

# CHRISTMAS EVE



*Bethlehem Lutheran Church*

We are called by God to follow Christ in  
love and service to all.

## Prelude

Claudius Cazan

## The Calling

### "Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel"

Claudius Cazan and Jessica Chon

(please stand)

## *O Come All Ye Faithful*



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



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!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



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:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*(be seated)*

## Welcome and Announcements

*Welcome to this Christmas Eve Worship!*

*Throughout the service, the parts that the congregation says are printed in **Bold**.*

*A note to those with kids:*

*We encourage children to feel welcome in church during worship. And we recognize that kids need to move and fidget while we share this time together. Tables and coloring pages are available to kids in both the front of the worship space and in the Commons. Parents, please feel free to let your kids move around as needed.*

## Christmas Anthem

5:00pm "Christmas Lullaby"

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Choir

## Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Unto Us a Child

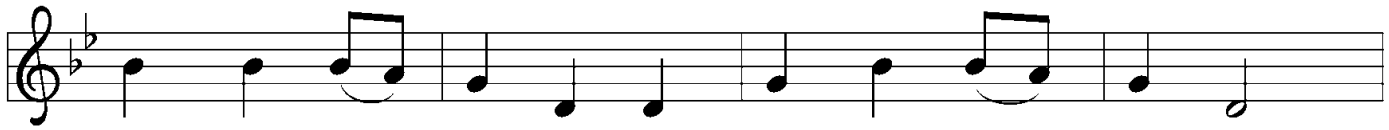
Isaiah 9:2-7

- <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.
- <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.
- <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- <sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- <sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders,  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- <sup>7</sup> Great will be his authority,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Come Now, O Prince of Peace



*O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ŭi - im - gŭm*

- 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
- 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
- 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
- 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



*u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.*

- Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
- Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
- Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
- Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

## Gabriel Visits Mary

Luke 1:26-34b

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called the Son of God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## *Come, Thou Love Expected Jesus*



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.

## Jesus is Born

Luke 2:1-14

<sup>1</sup> In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

<sup>8</sup> Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

## *Angels We Have Heard on High*

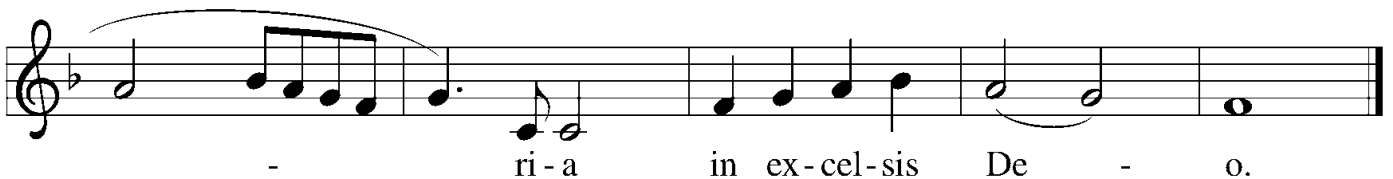
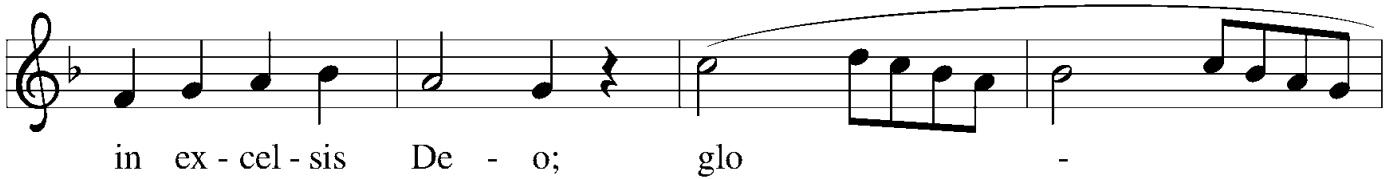
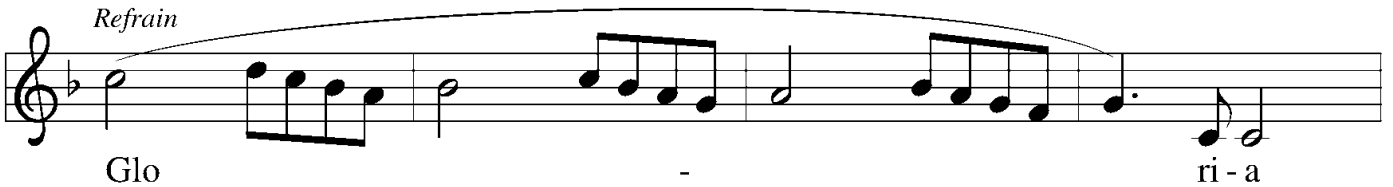
Verses 1 & 3



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



## Shepherds Go to See Jesus

Luke 2:15-20

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, <sup>19</sup> and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

The Word of the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Christmas Message



