

Bethlehem Lutheran Church



2245 Hayden Avenue
Altoona, Wisconsin
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www.blcaltoona.org

The Third Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 1, 2022

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday School 9:00-9:45 am
Bible Study 9:00-9:45 am - in fellowship hall
Sunday 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 ~

Today - Christian Ed Ministry Team Meeting at 11:15 am.

Facebook Devotions - Tues., May 3rd at 9:00 am

Prayer Group - Tues., May 3rd at 10:00 am, in the prayer room.

Supper - Wed., May 4th at 5:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome. This is our final Wednesday night meal. Thank you to everyone who has helped provide these meals. We have been blessed by your generosity.

Confirmation - Wed., May 4th at 6:00 pm.

Confirmation Pictures - Sat., May 7th at 9:00 am.

Spring Work Day at Bethlehem - Sat., May 7th. We will start at 10:00 am. The more people who show up the more work we can get done, and the faster we can do it. Contact Mike Smith at 715-514-2110 or mikejuliesmith@charter.net if you have questions.

Next Sunday, May 8th - Sunday School at 9:00 am. Bible Study at 9:00 am. Worship at 10:00 am. In preparation for Bible Study and sermon please read *The Story* - Chapter 30, "Paul's Final Days."

Just a little reminder - next Sunday is also Mother's Day.

~ REFLECTING ON *THE STORY* ~

How has our nine-month journey through *The Story* affected your faith walk? What have you learned? How has your view of the Bible changed? How do you see your story fitting into God's story? How will *The Story* help you have spiritual conversations with others? Pastor Tim is looking for feedback on the impact *The Story* has had at Bethlehem. Call, write, or email (PastorTim@blcaltoona.org) to share your thoughts.

~ NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER ~

A National Day of Prayer community event will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. THIS Thursday, May 5, at the Owen Park Bandshell in Eau Claire.

~ CHALK FEST 2022 ~

Share *The Story* with your chalk drawings. Pick up a pack of chalk and a flyer in the fellowship hall today, then join us on **Sunday morning, May 15**, before and after worship on the sidewalks outside Bethlehem. Use the chalk to share your favorite Jesus story from this year.

~ SAVE THE DATE ~

Our Sunday school will have an end-of-the-year celebration after worship on **Sunday, May 22**. We hope you'll join us for food and fellowship.

~ ASCENSION DAY WORSHIP ~

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church will offer a worship service at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 26, to celebrate the ascension of our Lord. Our Redeemer is at 601 Fall St., Eau Claire.

~ SPONSOR A STUDENT ~

Five students from Bethlehem have registered to attend this year's LCMS National Youth Gathering in Houston: Madi Brown, Remy Hohman, Adam Jordan, Keegan Naser, and Mason Smith. If you would like to help these students and defray some of the costs for the Gathering, please pick up a sponsorship card in the narthex. Some of the costs for the trip are listed on the form, but any amount you can contribute will be a blessing and make this trip a faith-filled experience they'll never forget. Thank you for your support!

~ INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY ~

The Chippewa Valley Free Clinic is looking for a year-long intern to work 10-15 hours per week with database and web site management and marketing. For more information or to apply, contact Maribeth Woodford at 715-839-8477 or Maribeth@cvfreeclinic.org.

~ 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 receive them.



IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK WE LIFT UP: Mike & Shelly Theiste, birth of grandson Robert McLain; Phyllis Pecor; Ken Simpson; Peg Ashwell; Kathy Hulett; Rosalie Schreiber; the family of Katy Hendrix, Joe Rosengarten's daughter; Jim Griesse; Tonya Lanphere, Margaret Johnson's daughter; Katie, Lois Olson's granddaughter; Nora Carlson; and families affected by COVID-19.

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 Roy & Cheri Borseth.

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

	<u>Today</u> <u>10:00 AM</u>	<u>Sun. May 8</u> <u>10:00 AM</u>
ELDER:	Gary Hansen	_____
USHER:	Rod Graff	Randy Wollmer
ACOLYTE:	Kyle Korenuk	Serenity Johnson
GREETER(S):	Marlene Bredesen	TBD
READER:	Gary Hansen	Rory Schutte
TECHBOOTH:	Luke Hansen	Alex Wollmer
MUSIC:	Amanda Bradley	Amanda Bradley

Attendance Last Week

Sun. April 24, 2022
10:00 am - 164
(Daycare Sunday)

Bethlehem's Giving Report as of week ending 4/24/22

Weekly Income Needed:	\$ 4,623.00
Offerings Received Last Week:	\$ 4,388.46
Total Offerings Year to Date:	\$ 75,241.49
Budgeted Giving Year to Date:	\$ 78,591.00

These totals do not reflect Daycare Income

On a Mission: Opposition

Acts 13-20; 1 Thessalonians 1-3 (Ch. 29)

Our Story

Neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. ... We are co-workers in God's service. (*1 Corinthians 3:7-9, p. 425 in The Story*)

Our Struggle

- Division
- Economics
- Compromise
- Darkness and evil

Our Enemy

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but ... against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (*Ephesians 6:12*)

Our Champion

Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (*1 Corinthians 15:57, p. 429 in The Story*)

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 (p. 417 in *The Story*)

You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition. For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed — God is our witness. We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. Instead, we were like young children among you.

Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

John 15:16-16:3

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit — fruit that will last — and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me hates my Father as well. If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: ‘They hated me without reason.’

“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father — the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father — he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

“All this I have told you so that you will not fall away. They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are offering a service to God. They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me.”