



**Second Sunday after Christmas**  
January 3, 2021

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
**Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**  
**14531 Old Olga Road**  
**Fort Myers, FL**

# *Bethlehem Lutheran Church*

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Sunday School & Bible Class: 11:30 AM

Church Office: **(239) 694-3878**

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**Rev. Karl P. Glander, Pastor**

Pastor's Cell Phone: **(239) 293-1489**

Pastor's E-Mail Address:

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Linda Kirsch, Church Secretary

All the Scripture readings this week speak of God's abundant love showered on God's people. We live in a world where not all people have enough to eat or have adequate shelter. How can you take action steps to be the hands, feet, and voice of God's love to others this week?

During Advent and the Christmas season, we light candles to symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus. Place a

candle as a centerpiece on your dinner table this week. Before each meal, as you light the candle: Say: Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The light no darkness can overcome.



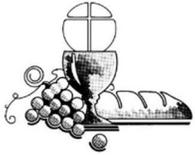
## **IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU IN WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!**

Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, we believe in the teachings of the Bible as taught by Jesus and the apostles and strive to live our lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all fellow sinners who live together in the mercy and grace of Jesus. Jesus is the heart and center of all that we say and do as we serve Him and live in Christian love with one another.

If you would like to learn more about this church, or are looking for a church family, please talk to our pastor or one of the ushers or elders. They would be happy to talk with you! Regardless of whether you join or not, we welcome you and your family to worship with us any time!

Should you have something we could privately pray about for you this week, we invite you to let our pastor or one of our members know so we can seek the Lord's face together.

Come visit us again sometime soon and may the Lord richly bless you!



## **ATTENDING COMMUNION AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN**

The Lord's Supper was established as a meal of fellowship and confession. In this meal, we confess together our one faith in Christ and our Confessions, especially the doctrine set forth in Luther's Small Catechism. Therefore, those who are not one in membership in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod are asked to speak with the pastor or one of the elders prior to approaching the altar. Children who are not yet confirmed are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.

For those with medical or personal reasons to abstain from alcohol, individual cups at the center of the trays contain white grape juice.

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

*January 3, 2021*

### **PRELUDE**

**✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠**

# HYMN OF INVOCATION

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,  
On Your people pour Your pow'r;  
Crown Your ancient Church's story;  
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.
  
- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.
  
- 3 Cure Your children's warring madness;  
Bend our pride to Your control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of Your salvation  
Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Serving You whom we adore,  
Serving You whom we adore.

*(please rise)*

**+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

**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.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-  
examination.)*

**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** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

# **INTROIT**

*Psalm 119:97–104*

MEM

**P** Oh how I love your law!  
It is my meditation all the day.

**C** Your commandment makes me wiser than  
my enemies,  
for it is ever with me.

**P** I have more understanding than all my  
teachers,  
for your testimonies are my meditation.

**C** I understand more than the aged,  
for I keep your precepts.

**P** I hold back my feet from every evil way,  
in order to keep your word.

**C** I do not turn aside from your just decrees,  
for you have taught me.

**P** How sweet are your words to my taste,  
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**C** Through your precepts I get understanding;  
therefore I hate every false way.

*(please rise)*

## **KYRIE**

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

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

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** 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 mercy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here  
their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** Amen.

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**C**1 To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;

**You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*(please be seated)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      *1 Kings 3:4–15*

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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?”

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>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, <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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.”

<sup>15</sup>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.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **EPISTLE**

*Ephesians 1:3–14*

### **Spiritual Blessings in Christ**

<sup>3</sup>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, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>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, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>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, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(please rise)*

### **♪ ALLELUIA AND VERSE ♪**

**C** Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

### **HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 2:40–52*

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

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

<sup>40</sup>The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

## **The Boy Jesus in the Temple**

<sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>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, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>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." <sup>49</sup>And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>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.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

**P**This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(please be seated)*

## **SERMON HYMN**

### **725 CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER**

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e'er was given.
  
- 2 God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

4 Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.

