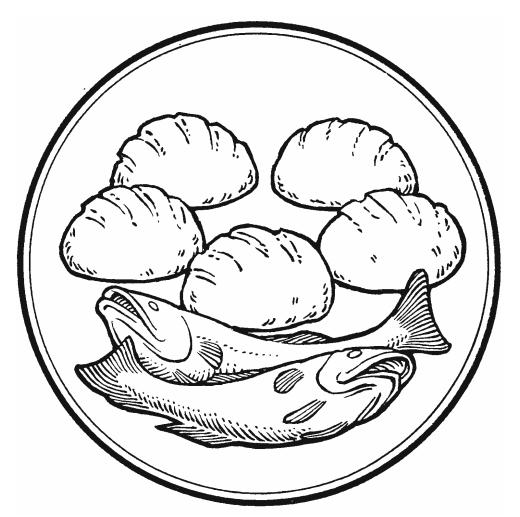
Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church 6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Fourth Sunday in Lent Laetare

Divine Service – Setting Three March 10, 2024 Vol. 126-15

Opening Hymn

#625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread

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,
- 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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word pg. 184

Introit (sung responsively with the choir)



Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,* all you who | love her;

that you may nurse and be | satisfied*

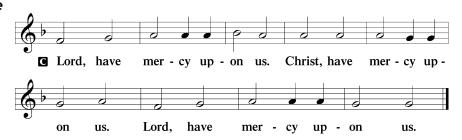
from her con- | soling breast.

I was glad when they | said to me,*

"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

Our feet have been | standing*
within your gates, O Je- | rusalem!
Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!*
May they be secure who | love you!
For my brothers and com- | panions' sake*
I will say, "Peace be with- | 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.
Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,*
all you who | love her;
that you may nurse and be | satisfied*
from her con- | soling breast.

Kyrie



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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

Exodus 16:2-21

²And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, ³and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" ⁸And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD."

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling." ¹⁰And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹And the LORD said to Moses, ¹²"I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God."

¹³In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent." ¹⁷And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. ¹⁸But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat. ¹⁹And Moses said to them, "Let no one leave any of it over till the morning." ²⁰But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. ²¹Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response "My Song is Love Unknown"

Epistle Galatians 4:21–31

²¹Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? ²²For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. ²³But the son

of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. ²⁴Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. ²⁵Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. ²⁷For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband." ²⁸Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. ³⁰But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman." ³¹So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

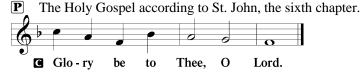
- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Tract

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount | Zion,*
which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.

As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his | people,*
from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon | Israel!

Holy Gospel John 6:1–15



¹After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. ²And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. ³Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. 5Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." 8One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. ¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!" Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

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 \(\daggerapsis \) of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

#743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure

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





Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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







bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that cometh 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.

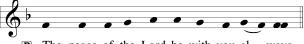
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

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."

Pax Domini



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



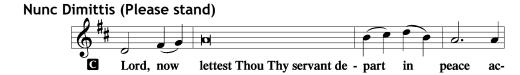


Distribution

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.

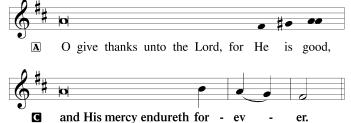
Distribution Hymns

#642 O Living Bread from Heaven #510 A Multitude Comes from the East and the West #641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart #711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us





Thanksgiving

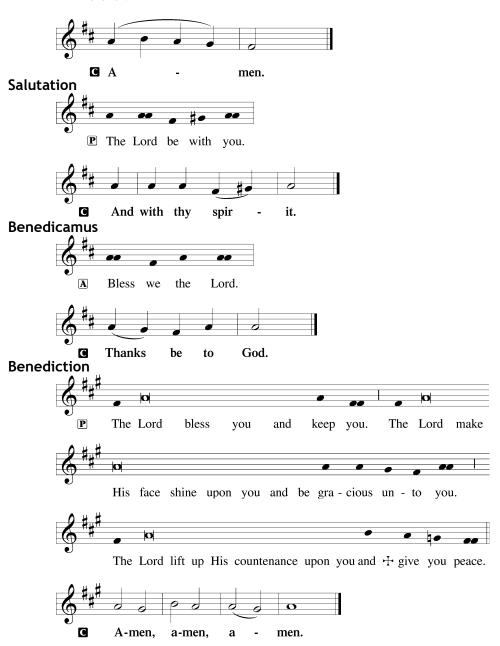


Post-Communion Collect

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.



