

COME
AND SEE

JOHN 1:39



+ Second Sunday After The Epiphany +

January 14/15, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Prayer is a conversation with God, beginning with His Good News and followed by our response. John first identified Jesus as “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29) and then the disciples asked where He was staying. Although first called to be a prophet, Isaiah thought his warning had been in vain. But God raised his sight to see in Israel a light for the whole world. And when the faithful people in Corinth seemed plagued with problems, Paul reminded them that they lacked no spiritual gift as they awaited our Lord’s return. Today is a day to hear the Gospel and respond not in our own strength, but out of confidence in what God has already said to us, through prophets and apostles, in print and, of course, in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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.***

***If you are in need of a gluten-free wafer for Communion,
please let Pastor or an Elder know.***

Liturgical Color:

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

Visitors: We are glad you have chosen to be with us today! We would especially like to follow-up with you beyond today, so please take a moment to leave your best contact information in the guest books at each entrance/exit. **A cry-room for parents and children is just off from the front entryway, and there's a wonderful nursery downstairs at the end of the fellowship hall for you to make use of at any time.** Do you have any questions about anything here? Don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers or elders, or talk to the pastor.

Prelude

Please rise, as able.

Invocation Hymn "Hail to the Lord's Anointed", #398



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,
3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;
5 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!
To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;
Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.
All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.
From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,
To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,
Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;
To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;
The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.
Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.
And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.
His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A kingdom with - out end.
His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Divine Service, Setting Four

Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Confession & Absolutionpage 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 feared.
P Since we are gathered . . .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, . . . through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn "Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise", #946



1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and earth - ly peace we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

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Kyriepage 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 - shiped 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.

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.

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading..... **Isaiah 49:1-7**

Listen to me, O coastlands,
and give attention, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named my name.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my right is with the LORD,
and my recompense with my God."
And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him;
and that Israel might be gathered to him—
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—
he says:
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

Thus says the LORD,

the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,
the servant of rulers:

“Kings shall see and arise;

princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please rise

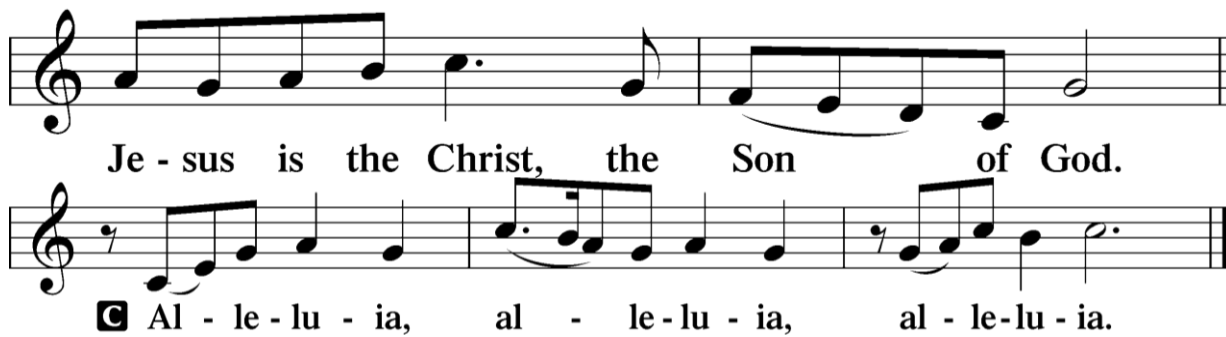
Alleluia and Verse page 205



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



Holy Gospel John 1:29-42a

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed page 206

**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.**

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day "Christ, the Word of God Incarnate", #540 (1-4)



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
 2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,
 3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of
 4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
 food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,
 Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You
 Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the
 To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

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Sermon “The Doorway Opening to Life”

Offering & Offertory

Please rise

Prayer of the Church

- Lord, in your mercy.
- Hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgy *pages 208-210*

- The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- 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 beneficial . . . evermore praising You and saying:



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!

Agnus Deipage 210



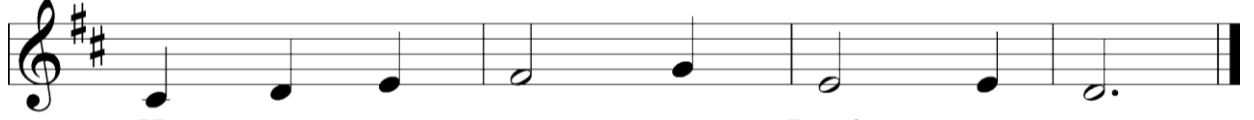
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



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.