## **SERMON**

### **"What's Really Important in Life?"**

. . . Pastor Karl

*(please rise)*

## **NICENE CREED**

**☐ 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.**

## **+ INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS +**

*(Those to be installed are presented before the altar. The pastor addresses the congregation:)*

**P** Beloved in the Lord, Holy Scripture admonishes us that “all things should be done decently and in order.”

To that end, the constitution and bylaws of this congregation establish various offices to which

men and women are elected and appointed to serve. In so doing, the Church follows the example of the Early Christian Church as described in Acts, chapter six:

The twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

The apostle Peter writes in his first epistle: As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

*(Each officer is named individually according to his or her respective office.)*

## **P Council Officers**

*Richard Gerlach has been elected to serve as President.*

*Doug Grage has been elected to serve as Vice President.*

*Holly Bell has been elected to serve as Secretary.*

*Kurt Laser has been elected to serve as Treasurer.*

*Annette Brocious has been elected to serve as Member at Large.*

## **Board Positions**

*Sandy Grage has been elected to serve on Board of Education.*

*Jennifer Morosey has been elected to serve on Board of Education.*

*Paul Rugenstein has been elected to serve on Board of Elders.*

*Kurt Laser has been elected to serve on Board of Elders.*

*Edison Johnson has been elected to serve on Board of Elders.*

*John Wittenberg has been elected to serve on Board of Elders.*

*Gary Lohr has been elected to serve on Board of Elders.*

*Terri Gerlach* has been *elected* to serve on *Board of Evangelism*.

*Bob Jurs* has been *elected* to serve on *Board of Stewardship*.

*Marty Jurs* has been *elected* to serve on *Board of Stewardship*.

*Rollin Duckwitz* has been *elected* to serve on *Board of Stewardship*.

*Pat Duckwitz* has been *elected* to serve on *Board of Stewardship*.

*Jeff Kirsch* has been *elected* to serve on *Board of Trustees*.

*Gary Dreischerf* has been *elected* to serve on *Board of Trustees*.

*Betty Willis* has been *elected* to serve for *Thrivent*.

(The pastor addresses the officers-elect:)

**P** You have been chosen to fill specific offices and positions of responsibility at Bethlehem. You are to work with the pastor, that our life together in Christ may be orderly and pleasing in His sight.

You are to see that the services of God's house are held at the proper times, that the Word of God is purely preached and taught according to

the Lutheran Confessions, that the Sacraments of Christ are administered according to His institution, that provision is made for the Christian instruction of young and old, that the erring are admonished, and that discipline is maintained.

You are to see that the temporal affairs of the congregation are properly administered, and that proper support is provided for the workers of this congregation. You are to assist in caring for the poor and the sick, in cultivating harmony among the members, in promoting the general welfare of the congregation, and in furthering the kingdom of Christ here and throughout the world.

While holiness of life and obedience to Christ are expected of all members of the congregation, it is especially important that you, as office-bearers in His Church, show yourselves, by word and example, to be faithful to Him in service and Christian devotion.

In the presence of God and of this congregation, I therefore ask you: Do you accept the office(s) entrusted to you, and do you promise faithfully to carry out your duties, trusting in the Lord and conforming yourself to His Word in accordance with the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? If so, then answer: I do.

**R** *I do.*

*(The pastor addresses the congregation:)*

**P** Beloved in the Lord, you have heard the promises of faithfulness spoken by these men and women whom you have selected to serve as officers of Bethlehem. Do you promise to support them in their work, to remember them in your prayers, and to work with them to the best of the abilities that God has given you, so that He may be glorified, and His work be done in our midst? If so, then answer: We do.

**C** **We do.**

*(The pastor addresses the officers-elect:)*

**P** Brothers and sisters in Christ, I install you as officers of Bethlehem in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** The almighty and most merciful God enlighten and strengthen you in your offices that you may be good and faithful stewards to the glory of His name and the good of His people.