Closing Hymn

#737 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching/Celebrant Rev. Samuel Wirgau Fieldworker Sem. Morgan Phillips Deaconess Wendy Boehm Glen Werling Head Elder Elders on Duty Glen Werling and Bruce Werling Kantor Richard Brinkley Choir Bethlehem Handbell Choir and Adult Choir **Acolytes** Alex Fuhrmann and Vinny Fuhrmann Altar Guild Chairman Tisha Laley and Cheryl Louison Ushers Josh Boehm, Rob Meyer, Aspen Fisher

Grant Mishler, Don Schueler, Ben Schueler, Graham Stoppenhagen

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)			
TUESDAY	6:30 p.m.	Fish Fry Committee Meeting			
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)			
FRIDAY	6:00 p.m.	Science Fair			
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

<u>WE WELCOME ALL OUR VISITORS this morning</u> 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 10th is pulled pork, salad and dessert.

The LYF would like to get a headcount for the Easter Breakfast. If you are planning on attending, there is a table in the narthex with tickets. Please grab 1 ticket per person. There is no cost to attend but there will be free will donation on the day of the event.

<u>PALM SUNDAY</u> – For those interested in participating, we will have the Sunday School kids process in with palms on Palm Sunday. Please arrive at 8:45am in the Narthex and find your Sunday School teacher. Teachers will help students find parents after the processional.

<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.

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS ARE NOW DUE

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.

<u>SHARPER IRON – KFUO Radio</u> hosted by Timothy Appel with guest Rev. Samuel Wirgau Thursday, March 14th at 8:00 a.m. for a study series on "The Fifth Evangelist" Isaiah 44:24-45:25 Listen live or on demand at kfuo.org/sharperiron

CHOIR CONCERT at St. Paul, Preble (4510 W 750 N., Decatur) on Saturday, March 16th at 4PM. The Concert Choir from Lutheran High School Northwest from Rochester Hills, Michigan will tour from March 14-17, 2024, performing concerts in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. The choirs will lift their voices to "Let Everything That Has Breath, Praise the Lord!" showcasing works from a variety of eras including pieces from Antonio Vivaldi, Robert Shaw and Alice Parker, Susan Brumfield, and Michael Barrett. A free will offering will be taken to defray tour costs. Please join us!

Offering March 3, 2024		<u>Financial Report</u>				
Average weekly need \$13,818		Home Fund Balance \$1,556.89				
Home Fund Env.	\$7,959.74	Next week bills due: \$12,000				
Synod	20.15	Bills due two weeks: \$5,000				
Loose	281.38	Savings Account Balance \$44,610.62				
Scholarship Fund		Borrowed from Savings: \$2,200				
Improvement Fund	50.50	Operating Loan Debt: \$25,800				
Endowment Fund						
Music Fund		Church/Communion Attendance				
Sunday School	9.25	Sunday 184/133				
Tuition	3,689.40	Wednesday 66/45				
Copy Machine Use	40.25					
Total	\$12,050.67					

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 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?

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Please return your advanced order with payment to the <u>church office</u> by Sunday, March 10th

Easter Lilies	•••••	\$	10.00 ea.	#	White	
Chrysanthemums	\$12.00	ea. #Yel	low #_	Whi	te #	Purple
Hydrangeas		\$22.00 ea.	#	Pink	#	Blue
Azaleas		\$20.00 ea.	#	Red	#	Pink
(Make chec	cks payable to Bethleho	em Ladies Aic	d) Tot	al Order	· \$	
Ordered by:						
In Loving Memory of:						
In Honor of:					 	

**Flowers may be picked up after the March 31st 9:00 a.m. Easter Service. Please call Gina Graft (260-273-5035) or Jennifer Bultemeier (419-230-8068) if questions