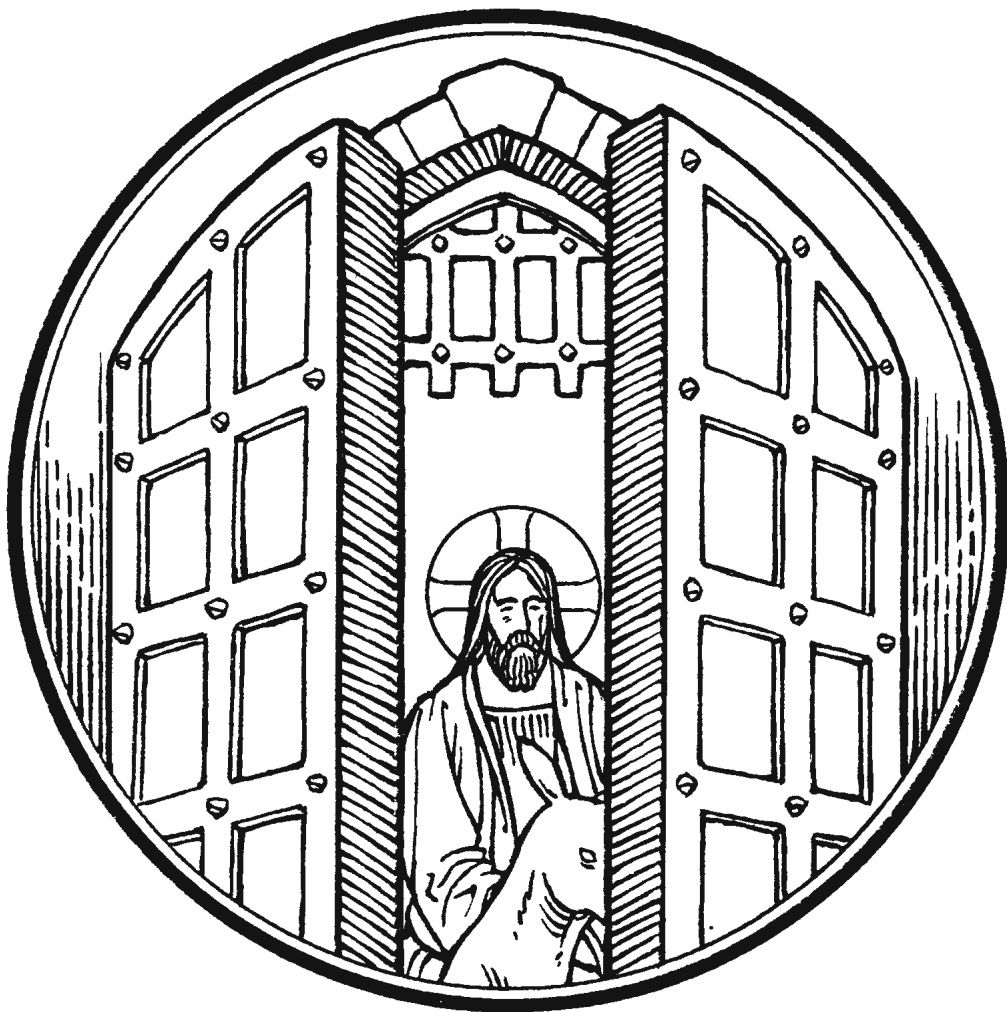


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



The First Sunday in Advent

Divine Service – Setting One

December 3, 2023

Vol. 126-01

Pre-Service Music Bethlehem Handbell Choir *“Lift up your Heads you Mighty Gates”*

Processional Hymn

#515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Invocation

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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. 151

Introit (sung responsively with the choir)



To you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.*

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.*

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

Make me to know your ways, | O LORD; *
teach me | your paths.

**Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my sal- | vation; *
for you I wait all the | day long.**

May integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me, *
for I | wait for you.

**Redeem Israel, | O God,*
out of all his | troubles.**

***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.***

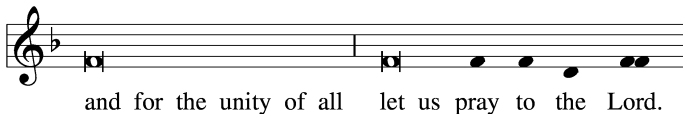
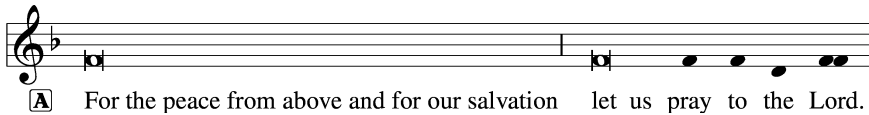
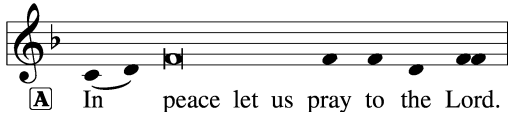
To you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.*

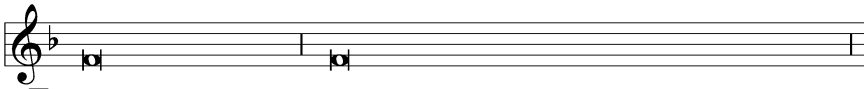
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.*

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

Kyrie





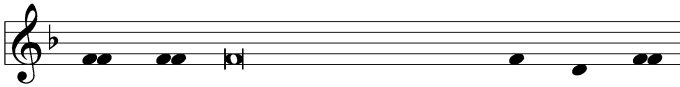
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 23:5–8

⁵“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’ ⁷“Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when they shall no longer say, ‘As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ ⁸but ‘As the LORD lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their own land.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response “Come thou Long Expected Jesus”

Epistle

Romans 13:8–14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 21:1–9

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, **“Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”**

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

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

#332 Savior of the Nations, Come

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

Wedding Anniversary— Rick and Pat Krumma — 46 years of marriage

We pray for our expectant mothers: Betsy Dodgers, Kristin Gresley,
Hope Gresley, Mariel Kleppinger, Olivia Lambert, Allie Nabrwald, Jessica Schumm,
Abigail (Springer) Mayer, Reese Springer, Lauren Stoppenhagen, 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, Marilyn Meyer (Woodcrest)
Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)
Gloria Siela (home), Charlotte Bultemeier (StoryPoint West)
Rev. Donald Lutz (Lutheran Life Village)

We pray for our schools

We pray for our Church and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel

Offering

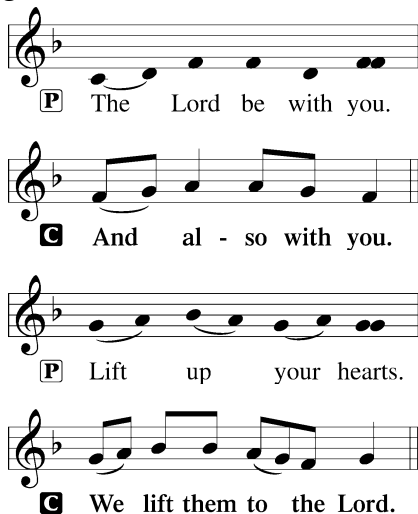
Offertory



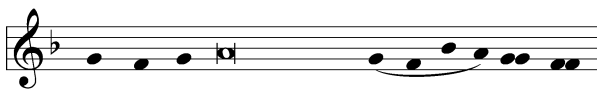
C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, 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:

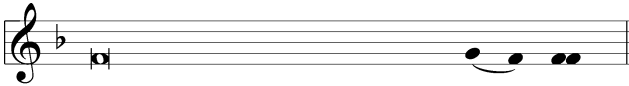
C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the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

