

A mosaic-style illustration of Jesus Christ. He has a beard and long hair, and is wearing a blue robe over a purple garment. He is holding a book in his left hand. The background is a golden halo with red and white stripes. The text is overlaid in white on the center of the image.

The Spirit of the Lord
is upon me, because
he has anointed me to
bring good news
to the poor

LUKE 4:18



+ Third Sunday After The Epiphany +

January 23, 2022

AS WE GATHER

Each one of us comes into God’s house individually, from different backgrounds, families, situations, experiences, challenges, and joys. But here, in God’s house, something happens that makes us not just a collection of individuals but joined together as one person, one Body. This unity happens because we have been gathered by one Baptism in one faith in one Lord, our God whose greatness has been shown in our hearts and to the world in His Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Here our Lord speaks, and we listen. And in the listening, we are moved to repentance and faith, true repentance of heart over our sins and true faith that knows that the Scriptures, the Word of God, are fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ. May true joy motivate our praise of God here and all our days as God’s people scattered throughout the world.

The pottery vessels on the altar remind us that although Holy Communion is not celebrated today, our Lord’s sacred gifts are still central to our life of faith. Holy Communion is celebrated every 1st, 3rd, and 5th weekend (and major festivals).

Liturgical Color:

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

PreludeSheri Mattson

Welcome

Stand

Gathering Hymn *“Greet the Rising Sun”, #871*



1 Greet the	ris - ing	sun,	Shin - ing	with bright force,
2 Fa - ther,	hear my	prayer,	Keep me	safe to - day;
3 Lord, I	will to - day		On Your	love re - ly;



Like an ath - lete strong, Set to run the course;
 Sanc - ti - fy my thoughts, All I do and say:
 Let no e - vil thought Cloud the clear blue sky.



Birds soar high a - bove, Wild-flow'rs bloom be - low;
 As I teach the young And es - teem the old,
 Joy - ful and con - tent With life's sim - pler things,



With the day's new light, Glad to work I go.
 May Your boun-teous grace By my life be told.
 Know-ing all I need From Your kind - ness springs.

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Morning Prayer

Opening Verses..... *page 235*



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



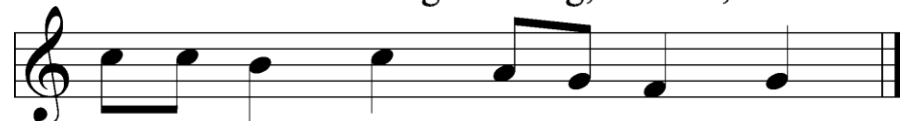
C and my mouth shall de - clare Your praise.



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



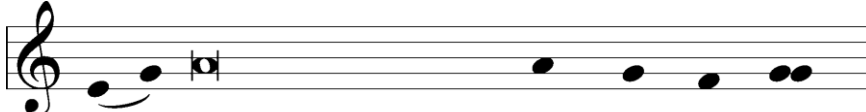
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



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

Psalmody

Antiphon..... page 235

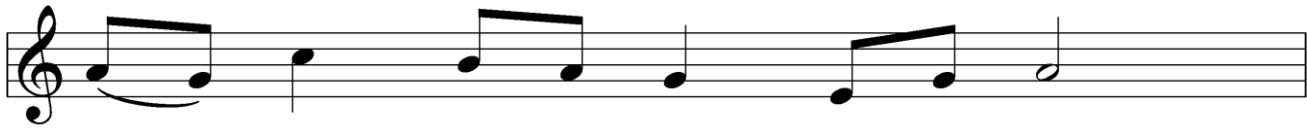


L Give glory to God, our light and our life.



G O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite..... page 236



G O come, let us sing to the Lord;



let us make a joy - ful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.



I Let us come in - to His pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing;



let us make a joy - ful noise to Him with songs of praise.



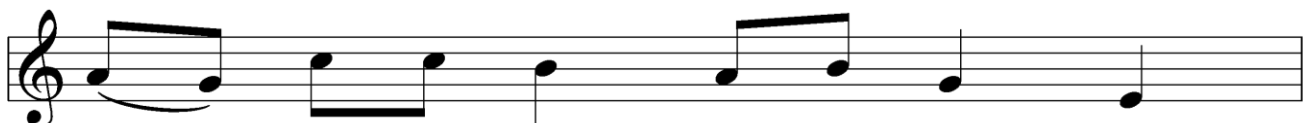
II For the Lord is a great God and a great king a - bove all gods.



