



*Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 22, 2026
10:15 AM**



Pastor

Rev. Kelly Dean Krieg
(214) 208-1364

PastorKrieg@BethlehemWmPenn.org

Secretary

Janice Pazderyn
(979) 836-7303

Office@BethlehemWmPenn.org

Organist

Ann Sommer

Ushers

Trenton Schwartz
Lance Searle
Colin Schomburg
Rallin Wellmann

Acolyte

Dillion Nowicki

Greeter

Peggy McDonald

First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026 – 10:15 AM

Divine Service: Setting I with Holy Communion

Order of Service: *Lutheran Service Book, pp 151-166*

Pre-Service Music



February Bible Verse

Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:6

Our Mission Statement

Representing God's Love to Our Congregation, Community, and the World!



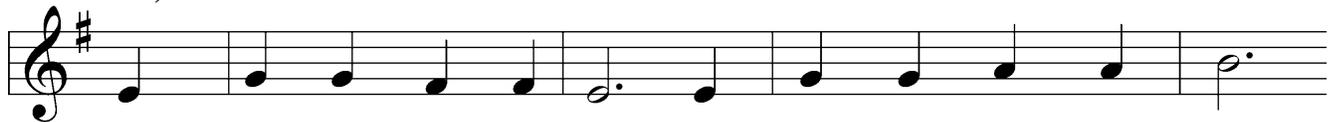
In Light of 1 Cor. 11:23-26, Bethlehem Lutheran Church maintains the historical practice of “closed” communion in the belief that the Sacrament requires faith in Christ’s words that His body and blood are truly present. Furthermore, participation in the Sacrament is a sign of our unity in the faith with all those who join us at the altar. *For that reason, we ask that those visitors desiring to commune be members in good standing of a congregation of the LCMS and speak to the pastor or an elder before the beginning of the service.* Our denial of admission to those who are members of another confession is not a judgment upon their faith but a recognition that we hold to different confessions concerning God, salvation, and the Sacrament itself. Such individuals are invited to speak with the pastor following the service.

Ringing of the Church Bell

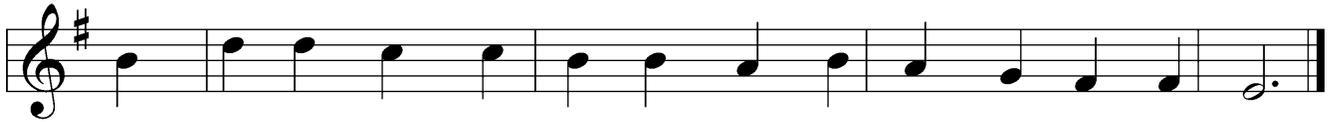
OPENING HYMN

O Christ, You Walked the Road

LSB 424



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.
2 No bread of earth a - lone Can fill our hun - g'ring hearts.
3 No blind - ing sign we ask, No won - der from a - bove.
4 When lures of eas - y gain With prom - ise bright - ly shine,
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp - ta - tion's pow'r And fought our an - cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv - ing Word, The food Your grace im - parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a - lone In Your un - swerv - ing love.
Lord, help us seek Your king - dom first; Our wills with Yours a - lign.
Stay with us through temp - ta - tion's hour To fight our an - cient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007. Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591. Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: Public domain

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



INVOCATION

LSB 151

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 91:9-13; antiphon: v.v. 15-16

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;

I will rescue him and honor him.

With long life I will satisfy him

and show him my salvation.

Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—

the Most High, who is my refuge—

no evil shall be allowed to befall you,

no plague come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you

to guard you in all your ways.

On their hands they will bear you up,

lest you strike your foot against a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the adder;

the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

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.

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;

I will rescue him and honor him.

With long life I will satisfy him

and show him my salvation.

KYRIE

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

C O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Hebrews 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,
the founder and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— ¹³for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY
GOSPEL



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,”

And

“On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.