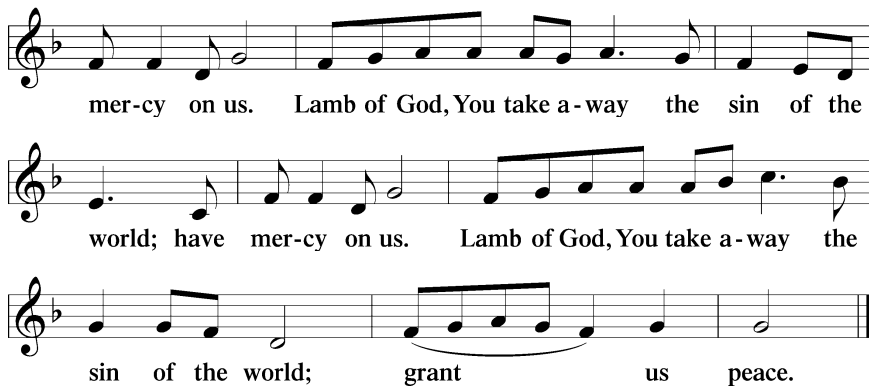


C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



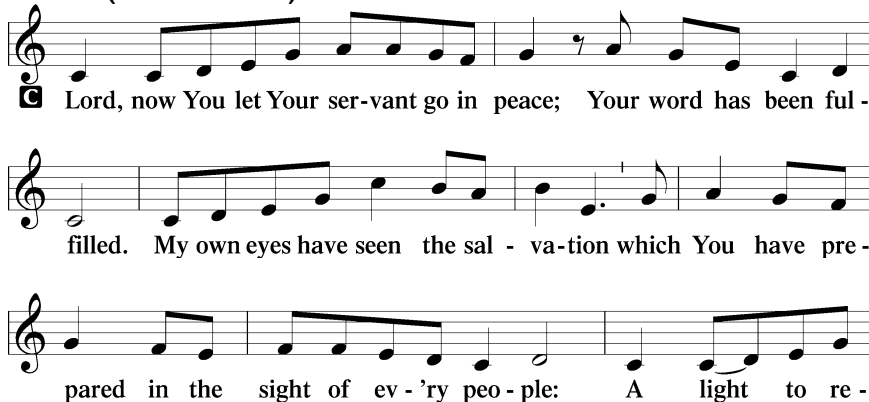
Distribution

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

- #621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
- #622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared
- #350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come
- #343 Prepare the Royal Highway
- #337 The Night Will Soon Be Ending

Nunc Dimittis (Please stand)





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.

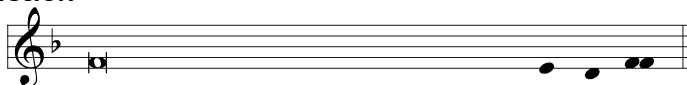
Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
 O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn

#341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching	Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Celebrant	Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Fieldworker	Sem. Morgan Phillips and Sem. William Bales
Deaconess	Wendy Boehm
Head Elder	Glen Werling
Elders on Duty	Glen Werling and Bruce Werling
Kantor	Richard Brinkley
Choirs	Bethlehem Handbell Choir and Junior Choir
Acolyte	Hunter Householder and Matthew Rekeweg
Crucifer	Jude Wirgau
Altar Guild Chairman	Tisha Laley and Cheryl Louison
Ushers	Gavin Laley, Cale Schumm, Nathan Meyer Evan Springer, Grant Scheumann, Adam Lambert

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
<i>Website for Church and School: www.BethlehemOssian.org</i>	

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)
	12:30 p.m. WOB Christmas Party (Back 40)
MONDAY	11:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Luncheon (WOB)
	5:15 p.m. JV Girls vs Harlan Christian School (HOME)
	6:15 p.m. JV Boys vs Harlan Christian School (HOME)
	7:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m. Chapel Service
	5:30 p.m. Catechesis Class
	7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Divine Service
	TBD Adult Choir Practice
SUNDAY	9:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class and Sunday School
	11:15 a.m. Board of Elders Meeting
	11:30 a.m. Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7)

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.

FLOWERS ADORNING THE ALTAR this morning have been given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for 46 years of marriage to Rick and Pat Krumma.

THANK YOU - We are so thankful to have our church family and neighbors helping us through my time of treatment for my cancer. Thank you to all of you. Thank you to Pastor Wirgau, Pastor Dodgers, Deaconess Boehem, and Deaconess Brinkley for their constant visits a, support and prayers. Thanks to everyone that has sent cards, gifts, food and has helped us in so many ways. We also have received so many comments of support. We will be enjoying the holidays with the life the Lord has provided to us. Thanks to all of you for your help. Lloyd and Joellen Meyer

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON, will be tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall for Bethlehem Lutheran School. Thank you for signing up to help and make dishes for this event! Please have your dishes in the kitchen by 11:00 a.m.

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.

FRUIT BASKETS FOR SHUT-INS – The Women of Bethlehem will be making and delivering fruit baskets to our shut-in members on Monday, December 4th at 9 a.m. If you are available to help make and deliver baskets, please meet in the fellowship hall

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.

SEMINARIAN CHRISTMAS – TODAY IS THE LAST DAY FOR COLLECTION
The Women of Bethlehem will be collecting Christmas gifts for our field workers, Morgan Phillips and William Bales. 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.

2024 ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE is now posted on the bulletin board. Please consider signing up to prepare the altar for church services. Thank you

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 (Dec. 6th Goulash, Salad, Bread and Brownies)

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.

Service of Light 7:00 p.m.

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

December 31st Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

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

Offering Nov. 26, 2023

Average weekly need \$13,818

Home Fund Env. \$9,302.47

Synod 75.83

Loose 243.37

Scholarship Fund

Improvement Fund 45.85

Endowment Fund

Music Fund

Sunday School 5.55

Memorials 140.00

Fellowship Hall Rent 90.00

Thanksgiving 5,470.70

Total \$15,373.77

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance (\$7,165.44)

Next week bills due: \$12,000

Bills due two weeks: \$4,000

Savings Account Balance \$40,401.15

Borrowed from Savings: (\$2,100)

Operating Loan Debt: (\$29,750)

Church/Communion Attendance

Sunday 189/134

Wednesday 20/11

Announcements can be emailed to the church secretary at bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com or by calling the church office at 597-7121.

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.

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having being justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. Titus 3:5-8



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: _____

