

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



*The Nativity of Our Lord*  
*(Christmas Day)*  
*December 25, 2020*

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12903 Clara St.  
Carlyle (Ferrin), IL 62231  
618-545-9543  
bethlehemlutheranferrin.org

Pastor Jonathan Jennings  
pastor@bethlehemlutheranferrin.org  
Cell: 219-309-6941

Secretary: Jackie Yardley  
bethlehemferrinchurch@gmail.com  
Cell: 618-322-8087

Preschool Director: Dena Brammeier  
School: 618-545-9542  
Cell: 618-304-4564

**The Order of Service**

Divine Service Setting One (LSB 151)

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

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**Opening Hymn: Now Sing We, Now Rejoice** **LSB 386**

**Confession and Absolution\*** **LSB 151**

**Introit\*** (Ps. 98:1-4; antiphon: Is. 9:6)

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

**and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,**

**Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**The LORD has made known his salvation;**

**he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;**

**break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

**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.**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**Kyrie\*** **LSB 152**

**Gloria in Excelsis \*** **LSB 154**

**Collect\*:** Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading: Exodus 40:17-21, 34-38**

<sup>17</sup>In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. <sup>18</sup>Moses erected the tabernacle. He laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars. <sup>19</sup>And he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent over it, as the LORD had commanded Moses. <sup>20</sup>He took the testimony and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark and set the mercy seat above on the ark. <sup>21</sup>And he brought the ark into the tabernacle and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the testimony, as the LORD had commanded Moses. <sup>34</sup>Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. <sup>35</sup>And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. <sup>36</sup>Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. <sup>37</sup>But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. <sup>38</sup>For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

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

**Gradual:** Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD! The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**Hymn: Let Us All with Gladsome Voice**

**LSB 390**

**Epistle: Titus 3:4-7**

<sup>4</sup>But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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

**Hymn: We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth (Pastor Sings Stz. 1)**

**LSB 382**

## **Holy Gospel\*: John 1:1-18**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup> For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

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

<b>Nicene Creed*</b>	<b>LSB 158</b>
<b>Hymn of the Day: Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising</b>	<b>LSB 375</b>
<b>Sermon</b>	
<b>Prayer of the Church*</b>	
<b>We Give Thee But Thine Own*</b>	<b>LSB 781</b>
<b>Service of the Sacrament*</b>	<b>LSB 160</b>
<b>Distribution Hymns: 362, 374, 379, 370, 367</b>	
<b>Post-Communion Canticle*: Thank the Lord</b>	<b>LSB 164</b>
<b>Benediction</b>	
<b>Closing Hymn: Joy to the World</b>	<b>LSB 387</b>

## Announcements

**Merry Christmas:** High on the list of God's blessings to us are you, the saints of Bethlehem. Please receive our thanks for your thoughtfulness and kindness this season and through all the seasons of the year! We rejoice with you in God's gift to us, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas! - Pastor, Stefanie, Will, Lily, Silas

**Congratulations:** Congratulations to Alayna French and Katie Zimmermann for completing Level 1 of the Catechism Learn-by-Heart Program. Level 1 consists of reciting the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

**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.

**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:** Listen to our sermons and other studies online. Download the app 'Podbean' to your smartphone. Search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church and begin listening.



- Dennis & Sylvia Kleiboeker  
In Memory of Melvin & Adele Lange  
Fred & Linda Kleiboeker
- Norma Rueter  
In Memory of Loved Ones
- Earl & Marilyn Schneider  
In Memory of John Schneider & Loved Ones
- Wayne & Jen Brink  
In Honor of Loved Ones
- Steve & Sandy Haun  
Connie Schilling  
In Memory of Clarence & Norma Rommelmann
- Elbert & Lois Brink  
In Memory of Loved Ones
- Cindy & Steve Hoffmann family  
In Memory of Roger & Rose Hanke
- Calvin & Jackie Yardley  
In Memory of Loved Ones
- Lucille Stein  
In Memory of Norman Stein & Loved Ones
- Elaine Ballance  
In Memory of Doug Balance
- Sharon Schneider & Family  
In Memory of Darrell Schneider & Loved Ones
- Rev. Jonathan & Stefanie Jennings
- Joe & JoAnn Stibrich
- Jeff & Lois Pigg
- Edwin & Verdell Hermsmeyer  
In Memory of Janet Lynn Hermsmeyer  
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Hermsmeyer  
Mr. & Mrs. Gustav Kasten