# +The Office of Matins+

The Second Sunday after Pentecost | June 22, 2025 | 9AM



The Exorcism of the Gerasene Demoniac

# Saint Paul Ev. Lutheran Church—Preble, Indiana

A Congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

4510 W. 750 N., Decatur, Indiana 46733 | 260.547.4176

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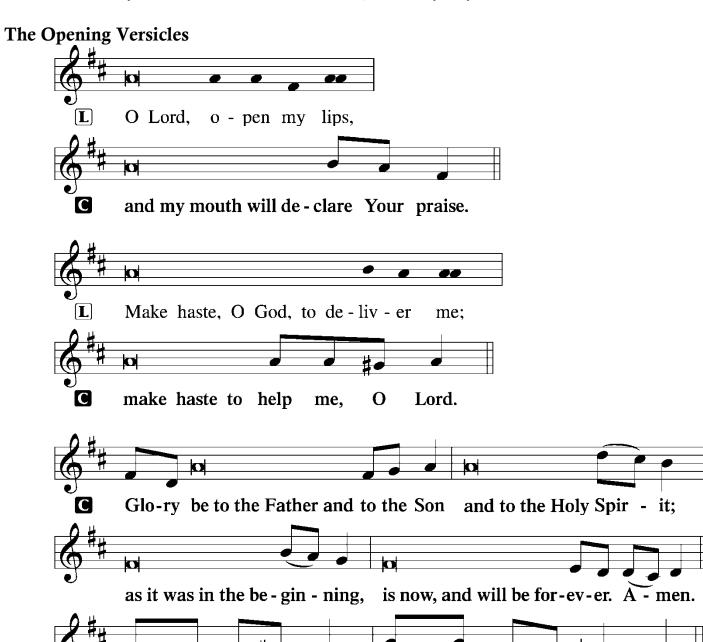
Webpage: stpaulpreble.org

Rev. Andrew T. Yeager, Pastor | 260-226-0375 | andrewtyeager@gmail.com Rev. Dr. Daniel J. Brege, Pastor | 260-223-1962 | djbrege@hotmail.com Seminarian Ryan Skove, Field Worker | 909-263-7695 | ryan.skove@ctsfw.edu

## The Office of Matins

When the bells ring, please stand and face the cross.

Processional Hymn | 594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It





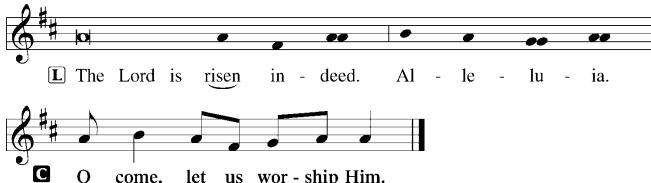
Al

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Praise to You, O Christ.

### The Psalmody



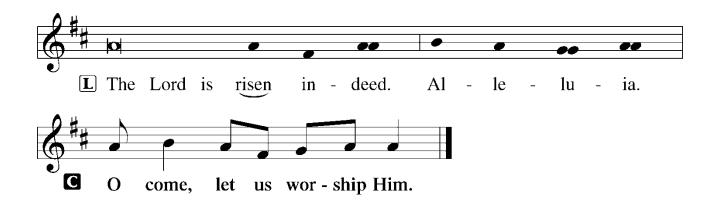
come, let us wor - ship Him. The Venite LSB 220 the Lord. 2 For the Lord is a . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . God 3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . . . . . . . made\_ it, 5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . . . . . . to the Son 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va tion. 2 and a great . . . . . . . . . . . king a - bove all gods. 3 and His hand . . . . . . . . . . . . formed the land. dry\_ Spir it; 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv ing, 2 The deep places of the earth are . . . . . . in hand; His 3 O come, let us worship and . . . . . . . . . down, 4 For He . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . is God, our 5 as it was in the be gin ning, 1 let us make a joyful noise to . . . . . . . . Him with songs of praise. 2 the strength of the hills is . . . . . . . . His\_\_\_\_\_ SO. 3 let us kneel before the ..... Lord, our mak er. 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep.... of His hand.

ev - er.

Α

men.

5 is now, and will be for



#### **Additional Psalms**

Psalm 3; antiphon: v. 8

<sup>8</sup>Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people!

