

November 20-21, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Like the disciples of old, we look around us and presume that our accomplishments will endure. But even now, they are falling, brick upon brick. There is no repairing a world that must be replaced by a new heaven and a new earth. The urgent need is not to predict when these things will happen, but to endure when they do come. The world is in labor until God delivers His eternal kingdom, but you are not of the world. You belong to the Lord. Through your witness, the elect of many nations will be called by the Spirit through the preaching of the Word. The world will reject you, but you belong to God. He who endures in this faith to the end will be saved.

REGARDING COMMUNION When we gather at the Lord's Table, the cup of blessing we receive is a sharing in the blood of Christ; the bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. We who are many are one bread and body in Christ (I Cor. 10:16-17). As a people baptized into the life of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to us in this holy meal to renew us individually and together in our life of faith and following him. 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:

White is the color of purity and is associated with festivals of Christ and his Church.

Prelude	Jerrode Marsh
Welcome	



Text and tune: Public domain

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Divine Service, Setting Two Confession and Absolution

(Saturday Only: Verses & responses are spoken, but longer portions are sung.)
The sign of the cross † may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution.....page 167

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

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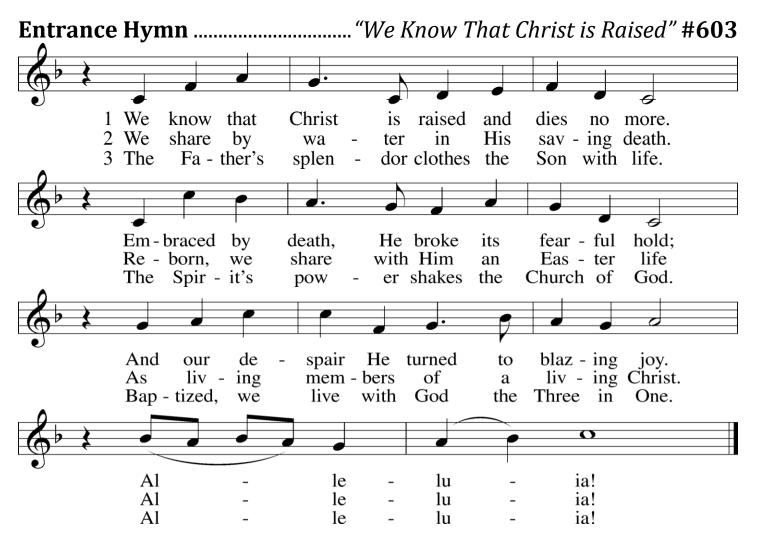
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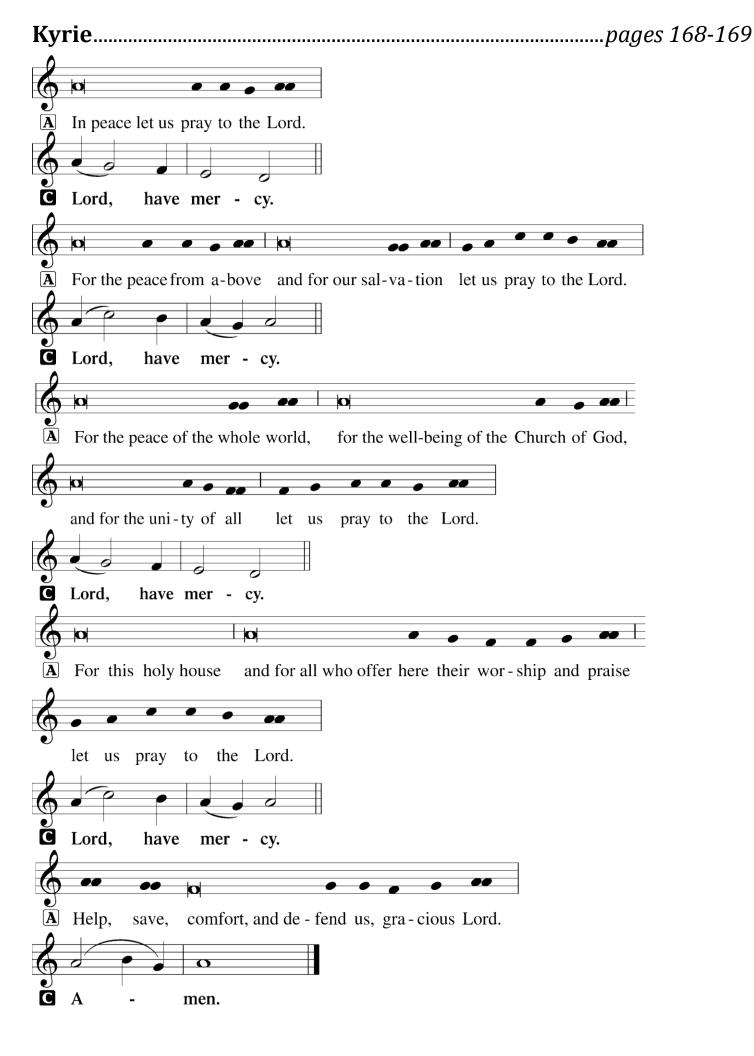
And

