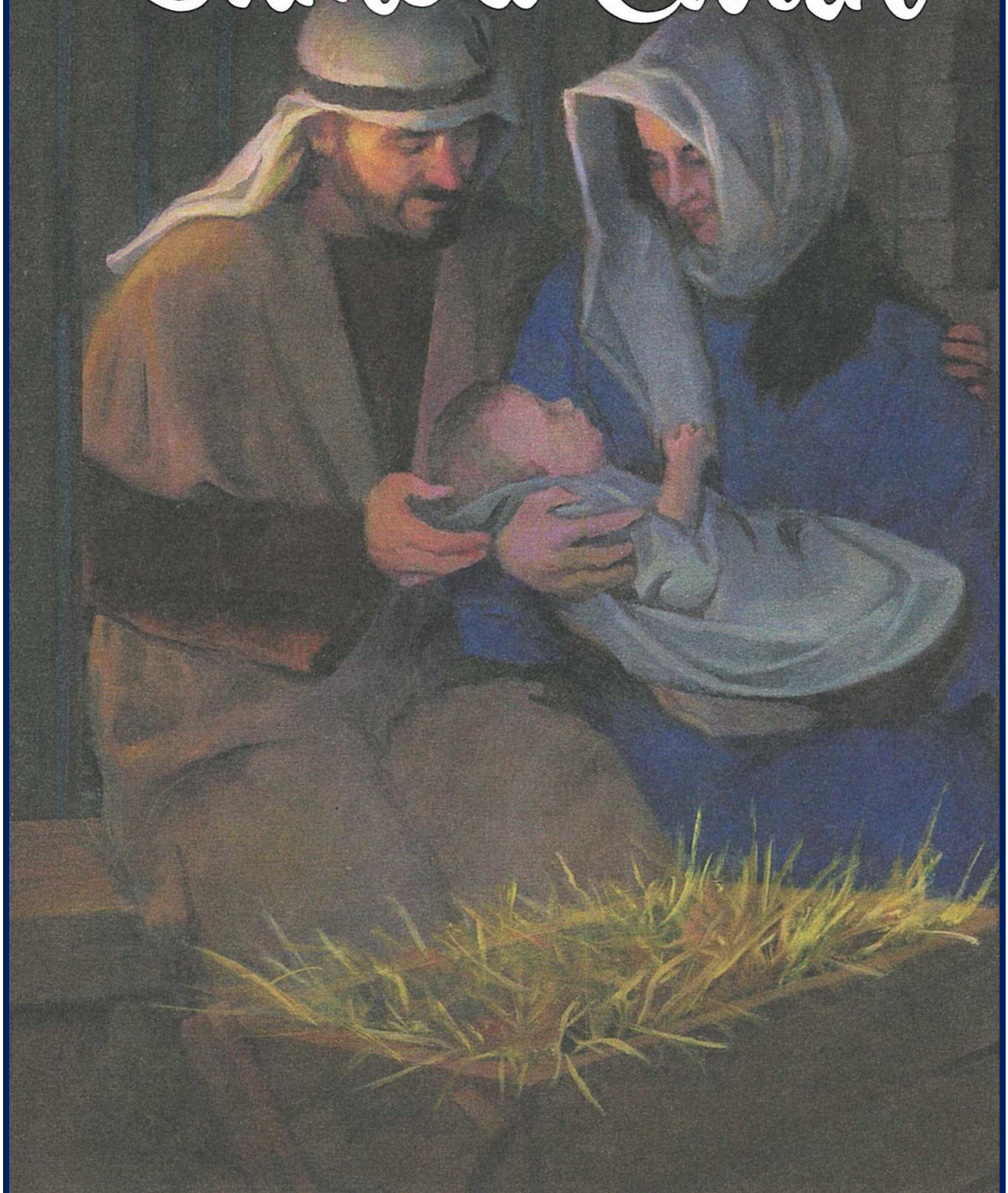


# Peace Came to Earth





# Third Sunday in Advent December 17, 2023



## Children's Christmas Service

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### AS WE GATHER

*Seeking peace by our own efforts is an endless pursuit, but God instructs us with a peace that surpasses understanding. He gives us peace in five separate ways that meet our needs, perhaps before we even know them. This peace comes through the birth of Jesus. Using a five-point Christmas star as a metaphor, see the five ways Jesus brings us peace from God as the Prince of Peace.*

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### REGARDING COMMUNION

Advent calls our attention to Jesus—the Word made flesh who *came* among us, full of grace and truth (John 1:14)—who *comes* to us still in the bread of His Body and wine of His Blood in Holy Communion and *will come* again on the last day. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we celebrate and receive Christ's Holy Supper for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us so that we might show forth his death and resurrection until He *comes*. ***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:***

***Blue is the color of water and sky, thus hope, for the baptized who know that Christ came down from heaven to earth and is coming again.***

*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

## Pastoral Welcome

*Please rise, as able.*

## The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- P** You, O Lord, are our lamp:
- C** You turn our darkness into light. (Ps. 18:28)
- P** With You, O Lord, is the well of life:
- C** In Your light shall we see light. (Ps. 36:9)

*The third candle is lit at this time.*

**All: O Lord, Creator of the universe, in this season of Advent, when the sun's light is swallowed up by the growing darkness of the night, You renew Your promise to reveal among us the splendor of Your glory, made visible to us in Jesus Christ Your Son—the Word made flesh who came among us in earthly life—full of grace and truth. Enable us anew to cling to Him in faith, hope, and love by the work of Your Holy Spirit among us, we pray—Amen.**

*(Prayer request cards will be collected as the hymn is sung.)*

## Invocation Hymn..... "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #379 (1-3)



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!

Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God In the high - est:

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,  
 O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

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## Divine Service, Setting One

# Confession and Absolution

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

**Confession and Absolution**.....page 151

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P** In the mercy of almighty God . . . Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** Amen.

**Response Hymn** .....“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #357 (6-7)

6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us  
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the  
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y  
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -  
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.  
*Refrain*  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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## Collect of the Day ..... (*spoken in unison*)

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## *Peace Came To Earth*

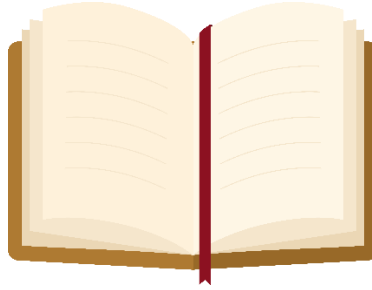
### Words to Begin

- P** For to us a child is born,
- C** to us a son is given;
- P** and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
- C** and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
- P** Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
- C** Prince of Peace. (*Isaiah 9:6*)

*Please be seated.*

**Christmas Meditation**.....“The Peace Holding Everything Together”

## +The Promise of Peace+



**Action Rhyme** ..... “To Us a Child Is Born”

**Children’s Song** ..... “God Loves Me Dearly”, #392

**Congregational Hymn**..... “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”, #338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



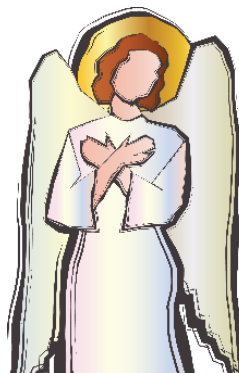
Is - rael’s strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - ’ry na - tion, Joy of ev - ’ry long - ing heart.  
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

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## +Peace Is Proclaimed+



**Recitation**

**Children’s Song** ..... *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*, #357 (1, 4)

**Congregational Hymn**..... *“Peace Came to Earth”* (see back of bulletin)

**+The Prince of Peace+**



**Recitation**

**Children’s Song** ..... *“Away in a Manger”*, #364

**+Peace for All People+**



**Recitation**

**Children’s Song** ..... *“To Us a Child Is Born”*

*Please rise.*

**Nicene Creed**.....page 158

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

- P** . . . Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name;  
**C** make known His deeds among the peoples!  
**P** . . . Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;  
**C** tell of all His wondrous works!  
**P** . . . Glory in His holy name;  
**C** let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!  
**P** . . . Seek the LORD and His strength;  
**C** seek His presence continually!  
**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray,  
waiting in joyful expectation for Your coming kingdom; through Jesus Christ,  
our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## Offering

