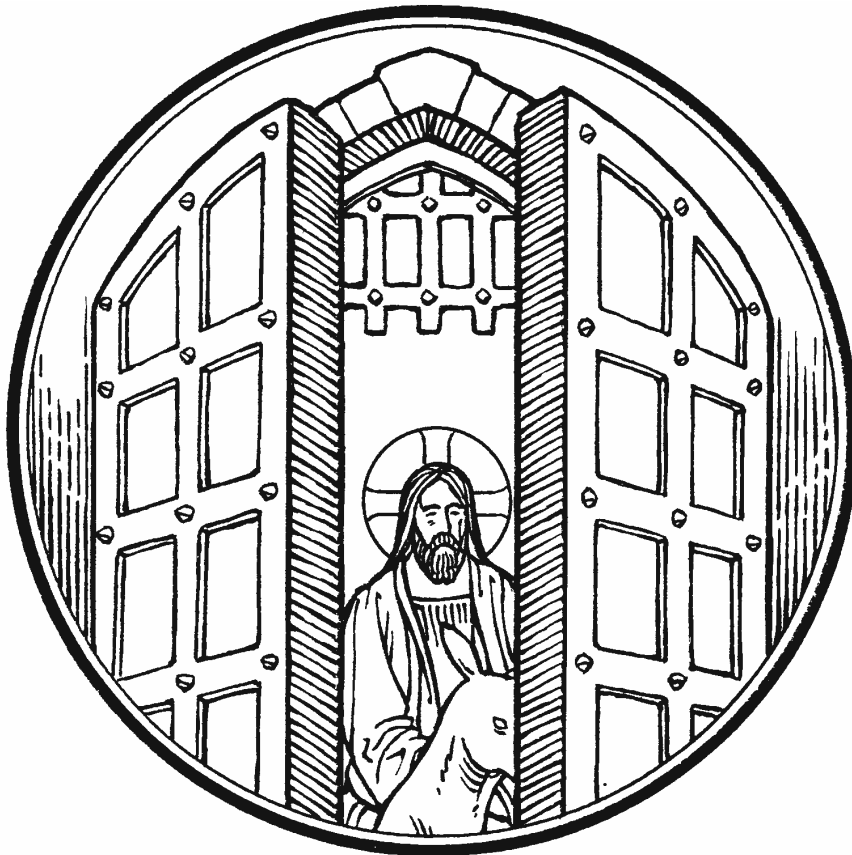


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Ad Te Levavi

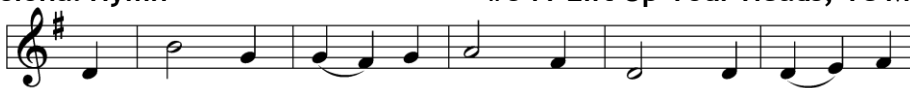
Divine Service - Setting One

December 1, 2024

Vol. 127-01

Processional Hymn

#341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
 2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
 3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
 4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
 5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
 is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
 rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py
 tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
 Thee; here, Lord, a - bide! O en - ter with Thy grace di -



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
 ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
 homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less
 ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
 vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly



va - tion He doth bring; There - fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.
 all our woe He brings; There - fore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.
 Sov - 'reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.
 Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
 To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!
 E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

Text: Georg Weisell, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: August Lemke, 1820–1913
 Text and tune: Public domain

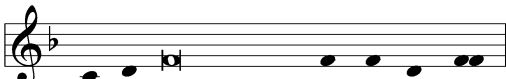
Invocation

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.

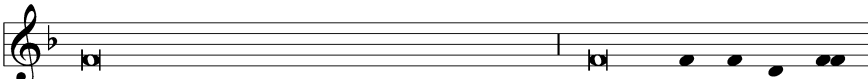
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.




C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



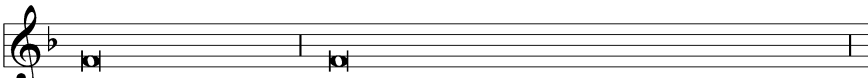
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



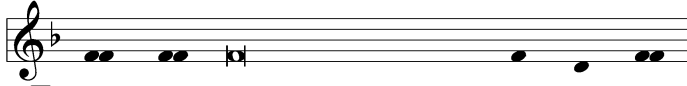
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

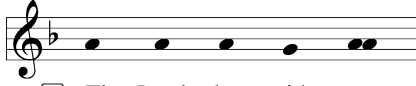


A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 23:5-8

⁵“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’ ⁷“Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when they shall no longer say, ‘As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ ⁸but ‘As the LORD lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their own land.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

None who wait for you shall be | put to shame;*
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.
Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
teach me | your paths.

Epistle

Romans 13:8–14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse




C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “**Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me.** ³**If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.**”

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal

of a beast of burden.””⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

We remember all those in need of continued strength and healing

Ned Peterson (Grandfather of Vicar Phillips in Hospice)

Dale Meyer, Gail Werling, Garrett Werling

Bryce Bowman, Ron Whitesel, Sandy Avey

Ellie Anderson (friend of Sarena Wirgau)

Brandon Tomlinson (son in-law of the Brinkleys)

Sandra Flum (Susan Graft's sister)

We pray for our expectant mothers: *Lynae Laley, Danielle Campbell, Amelia Phillips, Reese Springer, Allie Nabrwoold, Wendy Boehm, Destiny Laley*

We pray for protection: *Pastor and Mrs. Moebing's son Stephen in Israel.*

We pray for our members shut-in:

Ruth Witte (Ossian Healthcare)

Marilyn Meyer (Kingston)

Marilyn Franke (Christian Care)

Charlotte Bultemeier (StoryPoint West)

Rev. Donald Lutz (Lutheran Life Village)

Norwin and Martha Bauermeister (Astral in Auburn)

We pray for our Church, School and all her workers

We pray for all military personnel

Offering

Offertory



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



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



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my

vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament pg. 160

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

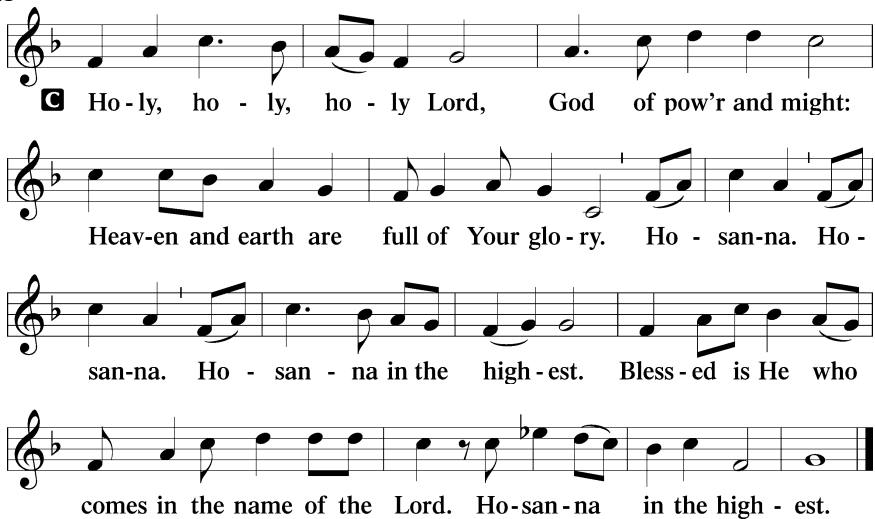
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



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

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

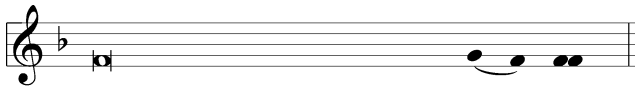
and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini



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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



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.

Distribution

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper in our worship. Bethlehem Lutheran Church administers this Holy Supper in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive, along with the Bread and Wine, the very Body and Blood of Jesus through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Furthermore, the communicants as a body of believers make a confession of the unity of their faith. **Those desiring to receive the Sacrament with us, who are not communicant members of Bethlehem or of a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, are asked to please speak with the Pastor before the service.**

Distribution Hymns

- #621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
- #622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared
- #349 Hark the Glad Sound
- #359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
- #333 Once He Came in Blessing

Nunc Dimittis (please stand)



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. 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.

Post-Communion Collect

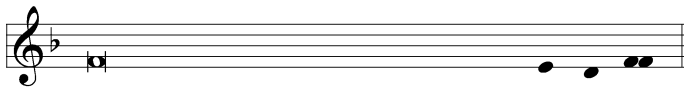
A Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - - men.

Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - - men.

Closing Hymn

#343 Prepare the Royal Highway



IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching
Celebrant
Vicar
Fieldworker
Deaconess
Head Elder
Elders on Duty
Kantor
Acolytes
Crucifer
Altar Guild Chairman
Ushers

Rev. Anthony Dodgers
 Rev. Samuel Wirgau
 Sem. Morgan Phillips
 Sem. Brandon Streeks
 Wendy Boehm
 Glen Werling
 Ted Schumm and Jerry Meyer
 Richard Brinkley
 Alex Fuhrmann and Vinny Fuhrmann
 Hunter Householder
 Tisha Laley and Cheryl Louison
 Rory Geiger, Lane Harkless, Isaac Harkless
 Darren Patrick, Mark Patrick, Cole Patrick

Pastor: Rev. Samuel Wirgau (Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com)	260-273-7595
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Office	260-597-7121
Bethlehem Lutheran School	260-597-7366
Assoc. Pastor, Headmaster Rev. Anthony Dodgers	616-648-6489
Kantor Mr. Richard Brinkley	260-705-4105
Deaconess Wendy Boehm	260-415-8526
Vicar Morgan Phillips	605-391-4770
<i>Website for Church and School: www.blcsossian.org</i>	

TODAY	9:00 a.m. NO 11:30 a.m. 11:30-4:30 p.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion Adult Bible Class and Sunday School Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7) WOB Progressive Christmas Luncheon
MONDAY	11:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	WOB Children's Christmas Luncheon Handbell Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY	10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Chapel Service Adult Catechesis Class Advent Supper (Fellowship Hall) Advent Evening Service Adult Choir Practice
SATURDAY	8:00 a.m.	Women's Book Club (Crimson House)
SUNDAY	9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 12:00 noon 6:30 p.m.	Divine Service with Holy Communion Adult Bible Class and Sunday School Board of Elders Meeting Voice of Bethlehem (WZBD 92.7) Adult Fellowship Group (Fellowship Hall) Youth Bible Study

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS this morning to our church and worship service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We ask that you please complete a green visitor's card from the pew and place it in the offering plate. Also, please be sure to introduce yourself to the Pastor and to others in attendance and feel free to worship with us again.

THANK YOU – The family of Gloria Siela sincerely thanks all the members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church for the outpouring of kind words, love and support upon the passing of our mom and grandma. Special thanks to the care and visits from Pastor Wirgau, Deaconess Wendy Boehm as well as Vicar Phillips...mom truly loved the visits! Thanks for being her spiritual home for over 60 years. Dan, Gary, Diana, Jess and Jake Siela.

THANK YOU for all the cards, prayers, visits, and acts of kindness provided to my family and I during the last months and following Ralph's passing. They provided much comfort and greatly appreciated. Donna Schumm and family

For the Advent Season, Vicar Phillips and Deaconess Boehm put together a wonderful Advent Devotional booklet adding artwork from all of the school students. Copies of this booklet are available in the church foyer to anyone that would like a copy.

Holiday Worship Schedule: Please join us for Wednesday evening Advent Divine Services beginning December 4th at 7:00 pm. ***The Youth Group will be providing a light supper before each of the Advent Services beginning at 6 pm.*** The Children's Christmas Service will be held on Wednesday, December 18th at 7:00 pm. The Christmas Eve Service on December 24th at 7:00 p.m. and Christmas Day Service on December 25th at 9:00 a.m. New Year's Eve Service on December 31st at 7:00 p.m.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – Sunday, December 15th after Adult Bible Class

Vicar and Seminarian Christmas Gifts – TODAY is the last day for choosing a Christmas gift tag for Vicar Morgan Phillips and Seminarian Brandon Streeks. Gifts can be placed in the box located in the church foyer and gift cards can be placed in the LWML mailbox located in the church office or given to Judy Moehring by Sunday, December 8th. Thank you

BASKETS FOR SHUT-INS - Fruit baskets for the shut-ins will be made on Monday, December 2nd at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider volunteering to put these baskets together. Our members really appreciate them. We will also need drivers to deliver these baskets and visit with our members. Contact Dalene Springer if you can help. Thank you

THE ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUP will meet Sunday, December 8th in the Fellowship Hall for a Christmas Party with pizza, cards, and games. Contact Loren Dathe for more information.

WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM COOKIE WALK TO BE HELD ON Sunday, December 15th
A sign-up sheet is posted on the church hallway bulletin board for donations.

CHURCH/SCHOOL DUMPSTER- In recent months, we have been receiving overage charges for over filling the trash dumpster. These fees can be quite substantial, and we are looking at ways to reduce the amount of items going in the dumpster. While it is nice to have the option to dump things in there that are not church/school related, we ask that we all refrain from using the dumpster for things not related to the church/school. For any questions, please contact the trustees.

SCRIP FOR THE HOLIDAYS – We have now switched to online orders only. Please be sure to place your personal orders at the scrip table, on www.RaiseRight.com or contact our coordinator Melissa Price at 260-433-5307 by Sunday, December 15th to receive them by Christmas. The general Bethlehem Scrip gift certificates will be replaced by Visa Gift Cards. Thank you for your support.

Lutheran Special Education Ministries is looking for a part-time resource room teacher position at Bethlehem Lutheran School in Ossian IN. Applicants must hold a current Indiana Teaching License and have a special education certification/endorsement. Interested applicants looking for more information or wishing to submit a resume are asked to contact Richard Schumacher at (734) 748-5253 or email him at rschumacher@luthsped.org.

Northeast Indiana March for Life-Join Right to Life of Northeast Indiana on Saturday, January 18th for the March for Life in downtown Fort Wayne. Unite with thousands of pro-life advocates from our region to show that you support life from conception to natural death. The **March for Life** is an annual pro-life rally held near the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion in *Roe v. Wade*. The pre-march Rally will take place at Tincaps Stadium, 1301 Ewing St, Fort Wayne, IN. Doors open at noon, and the rally will begin at 12:30 pm. The March will start after the Rally. Learn more at www.ichooselife.org/march or call our office at 260-471-1849

Emmaus Cookie Fair Mark your calendar for the annual Cookie Fair at Emmaus Lutheran Church, 8626 Covington Road, on Saturday, December 14, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. – Noon. A wonderful variety of homemade Christmas cookies, fudge, and other favorite Christmas treats will be sold for \$8.00 per pound. These homemade goodies make a wonderful gift and an easy way to do your last minute “Christmas baking!” Free decorative tins will be available to make “gift wrapping” easy! In addition to the Christmas treats, we’ll have Rada Cutlery, a variety of homemade jams & jelly, and kitchen hand towels available to purchase. Come get some delicious homemade goodies and enjoy a complimentary cup of coffee or hot chocolate!

Announcements can be emailed to the church secretary at bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com or the church office at 597-7121.
<https://www.youtube.com/bethlehemplutheranchurchossian> 9:00 a.m. Livestream

Offering November 24, 2024

Average weekly need	\$13,818
Home Fund Env.	\$6,219.17
Synod	15.15
Loose	107.25
Scholarship Fund	
Sunday School	
Improvement Fund	50.50
Endowment Fund	
Music Fund	
Total	<hr/> \$6,392.07

Financial Report

Home Fund Balance (\$4,470.52)

Next week bills due: \$14,000

Bills due two weeks: \$6,000

Savings Account Balance \$44,374.76

Borrowed from Savings: \$26,300

Operating Loan Debt: \$21,900

Church/Communion Attendance

Sunday 175/139

RECITATION & PRAYER FOR SCHOOL AND HOME

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

What are the Ten Commandments?

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it Holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What is the Apostles' Creed?

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.

- *Additional Memory Work for the week may be recited.*
- *A hymn may be sung.*
- *Scripture Reading and Devotion Lesson*
- *Prayers and Intercessions*

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Learn-by-heart all or some of the provided text as age and ability of your household allows.

What benefits does baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark:

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. Mark 16:16

What is John 3:5?

Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. John 3:5

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA PLANT ORDER FORM

The Poinsettia Christmas plants will again be used to decorate the church this year!
If interested in ordering plants, please return this form with your payment
to the church office by Sunday, Dec. 15th

*Flowers will be RED this year and you can pick them up after the Christmas Day
Service. Thank you

_____ 6 " pot - RED

\$15.00



Please make checks payable to: Women of Bethlehem.

Ordered by: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____