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

- 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.
- 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

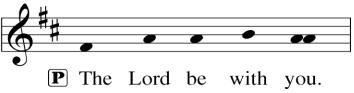




Hymn of Praise.....""This Is the Feast" page 171 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu ia. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood free to be peo-ple of God. set us Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength bless-ing His. and hon or and glo - ry are is the feast vic-to-ry for our God. of This Al - le all Sing with the peo - ple of lu ia. and join of all cre - a - tion: God, in the hymn Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. \mathbf{A} men. the feast of for is vic - to-ry **This** our God, who was slain for the Lamb has be - gun His reign.



Salutation......page 172





C And al - so with you.

Collect of the Day(spoken in unison)

Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

As I looked,

thrones were placed,

and the Ancient of days took his seat;

his clothing was white as snow,

and the hair of his head like pure wool;

his throne was fiery flames;

its wheels were burning fire.

A stream of fire issued

and came out from before him;

a thousand thousands served him,

and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him;

the court sat in judgment,

and the books were opened. . . .

I saw in the night visions,

and behold, with the clouds of heaven

there came one like a son of man,

and he came to the Ancient of Days

and was presented before him.

And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

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

Gradual(spoken in unison)

In many-colored robes the king's daughter is led to the king, with her virgin companions following behind her.

With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king! (Psalm 45:14-15)

Epistle.....Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

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

Stand

Alleluia and Versepage 173





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



Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

My life with God— this





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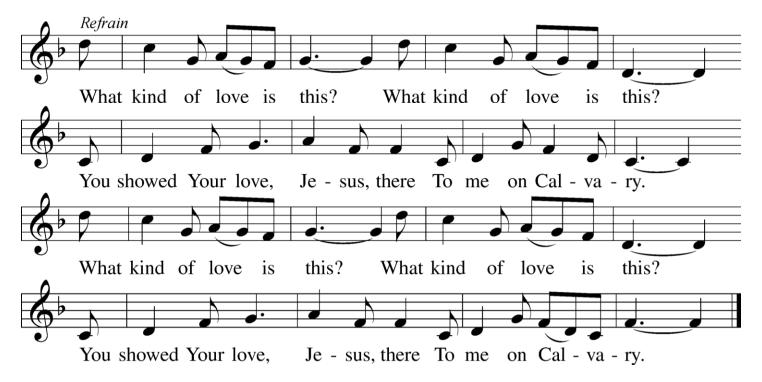
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Sit

Sermon......" "King of Thrones" Stand **Nicene Creed**......*page 174* 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.

Prayer of the Church......*page 175*

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy
- C hear our prayer.
- **P** ...
- C Amen.

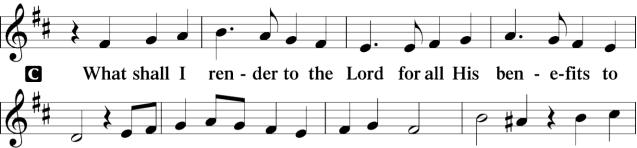
Sit

Offering

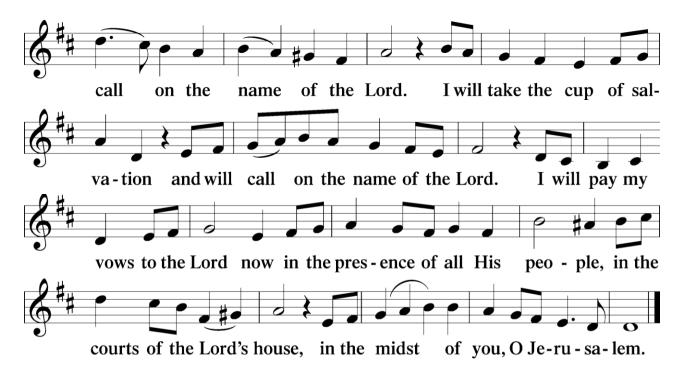
Offering plates are not being passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the west entrance.

"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)

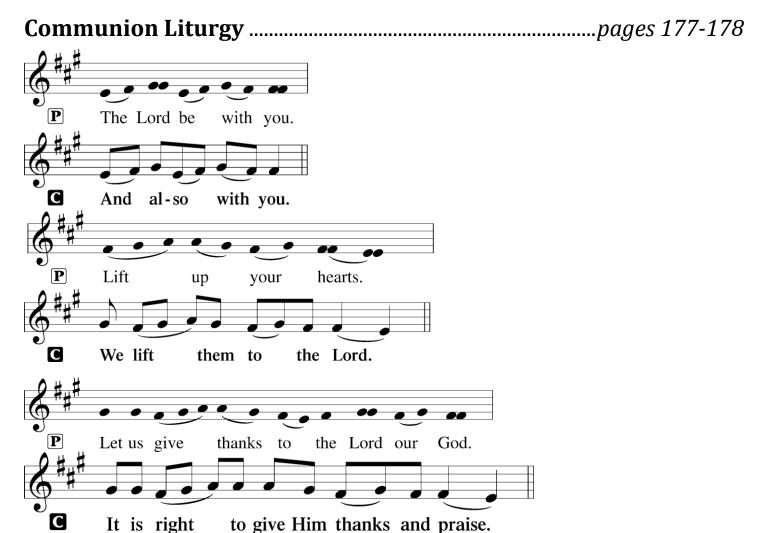
Offertory...... page 176



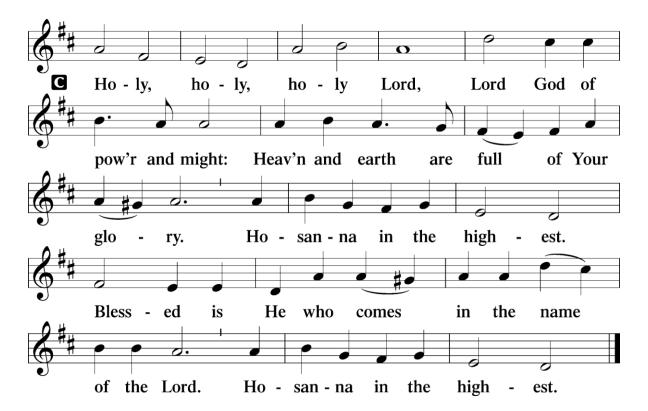
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and wil



Service of the Sacrament



Sanctus.....page 178

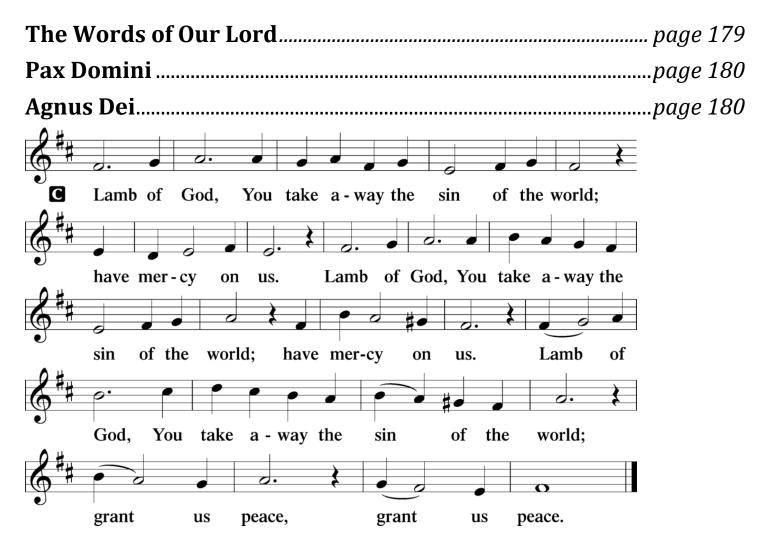


Prayer of Thanksgiving.....page 178

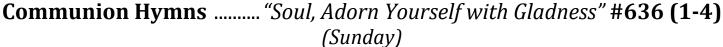
- P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth . . .
 To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

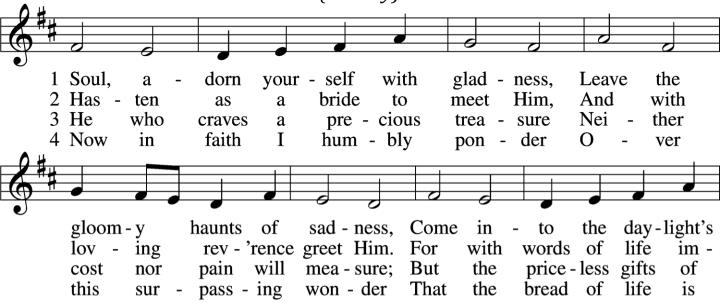
Lord's Prayer.....page 179

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



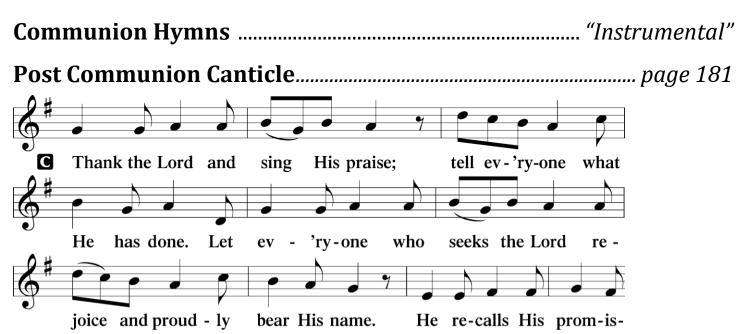
Sit (until motioned to rise & proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).

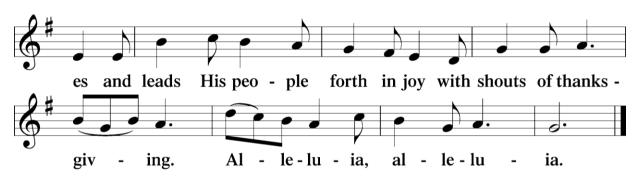






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Post Communion Collect......page 183

- Let us pray. who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Benediction......page 183

Sending Hymn....."""" "Crown Him with Many Crowns" #525



- 1 Crown Him with man y crowns, The Lamb up on His throne;
- 2 Crown Him the vir gin's Son,
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life.
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,

The God in - car - nate born,

Be - hold His hands and side, Who tri-umphed o'er the grave

En-throned in worlds a - bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own. Whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won Which now His brow a-dorn: Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri-fied. And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save. Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing
Fruit of the mys-tic rose,
No an - gels in the sky
His glo - ries now we sing,
Crown Him with man - y crowns

Of Him who died for thee. Yet of The that rose the stem. ful - ly Can that sight, bear But Who died and rose on high, Who As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown



thy match-less king Through all hail Him as e - ter - ni root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem. down-ward bend their won-d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies bright. SO e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die. ye kings, with man - y crowns, For Him, He is king all. of

Tune and text: Public domain

Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

P Grow in Christ,

C Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude Jerrode Marsh

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Next week's readings:

1st: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

Attendance: Last Saturday: 20 Attendance Last Sunday: 52

Total Offering: \$3,122.00 Missions: \$0.00 Home Use: \$3,072.00 Benevolences: \$50.00

Serving us today:

Elders...... Willie Crespo (Sat), Willie Crespo, Jeremy VanWey Musician......Jerrode Marsh

Altar Committee......Teresa Hillsman (Chair), Lisa Gulick,
Beryl Lindley, Susie Mills, Sheree Moody

Flower CommitteeEunice Cobb (Chair), Lori Sloan

This Week's Schedule

Monday 10:00 a.m. Moms and Tots

6:30 p.m. 4-H

Tuesday NO QUILTING

7:15 p.m. Education Board Meeting

Wednesday NO BIBLE STUDY

7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service

Thursday Pr. Joel's Birthday

Thanksgiving Holiday-Office Closed

Friday		Thanksgiving Holiday-Office Closed
Saturday		Advent Begins!
	5:30 p.m.	Worship
	6:45 p.m.	Bible Study
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)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School, Adult Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	1:00 p.m.	Adult Catechesis
	3:15 p.m.	Youth Catechesis

Altar Flowers

Flowers on the altar this weekend have been provided by Carol Kurz to celebrate Pr. Joel's birthday on November 25.