# *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

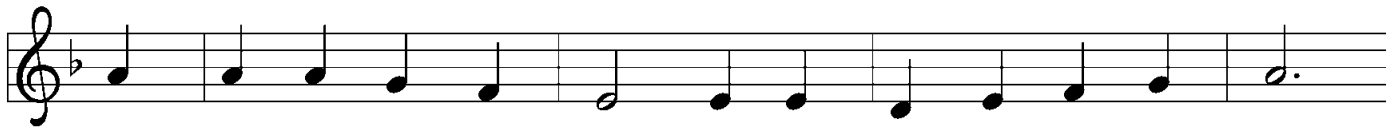
Verses 1 & 2



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

## Christmas Offering

"O Holy Night"

Solveig Munson and Claudius Cazan

*We give thanks for the generosity of God's people gathered here this evening. Bethlehem uses your offerings in ways that support its mission to gather, grow and serve in the name of Christ. We are dedicated to the work of our mission partners in this community and around the world. You may give tonight in the offering plate or give online using the QR code or at [www.bethluth.org/give](http://www.bethluth.org/give).*

*Thank you, and thank God for you.*



## Holy Communion

*(please stand)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

*\*The pastor celebrates the everlasting promise of God.*

## Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;

with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"

*Refrain*

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

*\*The pastor continues with words that remember the last supper which Jesus shared with his disciples.*

## 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.

*(be seated)*

## Sharing the Bread and the Cup

*All are welcome to share in this meal of God's promise. Ushers will guide you forward. Gluten-free bread (small beige wafers) and grape juice (light colored juice in the middle of the tray) are available. Children may share at the direction of their parents, or they may receive a blessing from one of the servers. You may receive Communion at your seat – please notify one of the ushers. The following songs may be sung during the sharing.*

## *What Child Is This*



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

## *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*



- 1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
- 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
- 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

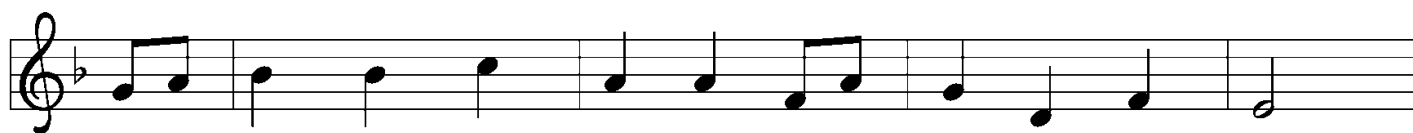


The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

## *Away in a Manger*



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,  
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,  
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;  
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.  
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
 I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky  
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

(please stand)

### **Communion Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you  
 and keep you in the grace and love of God.

**Amen.**

# Service of Candle Light

*Ushers will light the candles of those on the aisles. Please pass the light down each row by tipping only the unlit candle. Attend closely children who are holding candles. When all candles have been lit, and the lights dimmed, the service will continue.*

## The Word Became Flesh

John 1:1-14

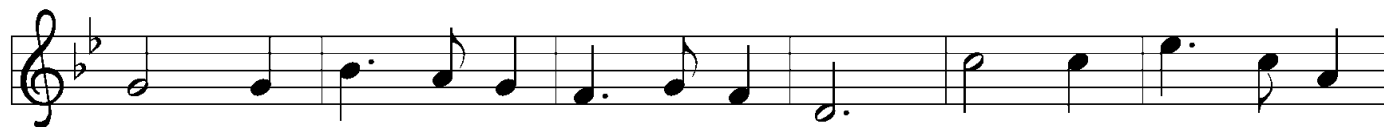
### Silent Night



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



peace,  
born!  
birth,  
sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

*Please extinguish your candles and keep them upright until the wax congeals.  
Candles may be deposited in the baskets near the exits as you depart.*

## The Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

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

**Amen.**

## Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
na - tions 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.



Blessings to you and yours this Christmas and in the New Year!

## Postlude

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# post CHRISTMAS CONCERT

*presented by*



*Marlene Anderson*  
piano



*Jessica Chon*  
violin/viola



*Claudius Cazan*  
violin

*In program works by:  
Bach, Mazas, Mozart & Poulenc  
with audience Christmas carol singing*

**Saturday, December 27 at 4:00 PM**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
603 S Main St, Kalispell, MT  
free admission**



