

A photograph of a young child in a pink jacket and pants climbing a stack of colorful tires. The tires are painted in various colors: green, yellow, and blue. Two other people are visible in the background, one in a blue jacket and another in a green jacket, both appearing to be climbing or standing on the tires. The scene is outdoors, possibly at a playground or a community event.

Come and see

JOHN 1:46



+ Second Sunday After The Epiphany +

January 17, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Today we consider the Holy Spirit’s presence in our lives. How we live and interact with others is important, for we are representing the Holy Spirit. How we act when we are alone is important, for the Spirit is always present with us, and He has no desire to take part in sin of any kind. As we reflect, we remember the glorious news that we were bought with a price—the blood of Jesus, which forgives all our sins and removes all our shame. For that, we are most thankful!

REGARDING COMMUNION

Epiphany means “the manifesting” or “showing forth.” Jesus was *made known* as God in flesh by the descent of the Holy Spirit and voice of the Father when baptized, as well as through the miracles of healing he did for the ill and suffering. We come to our Lord’s Table as a people baptized into the name of the Holy Triune God ... as Christians who desire to continue in the faith and life of Jesus. Our Lord Jesus *makes himself known* to us still as we gather at the altar to receive his body and blood in the bread and wine for our forgiveness and healing and strength. Then we go forth to *make him known* to others in word and witness. ***Since Christian denominations have differing understandings of Holy Communion, if you are not a member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed here before, we ask that you speak with the pastor or elder prior to communing with us the first time. Those not communing are invited to cross their arms over their chests and approach the pastor for a blessing during the distribution. Also, if certain factors prohibit you from partaking of regular wine, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center circle of the tray. If you would like to begin sharing this sacred meal with us on a regular basis, please ask the pastor for a time of faith instruction and formation.***

Liturgical Color:

Green is the color of life and growth in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Prelude Lorraine Miller, Rich Vanderburgh
“Arioso” (Cantata No. 156) J.S. Bach; “Sech Kinderstucke No. 1”: F. Mendelssohn

Welcome

Stand

Invocation Hymn "See This Wonder in the Making" #593 (1, 3)

1 See this won - der in the mak - ing: God Him -
3 Far more ten - der than a moth - er, Far more
self this child is tak - ing As a lamb safe in His
car - ing than a fa - ther, God, in - to Your arms we
keep - ing, His to be, a - wake or sleep - ing.
place *him/her/them*, With Your love and peace embrace *him/her/them*.

Tune: Public domain, Text: © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003555

Rite of Holy Baptism for Wyatt Matthew Gray

(All will be asked to rise for the speaking of the Apostles' Creed, then can be seated again.)

Apostles' 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.

Divine Service, Setting Four Confession and Absolution

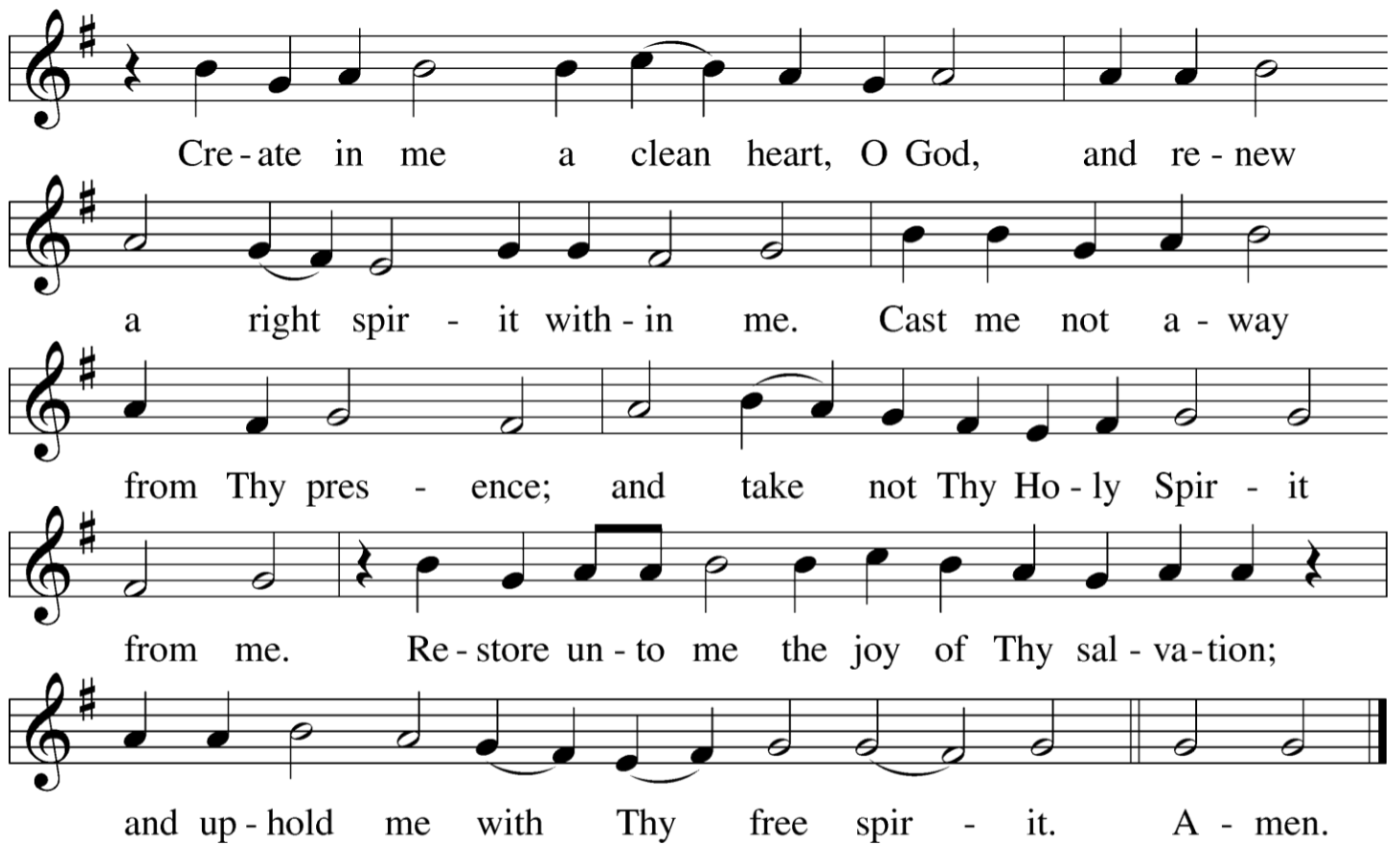
The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution.....page 203

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** who made heaven and earth.
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are revered.**
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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

Entrance Hymn“Create in Me” #956



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va-tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

Kyrie.....*page 204*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis.....*page 204*



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation *(spoken in unison)*

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.

Collect of the Day *(spoken in unison)*

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading **1 Samuel 3:1-20**

The young man Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.

Then the Lord called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

And the Lord called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was

calling the young man. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.” Then the Lord said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”

Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.” And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the Lord. Let him do what seems good to him.”

And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual *(spoken in unison)*

Praise the Lord, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle Reading **1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be enslaved by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not

know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Versepage 205



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy GospelJohn 1:43-51

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and

see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day *"Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens" #589 (1-3)*



1 Speak, O Lord, Your ser - vant lis - tens, Let Your Word to
 2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near You And to lis - ten
 3 Lord, Your words are wa - ters liv - ing When my thirst - ing



me come near; New - born life and spir - it give me,
 to Your voice; Let me ev - er love and hear You,
 spir - it pleads. Lord, Your words are bread life - giv - ing;



Let each prom - ise still my fear. Death's dread pow'r, its in - ward
 Let Your Word be now my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,
 On Your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, Your words will be my



strife, Wars a - gainst Your Word of life; Fill me, Lord, with
 Lord, Flee in ter - ror at Your Word; But to all who
 light Through death's cold and drea - ry night; Yes, they are my



love's strong fer - vor That I cling to You for - ev - er!
 feel sin's bur - den You give words of peace and par - don.
 sword pre - vail - ing And my cup of joy un - fail - ing!

Sermon..... “Seeing, Hearing, & Glorifying God”

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Sit

Offertory Lorraine Miller, Rich Vanderburgh
“*Siciliano*”, J. S. Bach

(Music for reflection while preparations are made for Communion.)

Offering

Offering plates will not be passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the entrance.

“Through him (Jesus) then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:15-16)

Stand

Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgypages 208-209

P The Lord be with you.

C And also 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.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and

archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His Cross and receive the blessing of forgiveness, life and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer.....*page 209*

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.....page 209

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."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei.....page 210



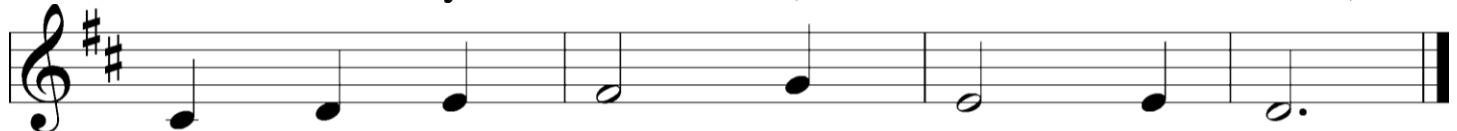
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit (until motioned to rise and proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).

