

Bethlehem Lutheran Church



2245 Hayden Avenue
Altoona, Wisconsin
715-832-9953
www.blcaltoona.org

Last Sunday of the Church Year
Sunday, November 21, 2021

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Face masks are optional for fully vaccinated individuals at worship services. Unvaccinated individuals are asked to continue wearing masks.

Sunday School 9:00-9:45 am

Bible Study 9:00-9:45 am - in fellowship hall

Worship at 10:00 AM

Holy Communion is celebrated 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

WELCOME to all of our visitors today. If you're here for the first time or as a returning guest, we are pleased to be able to worship with you today. The order of service and songs will be projected. An outline of the service is printed in your bulletin. Please sign the Fellowship Register on the aisle side of your pew and indicate if you are receiving the Lord's Supper. Then pass it to others in your pew.

~ COMING UP AT BETHLEHEM ~

NO Facebook Devotions on Tues., Nov. 23rd.

Prayer Group - Tues., Nov. 23rd at 10:00 am, in the prayer room.

NO Supper or Confirmation on Wed., Nov. 24th.

Thanksgiving Worship w/Holy Communion - Wed., Nov. 24th at 6:00 pm. We will have our traditional Cereal Drive, collecting boxes of cereal and placing them at the altar. The cereal will then be taken to the Altoona Compassion Coalition food pantry.

NO Sunday School on Sun., Nov. 28th.

Sunday, Nov. 28th - Bible Study at 9:00 am. Worship with Holy Communion and Third Grade Bible Presentation at 10:00 am. In preparation for Bible Study and sermon please read *The Story* - Chapter 11, "From Shepherd to King."

~ ANNUAL VOTERS MEETING ~

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, Dec. 5**, when the Bethlehem congregation will hold its annual voters assembly. Rather than having this meeting in January, we are moving the date up so our 2022 budget is in place before the new year starts. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall after worship, starting at about 11:15 a.m. We will look at some of the highlights of 2021, look ahead to ministry opportunities for 2022, seek approval of the 2022 operating budget, and elect officers and ministry leaders to the church council. We hope you will join us.

~ ADVENT FESTIVAL ~

Join us for an Advent Festival on **Sunday, Nov. 28**, to kick off the Advent season! We are looking for people to plan and lead small crafts or ornament making. We'd like to have 10-15 different tables for participants to rotate between. It will be a festive day centered on getting ready for the birth of Jesus! This event will begin after worship until about 1:30 pm. It is for all ages, and we encourage you to invite friends! If you are able to lead a craft — or if you would like to donate cider or other goodies — please sign up by the kitchen serving area. If you have any questions, call or email Kristina Risler at 715-456-5120 or kristinarisler@gmail.com.

~ MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES BEGIN DEC. 1 ~

As we head into the holiday season, Bethlehem will offer **Midweek Advent services on Wednesday evenings, Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22**. A meal will be offered at 5:30 pm, followed by worship at 6:00 pm and confirmation at 6:45.

~ LOOKING FOR ADVENT MEAL VOLUNTEERS ~

We are looking for a few volunteers to help serve a meal on Wednesday evenings in December. During the season of Advent, we will have supper at 5:30 p.m., worship at 6:00, and confirmation class from 6:45 to 7:30. If you would like more information, contact Teri Johnson at 715-514-9055.

~ JAM FOR CHRISTMAS ~

We're looking for musicians age 12 and up to join us for a praise-filled "jam" night starting at 6 p.m. **Thursday, Dec. 2**. We are especially looking for anyone interested in joining a brass ensemble for Christmas. Bring your instrument, your voice, and your excitement. Call 715-456-7804 or 715-829-1893 for details.

~ NOW HIRING ~

Little Star has immediate openings for day care teachers and assistants. Email Krystina Schumacher, krystina.littlestar@gmail.com, for more information.

~ COMMUNION POLICY ~

At Bethlehem, we believe that the Lord's Supper is more than a remembrance and more than a ritual. We believe that Jesus Christ Himself is truly present, and that this meal strengthens our relationship with Him and with each other.

If you believe that God loves you, that He gave His only Son, Jesus, to die for you, that through Jesus' death and resurrection your sins are forgiven, and that the body and blood of Jesus are truly present in the bread and wine in a supernatural way, then we welcome you to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

If you have not been instructed in the Lutheran faith, if you doubt any of those statements above, or if you have a confession different than the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet you desire to receive this sacrament, we encourage you to speak with the pastor.

Gluten-free wafers and nonalcoholic wine are available today for the Lord's Supper. Simply let the pastor or elder know if you would like to



IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER Fred Bartz, Gary Puljas,

Anna Boyea, Bev & Vern Noggle; families affected by COVID-19;

Nora Carlson; Heather Krause; the family of Dave Klee; God's

blessings on our journey through *The Story*.

If you or a member you know of has been hospitalized or moved to a care facility please notify the church office so we can share their whereabouts with the church family.

FELLOWSHIP TREATS are provided by the Fellowship Ministry Team. A signup sheet to serve at a future service can be found in the kitchen serving area. Talk to LeAnne Hohman if you'd like to supply treats but can't serve.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Sun., Nov. 21

10:00 AM

ELDER / USHERS: Joe Rosengarten / Ken Simpson

ACOLYTE: Jayden Leis

GREETER(S):

READER: Debbie Gilles

SOUND BOOTH: Kim Stein

MUSIC: Terry Rosengarten

Sun. Nov. 28

10:00 AM

Brett Grunewald

Kimberly Lenberg

Randy & Linda Wollmer

Kim Stein

Alex Wollmer

Shelly & Mike Theiste

To volunteer as a reader contact Carole Licht, to be an usher contact the church office. Scheduled worship assistants, please make every effort to be here.

Attendance Last Week

Sun., Nov. 14, 2021

107 - 10:00 am

Wed., Nov. 17, 2021

39 - 6:00 pm

Bethlehem's Giving Report as of last week 11/21/21

Weekly Income Needed: \$ 3,871.00

Offerings Received Last Week: \$ 7,544.46

Total Offerings 2021 Year To Date: \$ 181,987.24

These totals do not reflect Daycare Income

As Is

1 Samuel 1-15 (Ch. 10)

King-Size Ambitions

“The people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We want a king over us. Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us.” (1 Samuel 8:19-20, p. 136 in *The Story*)

Learning the Hard Way

Strong Start, Weak Finish

The King We Need

In the King's Image

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me. (LSB # 570)

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 13:5-14

The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am." And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

A third time the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." ...

The Philistines assembled to fight Israel, with three thousand chariots, six thousand charioteers, and soldiers as numerous as the sand on the seashore. They went up and camped at Mikmash, east of Beth Aven. When the Israelites saw that their situation was critical and that their army was hard pressed, they hid in caves and thickets, among the rocks, and in pits and cisterns. Some Hebrews even crossed the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead.

Saul remained at Gilgal, and all the troops with him were quaking with fear. He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began to scatter. So he said, "Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings." And Saul offered up the burnt offering. Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him.

"What have you done?" asked Samuel.

Saul replied, "When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Mikmash, I thought, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the LORD's favor.' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering."

"You have done a foolish thing," Samuel said. "You have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command."