260-413-3767.

THE CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, KANTOREI will lead music for the season of Lent in special services. The Kantorei is a men's choir of students studying for the pastoral ministry at Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne directed by Kantor Kevin Hildebrand. Please see the flyer posted on the bulletin board or in March's newsletter.

<u> 2024</u>	<u>Financial Report</u>			
\$13,818	Home Fund Balance (18,708.76)			
\$7,511.15	Next week bills due: \$14,000			
40.15	Bills due two weeks: \$12,500			
237.96	Savings Account Balance \$44,434.06			
	Borrowed from S	Savings: \$2,200		
50.50	Operating Loan Debt: \$14,600			
200.00				
	Church/Communion Attendance			
6.50	Sunday	180/122		
470.00	Wednesday	59/32		
23.16				
\$8,539.42				
	\$13.818 \$7,511.15 40.15 237.96 50.50 200.00 6.50 470.00 23.16	\$13.818		

WOB Church Bathroom Project: \$10,387.13 Library Phase II Project: \$6,186.06

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 bear 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 Morning Prayer from the Small Catechism?

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

What is the Evening Prayer from the Small Catechism?

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Please return your advanced order with payment to the church office by Sunday, March $10^{\rm th}$

Easter Lilies		810.00 ea	l .	#White		
Chrysanthemums\$12.00 ea.	#Yello	ow #	White	#Purple		
Hydrangeas	\$22.00 ea.	#	Pink	# Blue		
Azaleas	\$20.00 ea.	# F	Red	# Pink		
(Make checks payable to Bethlehem Ladies Aid) Total Order \$						
Ordered by:						
In Loving Memory of:						
In Honor of: **Flowers may be picked up after to Please call Gina Graft (260-273-5035) or Jennife	the March 31s	^t 9:00 a.m.				