

Old Testament

1 Kings 3:4-15

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹ Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴ And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

¹⁵ And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have

redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40-52

⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.



**Did you not know that I
must be in My Father's house?**



Christmas

About the Cover: Frantically searching parents finally found Jesus where He said He was to be found. Jesus is about His Father's business. Jesus is always found right where He promises to be. Years later, when the disciples were greatly concerned about the empty tomb after Jesus' death on the cross, they found Him risen from the dead and in Galilee, just as He promised. We have no need to be frantic in our search for Jesus. He is right where He has promised to be: in His Word and Sacraments.

2nd SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 2, 2022

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church
105 Horn St., Brillion, WI
(920) 756-3031
www.stbartbrillion.org

Rev. Mark L. Krueger, Pastor
Jessica Krueger, Organist
Pastor Email: sblcpastor@gmail.com
Secretary Email: sblcbrillion@gmail.com

Hymns: 389, 390, 392, 805, 725, 410, 375
Sermon: "God Loves You Dearly!"
Ephesians 1:3-14

Holy Communion: Members of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod are invited to receive the Lord's Supper. Non-members are requested to speak with Pastor before worship.

THE MEASURE OF OUR LOVE

Attendance 12/24 (Christmas Eve 4 p.m.): 161	Offering: \$4,271.05
Attendance 12/24 (Christmas Eve 8 p.m.): 43	
Attendance 12/25 (Christmas Day): 59	Comm.: 50
Attendance 12/26 (Sun.): 43	Offering: \$2,239.04
Budget Needs: \$3,541	Scrip Profit 12/26: \$51.60

KINGDOM WORK THIS WEEK

WED (1/5) 3:30 p.m. – Confirmation
7:00 p.m. – **Worship Service**
SAT (1/8) 9:00 a.m. – Outdoor Nativity taken down
SUN (1/9) 8:00 a.m. – S.S./B.C.
9:00 a.m. – **Worship**
6:00 p.m. – Farm & Home 4H
Undecorate Church after service

IN OUR PRAYERS we remember Dylan & Jessica Wendling who were united in marriage on Friday (12/31); Kayla Behnke who is recovering from surgery.

THANK YOU to the R.D. & Linda Peters Foundation for a grant of \$2000.

HELP UNDECORATE – Outdoor Nativity will be taken down on Saturday January 8 at 9:00 a.m. Indoor undecorating will take place next Sunday after church. We will begin as soon as people are ushered out. Your help is appreciated.

PENNIES FOR LIFE – You are encouraged to donate a penny for every year of life which God has granted you. Deposit your pennies in the jar in the narthex. *Please do not donate junk pennies or Canadian pennies.* Donations will go to Lutherans for Life of Wisconsin. Deadline is January 30.

NOMINEES NEEDED for Council Secretary and Elder. If interested, contact Rick Riemer.

GREETER SCHEDULE – Thank you to all who have signed up to greet in 2022. We have several openings still available and would like to fill up the slots open from January through June. Please consider being a Greeter. Thank you.

2022 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES – If you have not yet picked up your envelopes, please do so as soon as possible as some box numbers have changed since last year.

ANNUAL REPORT ITEMS should be turned in already. If not, drop them off at the church office or email them to sblcbrillion@gmail.com ASAP. *Thank you!*

OUR STEWARDSHIP LIFE

Genesis 46:1 – "So Israel took his journey with all that he had and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac." Every sacrifice in the Old Testament pointed forward to the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus upon the cross. That is the one sacrifice for sin. But the New Testament tells us to offer sacrifices as well – sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. We're even called to present our very bodies and selves as "living sacrifices" to the Lord.