**C** Amen.

*(Stand)*

**P** Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks that You have raised up these servants for work among Your people. We humbly implore You to grant them, by Your Holy Spirit, those gifts needed for the faithful carrying out of their tasks, most especially wisdom, strength, and willing hearts. Let Your blessing rest on this congregation. Strengthen the faith, quicken the love, and enkindle the zeal of its members, that Your name may be glorified and that here and in all places under heaven the kingdom of Your

Son may be advanced. We remember with thanksgiving those who have faithfully served Your people and have now completed their time of service. We pray that in the end of days we, with all Your faithful people, may hear the voice of Christ saying: “Come, you who are blessed by My Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world”; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*(If this rite is used apart from the Divine Service or Daily Office, the Lord’s Prayer may be prayed.)*

**P** Go in the name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Lord, in Your mercy

**C** Hear our prayer.

*(please be seated)*

## OFFERING

## ♪ OFFERTORY RESPONSE ♪

### 805 PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

△ 1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also 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 salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**♪ SANCTUS ♪**

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

**Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **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.**

## **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.”

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P**O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## **♪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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
Forever. Amen.**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

♪ AGNUS DEI ♪

**C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*(please be seated)*

## DISTRIBUTION

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

### 388 GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

ref Go tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. **Refrain**

**ref Go tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!**

2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo, above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Savior's birth. **Refrain**

3 Down in a lonely manger  
The humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessèd Christmas morn. **Refrain**

*(please rise)*

♪ **THANK THE LORD** ♪

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

### **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*(please be seated)*

### **CLOSING HYMN**

## 711 SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

*(Stanzas 1, 4)*

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
    Much we need Your tender care.  
In Your pleasant pastures feed us,  
    For our use Your fold prepare.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
    You have bought us; we are Yours.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
    You have bought us; we are Yours.

4 Early let us seek Your favor,  
    Early let us do Your will;  
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,  
    With Your love our spirits fill.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
    You have loved us, love us still.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
    You have loved us, love us still.

### 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.

**☪ Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **POSTLUDE**

## *This Week's Calendar*



**TODAY, SUNDAY – JANUARY 3, 2021**

11:30 a.m. Christmas decorations will be removed and packed for storage.



**MONDAY – JANUARY 4, 2021**

1:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall



**WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 6, 2021**

10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Class



**SUNDAY – JANUARY 10, 2021**

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday school



**Flower Calendar:** The 2021 Flower Chart is up in the narthex. The flowers decorating the chancel at Bethlehem are placed there as an act of worship and devotion to glorify God. They are also, an expression of the beauty and goodness of God. Members of the congregation may donate altar flowers as an expression of thanksgiving to God, in remembrance of departed loved one, on the

occasion of a special event, such as a baptism, birthday, wedding anniversary, or simply to praise God. If you wish to donate flowers for use on the chancel, the cost is \$40.00 for two vases, if you would like to just purchase 1 vase at \$20.00 that's okay, but please put up there 1 vase and someone can sign up with you for the other. It is also tax deductible. Please place money in an envelope marked flowers in the offering basket.



Your **offering envelopes** have arrived and are on the table in the narthex, please pick them up.

**Volunteer Sign Up:** People are needed every Sunday to make our worship special. Please consider helping in one or more ways to make others feel welcome at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Please sign up in the fellowship hall if you would like to serve the Lord!



Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Elders: Kurt Laser

Altar Guild: Marty Jurs, Pam Rugenstein

Ushers: Darrell Erdman, Bob Jurs

Reader: Pam Rugenstein

Acolyte: Raul Puga

**Birthday Greetings!!** 1/3: Linda Stuehrenberg,  
1/5: Rollin Duckwitz, Jan Larson, 1/6: Gary  
Schaeffer

**Anniversary Greetings!!** 1/5: Karen & Edison  
Johnson, (13 yrs.)

### ***Stewardship & Attendance***

#### **Monthly Giving**

Offerings: \$8175

Expenses: \$9975

#### **Weekly Attendance**

Worship Service – 41

Adult Bible Class - 19

Christmas Eve – 46

Christmas Day - 29

New Year's Eve - 22



**The Flowers** at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* by the Duckwitz for Rollin's birthday.

**Prayer Chain:** Life presents challenges to all of us, but sometimes those challenges can feel like it's just too much. If you are experiencing situations, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual, you may give your prayer requests to Linda Kirsch 239-693-5026 or e-mail: [ilkirsch3@comcast.net](mailto:ilkirsch3@comcast.net) or call or email Linda if you would like to become a part of our Prayer chain. "Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy."