

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



*First Sunday in Advent*

*(Ad Te Levavi)*

*November 21, 2021*

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12903 Clara St.  
Carlyle (Ferrin), IL 62231  
618-545-9543  
[www.bethlehelutheranferrin.org](http://www.bethlehelutheranferrin.org)

Pastor Jonathan Jennings  
[pastor@bethlehelutheranferrin.org](mailto:pastor@bethlehelutheranferrin.org)  
Cell: 219-309-6941

Secretary: Jackie Yardley  
[bethlehemferrinchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemferrinchurch@gmail.com)  
Cell: 618-322-8087

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

**The Order of Worship**  
**Divine Service Setting Three (LSB 184)**

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

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**Announcements**

**Opening Hymn: O Lord, How Shall I Meet You**  
**Confession and Absolution\***

**LSB 334**  
**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.**

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| <b>Nicene Creed*</b>                                  | <b>LSB 191</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>Offering</b>                                       |                |
| <b>Prayer of the Church*</b>                          |                |
| <b>Service of the Sacrament*</b>                      | <b>LSB 194</b> |
| <b>Distribution Hymns: 341, 343, 620, 331</b>         |                |
| <b>Nunc Dimittis*</b>                                 | <b>LSB 199</b> |
| <b>Benediction*</b>                                   |                |
| <b>Closing Hymn: Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come</b> | <b>LSB 350</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 lift up". This is the opening phrase of the Introit, "To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul" (Psalm 25:1).

**Where did the Gloria in Excelsis go?** The Gloria in Excelsis is a hymn of praise that celebrates God coming among us in the person of Jesus. However, due to the penitential nature of Advent, this hymn of praise is omitted until we reach the joyous season of Christmas.

**Private Confession and Absolution:** The 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 you desire private confession and absolution, please give Pastor Jennings a call to set-up a time to meet privately.

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

**Midweek Advent Services:** Join us December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm for our midweek Advent Vespers. The theme for these services is "Immanuel: God with Us." Over 2000 years ago, God took on human flesh and blood in the person of Jesus to save us from our sin. He is truly Immanuel, which means, 'God with Us.' Yet, having ascended into heaven, God hasn't removed Himself from us. He continues to be with us today to give us His gifts of forgiveness and life. Throughout our midweek Advent services, we will look at the Gloria in Excelsis, the Sanctus, and the Agnus Dei to see how God continues to be with us today in the Divine Service. The Ladies Aid will serve refreshments following the December 15<sup>th</sup> service over at the school basement. Donations of cookies are welcomed.

**Guest Preacher Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>:** On Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, Bethlehem welcomes back Dr. Dale Meyer as guest preacher. He will also lead our Adult Bible Study at 8:30am. All are welcome to attend.

**Advent by Candlelight Offering:** The offering for Advent by Candlelight will go to Matthew 25 food bank. Please bring a food item or give a monetary gift that night. We will have an offering bag at each table.

**Men's Club:** The Men's Club Christmas party will be Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at Applebee's in Breese. Please let Jeff Brink or Vernon Fruend know by **today, November 28<sup>th</sup>** if you plan to attend. All men of the congregation and their wives are welcome.

**Children's Christmas Eve Program:** Practice for the Children's Christmas Eve Program will be **Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am–11:00am, Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am–11:00am, and Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30pm–7:30pm.** The final practice includes a meal for all the students as our gift to them from the teachers. Parts will be handed out on or before December 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Assistant Sunday School Superintendent:** If you or someone you know that would like to be the Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, please speak to either Dena Brammeier or Deb Albers. We need someone to take over this position in January.

**Find Bethlehem on Podbean or Facebook:** Listen to Pastor Jennings sermons on Podbean or our Facebook page. Download the app 'Podbean' to your smartphone. Search for Bethlehem Lutheran church and begin listening.

**This Week in Our Congregation:**

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School  
9:30am Divine Service

Monday: 8:30am–11:00am Preschool  
6:30pm Advent by Candlelight

Wednesday: 8:30am Matins  
8:30am–11:00am Preschool  
5:45pm–6:45pm Religion/Confirmation Classes  
7:00pm Midweek Advent Vespers

Friday: 8:30am–11:00am Preschool

Sunday: 8:30am Bible Class/Sunday School  
9:30am Divine Service

**Upcoming Services & Events:**

- December 5<sup>th</sup>: Second Sunday in Advent
- December 8<sup>th</sup>: Midweek Advent Vespers