

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The Last Sunday of the Church Year

Divine Service – Setting One

November 26, 2023

Vol. 125-52

Invocation (Please stand)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Rite of Holy Baptism pg. 268 *Nora Elaine Geiger*

Service of the Word pg. 151

Introit (sung responsively)



The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with | singing,*
everlasting joy shall be up- | on their heads.

**They shall obtain glad- | ness and joy,*
and sorrow and sighing shall | flee away.**

O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure | of my days;*
let me know how fleeting | I am!

**Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing be- | fore you.***

Surely all mankind stands as a | mere breath!

And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?*

My hope | is in you.

Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*

Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**

and to the Holy | Spirit;

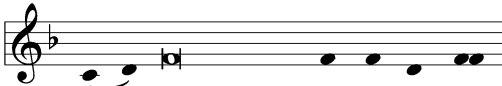
*as it was in the be- | ginning,**

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with | singing,*
everlasting joy shall be up- | on their heads.

**They shall obtain glad- | ness and joy,*
and sorrow and sighing shall | flee away.**

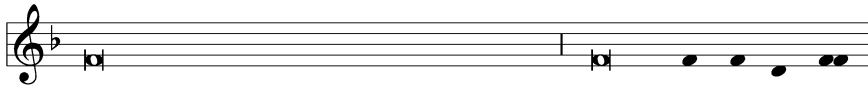
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



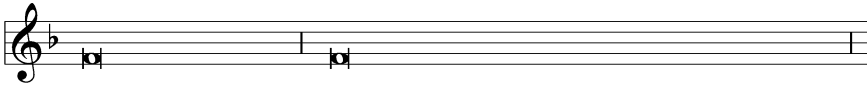
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



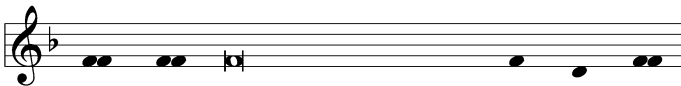
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,

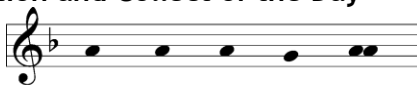


You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17–25

¹⁷“Behold, I create new heavens
and a new earth,
and the former things shall not be remembered
or come into mind.

¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever
in that which I create;
for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy,
and her people to be a gladness.

¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and be glad in my people;
no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping
and the cry of distress.

²⁰No more shall there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days,
or an old man who does not fill out his days,
for the young man shall die a hundred years old,
and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.

²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²²They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³They shall not labor in vain
or bear children for calamity,
for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD,
and their descendants with them.

²⁴Before they call I will answer;
 while they are yet speaking I will hear.
²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall graze together;
 the lion shall eat straw like the ox,
 and dust shall be the serpent's food.
 They shall not hurt or destroy
 in all my holy mountain,"
 says the LORD.

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

Gradual

In many-colored robes [the king's daughter] is led | to the king,*
 with her virgin companions following be- | hind her.
 With joy and gladness they are | led along*
 as they enter the palace | of the king.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

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

Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1–13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, 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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

#516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

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

Joyce Krumma (aunt of Rick Krumma)
Donita Yates (Cousin of Clara Conrad)
Mark Jackson, Tom Black (father of Ed Black)
Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)
Barbara Murphy (Melissa Price's grandmother)
Margaret Whitesel, Joellen Meyer,
Norwin Bauermeister, Brandon Tomlinson

Baptismal blessings: Nora Elaine Geiger

Wedding Anniversary— Lane and Jeni Harkless (25 years)
Stan and Pat Meyer (41 years on November 20)

We pray for our expectant mothers: Betsy Dodgers, Kristin Gresley,
Hope Gresley, Mariel Kleppinger, Olivia Lambert, Allie Nabrwoold, Jessica Schumm,
Abigail (Springer) Mayer, Reese Springer, Shelby Todd

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

We pray for our members shut-in:

Jackie Werling, Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare)
Imogene Bultemeier- in Hospice (Woodcrest), Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)
Gloria Siela (home), Charlotte Bultemeier (StoryPoint West)
Rev. Donald Lut^z (Lutheran Life Village)

We pray for our schools

We pray for our Church and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel

Offering

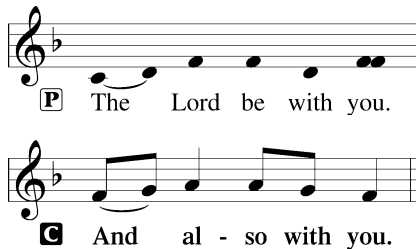
Offertory



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

Service of the Sacrament pg. 160

Preface



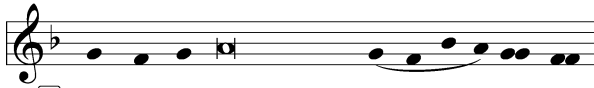
P The Lord be with you.
C And al-so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.


C Amen.


Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

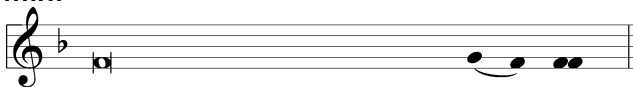
C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P 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  blood, 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.

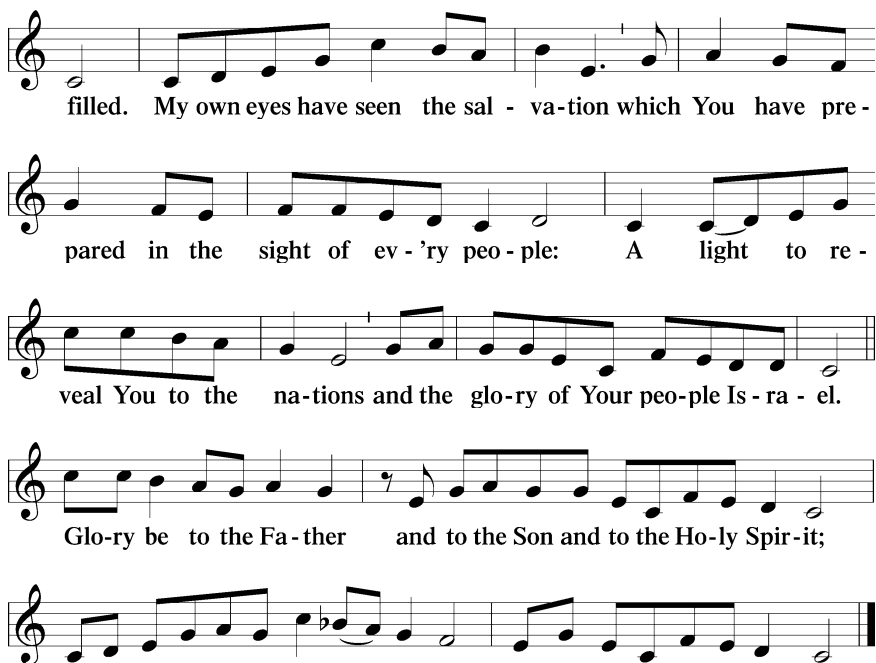


C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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.

#619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior
 #620 Jesus Comes Today with Healing
 #672 Jerusalem the Golden
 #673 Jerusalem, My Happy Home
 #508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near
 #872 Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -

pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -

veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

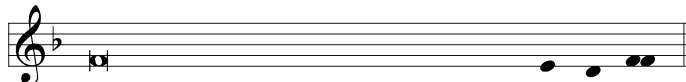
A Let us pray.

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.



C A - men.

Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you
 and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



Closing Hymn

#663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

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.

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching/Celebrant	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Deacon	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Fieldworker	Sem. Morgan Phillips and Sem. William Bales
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Glen Werling
Elders on Duty	Dave Flesch and Steve Conrad
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Organist	Emilie Meyer
Acolyte	Rachel Werling and Lucas Werling
Altar Guild Chairman	Tisha Laley and Cheryl Louison
Ushers	Jared Conrad, Mike Nahrwold, Jacob Meyer Trent Bultemeier, Andrew Stoppenhagen, Jacob Werling

Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wirgau	260-273-7595
(Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com)	
Assoc. Pastor, Headmaster: Rev. Anthony Dodgers	616-648-6489
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Office	260-597-7121
Bethlehem Lutheran School Office	260-597-7366
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. Family Bible Class (NO Sunday School)
	11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)
	6:30 p.m. LYF Bible Study
MONDAY	7:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice
TUESDAY	6:00 p.m. Board of Christian Education Meeting
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m. Chapel Service
	5:30 p.m. Catechesis Class
	7:00 p.m. Spoken Divine Service
	7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice
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)
	12:30 p.m. WOB Christmas Party (Back 40)

Announcements can be emailed to the church secretary at

bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com or by calling the church office at 597-7121.

<http://www.youtube.com/bethlehemplutheranchurchossian> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

BAPTIZED TODAY into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is Nora Elaine Geiger, newborn daughter of Logan and Marissa Geiger. Sponsors for Nora are Jessica Schumm and Landon Geiger. We welcome Nora as a member of the Kingdom of God and joint heir with us of all God's blessings.

FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR this morning have been given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for 25 years of marriage to Lane and Jeni Harkless.

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON, for the Bethlehem students, is scheduled for Monday, Dec 4 at 11:30am in the fellowship hall. We have a signup sheet for the side dishes needed for this event on the bulletin board today. We will also set up the Christmas tree and decorations in the fellowship hall on Sunday November 26 at 3:00pm, if you would like to help, please see Tisha Laley, Jessica Schumm, Tina Geiger or Denise Schumm. Your help is greatly appreciated!

POINSETTIA ORDERS – The altar committee is taking orders for Poinsettia plants to decorate our sanctuary for Christmas. Cost is \$13 per plant and your order can be left in the church office by December 10th with checks made payable to Women of Bethlehem. Please contact Jennifer Bultemeier with any questions 419-230-8068.

COOKIE WALK – Please sign up to donate cookies for our Cookie Walk on December 10th. A sign-up sheet is posted on the table in the north hallway.

BABY SHOWER – The Women of Bethlehem will be hosting a gift card / diaper shower for Pastor and Betsy Dodgers. A table will be set up in the foyer for your gifts.

WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM CHRISTMAS PARTY for the ladies will be December 3rd at 12:30pm and held at the Back 40 in Decatur. Cost is \$21.50 each. Please RSVP to Denise Schumm at 260-622-7990 or Tina Geiger at 260-433-1068. If a carpool is needed, please meet at church by 11:30am that day.

LUTHERAN WITNESS MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION renewal -This is the time when members can make any changes or additions to the yearly subscription and pay the yearly subscription fee of \$23.16. Please give your payment to Heidi Kleppinger or to Brian Scheumann. Thank you

SEMINARIAN CHRISTMAS – The Women of Bethlehem will be collecting Christmas gifts for our field workers, Morgan Phillips and William Bales through December 3rd. Donations of gift cards can be given to Judy Moehring or placed in the LWML mailbox in the church office. Gifts can be placed in the box in the church entry.

CHEESEBALLS – The Bethlehem Youth Group is selling homemade cheeseballs; \$7.00 each or 3 for \$20.00. Please see Deaconess Wendy Boehm to place your order.

Donations for New Library Bookshelves - Library Improvement Phase II

Once again, thank you to everyone who contributed to Phase I of our room swap for the Library and Kindergarten. It was a great success! We are now beginning to raise money 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.

HOLIDAY SERVICES - Please join us for worship:

December 3 First Sunday in Advent Divine Service at 9:00 a.m.

December 6th and 13th Wednesday Evening Advent Services at 7:00 p.m.

The Bethlehem Youth Group will be providing a light supper before the service

December 20th Bethlehem Lutheran School Children's Christmas Service 7:00 p.m.

The Bethlehem Youth Group will be serving light refreshments before the service

December 24th Christmas Eve Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

December 25th Christmas Day Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

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

Offering Nov. 19, 2023

Average weekly need \$13,818

Home Fund Env. \$9,433.81

Synod 21.83

Loose 251.80

Scholarship Fund

Improvement Fund 45.85

Endowment Fund

Music Fund

Sunday School 6.00

Memorials 125.00

Door Offering 670.00

Total \$10,554.29

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance (\$79.32)

Next week bills due: \$18,000

Bills due two weeks: \$12,000

Savings Account Balance \$40,355.30

Borrowed from Savings: \$2,100

Operating Loan Debt: (\$29,750)

Church/Communion Attendance

Sunday 190/132

Wednesday 14/10

Thanksgiving 98

November Newsletter items are **NOW** due.

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 benefits does baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark:

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. Mark 16:16

What is John 3:5?

Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. John 3:5

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA PLANT ORDER FORM

The Poinsettia Christmas plants will again be used to decorate the church this year!
If interested in ordering plants, please return this form with your payment
to the church office by Sunday, Dec. 10th

*Flowers will be RED this year and you can pick them up after the Christmas Day Service.
Thank you

_____ 6 " pot - RED \$13.00

Please make checks payable to: Women of Bethlehem.

Ordered by: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