Prayers

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Pr. Ricky Bertels, Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Sue Cottrill, Marion & Leona Droege, Paula Easterwood, Renae Ernesti (Charlene McCarter's niece), Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Creed Kueker, Marty Lehn, Lynn Lowe, Bertina Markworth, Ron McComas, Johnny Nichol, Ron Niemeyer, Jim Rudy, and Joe Zeman.

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, Gabe Crespo, Chance Hillsman.

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!

Worship Services

Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. Sunday's Services are live on Facebook and YouTube and the webpage at blchurch.com.

Thanksgiving Eve Service—Gather together with others in our sanctuary on **Wednesday, November 24 at 7:00 p.m.** to ground ourselves anew in a life of gratitude and grateful living. Please join us!

The Singing Saints (the choir of St. Paul Lutheran High School) will be singing during the morning service on the Second Sunday of Advent, **December 5**. Plan to be here and spread the word about the special gift of having them here that day!

Midweek Advent Services will be held on the four Wednesdays leading up to Christmas Eve—the 1st, 8th, & 15th and 22nd—at 7:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. As in past years, we'll be using the beautiful and renewing Holden Evening Prayer. Our theme this year—When Heaven Meets Earth, with Questions and Answers. Each week has a different theme: "The Birth of God: How and Why?; "The Obedient Child: Did He Know?; "The Man's Man: Why Would Jesus Even Cry?; and "The Hidden King: Why Would He Go Unrecognized? Plan on setting aside this time for a quiet and contemplative keeping of the short and often crowded-out season of Advent!

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School for PreK-12th **grade begins at 9:15 a.m**. in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great opportunity for children and youth to grow in knowledge of Scripture and in love toward the Lord and our neighbors, as Jesus said matters most!

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

Saturday Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew follows the evening service (from **6:45 to 7:30 p.m.** in the conference room) if enough people are present to have a class. Consider joining us as we explore the life and ministry of Jesus.

A New Sunday Bible Study has started which is perfect for this ending time of the Church Year & start of the new one when we reflect on "last things." *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation* will clear up popular misconceptions and root you more firmly in believing and living through Christ's own life, death, and resurrection. Plan on joining us on that Sunday, and beyond, in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:10 a.m.

Reforesting Faith: What Trees Teach Us About the Nature of God and His Love for Us—a recent book by medical doctor and conservationist Matthew Sleeth—is the topic of our Faith Night sessions on the first Wednesday of each month through December; which makes the last session ("The Fruit of the Tree & The Trees of Our Lives") on December 1st from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the fellowship hall—before the first Advent midweek service. Bring your own dinner and join the discussion. Everyone is welcome!

Thursday Advent Zoom Bible Study. We will be discussing God's forgiving love for us in Christ Jesus. This class will be held on **Thursdays, December 2, 9, 16, and 23 at 7:00 pm.** If you would like to join, please contact Cindy or Rebecca and we will provide you the materials for the zoom class. See you in December.

Fellowship

The Hanging of the Greens will take place on Monday, November 29, (5-6pm meal, 6pm decorating starts). Bring a dish to share for a potluck meal. Everyone from the congregation is invited and encouraged to come help adorn the sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas!

Exercise Class will NOT meet the week of Thanksgiving.

Games and Card Group will NOT meet the week of Thanksgiving.

The Quilting Group will NOT meet the week of Thanksgiving.

Special Events & Opportunities

Blanket the County with Love—Thrivent is collecting blankets during the month of November. These will be given to the Clothes Closet, the homeless and others in need. If you would like to donate, please bring the blankets to either entrance of the church where there will be a collection box located. New or gently used blankets will be very much appreciated.

