

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



*First Sunday in Advent*  
*(Ad Te Levavi)*  
*November 29, 2020*

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## The Order of Service

Divine Service Setting three w/out Holy Communion (LSB 184)

*(Please stand if you are able for portions of the liturgy marked with an \*)*

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**Opening Hymn: O Lord, How Shall I Meet You** **LSB 334**

**Confession and Absolution\*** **LSB 184**

**Introit\*** *(Ps. 25:4-5, 21-22; antiphon: Ps. 25:1-3a)*

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul,

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame.

**Let not my enemies exult over me.**

**Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame.**

Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

teach me your paths.

**Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;**

**for you I wait all the day long.**

May integrity and uprightness preserve me,

for I wait for you.

**Redeem Israel, O God,**

**out of all his troubles.**

**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.**

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul,

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult over me.

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame.

**Kyrie\*** **LSB 186**

**Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent**

**Collect\*:** 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.  
**Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 23:5-8**

<sup>5</sup>“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. <sup>6</sup>In 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.’ <sup>7</sup>“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,’ <sup>8</sup>but ‘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.”

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

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>For the 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.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. <sup>11</sup>Besides 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. <sup>12</sup>The 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. <sup>13</sup>Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Holy Gospel\*: Matthew 21:1-9**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter. **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying 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. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, <sup>5</sup> “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” <sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. <sup>7</sup> They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> And 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!”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

<b>Apostles' Creed*</b>	<b>LSB 192</b>
<b>Hymn of the Day: Savior of the Nations, Come</b>	<b>LSB 332</b>
<b>Sermon</b>	
<b>Offertory*</b>	<b>LSB 192</b>
<b>Prayer of the Church*</b>	
<b>Lord's Prayer*</b>	<b>LSB 196</b>
<b>Benediction*</b>	
<b>Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates</b>	<b>LSB 341</b>

## Announcements

**What does this mean?** The word "advent" is derived from the Latin words, advenire (to come to) and adventus (an arrival). That we might be prepared to celebrate the blessed Feast of the Nativity of Christ our Lord, the Church has set aside the Season of Advent as a time to reflect and meditate upon the coming of our Lord Jesus in the Flesh, through His Word and Sacraments, and on the Last Day. Advent is also a time of preparation for Christ's coming through repentance and faith.

The First Sunday in Advent is known as Ad Te Levavi, which in Latin means: "To You I life up". This is the opening phrase of the Introit, "To you, O Lord, I life up my soul" (Psalm 25:1).

**Wednesday Night Religion:** Wednesday Night Religion Class resumes this week. Please note the time change throughout Advent: 5:45pm-6:45pm.

**The Season of Advent:** On Sunday, November 29th the church begins the Season of Advent. Please check your mailbox in the narthex for a list of services during this blessed season.

**Midweek Advent Services:** Join us Wednesday nights throughout the Season of Advent for our series, "For Unto Us a Son is Given." Our midweek sermons will focus on three important sons of promise – Isaac, Samuel, and John. The Order of Vespers begins at 7:00pm on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Private Confession and Absolution:** Our Lutheran Confessions state that private absolution should be retained and not abolished in the churches (Augsburg Confession, XI). With this in mind, if at any time throughout the penitential season of Advent you desire private confession and absolution, please give Pastor Jennings a call to set-up a time to meet privately.

**Poinsettia Order Forms:** There are poinsettia order forms on the table in the usher's room. Poinsettias are \$10.00 each. Please give your order form and money/check to Sylvia Kleiboeker by today, November 29, 2020. Checks can be made payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Ladies Aid.

**Men's Club:** The Men's Club Christmas party and meeting has been canceled.

**Thank You:** The Men's Club sausage dinner went well. We served 1501 dinners with a net profit of \$13,183.74. Some people commented that they could not believe how fast we served them in the drive-thru. Thanks again to everyone who helped. Thrivent paid all of the advertising cost of \$184.33 and \$565.67 toward groceries. Thank you Thrivent. There are some reports on the table in the narthex, if anyone is interested.

**Ladies Aid/LWML:** The Ladies Aid/LWML Christmas party has been canceled.

**Collecting for Matthew 25 Food Pantry:** We are collecting canned and boxed food items as well as personal care items for the pantry. Please help us fill the tote in the usher's room to help those in need.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Plans are being made for the remaining Live 2020 Auction items at Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School. A Buy-It-Now Auction (set prices, first come first serve basis) is being planned for Saturday, December 5th and Monday, December 7th. Watch for more information coming. Updates will also be available at [corstallions.org](http://corstallions.org) and on the CORLHS Facebook page.

**Sunday School and Adult Bible Study:** Join us at 8:30am for Sunday School and Adult Bible Study. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

**Coronavirus Concerns:** We recognize the coronavirus is still an issue in our country and many members rightly have concerns. However, we do not want anyone to stay away from receiving the life-giving gifts of Christ in His church. Please contact Pastor Jennings to discuss a way that you may to receive these gifts.

**Altar Guild, Ushers, Greeters, and Acolytes:** We encourage you to consult your schedule, and if able, assist at your assigned service.

**Find Bethlehem on Podbean:** While Bethlehem Lutheran is no longer streaming our services, you can still listen to our sermons and other studies. Download the app 'Podbean' to your smartphone. Search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church and begin listening.

**Catechism Learn-by-Heart Program:** As the Small Catechism contains the central articles of the Christian faith, it is to be learned-by-heart so that we may rightly confess the faith throughout our lives. To encourage our youth to learn the Small Catechism by heart, Bethlehem has developed an eight-level program. This program breaks the Small Catechism into manageable sections. As an incentive, each level has an award upon completion. Program details can be found in the Narthex. PLEASE NOTE: Students are required to have the Small Catechism memorized prior to confirmation.