*Please rise.*



# Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgy .....pages 160-163



**P** The Lord be with you.



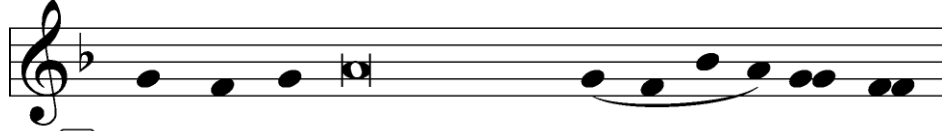
**C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and beneficial . . . evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus.....page 161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving.....page 161**

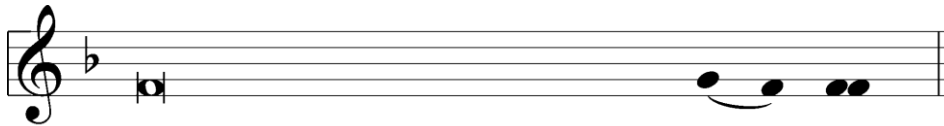
**P** Blessed are You . . . one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Lord's Prayer**

**The Words of Our Lord**

**Pax Domini.....page 163**



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

**Agnus Dei.....page 163**



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



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

**Communion Distribution**

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

**Instrumental/Silent Reflection**

**Communion Hymns** ..... *"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" #359*



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have  
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er  
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -  
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the  
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to  
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and  
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.  
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.  
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

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**Communion Hymn** ..... *"Hark the Glad Sound" #349*



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
 shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

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**Communion Hymn** ..... *“O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee”, #632*



1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt  
 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is



thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -  
 come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -



ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.  
 in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

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*Please rise.*

**Responsive Song of Simeon**

- P** Lord, Let Your servants go in peace:
- C** **Your word has been fulfilled.**
- P** Our eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people.
- C** **A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.**  
**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.**

**Parting Prayer**

- P** Let us pray.
- C** **Heavenly Father, we thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to take away our sins and bring peace to our fallen world. Help us to share Your message of love and forgiveness with others so that they may also find peace**

in You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Our eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people!

## Benediction

**P** Joy to the world, the Son of God, our Savior, has come! The peace of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you today and every day.

**C** Amen.

## Sending Hymn..... "Joy to the World" #387



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Dismissal ..... (Bethlehem's Mission)

**P** Grow in Christ,

**C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

## Postlude

**Next week's readings:**

**OT: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; EP: Romans 16:25-27; Gospel: Luke 1:26-38**

**Attendance Saturday: 22**

**Attendance Sunday: 82**

**Total Offering: \$9,544.30**

**Missions: \$0.00**

**Attendance: Advent Midweek: 41**

**Home Use: \$5,410.00**

**Benevolences: \$4,134.30**

**Serving us today:**

Elders..... Willie Crespo, Alan Miller  
 Musicians ..... Rich Vanderburgh  
 Altar Committee.....Teresa Hillsman-Chair Lisa Gulick, Beryl Lindley  
 Susie Mills, Cindy Schnell, Samantha Schnell  
 Flower Committee ..... Penny Humphrey (Chair), Cindy Smith

**This Week's Schedule**

Sunday	12:00 p.m.	Children's Christmas Party
	1:00 pm.	Youth Catechesis
Monday		<i>Cindy's Vacation Day</i>
	10:00 a.m.	Exercise Brunch
	2:00 p.m.	Moms and Tots at the Park
Tuesday		<i>Pastor's Vacation Day</i>
	3:00 p.m.	Mission Board Meeting
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	3:30 p.m.	Children's Advent Devotion
	7:00 p.m.	Advent Midweek Service
	8:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
Thursday	11:00 a.m.	Lunch Bunch
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	3:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation Class
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Board Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Ezekiel Bible Study
Friday		<i>Office Closed</i>
Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Christmas Eve Morning Service/Holy Communion
	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service/Holy Communion

## 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: Charlie Becker, Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Mark Brown, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Galen Cobb, Bob & Barbara Compton, Marion Droege, Rev. Tom Fatka (Tommy Fatka's dad), Peggy Forstad, Wilma Gertz, Winnie & George Goldsmith (Steve's parents), Karen Haase, Ken Hoemann, Juanita Holcomb (Peggy Forstad's mother), Mary Johnson, Wanda Kreisel, Lloyd McCarter, Jeannie Peterson, Maryanna Savery, Rose Steitz, and & Joe Zeman.

**For Military Members**—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families.

**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**—Lana Vanderburgh-18<sup>th</sup>, Peggy Forstad-18<sup>th</sup>, Henry Hart-18<sup>th</sup>, Dorothy Anderson-20<sup>th</sup>, Brett Hartwig-20<sup>th</sup>. **Anniversaries**—Mike and Bonnie Rich-22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Worship Services

**Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m.** Sunday Services are live on Facebook, YouTube and the webpage at [blchurch.com](http://blchurch.com).

**Looking toward Advent!**—Our last Advent midweek service will be this Wednesday, **December 20-Christ the Light Comes in the Dark**. Once again, we'll be using the beautiful and contemplative Holden Evening Prayer. Join us in our sanctuary on **Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.**

## Sunday School and Christian Education

**Children's Advent Devotions**—Rebecca Holland is holding the last Advent time here at Bethlehem for children (up to age 8) on **Wednesday, December 20 from 3:30-4:30 p.m.** Come learn with us many ways the Old Testament pointed to God sending His son Jesus for our salvation. We will have a story, coloring, snack and crafts. Parents should stay to learn alongside the children. Come and be a part of this Advent get-together!

**Sunday Proverbs Bible Study**—*Oh, to love wisdom and live wisely!* How many times have you said and thought that? Join us for our Sunday Bible study—*Living (& Loving) Wisdom*—which explores the book of Proverbs through the lens of the Ten Commandments and Christ “the Wisdom of God” (I Cor. 1:24. Pr. Joel is drawing from David Coe’s *Provoking Proverbs*. **We start at 9:15 a.m.** (in the conference room) and still have a lot of ground to cover!

**Let’s join the LCMS Memory Verse Challenge!** The Sunday School children will be challenged to learn these verses every week, and you can too! To help make this easy to do and remember, each Sunday I will post the weekly verse on the BLC Facebook page, provide a coloring page with the verse printed on it to take home (find this at the mailboxes), and post the verse in the **Band** app. Download this free app and join the group **BLC Sunday School**. I created a Group Challenge (Rehearse the weekly memory verse), for which you can check-in daily. I’ll make a new challenge for each month. You can also visit [lcms.org/worship/memory-verse-challenge](http://lcms.org/worship/memory-verse-challenge) to find the weekly verse.

**Wednesday Bible Study**—Join us at **10:30 a.m.** in the conference room. We’re looking at the Apocrypha and the time between the two Testaments.

**Thursday Bible Study**—Pastor Bertels’ study on the book of Ezekiel meets in the conference room and is open to all who have the interest and time available. **It starts at 7 p.m.**

## Music

**Christmas Caroling**—On **December 26th** (the 2<sup>nd</sup> Day of Christmas-St. Stephen’s Day), we will be caroling to homebound members and those in nursing homes. If you know someone who would like a visit from us, please let the church office know. We will meet at the church at **1:00 p.m.** and be ready to go spread Christmas cheer on this “down day.” Everyone is welcome to join the festivities!

**Warrensburg Community Chorus** will present their “Season of Lights” concert on **Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 p.m.** It will be held at Community of Christ Church, 700 S. Mitchell Street.

**Choir meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship time and rehearsal from 7:00-8:00p.m. During Advent we will meet after the Wednesday service.** We are always looking for new members! Please contact Peggy Forstad with any questions about joining the choir.

## Opportunities to Serve

**Bulletin Board**—A section of the bulletin board at the North entrance has been dedicated to our congregation members who are home-bound and in nursing



**homes.** Please check it out to see how you can reach out to those who can no longer come to services regularly. Send a card or leave one in the pocket on the board to be delivered during a visit. If you have a picture of a loved one you can share, please send it to Rebecca to have it posted!

## **Fellowship**

**Lunch Bunch** will meet on Thursday, **December 21 at 11:00 a.m.** We will be having pizza. If you would like to bring a dessert, please do.

**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. Exercise class will not meet again until **January 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**The Games and Card Group** meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room downstairs. Everyone is welcome to come to this fellowship time.

**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 or go out and grab something. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

## **This and That**

**Offering Envelopes**—It's December again and time for 2024 envelopes to be distributed. Please let me know if you want envelopes and don't have them or if you have envelopes and don't want them. I plan on distributing new envelopes between Christmas and New Year's Eve so please let me know if there are changes by Dec 20<sup>th</sup>. Thanks. Teresa Hillsman.

**Sacred Music for the Advent Season** can be heard from now through December 23<sup>rd</sup> at [www.lutheranpublicradio.org](http://www.lutheranpublicradio.org), so give that a listen and keep the time of Advent with those great hymns and carols. Sacred Music for the Christmas Season will begin playing December 24—just in time for the twelve days of Christmas!

**The Johnson County Resource Center** happens every **Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** in the basement of First Presbyterian Church (206 N. College)—providing breakfast, a hot lunch, and a place to hang out. Housing assistance and case management are provided, as well as Medicaid signup. **Katy Trail's Mobile Medical Unit will resume its services in January.** Everything is free, so that is the place to be for the basics!

**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 in shining the light

of Christ! If you'd ever like to hear some of the stories of how these funds have been used, just ask Pr. Joel.

### 2023 Elders

**Willie Crespo** (last name begins A-F) 660-679-8121, [crespo6fam@gmail.com](mailto:crespo6fam@gmail.com)

**Ricky Bertels** (last name begins G-K), 660-262-8080, [rick1janice2@gmail.com](mailto:rick1janice2@gmail.com)

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

**Alan Miller** (last name begins P-Z) 660-909-1764, [alormiller@aol.com](mailto:alormiller@aol.com)



Thank you to the following people for their involvement with the children each week. Ellen Pederson, Penny Humphrey, Rich Vanderburgh, Jack Easterwood and Rebecca Holland and all the children who presented today's program.

Thanks to Thrivent for the treat bags they prepared for the children.

Haley Clemons  
Delaney Clemons  
Phil Freeman  
Katy Freeman  
Aedan Pederson

Noah Pederson  
Killian Pederson  
Silas Pederson  
Kersten Thomas  
Trevor Thomas

Connor Thomas  
Bryce VanWey  
Delia VanWey  
LauraBeth VanWey

## **Saturday Worship Service**

December 23 (5:30 p.m.)

### **Christmas Eve**

## **Morning Candlelight Communion Service**

December 24 (10:30 a.m.)



### **Christmas Eve**

## **Evening Candlelight Communion Service**

December 24 (7:00 p.m.)

(Service will be livestreamed)

## **Saturday Communion Service**

December 30 (5:30 p.m.)

### **New Year's Eve**

## **Morning Communion Service**

December 31 (10:30 a.m.)

(Service will be livestreamed)

MAY YOU SHINE  
THE LIGHT OF  
CHRIST IN THE  
NEW YEAR!

## **New Year's Eve Service**

December 31 (7:00 p.m.)

# Peace Came to Earth

Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

GOD WITH US  
Timothy Shaw



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho-sen night  
2 And who could be the same for hav-ing held  
3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,  
4 How else could I have known You, O my God!



When an - gels clove the sky with song and light  
The in - fant in their arms, and lat - er felt  
In flesh and blood You bore our griefs and pain,  
How else could I have loved You, O my God!



And God em - bod - ied love and sheathed His might—  
The wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled—  
In bread and wine You vis - it us a - gain—  
How else could I em - brace You, O my God!



Who could but gasp: Im - man - u - el!  
Who could but sigh: Im - man - u - el!  
Who could but see Im - man - u - el!  
Who could but pray: Im - man - u - el!



Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!  
Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!  
Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!  
Who could but praise Im - man - u - el!

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