2021 Christmas Store. In December, our community will come together to host Christmas Store 2021. This will be the 48th year we have worked to give those who struggle with food insecurity a meal for the Christmas season. As the pandemic continues, we will again rely on financial contributions rather than food donations. Our plan is to distribute vouchers to those in need to purchase food for a Christmas meal. This year we anticipate feeding over 300 families. To meet this need, we expect to spend approximately \$20,000. Donations can be made by three ways: (1) Make a check out to Bethlehem Lutheran Church and in the memo section write "Christmas Store". (2) Mail your donation to Christmas Store, 212 N. Main Street, Warrensburg or (3) Donate online at: www.mannaharvestinc.org.

The Warrensburg Salvation Army is in need of men's coats (which will be given for free to those who need them). If you are able to donate some, please bring them to Pr. Joel, or take them directly to the Salvation Army Family Services office.

Poinsettias are now available to order. The deadline for ordering is November 24. Options are red, white, pink and a red/white splash (candy cane). Prices are as follows: small-\$7 and large-\$20. Pick up an order form at each entrance of the church or by the mailboxes. All checks are to be made payable to Mary Martha

Guild. Leave your forms in Eunice Cobb's mailbox.

Holiday Parade—Bethlehem will be participating in the Holiday Parade on **December 3rd at 6:00 p.m.** If you would like to be a part of the float (either working on it and/or participating in the parade), please contact the office. We will need children and adults in costume, walkers and riders the evening of the parade. This is a LIGHTED parade, so all float items and walkers have to be illuminated.

Heit's Point's Christmas Celebration will be held on Sunday, December 5 at 1:00 p.m. The Celebration starts with a meal, followed by music and a reading from The Christmas Story. The day will finish off with desserts! For more information or to register, go to www.heitspoint.com. Heit's Point is located in Lincoln and is the recreational and retreat center of the Missouri District.

Sedalia Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Jerrode Marsh, will present their Christmas Pops Concert on Monday, December 6th at 7:30 p.m. at the Heckart Performing Arts Center in Sedalia. Our own Gary Moege will be part of the Orchestra as well as the Singing Saints. Tickets are \$10 at the door or you can purchase them online at Sedalia.Symphony.Orchestra.com.

Ladies of Immanuel Lutheran Church at 110 Main in Sweet Springs, MO invite you to their **21st Annual Cookie Festival on Saturday, Dec. 4th. It begins at 8:30 am and goes until sold out.** Social Distancing and Masks Requested. There are 16 varieties of homemade cookies, candies & decorated cookies. Cookies are \$10.00 per box and the candy is \$7.00 per pound. Limit of 3 boxes per entry. Gloves are provided.

Christkindlesmarkt—You are invited to Concordia's second annual German Christmas market—the *Saint Paul Christkindlesmarkt*, held on the 40-acre campus of Saint Paul Lutheran High School. The market will be outdoors, and open from 4pm to 9pm on Friday, December 10th and on Saturday, December 11th from 11am to 9pm. The market will include vendors, traditional German Christmas food, crafts for children, live stage entertainment and more. Please see our Facebook page "Saint Paul Christkindlesmarkt" for more details or visit the website at www.splhs.org/events.

St. Paul Lutheran High School's 2021 Christmas Concert—The Singing Saints Choir and Saint Paul Orchestra will be holding their December concert on **December 12** at **3:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Concordia.** There will be a free-will offering to support the SPLHS Music Department. Can't attend? Watch via live-stream at stpaulsconcordia.org.

Country Kitchen Cards are available! You can get 10 buy-one, get-one meal FREE coupons for just \$10.00. All proceeds go towards helping the youth group. See a

youth member, or you can stop by the office and purchase one.

Offerings

You can mail your offerings to Bethlehem and have pastor put it in the offering plate with a prayer of trust for you, or you can give through the online offering called "Simply Giving". You may also place your offering in the plate in the Narthex.

Bethlehem Emergency Fund—Much gratitude goes out to those who've donated so generously to this account which Pastor Joel uses to help those within the congregation and community when pressing needs arise and other resources aren't available! The Lord's gifts to us are indeed ours to share, so thanks for doing so!

Elders

Willie Crespo (last name begins A-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

Office Manager:

Cindy Smith
Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm
660-747-6742
officemanager@blchurch.com

Congregational Life Facilitator:

Rebecca Stewart Tue & Thurs: 8am-5pm 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 live streaming on the web, 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.