Please be seated, until motioned to rise & proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing.

Instrumental

(Communion Hymns-Sunday Only)

Communion Hymn "My Faith Looks Up to Thee", #702



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

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Communion Hymn "The Gift Christ Freely Gives", #602



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me
2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
3 The gifts of grace and peace From ab - so - lu - tion flow;
4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho - sen, saved and free!
New life He gives that makes Us His and His a - lone.
The pas - tor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
God's chil - dren lis - ten, hear, Re - ceive, and they are fed.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil - dren who pro - claim
 Here He for - gives our sins With wa - ter and His Word;
 For - give - ness that we need Is grant - ed to us there;
 Christ fills them with Him - self, Blest words that give them life,



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
 The tri - une God Him - self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
 The Lord of mer - cy sends Us forth in His blest care.
 Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's strife.

5 The gifts are in the feast,
 Gifts far more than we see;
 Beneath the bread and wine
 Is food from Calvary.
 The body and the blood
 Remove our ev'ry sin;
 We leave His presence in
 His peace, renewed again.

6 All glory to the One
 Who lavishes such love;
 The triune God in love
 Assures our life above.
 His means of grace for us
 Are gifts He loves to give;
 All thanks and praise for His
 Great love by which we live!

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Please rise

Post Communion Canticle..... *“Nunc Dimittis” page 211*



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



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

Benedicamus and Benediction..... page 212

Sending Hymn *"On Galilee's High Mountain", #835 (1-4)*

1 On Gal - i - lee's high moun-tain Christ gave the great com - mand
 2 The Lord who, born of Mar - y, Came down as man and died,
 3 His strength with - in my weak-ness Will make me bold to say
 4 And not a - lone to na - tions In far - a - way re - treats,
 In words of strength and prom - ise Which all can un - der-stand:
 Who preached to all who lis-tened, For us was cru - ci - fied—
 How His re - deem - ing pow - er Trans-forms my stub-born clay;
 But ev - 'ry-where I broad-cast His love through crowd-ed streets:
 "All pow'r to Me is giv - en To do what I shall choose;
 This Lord, our liv - ing broth - er, In pow'r at God's right hand,
 His touch of fire ig - nites me, With cour - age I am sent,
 The lives that my life touch - es, How - ev - er great or small—
 There - fore I send My chil-dren, Their wit - ness I will use."
 Has cho - sen us to car - ry His truth to ev - 'ry land.
 My tongue - tied si - lence bro - ken, With grace made el - o - quent.
 Let them through me see Je - sus, Who served and saved us all.

Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

P Grow in Christ,

C Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude

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Next week's readings:

OT: Isaiah 9:1-4; Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Gospel: Matthew 4:12-25

Attendance Last Saturday: 16

Total Offering: \$9,532.71

Home Use: \$8,532.71

Attendance Last Sunday: 81

Missions: \$0.00

Benevolences: \$1,000.00

Serving us today:

Elders Ricky Bertels (Sat), Alan Miller, Ricky Bertels (Sun)

Musicians Rich Vanderburgh (Sat), Cody Clemons (Sun)

Altar Committee Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Julie Crespo,
Karon Harding, Georgia Luker, Amy Martin

Flower Committee Penny Humphrey (Chair), Lori Sloan

This Week's Schedule

Sunday	12:00 p.m.	Elders' Meeting
	3:00 p.m.	Youth Get-together for Ice Skating
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	2:00 p.m.	Moms and Tots at the Park
	6:30 p.m.	Scouts
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Mission Board Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
	11:00 a.m.	The Lunch Bunch (Wsbg Sr. Center)
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Board Meeting
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Trustees' Meeting
	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)

9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Adult Bible Class
10:30 a.m.	Worship
12:00 p.m.	Thrivent Planning Meeting
3:00 p.m.	Youth Catechesis

Prayers

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Bob & Barbara Compton, Marion Droege, Tommy Fatka, Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Bret & Valerie Hartwig, Don Hillsman, Jr., Mary Johnson, Wanda Kreisel, Rohn Luker, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, & 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 and 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, feel free 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!

Special Days for Members This Week

Birthdays—Ron Rode-14th, Tommy Fatka-15th, Conner Rich-17th, Rick Mills-18th.

Anniversaries—Michael and Macae Mickens-17th, Rich and Lana Vanderburgh-18th.

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

Wednesday Bible Study—We are reading and discussing our way through the writings of the prophet Zechariah. **Join us in the conference room from 10:30 a.m. to noon** for this biblical journey together!

Sunday Bible Study (9:15-10:10 a.m. in the conference room)—We're using Trevor Sutton's 2018 book *Clearly Christian: Following Jesus in This Age of Confusion* as an inroad to Scripture, the Christian faith, and life. Join us for this discussion and

exploration of who Christ is and what believing and living in Him really means!

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings downstairs for ages Preschool through 12th grade. We invite all children of the congregation (and outside too!) to come and be a part of this time set aside for growing together in Christ.

Youth Opportunities

Sunday Ice Skating—The monthly junior & senior youth gathering (Third Sunday at 3) is happening on the 15th with skating at Crown Center. Youth group funds will cover the cost of admission and skate rental; however, youth will be responsible for purchasing their own food and drink. Please be at the church a little before **3 p.m.** to carpool. We will return around 7-7:30 p.m. Check with Penny Humphrey or Pr. Joel, if you haven't already, and would like to go.

Youth Church Worker Event—Across the country and throughout the world, the church desperately needs pastors, teachers, and other church workers. Jesus says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38) To inform our students about different opportunities in church work, **The Holy Cross Emma youth group** will host a church worker panel during their meeting on **Sunday, January 22 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.** in the Holy Cross School basement. While the event will be geared towards Jr. High and High School students, anyone is welcome to sit in and listen.

YouthLead Missouri is a leadership training for high school youth. This conference will be held on **February 18-20, 2023 at Rocky Mount, Missouri.** Youth will receive practical training to help prepare them to be leaders in their own churches and community. Bethlehem would pay for any youth wanting to go to this mentorship/ leadership training. Please let Pr. Joel or Penny Humphrey know if you are interested.

Music

Great News, we have a Choir Director! Peggy Forstad, a veteran choir director with over 40 years' experience, has graciously agreed to lead us in joyful song to proclaim God's word. Choir rehearsals begin **January 25th and every Wednesday from 6:30 pm-08:00 pm in the Conference Room.** The first half-hour is dedicated to fellowship, then a full one-hour rehearsal. All previous and **prospective** choir members are invited to attend. Please give this opportunity prayerful consideration to strengthen our church and the unified Body of Christ.

Mary Martha Guild

Poinsettias—The poinsettias from Christmas are ready to go to a new home. If you would like one or know someone who does please take them.

Altar Flowers—The Mary-Martha Guild invites you to *donate flowers* to honor a birthday, anniversary or other occasion, or honor the memory of a loved one who has passed away. To reserve a date to donate flowers, please call the office or Penny Humphrey.

Recycling—Please consider bringing all of your *aluminum cans* to Bethlehem to be recycled! You can place your bags by the shed in the parking lot. Proceeds go to the Lutheran World Relief through the Guild.

Fellowship

The Lunch Bunch will be meeting on **Thursday, January 19 at 11:00 a.m.** at the **Warrensburg Senior Center**. The menu will be Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans, Wheat Roll, Peaches or Chocolate Cake. (Baked Chicken Breast or Baked Fish will also be available upon request). A contribution of \$5 is suggested.

Exercise Class happens 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 are needed. Bring your own lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

This & That

Building Relationship Despite Disagreements—The Missouri District will put on a webinar on **January 18 at 12:00 noon**. Dr. Chad Lakies and Marty Hasz will give a biblical vision of how to engage with others who think and believe differently than we do. To join the webinar, go to mo.lcms.org/webinars.

The Lutheran Witness—The January issue (“Life After Roe”) of our LCMS denominational magazine reflects on the Church’s proclamation of life in Christ in a variety of settings and circumstances. Current and past issues are always available at both entrances/exits for your taking.

Thinking Spring—As we look toward a return of green growth before too long, it would be great to gather core groups of people who want to be involved with what needs to be done in our gardens and nature trail on a regular basis. If you'd like to be part of these stewarding groups, let Pr. Joel or Shawn Lindley know so that you can be put on a list for project discussion and planning.

Offering Envelopes—We are still waiting on offering envelopes to arrive! For the time being, you may use a blank envelope for your offering. Please make sure you put your name and where you want the funds designated to on the front of the envelope.

Country Kitchen Cards—We have Country Kitchen Cards. Stop by the office if you would like to purchase one. They are \$10 and you get 10 buy-one- get-one free meal deals. All proceeds go to the youth group. Thanks for your support!

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!

2023 Elders

Willie Crespo (last name begins A-F) 660-679-8121, crespo6fam@gmail.com

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

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

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



The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as He walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to Him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are You staying?” He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where He was staying, and they stayed with Him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. *John 1:35-39.*

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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Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

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officemanager@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am-11am

Thursday: 9am-11am

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.