Communion Distribution

Distribution of the Lord's gifts in Holy Communion is in standing format with Pastor

and the Elder near the chancel steps. You will be released by the usher to head forward, maintaining physical distance between each person or family unit. Pastor will drop the wafer into your hands, so please cup them together and hold them chest-level. Individual plastic cups only are being used, so if you're not taking the non-alcoholic wine from the center, please make sure to take from the outer circle first until all of those are gone before reaching for the next level in. A basket to the left of the table is available for you to place your used cup inside.

Communion Hymns Lorraine Miller, Rich Vanderburgh

"As With Gladness Men of Old" #397

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" #621

"Baptismal Waters Cover Me" #616

"Lord Jesus, Think on Me" #610

Stand

Post Communion Canticle *"Nunc Dimittis" page 211*

The image shows a musical score for the Post Communion Canticle "Nunc Dimittis". It consists of five staves of music in a G-flat major key (one flat) and 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a square symbol containing the number 1, followed by the lyrics "1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -". The second staff begins with a square symbol containing the number 2, followed by the lyrics "2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All". The lyrics continue across the remaining staves: "part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One; A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un - For as in the be - gin - ning, Is to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -".

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect..... page 212

P 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 Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction..... page 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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 Amen.

Sending Hymn..... “Come, Follow Me”, the Savior Spake” #688 (1-2)

1 “Come, fol - low Me,” the Sav - ior spake, “All in My
 2 “I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly
 way a - bid - ing; De - ny your - selves, the world for - sake,
 life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;
 O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
 I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and



e'er well be-tide, Take My ex-am-ple for your guide. I show How you must so-journ here be-low.

Tune and text: Public domain

Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

- P** Grow in Christ,
- C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude Lorraine Miller, Rich Vanderburgh
"Sonata No. 5", Movement 3, J. S. Bach

Acknowledgements Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.

Attendance Last Saturday: 15	Attendance Last Sunday: 47
Total Offering: \$5,049.13	Missions: \$150.00
Home Use: \$4,689.13	Benevolences: \$210.00

Serving us today:

- Elders/Ushers..... Jack Easterwood, Jeremy VanWey
- Musicians Lorraine Miller, Rich Vanderburgh
- Altar Committee..... Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Karon Harding,
Esther Keseman, Georgia Luker
- Flower Committee Penny Humphrey (Chair), Sheree Moody

This Week's Schedule

- Monday 10:00 a.m. Moms and Tots
- Thursday 9:30 a.m. Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
- 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Board Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Mission Board Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Great Women of the Bible II-Zoom Bible Study
- Saturday 5:30 p.m. Worship
- Sunday 8:00 a.m. The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
- 9:00 a.m. Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at www.blchurch.com, under the Sermons tab)
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School—Jr. and Sr. Youth
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Thrivent Planning Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Youth Catechesis

Prayers

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, recovering from hospitalization, and going through rehabilitation: Leora Baack (Charlene McCarter's mother), Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Denise (Penny Humphrey's sister), Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Roy Hillmann (Bonnie Rich's father), Sharon Hochsprung, Mary Johnson, Marty Lehn, Marvin Logan (Nicole Clemons' father), Troy McCarter (Lloyd McCarter's brother), Kathy Marshall, Rick Mills, Johnny Nichol, Jim Rudy, Rose Ann Steitz, Lynn Trimble (Kaye Fair's sister), and Paula Willis (Bonnie Rich's friend), and Joe Zeman. *We remember as well all who are dealing with COVID—19, especially the healthcare providers who are straining to prevent, stem the spread, and treat those who are ill!*

For the Baptized—Especially Wyatt Matthew Gray (son of Alexia & Dr. Layton Gray) as he is baptized today and numbered among the fellowship of Christ's followers!

For Pregnant Mothers, especially Brittany Brown as she and her husband Joe await childbirth next year. May the Lord grant good health and joyful expectation!

For Military Members—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden, Ty Carter, Ethan Hillsman, Chance Hillsman and Logan LeBaige.

Thank You

To the Elders, Council Members and Bethlehem Members: Thank you so much for your generous gifts. It is an honor to serve you while serving God. Blessings on your new year. **Paula Easterwood.**

Thank you very much to everyone for their kind gifts and cards for my recent birthday. Blessings and Peace to you all. **Beryl Lindley.**

Congregational Events & Opportunities

Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain and needing to talk and be encouraged in the living of life from day to day, don't hesitate to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty, and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

Telephone Support Group—A new support group is being started by the Merry Widows. Anyone can take part. If you would like to take part, either making or receiving encouraging calls, please contact Sue Ann Carter (660-441-1786) or Carol Kurz (660-362-0987). It is suggested we start off by making two calls a week. Please

let us know when the best time to call would be. A list is being worked on right now. This is a simple way to keep in touch with fellow church members while we are not able to gather together. Thanks for your consideration and involvement!