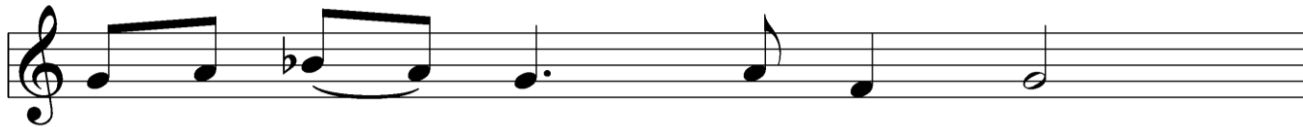
I In His hand are the depths of the earth;



the heights of the moun - tains are His al - so.



II The sea is His, for He made it;



and His hand formed the dry land.



I O come, let us wor - ship and bow down;



let us kneel be - fore the Lord, our mak - er.



II For He is our God, and we are the peo - ple



of His pas - ture and the sheep of His hand.

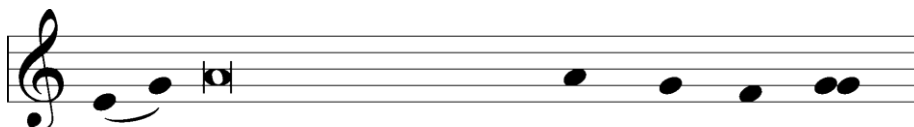


C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



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

Antiphon.....*page 237*



L Give glory to God, our light and our life.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Psalm 19(*spoken responsively by half verse*)

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun,
**which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.**

Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
**and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple;

the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes;

the fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever;

the just decrees of the LORD are true,
and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;

sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can discern his errors?

Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;
let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and will be forever. Amen

Sit

Office Hymn..... *“God Has Spoken by His Prophets”, #583*



1 God has spo - ken by His proph - ets, Spo - ken His un - chang - ing Word;
2 God has spo - ken by Christ Je - sus, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
3 God is speak - ing by His Spir - it, Speak - ing to our hearts a - gain,



Each from age to age pro - claim - ing God, the one, the righ - teous Lord.
Bright - ness of the Fa - ther's glo - ry, With the Fa - ther ev - er one;
In the age - less Word de - clar - ing His own mes - sage, now as then.



In the world's de - spir and tur - moil, One firm an - chor holds us fast:
Spo - ken by the Word In - car - nate, God of God, be - fore time was;
Through the rise and fall of na - tions One sure faith yet stand - ing fast;



God is king, His throne e - ter - nal; God the first, and God the last.
Light of Light, to earth de - scend - ing, He re - veals our God to us.
God a - bides, His Word un - chang - ing; God the first, and God the last.

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Readings

Old Testament Reading..... **Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . .

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. . .

They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel Luke 4:16-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke well of him

and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C 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.

Children's Message

Sermon..... "Seeing the Part & the Whole"

Hymn of Praise..... "Rise, Shine, You People", #825



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
 2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
 3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
 He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
 Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing.
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
 All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
 To all the world go out and tell the
 Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
 driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
 sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
 na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

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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)

Prayer

Collect of the Day *(spoken in unison)*

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collects.....*page 241*

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

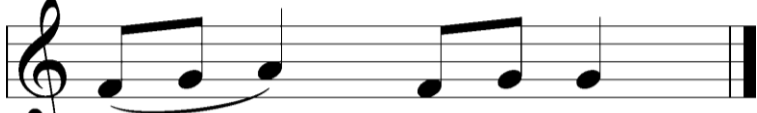
C Amen.

Lord's Prayer.....*page 241*

Benedicamus.....*page 241*

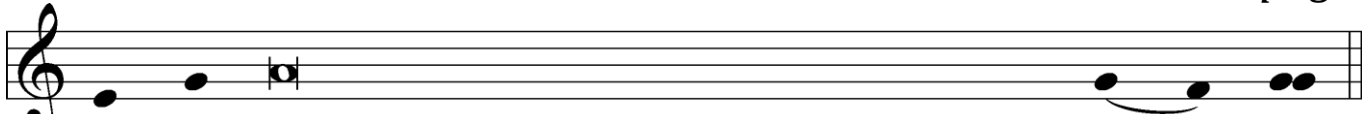


L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction..... *page 242*



P The al - mighty and merciful Lord, the Father,
the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



C A - men.

Sending Hymn..... "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness", #849



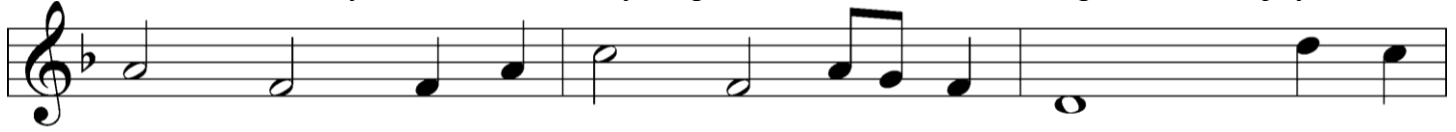
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

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

Postlude Sheri Mattson

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Next week's readings:
OT: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (17-19) Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13;
Gospel: Luke 4:31-44

Attendance Last Saturday: 12

Total Offering: \$5,024.69

Home Use: \$4,320.69

Attendance Last Sunday: 50

Missions: \$600.00

Benevolences: \$104.00

Serving us today:

Elders/Ushers..... Caleb Thomas

Musicians Sheri Mattson

Altar Committee..... Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Karon Harding,
Esther Keseman, Georgia Luker

Flower Committee Penny Humphrey (Chair), Lori Sloan

This Week's Schedule

Sunday	3:15 p.m.	Youth Catechesis
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots at the Park
	6:30 p.m.	4-H Meeting
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Quilting
	7:15 p.m.	Education Board Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	7:00 p.m.	Zoom-Epiphany Bible Study
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
	6:00 p.m.	Scouts
Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Holy Communion
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.	Holy Communion

Thanks

Beryl Lindley would like to say “thank you” for the Birthday cards she received from the congregation at Bethlehem. God’s Blessings and Peace for the New Year.

Prayers

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Paula Brewer, Felisa Brown, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Barb Compton, Mollie Dinwiddie, Marion & Leona Droege, Renae Ernesti (Charlene McCarter’s niece), Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Marty Lehn, Heather Long (Carol Kurz’s niece), Lynn Lowe, Ron Niemeyer, Pam Petersen (Peggy Hoyer’s sister), Judy Pierce, Alice Repp (friend of the Limbacks), Jim Rudy, and Joe Zeman.

For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers), especially Samantha & Nathan Schultz (Mark and Felisa Brown’s daughter & son-in-law) and Caitlin and Eric Hulshizer. 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, 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.

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

New Faith Night Topic for 2022: *The Lord’s Prayer, Line by Line!* We’ll start on **Wednesday, February 2nd** by discussing what it means to pray and live the words

“Our Father in Heaven.” Bring whatever you’d like to eat for a simple meal and conversation with others from **5:30-6:00 p.m.** in the fellowship hall, followed by our discussion from **6:00 to 6:45**. Any questions? Ask Pr. Joel.

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.

Sunday Bible Study is working through the recent book *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation*, as well as through companion passages in Scripture, so that we can all more firmly believe and live through Christ’s own life, death, and resurrection. Plan to join us **in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:10 a.m.!**

Wednesday Bible Study is currently exploring the short book of Jonah. Join us **in the conference room from 10:30 to noon** as we see what Jonah has to do with us.

Thursday Advent Zoom Bible Study. “Epiphany 2022” is a new Zoom Bible study in which we’re discussing God’s forgiving love for us in Christ Jesus. This Bible study focuses on the Scripture readings for each Sunday. The class happens on **Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. and runs through March 10**. Please let Rebecca or Cindy know if you would like to join.

Opportunities

The Warrensburg Food Center is in needs of the following items: smaller boxes of dried cereal, instant coffee (no decaf), hamburger helper and pop tarts. No macaroni and cheese at this time. Please throw in a few items when you are doing your grocery shopping to help the Food Center. You can place them in the basket at the north entrance of the church to be delivered to the Food Center.

Fellowship

Exercise Class is being held at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone, men or women. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

The Games and Card Group meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Youth room downstairs. Anyone, men and women, are welcome to come. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

The Quilting Group meets on the **second and fourth Tuesday** of the month from **9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.** (September through May). Anyone is welcome to help with this project. No special sewing skills needed. Bring your own lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

Miscellaneous

Trinity Alma Men's Club Pancake Supper will be held on **Sunday, January 30**, in the school cafeteria, serving **5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** Free-will donations will go towards Lutheran Campus Ministries, Trinity Youth Group, and Trinity Men's Club.

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.

Ongoing thanks to those who generously give to the Bethlehem Emergency Fund, which enables Pr. Joel to assist members and certain people in the community who are in crisis situations. Much appreciation for your good support!

Offerings

Simply Giving is the online program for donations and offerings. The website has changed a bit recently. If you need assistance, please let the office know and we will provide you with the steps to start it or help you change where you place your funds.

2022 Elders

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

Ricky Bertels (last name begins E-H), 660-262-8080, rick1janice2@gmail.com

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

Alan Miller (last name begins Mc-R) 660-909-1764, alormiller@aol.com

Caleb Thomas (last name begins S-Z) 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@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

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

Office Manager:

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

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officemanager@blchurch.com

Congregational Life Facilitator:

Rebecca Stewart

Tuesday & Thursday: 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.