

**✠ The First Sunday in Advent ✠**  
**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
**November 30, & December 1, 2024**

**WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME**

WELCOME to our guests and members as we gather for worship today! **Please place your names in our red “Record of Fellowship” books.** Also, please give attention to the written “News and Notes”.

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

Almighty and ever-living God, You make us both to will and to do those things that are good and acceptable in Your sight. Let Your fatherly hand ever guide us and Your Holy Spirit ever be with us to direct us in the knowledge and obedience of Your Word that we may obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**WORSHIP NOTES**

The season of Advent focuses on the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this first Sunday establishes this theme for the rest of the season. The Son of God came long ago to be our Savior, “a righteous Branch” descended from David (Jer. 33:15). As He then came into Jerusalem, riding on a lowly donkey to sacrifice Himself for the sins of the world (Luke 19:28–40), so does He come to His Church today in the humility of Word and Sacrament to deliver the fruits of His Passion: the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. He absolves us and establishes our hearts “blameless in holiness before our God and Father” (1 Thess. 3:13). The same Lord Jesus, who came to Jerusalem then and who comes to us now in peace, will come again with power and great glory on the Last Day. Then there will be “distress of nations in perplexity,” with “people fainting with fear.” Yet, as we anticipate that great and terrible day, He bids us to rest securely in Him: “Raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near” (Luke 21:25, 26, 28).

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**343 Prepare the Royal Highway**

- 1 Prepare the royal highway;  
The King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
A level road appear!  
Then greet the King of Glory  
Foretold in sacred story: Refrain

- ref Hosanna to the Lord,  
For He fulfills God's Word!
- 2 God's people, see Him coming:  
Your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before Him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you! Refrain
- 3 Then fling the gates wide open  
To greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
Its tribute too should bring.  
All lands, bow down before Him!  
All nations, now adore Him! Refrain
- 4 His is no earthly kingdom;  
It comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
And justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
For kindness so abounding: Refrain

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*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,  
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

✠ **Service of the Word** ✠

**Introit** *Psalm 89:6, 14-16, 18; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.*

P Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation.

C **Who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?  
Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD?**

P Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

C **Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout,  
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,  
who exult in your name all the day  
and in your righteousness are exalted.**

P For our shield belongs to the LORD,  
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

ALL **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.**

ALL **Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation.**

**C Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray.

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.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Jeremiah 33:14–16*

<sup>14</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

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

**C Thanks be to God.**

### Anthem – Adult Choir (10:30)

### Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 3:9–13*

<sup>9</sup>What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, <sup>10</sup>as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, <sup>12</sup>and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, <sup>13</sup>so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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

*Stand*

### **Holy Gospel**

*Luke 19:28–40*

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the nineteenth chapter.  
C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>28</sup>When [Jesus] had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. <sup>29</sup>When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup>saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup>If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” <sup>32</sup>So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. <sup>33</sup>And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup>And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” <sup>35</sup>And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup>And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup>As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, <sup>38</sup>saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” <sup>39</sup>And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” <sup>40</sup>He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

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

### **Apostles’ Creed**

- C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the  
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✕ everlasting. Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Offering (10:30)**

#### **332 Savior of the Nations, Come**

- 1 Savior of the nations, come,  
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!  
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.
- 2 Not by human flesh and blood,  
By the Spirit of our God,  
Was the Word of God made flesh—  
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.
- 3 Here a maid was found with child,  
Yet remained a virgin mild.  
In her womb this truth was shown:  
God was there upon His throne.
- 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all  
From His pure and kingly hall;  
God of God, yet fully man,  
His heroic course began.
- 5 God the Father was His source,  
Back to God He ran His course.  
Into hell His road went down,  
Back then to His throne and crown.
- 6 For You are the Father's Son  
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.  
By Your mighty pow'r make whole  
All our ills of flesh and soul.

- 7 From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.

Stand

- 8 Glory to the Father sing,  
Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be  
Now and through eternity.

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**Sermon**

**Offering (5:30 and 8:00)**

*Stand*

**Offertory**

*LSB 192*

- C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right  
spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy  
Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold  
me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**Prayer of the Church**

**✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠**

**Preface**

*LSB 194*

- P The Lord be with you.  
C And with thy spirit.**

- P Lift up your hearts.  
C We lift them up unto the Lord.**

- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.  
C It is meet and right so to do.**

- P It is truly meet, 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**

*LSB 195*

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

*LSB 196*

**C 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.**

### **The Words of Our Lord**

*LSB 197*

**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."

### **Pax Domini**

*LSB 197*

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



**C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Distribution**

*If you desire to commune, please speak to one of the pastors before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are members of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation.*

*Please note that “gluten free” communion wafers are available for those who need them. Please tell the Communion Assistant “gluten free” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail. Also, for those who desire, highly diluted wine is available in individual cups (one drop of wine in the cup of water). Please tell the Communion Assistant “clear” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail.*

### **Distribution Hymns**

#### **623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray**

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray  
That we may feast on You today;  
Beneath these forms of bread and wine  
Enrich us with Your grace divine.
  
- 2 Give us, who share this wondrous food,  
Your body broken and Your blood,  
The grateful peace of sins forgiv’n,  
The certain joys of heirs of heav’n.
  