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me;

<sup>2</sup>many are saying of my soul, there is no salvation for him in God.

<sup>3</sup>But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

<sup>4</sup>I cried aloud to the LORD, and he answered me from his holy hill.

<sup>5</sup>I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.

<sup>6</sup>I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.

<sup>7</sup>Arise, O LORD! Save me, O my God!

For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked.

<sup>8</sup>Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son And to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, And will be forever. Amen.

> <sup>8</sup>Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people!

Sit

## The Readings

Reading Isaiah 65:1—9

L A reading from Isaiah, chapter 65.

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me; I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here am I, here am I," to a nation that was not called by my name. <sup>2</sup>I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; <sup>3</sup>a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and making offerings on bricks; <sup>4</sup>who sit in tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat pig's flesh, and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels; <sup>5</sup>who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all the day. <sup>6</sup>Behold, it is written before me: "I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their bosom <sup>7</sup>both your iniquities and your fathers' iniquities together, says the LORD; because they made offerings on the mountains and insulted me on the hills. I will measure into their bosom payment for their former deeds." <sup>8</sup>Thus says the LORD: "As the new wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,' so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. <sup>9</sup>I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of my mountains; my chosen shall possess it, and my servants shall dwell there."

- **L** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Reading Galatians 3:23—4:7

**L** A reading from Galatians, chapters 3 and 4.

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. <sup>27</sup>For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

<sup>1</sup>I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup>but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup>In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

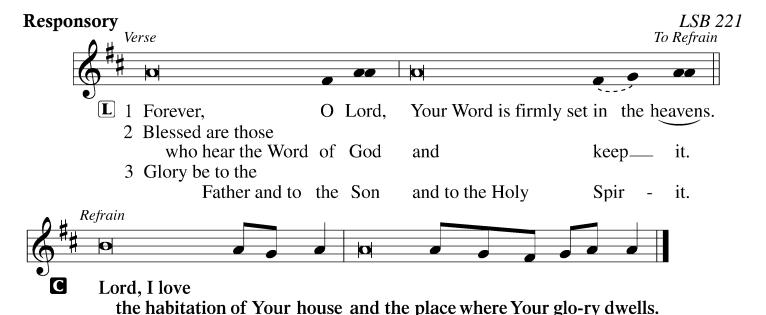
**Reading** *Luke* 8:26–39

**L** A reading from Luke, chapter 8.

<sup>26</sup>Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup>When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." <sup>29</sup>For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) <sup>30</sup>Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup>And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. <sup>32</sup>Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup>Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

<sup>34</sup>When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup>Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

- **L** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



#### The Sermon

The congregation rises for the Apostolic greeting:

- Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

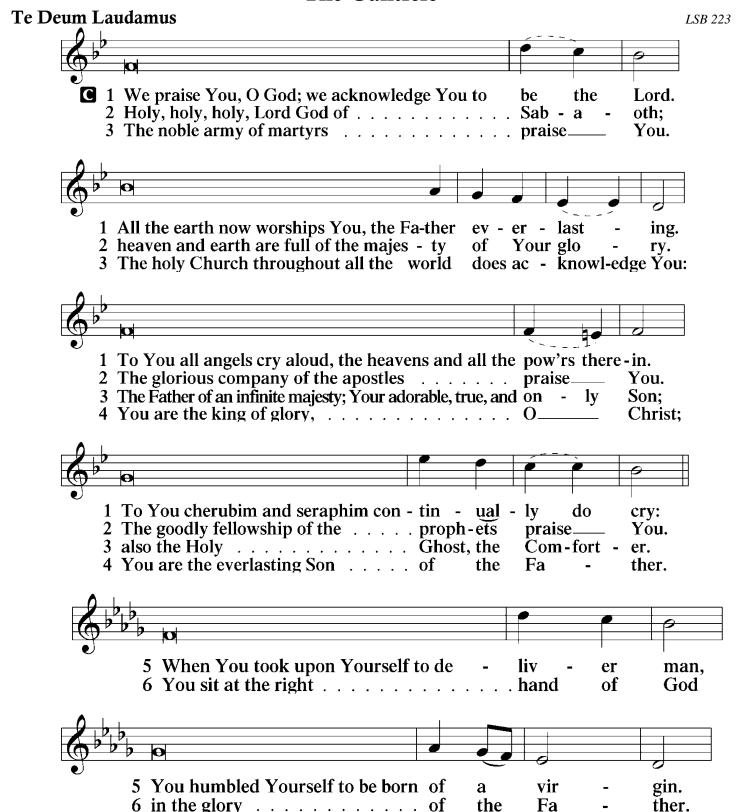
It is customary for the preacher to read a section of the text for meditation here:

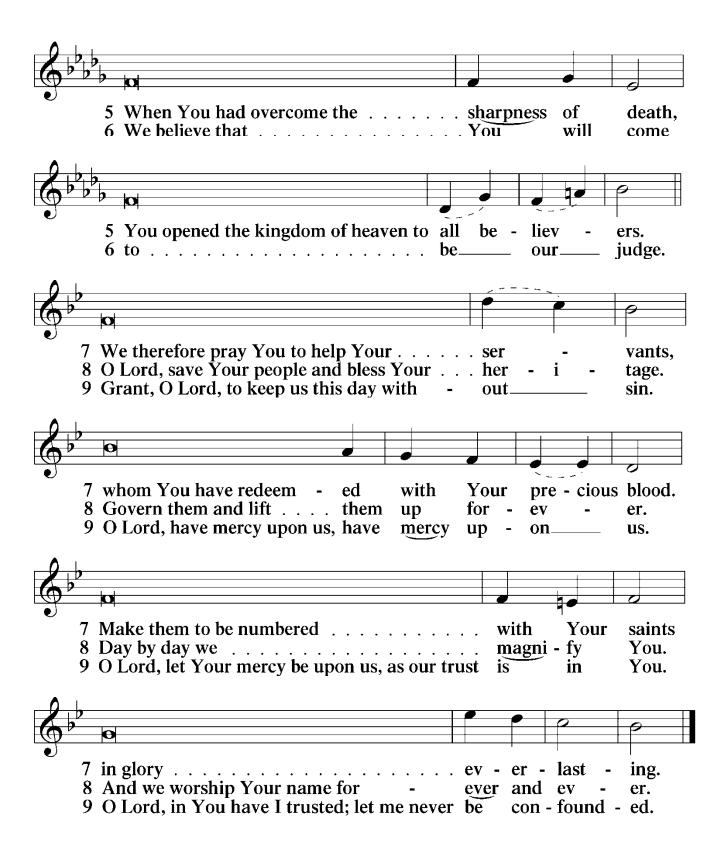
- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

At the end of the Sermon, the pastor invites the congregation to rise for the blessing:

- **I** The peace of God which passes understanding guard your hearts and minds through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- C Amen.

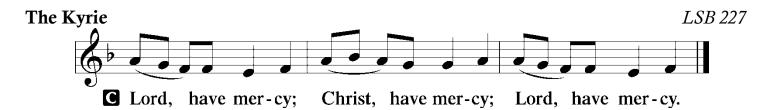
### The Canticle





### **Prayer**

Pastor speaks the Announcements of the Church and Prayer of the Church here. Then he invites the congregation to stand for the singing of



### The Lord's Prayer

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.



### Collect of the Day

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding. Cast out all sins and evil desires from us, and pour into our hearts Your Holy Spirit to guide us into all blessedness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Almighty and everlasting God, who are worthy to be had in reverence by all the children of men, we give You most humble and hearty thanks for the innumerable blessings, both temporal and spiritual, which, without any merit or worthiness on our part, You have bestowed upon us.

We praise You especially that You have preserved unto us in their purity Your saving Word and the sacred ordinances of Your house. We beseech You, O Lord, to preserve and extend Your Kingdom of Grace and to grant unto Your holy Church throughout the world purity of doctrine and faithful pastors, who shall preach your Word with power; and help all who hear rightly to understand and truly to believe it.

Send forth laborers into your harvest, and open the door of faith unto all the heathen and unto the people of Israel. In mercy remember the enemies of Your Church, and grant unto them repentance unto life. Be the Protector and Defender of Your Church in all time of tribulation and danger; and may we, in communion with Your Church and in brotherly unity with all our fellow Christians, fight the good fight of faith and in the end receive the salvation of our souls.

Bestow Your grace upon all the nations of the earth. Especially do we entreat You to bless our land and all its inhabitants and all who are in authority. Cause Your glory to dwell among us and let mercy and truth, righteousness and peace, everywhere prevail. To this end we commend to Your care all our schools and pray You to make them nurseries of useful knowledge and Christian virtues, that they may bring forth the wholesome fruits of life.

Graciously defend us from all calamities by fire and water, from war and pestilence, from scarcity and famine. Protect and prosper everyone in his appropriate calling, and cause all useful arts to flourish among us. Be the God and Father of the widow and the fatherless, the helper of the sick and needy, and the comforter of the forsaken and distressed.

Accept, we beseech You, our bodies and souls, our hearts and minds, our talents and powers, together with the offerings we bring before You, which is our reasonable service.

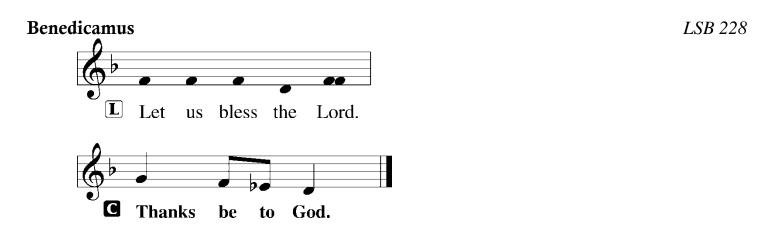
And, as we are strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us by true faith and a godly life to prepare for the world to come; doing the work You have given us to do while it is day; before the night comes when no man can work. And when our last hour shall come, support us by Your power and receive us into Your everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

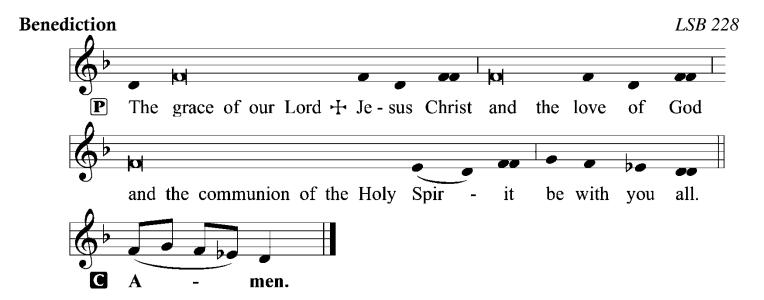


#### **Collect for Grace**

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.







Hymn to Depart | 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise



## The Exorcism of the Gerasene Demoniac

A Meditation on God's Word | Luke 8:26-39

His country—that of the Gerasenes—which is "**opposite Galilee**," [V26] lets us know the Demoniac was a Gentile. He lived in a Gentile sort-of place, which is to say, an *unclean* place: both "**among the tombs**" [V27] and "**pigs**" [V33] fill in that picture well—pigs were unclean animals, and contact with dead bodies rendered a person unclean according to the Law of Moses. This Gerasene man whom Jesus encounters is mad, violent, and demon-possessed [V35; V29; V30]. He is hopelessly a prisoner to Satan's power until Jesus comes to set him free.

The Lord says through the Prophet Isaiah in today's Old Testament reading, "I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me," [V1]. The mention of those who "sit in tombs" and "eat pig's flesh" [V4] refers to Gentiles and makes us think of this poor, possessed Gerasene man. But the Lord's desire, as he says through Isaiah, is to save Gentiles, and the exorcism of this man foreshadows the great Gentile mission we read about in the Book of Acts. "This man is the epitome of Gentiles doomed to death, caught in the futility of their pagan worship (cf. Acts 14:16) which is really the worship of demons (1 Cor. 10:20). The man's rescue by Jesus foreshadows the Gentile mission in Acts" (*Just, Luke Commentary, p. 365*). What the Lord Jesus does for the Gerasene demoniac, he desires to do for the entire Gentile world.