**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 656



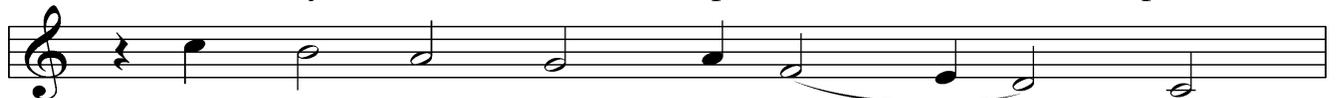
1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain



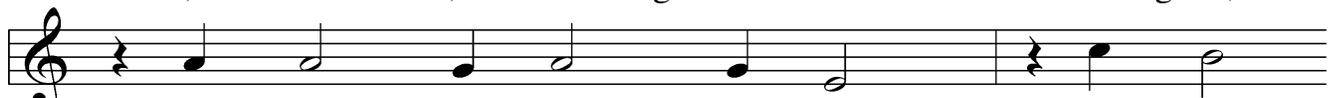
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

SERMON
Among the Beasts
Matthew 4:1-11

Stand

OFFERTORY

LSB 159



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

OFFERING PRAYER

Sit

OFFERING

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

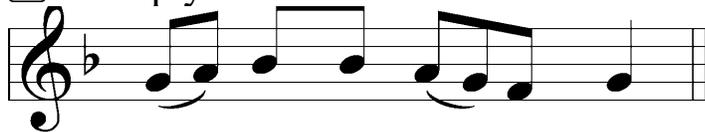
LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 162

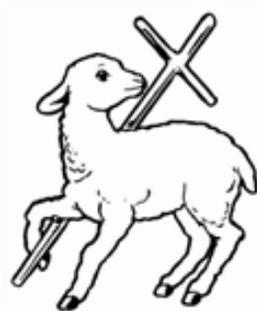
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

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 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

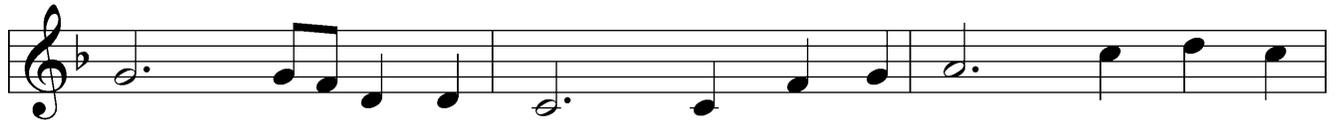
DISTRIBUTION HYMN

The Tree of Life

LSB 561



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry good In E - den's
 2 The still - ness of that sa - cred grove Was bro - ken,
 3 What mer - cy God showed to our race, A plan of
 4 Now from that tree of Je - sus' shame Flows life e -



ho - ly or - chard stood, And of its fruit so pure and
 as the ser - pent strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -
 res - cue by His grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's
 ter - nal in His name; For all who trust and will be -



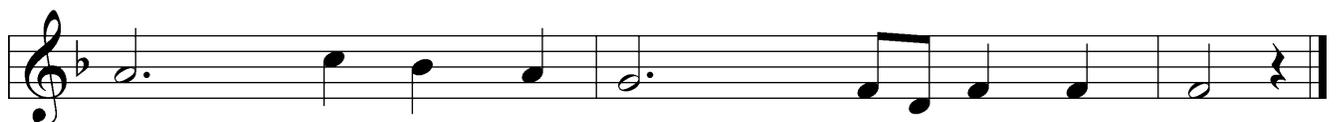
sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this
 guile And Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of
 seed, The One to fill our great - est need— For on a
 lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew An - oth - er tree, of which they
 sad - ness when the breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and
 tree up - lift - ed high His on - ly Son for sin would
 fruit so pure and sweet The Lord in - vites the world to



knew; Its love - ly limbs with fruit a -
 death, Its aw - ful poi - son first dis -
 die, Would drink the cup of scorn and
 eat, To find with - in this cross of



dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.
 played With - in the world so new - ly made.
 dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!
 wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

LSB 618



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and
 2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners
 3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I
 4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my
 5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's



wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -
 may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in
 have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt
 soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -
 bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:
 faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.
 ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:
 ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
 heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013 Tune: Public domain

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

LSB 632



1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt
 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is



thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -
 come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -



ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.
 in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851–1928. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain



1 In the shat - tered bliss of E - den Dawned the
 2 Days and months and years un - fold - ing Clear - ly
 3 What these sac - ri - fic - es prom - ised From a
 4 Lamb of God, once slain for sin - ners, Host, who



day of sac - ri - fice, As our pri - mal par - ents
 showed what sin had wrought: Fall - en Ad - am's chil - dren
 God who sought to bless, Came at last— a sec - ond
 spreads this meal di - vine, Here You pledge our sins are



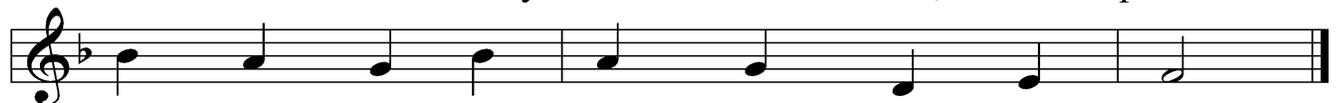
shud - dered— Sin had caused this dread - ful price!
 learn - ing Les - sons fall - en par - ents taught.
 Ad - am— Priest and King of Righ - teous - ness:
 cov - ered, Pledge re - ceived in bread and wine:



Faith em - barked with this dis - cern - ment: On - ly
 All these sac - ri - fi - cial of - f'rings Crest - ed
 Son of God, in - car - nate Sav - ior, Son of
 "Take and eat; this is My bod - y, Giv - en



God can cov - er sin, As He took their leaf - y
 as a crim - son flood: Pa - tri - archs and priests a -
 Man, both Christ and Lord, Who in na - ked shame would
 on the cross for you. Take and drink; this cup of



gar - ments And He clothed their shame with skin.
 ton - ing For their sins with cleans - ing blood.
 of - fer On the cross His blood out - poured.
 bless - ing Is My blood poured out for you."

5 Taste and see the bliss of heaven
 Known by saints around the throne,
 Where the Lamb, in closest union,
 Lives to love and feed His own.
 From His riven side forever
 Flows the purest stream of love,
 Love that robes us with the raiment
 Worn by all who feast above.

6 Gone the bliss of Eden's garden,
 Gone the age of sacrifice;
 Ours the time of grace and favor,
 Ours the call to paradise!
 Ever, Lord, impress upon us:
 Only You can cover sin—
 Take our worthless, self-made garments;
 Clothe our shame and cleanse within.

Stand

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thank the Lord

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB 166

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.

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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



C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

LSB 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt. Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758. Text and tune: Public domain



POSTLUDE

Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, where we worship in the name of the crucified and risen Lamb of God, Jesus Christ our Lord. Blessings to you as you worship with us today.



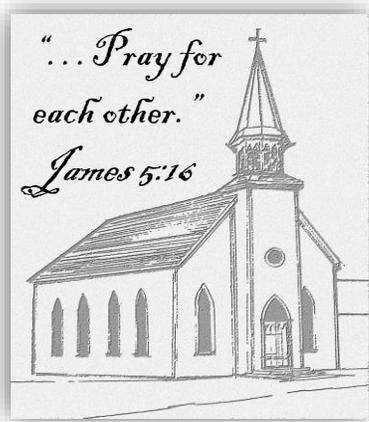
Congregation: Recovery and healing for Sharon Schwartz; recovery for Sophia Holle (Ken and Andrea Holle's granddaughter) from a broken wrist; recovery for Mildred Holle from RSV; healing for Terry and Becky Lueckemeyer; healing for Lillian Hayden from knee surgery; for Edith Erwin, healing; for Tom

Hayden's recovery after surgery and continued healing; for Adeline Platt's health; for health and healing for Lathel Norris; for Blake Powers, Edith Erwin, and Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Lathel Norris, Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church.

Community: for Grace Lutheran School, that they may continue to be a place for the children of our community and congregation to learn and grow in their faith and knowledge of God's world; may our Lord continue to deliver to us favorable weather; for Brenham Pregnancy Center and those whose lives they touched; Faith Mission; families and individuals cared for by Child Protective Services.

World: for all those suffering through war, may God watch over and protect His children, and by His Holy Spirit, may they all come to know Christ as their Savior and thus enjoy eternity with Him, for those who have been led astray into false belief; for those facing crisis pregnancies, that they would find the strength to choose life for their unborn child; for the leaders of the nations, that they would make godly decisions for their people and countries.

Bethlehem at Prayer



Prayer is a vital part of our life together in Christ. To that end, *Bethlehem at Prayer* is a means to encourage more intentional prayer for one another. This is an opportunity for us to support one another in faith, lifting up each household by name before our gracious God. While members can always request prayers at any time, this effort ensures that every family at Bethlehem is prayed for regularly. We invite you to join us in encouragement and intercession, praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ each week.

Please remember these families in your prayers this week:

- Berglund - Lillian
- Berglund – Claire
- Holle – Jason, Kaitlyn
- Holle – Ken, Andrea, Christopher
- Moore – Thelma
- Norris – Lathel

May the Lord bless and strengthen them in faith and life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week's Schedule February 22 – March 1



Today:

9:00 AM

10:15 AM

First Sunday in Lent

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Dillion Nowicki

Greeter: Peggy McDonald

Ushers: Trenton Schwartz Lance Searle

Colin Schomburg Rallin Wellmann



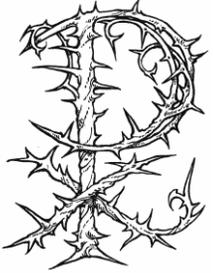
**Monday:
6:00 PM**

New Members Class



**Wednesday:
4:30 PM**

Confirmation Class 7th/8th Grades



**6:00 PM
7:00 PM**

Midweek Lent Meal
Midweek Lent Worship Service: Setting I with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Winston Krieg
Ushers: Billy Ashorn Blane Ashorn
Westin Ashorn Brian Ashorn



**Thursday:
6:30 PM**

Ladies' Bible Study



7:00 PM

Men's Club Meeting



**Saturday:
8:30 AM**

Sisters in Christ



Next Sunday: *Second Sunday in Lent*

9:00 AM

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

10:15 AM

Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Taylor Hinze
Greeter: Janice Pazderny
Ushers: Jason Ashorn Kaisen Ashorn
Melvin Ashorn Eric Berglund

Serving in February: Elder – Brad Molitor / Trustee – Robert Kettler
Serving in March: Elder – Chris Smitherman / Trustee – Michael Schroeder

If you have a question or thought concerning spiritual care or the church property, please contact the appropriate elder or trustee.



The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Peggy McDonald.



Wednesday Evening Lent Meals & Worship

... continue *this Wednesday* at 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM.

For the volunteers who have signed up, there are funds available from Thrivent to help with the purchase of food for these meals. Talk to Diane Jaehne for more information: (979) 251-0248.

Don't forget to direct Choice Dollars®.

Grant Funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice Dollar program can help support projects at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Don't let your designated Thrivent Choice Dollars expire!

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have designated Thrivent Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2026 to direct any remaining 2025 Choice Dollars.

Go to Thrivent.com/Thrivent choice or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt. If you have questions, call an area associate @ 979-836-0693.



Life with God—New Members Class

continues tomorrow night, February 23rd

Our adult information class covers the most important teachings of the Bible as they are believed, taught, and confessed here at Bethlehem. It is designed for anyone considering membership, new members, and any member of the congregation who would like a thorough review of basic Biblical doctrine. Mark your calendar and plan to join us **every Monday night from 6:00 to 7:30 PM.** Classes run weekly for 10-12 sessions.





Bethlehem is looking for a VBS Director

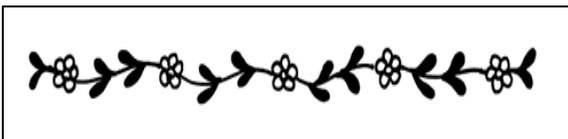
If you are interested in this *spiritually rewarding position*, please contact one of the following:

Pastor Krieg
Sharon Schwartz
Amy Schroeder
Sheryl Schroeder



Prayer Service

The ladies of Bethlehem LWML would like to invite the ladies of the congregation to attend our prayer service on **Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:00 P M.** Light refreshments following the service.



FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

The 2026 Flower Chart is posted in the Parish Hall foyer. Please sign up for special occasions such as anniversaries, birthdays, or other remembrances. The church secretary will remind you of your upcoming commitment via email or phone call. The Bethlehem LWML appreciates your support.



February 22 (Lent 1) – Satan tempts us to turn away from God by appealing to the desires of our flesh and our egos. The devil twists God’s Word to make us think that things like abortion, sex without marriage, suicide, and assisted suicide will give us pleasure, self-fulfillment, and an end

to our suffering. But, like our first parents did, those who give in quickly find that the devil’s words are nothing but empty promises which end in pain and suffering. Thankfully, by withstanding the devil’s temptations, Jesus both defeats that old Satanic foe for all sinners and reminds us that the way to true joy and happiness is found in trusting the unfailing promises of our Heavenly Father.

Sunday School Corner



In our Winter unit, we continue our study of the New Testament, beginning with the account of Mary and Martha and continuing through Jesus appearing to Thomas. This morning, the kids studied the lesson “Forever Food – The Lord’s Supper.” Jesus sends Peter and John to prepare the Passover for Himself and the others. They follow a man carrying water to a home with a furnished upper room, where they prepare the Passover meal. During the meal, Jesus institutes what we now call the Lord’s Supper. Through the bread and wine, Jesus

lovingly gives them, and us, His very body and blood. To reinforce this lesson with your kids, as a family, discuss: What do you think it would have been like to eat supper with Jesus? If Jesus came to your house for supper, how would you prepare? What food would you serve? Many of us pray a table prayer that starts, “Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.” What do we mean when we say that? Why do we say that prayer before our meals? Jesus still has a meal with us. It’s called the Lord’s Supper. He is present with us as we gather around the altar for Holy Communion. As you will learn in confirmation class, we believe that Jesus is in, with, and under the bread and wine. Jesus is with us! After you are confirmed, you will be able to join in that meal too. Also, parents, you can join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

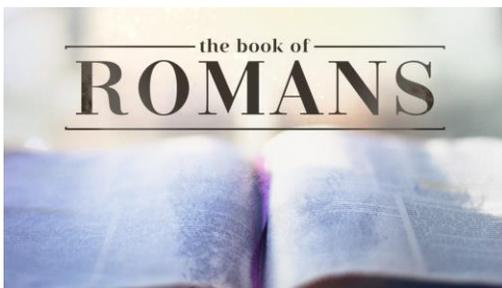
High School Lesson

Our High School Sunday School class is beginning a new study series using Not-So-Nice Bible Stories: Master Criminals. In this engaging and thought-provoking study, students will explore the stories of some of Scripture's most notorious wrongdoers, and discover how God's mercy and grace still shine through even the darkest human deeds. Each lesson points us to Christ, who took the punishment for all sin upon Himself and gives us forgiveness, life, and salvation. Join us as we dig into God's Word, wrestle with tough questions, and see how even "master criminals" reveal our need for the one true Savior, Jesus Christ.

Lesson 9 – The Sour Power Couple (1 Kings)

In this week's lesson, our High School class explored King Ahab and Queen Jezebel in "The Sour Power Couple." Students explored how greed, envy, and abuse of authority led to the unjust death of Naboth and the seizure of his vineyard. Through Elijah's confrontation, we saw that no misuse of power escapes God's notice and that His justice stands firm even when earthly authority is corrupted. At the same time, this sobering account pointed us to Christ, the righteous King who does not take what is not His but instead gives Himself for sinners, bearing judgment in our place and securing for us an everlasting inheritance by grace.

Adult Sunday School Lesson



St. Paul's letter to the Romans is often called the "chief part of the New Testament." Romans clearly lays out the heart of the Christian faith: we are justified by grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone. In this rich epistle, Paul teaches on sin and righteousness, law and Gospel, baptism, the struggle against the old Adam, and life lived in the freedom of the Gospel. Whether you've been attending or have yet to join us, this is a wonderful time to dig into God's Word together and grow in our understanding of His mercy in Christ. Come and be strengthened in the faith that saves and learn how the Gospel shapes our daily lives. We look forward to studying this treasure of Scripture with you! If you could not attend today, please join us next Sunday during the Adult Bible Study hour before church, starting at 9 a.m. Now is the time to commit yourself to a deeper and more meaningful understanding of God's Word and your relationship with Him. I hope to see you all next Sunday as we continue our studies.

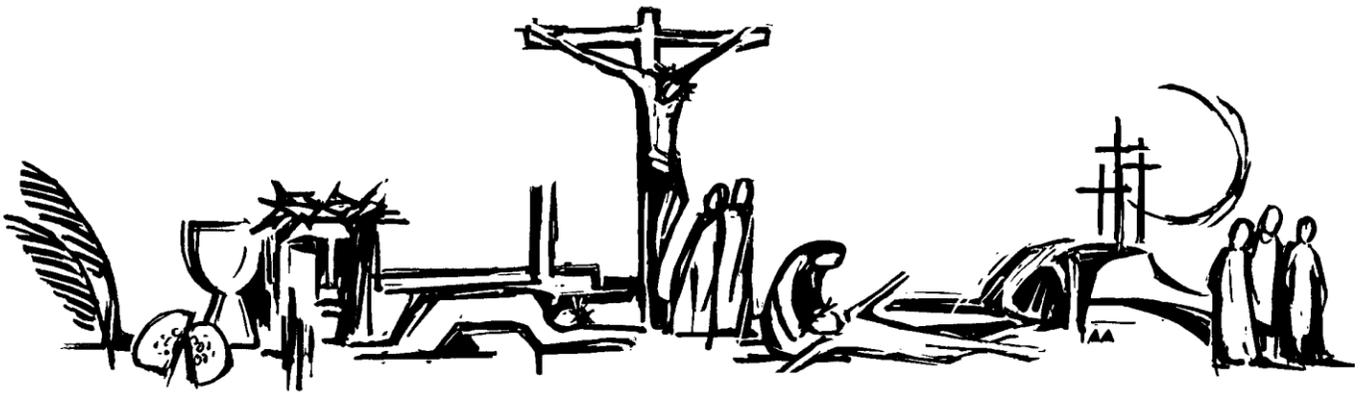


Online Giving

You may give tithes and offerings online by clicking the “Give” tab on our website (<https://www.bethlehemwmpenn.org/>), or just scan the QR code to the left.

Last Week at Bethlehem

DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
Feb. 15	Worship Service	96	\$4,921.65 Quiz Night \$150.00
Feb. 15	Sunday School Youth Bible Class Adult Bible Class	9 2 25	\$141.75
Feb. 18	Ash Wednesday Worship Service	90	\$339.87



2026 Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Schedule



DATE	TIME	SERVICE
<i>Sunday, February 22</i>	<i>10:15 AM</i>	<i>First Sunday in Lent</i>
<i>Wednesday, February 25</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>
<i>Sunday, March 1</i>	<i>10:15 AM</i>	<i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 4</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>
<i>Sunday, March 8</i>	<i>10:15 AM</i>	<i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 11</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>
<i>Sunday, March 15</i>	<i>10:15 AM</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 18</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>
<i>Sunday, March 22</i>	<i>10:15 AM</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 25</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>
<i>Sunday, March 29</i>	<i>10:15 AM</i>	<i>Palm Sunday with Confirmation</i>
<i>Thursday, April 2</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Holy (Maundy) Thursday</i>
<i>Friday, April 3</i>	<i>7:30 PM</i>	<i>Good Friday Tenebrae</i>
<i>Sunday, April 5</i>	<i>7:00 AM</i> <i>8:00 AM</i> <i>9:00 AM</i> <i>9:30 AM</i> <i>10:15 AM</i>	<i>Easter Sunrise Service (Amphitheater)</i> <i>Easter Breakfast</i> <i>Sunday School, Adult Bible Class</i> <i>Easter Egg Hunt</i> <i>Easter Celebration Service</i>