Name(s)	Given in Memory/Honor of:
Paul and Mary Thompson	In honor of all our family
Lynette Lorenzen	In honor of the choir
Scott & Kimberly Caruso	In honor of ALL the prayer warriors near and fare that prayed for Scott and his recovery
Larry & Margie Simpson	In memory of our parents
Terry Brosten	In memory of my wife, Nancy Brosten
Jinn & Gabe Mariman	In honor of the Mariman & Harold Families. In honor of the Jeresek & Fanslow Families.
John & Linda Erfle	In honor of our kids and grandkids
The Mohl Family	In memory of Arnie Mohl
Bill & Lauri Erickson	In memory of our grandparents: William & Gladys, Ken & Versa, Lyle & Inez, Helen & Paul. In memory of our parents: Allen & Linda Erickson, Bill & Kathy Adams, and Luke & Carolyn Couch
Rick & Jan Ulvin	In memory of our parents & brother. In honor of our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren
Dale & Georgia Saverud	In honor or our children: Erik and Kim and our grandchildren: Jackson, Jace, Brooks, and Lily
Marsha Solak	In memory of Walter Solak. In memory of Buzz & Jane Minter and Walter & Mille Solak. In honor of Meghan and Ashleigh
Greg & Lori Adkins	In honor of our children Brock, Natalie, and Mac
Julie & Mark Miller	In memory of Ron & Betty Haas
Dawn & Ron Sicard	In memory of our parents: Ruth, Ed, Mildred, and Rolly
Vickie Cunningham	In memory of my friend, Reba Wilson
Brigitte Okamoto	In memory and honor of the Fuhrmann & Lindner family, especially Reinhold & Hannelore
Sherry Korthase	In memory of Bill & Jean Korthase
Paula Little	In memory of our parents. In honor of our children & grandchildren.
Sandy Lindlief	In honor of my grandchildren: Sierra & Logan Siblingud and Morgan, Madison, & Megan Markle
Dick and Carolyn Hardel	In honor of our chidren: Sharon & Kent Hardel and Rick & Angie Chew
Linda Fredenberg	In honor of our grandchildren: Carmen, George, and Lillian. In memory of Claire and Jerry Kasala
Kristin Fisher	In memory of Norma and Dick Fretheim
Charlene and Gary Singley	In honor of Kaye McCreedy
The Matheros Family	In memory of Adam Mathison
Carol Eckholt	In memory of Dale Shawhan
Debbie Snyder	In loving memory of my husband Dan Snyder. In loving memory of my parents: Vernon & Thelma Johnson
Dan and Jean Paschke	In memory of our parents: Gordon & Gladys and Don & Mary. In honor of our kids, grandkids, and Macie
Jeannie Baldwin	In memory of my husband, Merle Baldwin

## Brewed Theology

Wanna grab a cup of coffee – or a beer – and spend a little time talking about some topics regarding faith and culture? Do you have questions about why things in the world are happening the way they are? Do you want to talk about relevant matters, but don't know where to start? Did I mention a cup of coffee or a beer?

In January:

### Topic: Affluenza Wealth– Gift or Curse?

- 01/08, 1pm @ Wheat Montana
- 01/29, 6pm @ Branigans



## FLBC Men's Retreat

Jan 23-25

- **Theme:** Transformation
- **Dates:** January 23-25, 2026
- **Ages:** 9th grade to 110 years old
- **Facilitators:** Pr. Keith Weatherford, Pr. Jason Asselstine, and Pr. Paul Anderson.
- **Study:** The retreat will be guided by the book, *"On the Threshold of Transformation" by Richard Rohr Daily Meditation for Men.*

**Activities Include:** A variety of activities are available such as hikes, service projects, music around the campfire, and more. The weekend will feature morning and afternoon devotions, small group activities, a bonfire letting go ritual, and will conclude with Sunday worship.



## FLBC Ski & Snowboard Retreat

Feb 13-16

**For Jnr & Snr High School Youth Groups & Families**

Come for an awesome weekend filled with good food, fellowship, snow games, worship and FUN! Let FLBC be your homebase as you spend your days skiing or snowboarding at Whitefish Mountain Resort or Blacktail Mountain Resort. Downhill snow sports not your forté? Some of the best cross-country ski trails in the Valley are a few miles from camp, or spend the day at camp relaxing and enjoying the view of Flathead Lake. Post skiing activities include hot chocolate by the fire, group games, relaxing with friends, and worship.



## Warming Center

During these cold winter nights, it's important that we remember those most vulnerable. Please consider helping as you are able to provide a meal at the Warming Center once a month. If you are concerned about the cost, all ingredients will be supplied. Meal Coordinators, Jeff (732-453-4208) and Savannah (845-857-8973) have sauces, beans, spaghetti products, etc. Just give them a call and pick up what you need to make a soup or casserole. Let them know that you are from BLC. Sign up sheets are on the table in the Commons. For questions, please contact Sherry Korthase at 770-639-6621. Thank you!



*We would like to extend a big THANK YOU to all of those who volunteered to assist with worship this Christmas.*

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church Ministries:**

Quilting Ministry  
 Prayer Shawl Ministry  
 Men's Breakfast and Bible Study  
 Women on the Go  
 Dorcas/Ruth  
 Choir  
 Bell Choir  
 Sunday School  
 Youth Groups

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church Hosts:**

Flathead Respite Care  
 Feeding the Flathead  
 Flathead Spinners and Weavers Guild  
 Flathead Valley Community Orchestra

**For more information, please contact the church office at 406-752-6140  
 or check out our website at [www.bethluth.org](http://www.bethluth.org)**



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 Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Kalispell  
 Pastor Scott Thompson/Pastor Lucy Schottelkorb  
 406/752-6140