Though the man's plight is horrific, it is not too far off from the reality of what every human being is before Baptism. What does our Baptismal Liturgy say? That we are born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as his own. And so every Baptism is an exorcism. Every Baptism is a casting out of the evil spirits which reside in a person, that room might be made for the Holy Spirit to come and make the person's body his temple. Every Baptism is Jesus sending the wicked spirits running so that God can claim a person as his own and bring that person into his kingdom where there is forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

What's with this whole business of pigs, and the pigs, once demonically possessed, rushing toward the water to drown? Well, there is no water in hell. Demons prefer the desert to water [V29]. Water is where God drowns his enemies [Flood; Exodus] and grants rebirth and new life to his children. The pigs rush to the sea to get rid of the demons who hate water. Their being drowned in the water is a foreshadowing of the eternal destiny of the devil and his angels, which is to be thrown into the eternal abyss for eternal torment [V31, Revelation 20].

The once demon-possessed man is now sitting at the feet of Jesus, in his right mind [V35]. He does not want to leave Jesus who saved him. He has become a disciple. He takes the posture of a student learning of his Word. The Word of God bestows sanity and peace of mind to the sincrazed and demonically-tormented. The world around us with its Satan-inspired doctrines is insane but Christian doctrine is sane, for it is from him who is Truth. The man wants to stay with Jesus but Jesus tells him to return home and bear witness to his family [V39]. Evangelism begins at home, as we tell the good news of Jesus Christ to our friends and relatives. We can all tell the story of how we, who were once captive to the devil were set free by Christ in our Baptism to be the free children of God through the intervention of our Savior Jesus Christ. This is our calling now, our vocation as his Christian children—to bear witness of the Savior's love.

### **Announcements**

### St. Paul

**Pastor Brege** has been asked to fill the vacancy at Immanuel, Union Twp. starting July 1, upon the retirement of Pr. David Koenemann. His duties at Immanuel will involve Sundays, Wednesday evening services, and other pastoral tasks. He will therefore be stepping away from his duties here at St. Paul for the duration of that vacancy. Pray for Pastor and Nancy Koenemann upon his retirement and for Immanuel, Union, that they receive a pastor speedily.

Save the Date—Right to Life Workshop at St. Paul, Preble. Many people today reject or are indifferent to the pro-life view, often because they've never heard the pro-life position presented in a compelling manner. This workshop will prepare you to confidently communicate the pro-life position to others. Using science & philosophy, you will learn to simplify the debate. Come learn to speak intelligently and graciously to the most pressing moral issue of our time: abortion. You'll leave prepared to confidently persuade others by exposing the logical fallacies of abortion-choice rhetoric without the need for vitriol and angry dialogue.

When: September 20th, 2025 9am-12pm

The workshop will take place at St. Paul Lutheran Preble (4510 W 750 N, Decatur, IN 46733). This workshop is open to adults and students 7th grade and older.

\*Please register here <a href="https://www.ichooselife.org/resources/events/upcoming-events/right-to-life-workshop--preble">https://www.ichooselife.org/resources/events/upcoming-events/right-to-life-workshop--preble</a>.

Let us know in the "comments" block of the form who is coming with you! For questions, please call 260-471-1849 or email lucy@ichooselife.org. Registration by cash is available at the door.

Lutheran Institute of Theology is a new organization created by LCMS pastors. Its aim is to provide solid Lutheran content through online courses for individual and congregational use. Each course (not for credit) includes 6-8 video lessons, averaging 30-40 minutes each. Their aim for these courses is to have biblically faithful, intellectually engaging, and beautifully produced made available to congregations and laypeople, and to reach out to skeptics and the non-Lutheran world. Think: do you ever listen to podcasts through your phone, watch documentaries on Netflix, or partake of any online content for the purposes of personal growth? Then you might benefit from LIT. This exciting project seeks to get theology out to God's people in a new way. They are asking Churches to subscribe annually to these courses—if St. Paul wanted to subscribe, our commitment would be around \$1000 for the first year. I am looking to see if there are any members interested in subscribing with me. If a few of us went in together, we could provide sound biblical theology to our congregation for a whole year and I imagine we are going to really enjoy and grow from what LIT is putting out there. There are pamphlets in the narthex that explain more. Talk to me if interested. –Pastor Yeager

### <u>Wyneken</u>

**Teacher calls, open positions**. Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School is seeking a school teacher (4th grade and/or 5th grade) for the 2025-2026 academic year. Individuals who have LCMS

synodical and theological training as well as an Indiana teaching license are preferred. In addition, Wyneken has an opening for a part-time teacher's aide. Those interested are asked to submit a resume and cover letter. For additional information, please contact Andrew Gavrun at 260-639-6177 or <a href="mailto:principal@wyneken.org">principal@wyneken.org</a>.

Golf Outing—Fundraiser. The Wyneken class of 2027 is hosting a golf outing fundraiser to support their upcoming trip to our nation's capital! We're looking for sponsors to help make this incredible learning experience possible. Whether you're a business owner, golf enthusiast, or just want to support young people's education, your sponsorship would mean the world to these students. <a href="https://bit.ly/2025GolfSponsor">https://bit.ly/2025GolfSponsor</a> Of course, they are also looking for golfers too! Come and enjoy a day of golfing at Cross Creek on Sunday, September 21. Check in is at 11 a.m. with a noon shotgun start. The cost is \$75 per player or \$300 for a foursome. A pulled pork meal will follow at 5 p.m. If you don't golf but would like to enjoy the meal, you can purchase a meal ticket from any Wyneken 7<sup>th</sup> grader for \$12. All proceeds goes to Wyneken's Class of 2027's Washington DC trip. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Clemons at 260-706-3213. Thank you for helping the class with their fundraising activities!

#### **Youth**

**Sunday, July 13; 12-5:30 p.m.** – **YMCA Camp Clay.** The YMCA Camp Clay Aqua Park and Splash pad consists of 7 water attractions and 3 floating splash mats. They also have a boating area with canoes, kayaks, stand up paddleboards (SUP's), and peddle boats. They have a floating raft transport over to their island in the pond. Their biggest attraction is a water zip line! US Coast Guard-approved life vests must be worn by all swimmers in the Aqua Park. Concessions are available at the guard shack. Cost per youth is \$5.

### **Community**

**Luther Hostel** will be hosted November 5-7 at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne and will explore the theme, "What is a Confessional Lutheran?" Over the course of the retreat, attendees will hear presentations from different CTSFW professors, worship with the Seminary community in Kramer Chapel, attend seminary classes, interact with students, and explore our peaceful campus. For all lay-men and women! For more information, visit ctsfw.edu/LH.

**The Friends of Wyneken** will hold a tent sale at the historic Wyneken House on Thursday, June 26 and Friday, June 27 from 8 AM to 6 PM, and Saturday, June 28 from 8 AM to 4 PM. Come check out the bargains on tools, household items, antiques, books, crafts, toys and collectibles! Visitors are invited to tour the Wyneken House to learn about Pastor F.C.D. Wyneken and the German Lutheran immigrants who settled in northeast Indiana during the 1800s. The Wyneken House is located at 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, Indiana.

## Prayer of the Church

- +Wyneken: our teachers, Darin Koenemann, students, staff, and childcare.
- +Expectant mothers: Kelly Skove, Danielle Meshberger, Halei Faurote.
- +**The Homebound**: Laurna Bulmahn, Marilyn Werling, Cindy Gallmeyer, Warren Scheumann (all at Woodcrest); Mike Hoffman (Cedarhurst Fort Wayne); Gene Bulmahn (Christian Care, Bluffton); Don Haines (home), Ron Selking (Assisted living facility—Chesterton, Indiana).
- +**Birthdays** 6/22—6/28. Gemila Rabel, Jude Adams, Cody McCullough, Emma Ehlerding, Kyle Bluhm, Joey Johnson, Isla Adams, Tessa Dicke, Ron Korte, Rhonda Smelser, Daniel Vogel.

# Acolyte 6/22

9AM Jon Miller

# Stewardship 6/8

Plate: \$4,711.00 Online Offering: \$377.00 vs. weekly goal: -4,964.00

For the week: \$5,088.00 For the Year: -\$59,523.58

## Weekly Calendar

Sunday, June 22
Sunday, June 25
Sunday, July 6

9AM The Second Sunday after Pentecost—Matins
7PM Vespers
9AM The Third Sunday after Pentecost—Divine Service



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A Congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Rev. Andrew T. Yeager, Pastor | 260-226-0375 | andrewtyeager@gmail.com Rev. Dr. Daniel J. Brege, Pastor | 260-223-1962 | djbrege@hotmail.com Seminarian Ryan Skove, Field Worker | 909-263-7695 | ryan.skove@ctsfw.edu