- 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold  
To seize the gift of love retold;  
All that You are we here receive,  
And all we are to You we give.
  
- 4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,  
Rejoicing in our unity,  
Proclaim Your love until You come  
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:  
O keep us steadfast till that day  
When each will be Your welcomed guest  
In heaven's high and holy feast.

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### 628 Your Table I Approach

- 1 Your table I approach;  
Dear Savior, hear my prayer.  
Let not an unrepentant heart  
Prove hurtful to me there.
- 2 Lord, I confess my sins  
And mourn their wretched bands;  
A contrite heart is sure to find  
Forgiveness at Your hands.
- 3 Your body and Your blood,  
Once slain and shed for me,  
Are taken at Your table, Lord,  
In blest reality.
- 4 Search not how this takes place,  
This wondrous mystery;  
God can accomplish vastly more  
Than what we think could be.
- 5 O grant, most blessed Lord,  
That earth and hell combined  
May not about this sacrament  
Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail  
To thank You day and night  
For Your true body and true blood,  
O God, my peace and light.

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### 346 When All the World Was Cursed

- 1 When all the world was cursed  
By Moses' condemnation,  
Saint John the Baptist came  
With words of consolation.  
With true forerunner's zeal  
The greater One he named,

And Him, as yet unknown,  
As Savior he proclaimed.

- 2 Before he yet was born,  
He leaped in joyful meeting,  
Confessing Him as Lord  
Whose mother he was greeting.  
By Jordan's rolling stream,  
A new Elijah bold,  
He testified of Him  
Of whom the prophets told:
- 3 Behold the Lamb of God  
That bears the world's transgression,  
Whose sacrifice removes  
The devil's dread oppression.  
Behold the Lamb of God,  
Who takes away our sin,  
Who for our peace and joy  
Will full atonement win.
- 4 O grant, dear Lord of love,  
That we receive, rejoicing,  
The word proclaimed by John,  
Our true repentance voicing,  
That gladly we may walk  
Upon our Savior's way  
Until we live with Him  
In His eternal day.

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*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

*LSB 199*

- C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace  
according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast  
prepared before the face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy  
people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy  
Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.**

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** **and His mercy endureth forever.**

**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.**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

## Benedicamus

LSB 202

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** **Amen, amen, amen.**

## 443 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1 Hosanna, loud hosanna,  
The little children sang;  
Through pillared court and temple  
The lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them,  
Close folded to His breast,  
The children sang their praises,  
The simplest and the best.

2 From Olivet they followed  
Mid an exultant crowd,  
The victor palm branch waving  
And chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven  
Rode on in lowly state

Nor scorned that little children  
Should on His bidding wait.

- 3 “Hosanna in the highest!”  
That ancient song we sing;  
For Christ is our Redeemer,  
The Lord of heav’n our King.  
Oh, may we ever praise Him  
With heart and life and voice  
And in His blissful presence  
Eternally rejoice!

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### Acknowledgments

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## ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

**Preacher**                      **Rev. Patrick Niles**  
**Presiding Minister**        **Rev. Jeremy Hanson**

**Organists**                    **Sandy Kasten**  
   **Susan Wachter**

**Lay Readers**                **Jan Wegner (5:30)**  
   **Erika Brown (8:00)**  
   **Andy Littmann (10:30)**

**Communion Assistants**     **Mark Cyr & Phil Ditter (5:30)**  
   **Jon Krueger (8:00)**  
   **Brian Hasenstein (10:30)**

**Student Assistants**  
**(A) Savannah Stirdivant (5:30)**  
**(U) Davis Littmann (5:30)**  
**(A) Austin Gries & Garrett Gries (8:00)**  
**(U) Eoin Irish & Emerson Leibham (8:00)**  
**(A) Robert Wildman & Jax Fehlhaber (10:30)**  
**(U) Riley Wesener & Maizy Boerger (10:30)**

The faculty at Bethlehem Lutheran School faithfully prays for the students entrusted to their care, along with their families.

As Bethlehem congregation members, please add these students and families to your prayer list.

### November Prayers

- Charlotte & Bennett Wheelan
- Prince, Legend, Garrison & Willow King
- McKenna Wegner
  
- Sadie, Jaylie & Kylie Usadel
- Conrad & Amelia Hasler
- Chloe Wettstein
  
- Eoin & Grady Irish
- Carson, Jacob & Evelyn Grunewald
- Annabelle White
  
- Theodore & Cole Radloff
- Zander Morrelle
- Skye Verstegen



# UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## ADVENT WORSHIP

Worship with us on the following Wednesdays in December - services are 8:30 am and 6:00 pm.

Please remember that Soup Suppers are taking place at 5:00 pm on these Wednesdays as well.

- \*\* December 4 - presented by grades 4, 5 & 6
- \*\* December 11 - presented by grades 3K, 4K, 5K, 1 & 8
- \*\* December 18 - presented by grades 2, 3 & 7

## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

- \*\* December 24 - 4:00 pm, Sunday School service
- \*\* December 24 - 6:00 pm, Family service
- \*\* December 24 - 11:00 pm, Candlelight service
- \*\* December 25 - 10:00 am, Christmas Day service
- \*\* December 28/29 - regular weekend services
- \*\* December 31 - 6:00 pm, New Year's Eve service
- \*\* January 1 - NO service