Poinsettias—If you purchased a poinsettia, you may pick one up after church or during the week and take it home or to someone who may enjoy it. They are ending their time here at the church.

Worship Services (Masks required at all services)

Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. You can also watch it live on Facebook or YouTube, or go to it directly from the webpage at blchurch.com.

Saturday Services are at 5:30 p.m. The order of worship is the shorter service of Early Evening Prayer. Holy Communion is observed on 1st, 3rd and 5th weekends of the month, as has been our regular practice.

Youth

Let It FLOW—All junior and senior high youth are welcomingly encouraged to attend this new Bible study being led by Pr. Joel on every Sunday morning **from now until February 21st** (in the downstairs youth room) **from 9:30—10:10 a.m.** In this Epiphany, from the remembrance of Jesus' Baptism to the emphasis on his works of healing and restoring, we'll focus on what Jesus meant about coming "For the Life Of the World" and what that means for us and the purpose of our lives. Each session will include viewing a superb video and having a discussion that bridges us from there to Scripture and daily life. So, whether you attend Sunday school every week, hardly ever, or never, please consider committing to this excellent and engaging study that you won't regret! (And spread the word!)

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

"Great Women of the Bible II" Zoom Bible study started on **January 7**. We are learning about Jochebed and Miriam, Deborah, Ruth and Hannah. This class will be held for four consecutive Thursdays. Please contact Cindy or Rebecca if you are interested in joining this class.

Fellowship

Thrivent will hold a planning meeting next **Sunday, January 24**, after church service. Any and all Thrivent members can join them as they will be planning the 2021 events. There will be no food at this meeting. It will be a quick meeting in the fellowship hall, lasting approximately 30 minutes.

Merry Widows—Due to Covid-19 concerns, Merry Widows will NOT be meeting until further notice. Look for updates when they will meet again.

Strength Training—due to Covid-19 concern, Strength Training will NOT be meeting until further notice. Look for updates when they will resume classes.

Mondays at 10:00 a.m. join our **Moms and Tots** who need some exercise outdoors. We go to the park during all seasons if it is not raining or bitter cold. Check out the Moms and Tots Facebook Page or get in touch with Rebecca Holland.

Looking Ahead to Spring

Bethlehem Community Garden Transformation Tour—Twelve years ago, our congregation started the vegetable garden out back, along with the star herb garden out front ... and in succeeding years we've added the children's garden out front, the side & back planters, fruit trees, berry bushes, and Bethlehem Woods nature trail. The vegetable plot has lain fallow for two of those twelve years, and last October we began converting the area to raised bed gardens—with wood chips yet to come. I've you'd like to get an overview of what's in store, and maybe even how you could be a part of it, plan on attending this informational tour on **Saturday, February 6th** (that's the Saturday after Groundhog Day—otherwise known as the Feast of Our Lord's Presentation, the Fortieth Day after Christmas) **at 10:00 a.m.** in the garden plot at the far end of the Bethlehem's backyard ... and spread the word letting others know they're invited! **If the weather is bad, this will be postponed.**

Offerings

You can mail your offerings to Bethlehem and have pastor put it in the offering plate on the altar with a prayer of trust for you, or you can give through the online offering called "*Simply Giving*". If you did not receive 2021 envelopes and would like them, please contact Teresa Hillsman.

Contribution statements for 2020 have been distributed. Wherever possible, statements have been emailed to donors. If you have been emailed a statement and would like a printed copy, please contact Teresa Hillsman at financial@blchurch.com or drop a note in her church mailbox. If you did not receive an emailed statement, the statement is either in your church mailbox or mailed directly to you.

Elders

Jeff Harris (last name begins A-E) 660-624-1571, elvis100669@yahoo.com

Willie Crespo (last name begins F-H) 660-679-8121, willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com

Jack Easterwood (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, easter.egg2380@gmail.com

Caleb Thomas (last name begins Mc-R), 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@gmail.com

Jeremy VanWey (last name begins S-Z) 606-909-4765, jeremy.vanwey@gmail.com

Contact Information

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093

Our Mission

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

Our Vision

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



Rev. Joel R. Kurz

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am-5pm

Otherwise by appointment

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: pastor@blchurch.com

Website: www.blchurch.com Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](https://www.facebook.com/blcwarrensburg)

Office Manager:

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

660-747-6742

officemanager@blchurch.com

Congregational Life Facilitator:

Rebecca Stewart

MTW: 8am-2pm

Thursday by appointment

clf@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 3pm–6pm

Thursday by appointment

financial@blchurch.com

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for the viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.