

OPENING HYMN

“The Angel Gabriel”

LSB #356

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION p. 151 (*stand*)

INTROIT

(Sung responsively with the Liturgist)



Shower, O heavens, | from above, *
 and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit; *
let the earth cause them | both to sprout.
 The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God, *
 and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.
Their measuring line goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end | of the world. *
In them he has set a tent | for the sun,
 which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber, *
 and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.
Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of them, *
and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.
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.
 Shower, O heavens, | from above, *
 and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;

KYRIE p. 152 *“Lord, Have Mercy”*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-19

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

GRADUAL

The Lord is near to all who | call on him, *
to all who call on | him in truth.
My mouth will speak the praise | of the Lord, *
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 4:4-7

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

ALLELUIA and VERSE - COMMON p. 156

HOLY GOSPEL READING (*please stand*)

Luke 1:39-56

- P) This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C) **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLE CREED p. 159

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

LSB #357

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*stand*)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY p. 159 (*stand*)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT p. 160-164

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Joy to the World” *LSB #387*
“For All the Faithful Women” *LSB #855 insert stanza 8*
“My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker” *LSB #820*

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (*stand*) p. 165 *Nunc Dimittis*

BENEDICTION (*stand*) p. 166

CLOSING HYMN

“My Soul Rejoices”

LSB #933

Preaching
Fieldworker/Liturgist
Deaconess Intern
Head Elder
Elders on Duty
Kantor
Altar Guild
Acolytes
Ushers

IN HIS SERVICE

Rev. Randall Wurschmidt
 Sem. Andrew Twietmeyer, Sem. Matthew Goehring
 Wendy Boehm
 Lloyd Meyer
 Bruce Meyer and Mike Meyer
 Richard Brinkley
 Amy Schueler and Dalene Springer
 Anna Wurschmidt and Leah Werling
 Gavin Laley, Greg Mishler, Greyson Mishler
 Ted Schumm, Grant Scheumann, Evan Springer

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, Indiana 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Pastor: Rev. Randall Wurschmidt	
rwurschmidt@yahoo.com	260-452-9751
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Office	260-597-7121
Bethlehem Lutheran School	260-597-7366
Principal: Mr. Mark Schallhorn	260-301-9096
Kantor: Mr. Richard Brinkley	260-705-4105
Website for Church and School: www.BethlehemOssian.org	

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM

TODAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service / Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class or Sunday School
	11:30 a.m.	Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7 FM)
MONDAY	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
TUESDAY	9:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Service
NEXT SUNDAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service / Holy Communion
	NO	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 hklep@msn.com or by calling the church office at 597-7121.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS ARE NOW DUE

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Rorate Coeli

DIVINE SERVICE – Setting One

December 23, 2018

Vol. 122-04

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

WE WELCOME ALL OUR VISITORS this morning to our church and worship service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please introduce yourself to the Pastor and to others in attendance. Please complete a green visitor's pew card and include it in this morning offering plate. Please worship with us again.

IN OUR PRAYERS

All those in need of strength and healing: Keith Krick

The Church and its faithful workers:

Rev. and Mrs. Steven Schumacher

Rachel Meyer (sister of Mr. Peter Meyer)

All military personnel: Active and Inactive

Our members currently shut-in:

Jackie Werling (now at Ossian Health Care), Ruth Witte and Ilene Meyer

(Ossian H.C.) Lorene Rekeweg (Woodcrest) Viola Graft (Millers Merry Manor)

Joan Eichler at home, Loren Stoppenhagen at home.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP

Holiday Services: Please join us.

Dec. 24th 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service to His Children

Participating students need to be at church by 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 25th 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service

Dec. 30th 9:00 a.m. Divine Service

Dec. 31st 7:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Service

ATTENTION Sunday School Teachers and Youth Group- Practice for the Children's Christmas Eve Service will be held during Sunday School TODAY. All member children, nursery – youth are encourage to participate.

The Seminarian Fieldworker Plaque has been updated. The Plaque is hanging on the wall in the church sanctuary.

Cheese balls are still available from the DC Group after church today.

The Altar Guild is asking members to please sign up to place flowers on the altar or hymnboard. Simply use the 2019 flower chart posted on the bulletin board to sign up on the date you wish to have flowers placed. More than one person can sign on each date. **Announcements concerning the flowers should be given to the church office.** For help in placing the flowers, please contact Amy Schueler or Dalene Springer. Thank you

Altar Guild Duty – Please consider signing up to help with altar preparation. A weekly signup sheet is posted to the bulletin board. Feel free to pick one, two or more weeks. If interested and need instruction, please contact Amy Schueler, Dalene Springer or Wendy Boehm for more information. Thank you

On Sunday January 6th, 2019 from 1pm-3pm Bethlehem Lutheran Church will host a **“Visual Faith Event”** in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Wendy Boehm at 260-415-8526 call or text by Friday January 4th in order to get the supplies needed. Ossian native, Teresa (Graft) Davis will speak on using Devotional art to connect the heart, mind and soul with God's Word. For more information about Visual Faith Ministry please check out the flyer attached or information in the church hallway!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS - Eligible members are reminded that they can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice dollars. Please consider logging into your account online at www.thrivent.com or contact customer service at 1-800-847-4836 and designate your dollars. Thank you

The SCRIP TABLE will be OPEN TODAY. Plan to visit the SCRIP Table every Sunday for your gift giving and shopping needs. Contact Sheryl Bauermeister 260-341-6145 with questions and for weekly orders. Thank you for your support.

Offering December 16, 2018

Average weekly need \$10,241	
Home Fund Env.	\$13,670.00
Synod	285.00
Loose	153.40
Improvement Fund	90.00
Endowment Fund	
Scholarship Fund	25.00
Sunday School	9.00
Memorials	40.00
Advent Service	<u>307.00</u>
Total	\$14,579.40

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance \$5,015.76
Next week bills due amt: \$15,000
Bills due in two weeks: \$5,000
Savings Account Balance \$11,410.91
Borrowed from Savings: \$35,500
Operating Loan Debt: \$20,000

LAST SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

Divine Service	206
Holy Communion	161
Adult Bible Class	42
Sunday School	19
Advent Service	70

Deuteronomy 18:15-19 (ESV)

¹⁵“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—¹⁶ just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’¹⁷ And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken.¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

Philippians 4:4-7 (ESV)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 1:39-56 (ESV)

³⁹ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah,⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit,⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”⁴⁶ And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord,⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

**The Bethlehem Altar Guild Committee wishes to thank everyone for their Poinsettia orders to decorate our sanctuary. Flowers may be picked up after the Christmas Day service.*

Please see today's insert for a list of Flowers given to the Glory of God

