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## Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Edgar

and

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Milan

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

October 12, 2008



8:15 a.m. – Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Milan  
10:15 a.m. – St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, Edgar

*congregations of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod*



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Welcome! We are sincerely glad that you joined us in order to receive God's gifts in Divine Service today. You are welcome in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and hope you will come again to join us in Word and Sacrament. Also, if you have not already done so, please take a moment to sign our Guest Register as you leave. Thank-you!

### Today's theme: "The Secret of Contentment"

In accord with our Lord's command, we at Bethlehem LCMS (Milan) and St. John LCMS (Edgar), adhere to the Scriptural, historical, and universal practice of Close Communion. This means that those communing at our altars are those with whom we are united in one confession. Ordinarily that means only active LC–MS members will commune at our altars.



Visitors who wish to take Holy Communion with us are asked to please see the pastor or an elder to obtain a Visitor Communion Card. Thank you in advance for helping us to be faithful to Scripture and to be good stewards of the Sacrament.

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211 NUNC DIMITTIS ~ *Song of Simeon*  
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**BIBLE READINGS:**

*(If you choose to follow along with the readings printed here, remember the responses to each reading continue in the hymnal on page 205–206)*

**OLD TESTAMENT:** Isaiah 25:6–9

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. <sup>7</sup>And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. <sup>8</sup>He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. <sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

**EPISTLE:** Philippians 4:4–13

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness

be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

<sup>10</sup>I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. <sup>11</sup>Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. <sup>12</sup>I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. <sup>13</sup>I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Matthew 22:1–14

<sup>1</sup>Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, <sup>2</sup>"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, <sup>3</sup>and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.' <sup>5</sup>But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' <sup>10</sup>And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>"But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. <sup>12</sup>And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen."