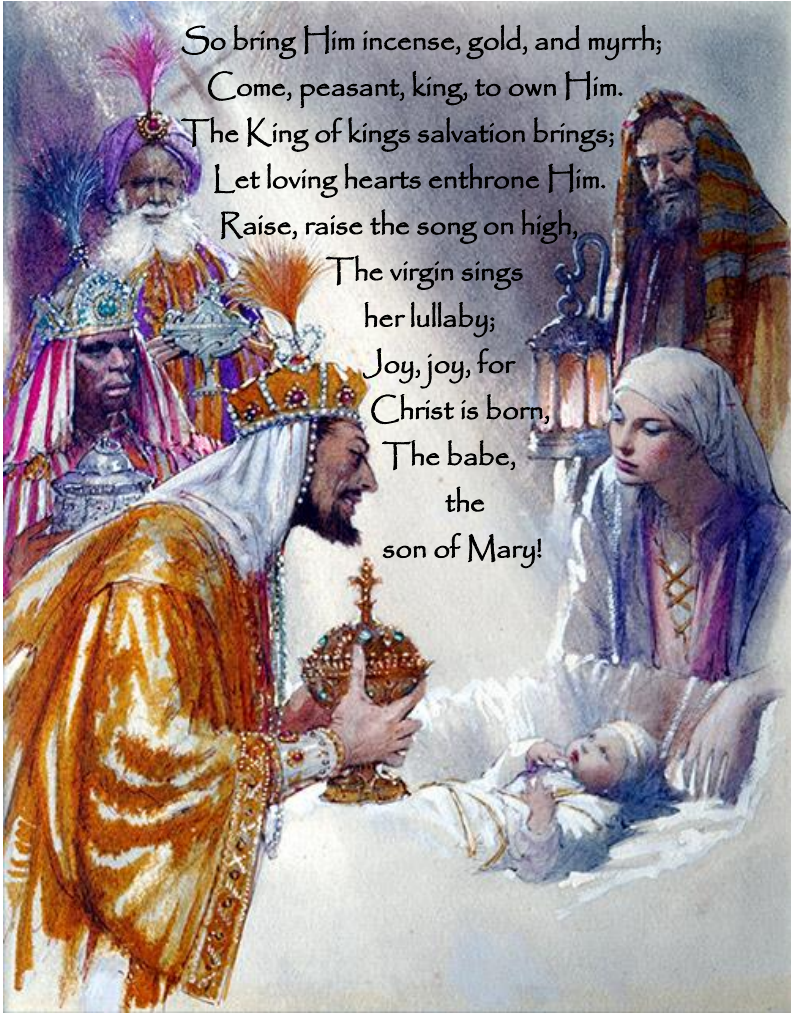


# EPIPHANY (OBSERVED) SUNDAY

Sunday, January 8, 2023



So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings  
her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for  
Christ is born,  
The babe,  
the  
son of Mary!

## BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6351 N. 200<sup>TH</sup> St. *(Church address)*

6409 N. 200<sup>TH</sup> St. *(Parish Hall & Office address)*

Altamont, IL 62411

**Rev. Marcus Manley, Pastor**

Pastor Manley's Phone: 712-880-2452

Pastor's email: [bzaltamontpastor@gmail.com](mailto:bzaltamontpastor@gmail.com)

Church Office Phone: 618-483-6756

Church e-mail: [bethlehemaltamont@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemaltamont@gmail.com)

Church website: [www.bethlehemaltamont.org](http://www.bethlehemaltamont.org)



**“Let us go to Bethlehem...” Luke 2:15**

Bethlehem is Hebrew for “House of Bread,” the city of David, King of Israel, and the birthplace of the Lord Jesus. This land was originally planned to be a town called Bethlehem, and eventually our congregation adopted it as its name. You are invited to believe that Jesus is present here, at Bethlehem today according to His Word and to confess the very Bread of Life Jesus feeds us with in the Sacrament.

**Prayers**

**In our prayers we remember:**

Those in need of healing & comfort: *Howard “Butch” Bahrns, Pam Berg-Kepley, Jim Brasel, Mike Gaede, Bernice Graumenz, Arlin Grobengieser, Lillian Grobengieser, Luella Rubin, Steve Voelker, Gene Wharton, and Marcella Wolf.*

Those celebrating Birthdays: (01/08-01/14) – 01/08 – Deb Guffey; 01/09 – Allen Schultz; 01/10 – Lucy Kroening; 01/11 – Avery Jahraus; 01/12 – Dan Hites

**Church News**

**Trustee’s Report:**

Offering collected for Home Purpose General Fund on January 1: \$ 4,376

*Weekly amount needed for unified budget*.....\$ 7,400

**Loose change in the offering plate has been designated for the LWML Mites.**

Sunday School offering has been designated for our Radio Ministry.

Attendance: Sunday, 01/01/2023, 9:30am: 59

*Today in Bible Class* Bible Class – The Book of Judges

- Why are we studying the books of Judges and Ruth?
- How can you serve at Bethlehem in studying Judges?
- What begins the time of the judges?
- What are some comforting thoughts as we learn of Old Testament violence?



**Tuesday Matins - 9:30am at Bethlehem** - Whether you were unable to make it to church on Sunday, have the day off, or need to pray about something, Join us on Tuesday! Tuesday’s Matins service is themed around a part of the Small Catechism.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Hymn</u>	<u>Catechism/Theme</u>	<u>Bible</u>
Jan. 3	<i>No Matins</i>		
Jan. 10	582	3 <sup>rd</sup> Commandment	Ps.19:7-13(ant.14); 2 Chron. 34:1-2,8,14-21
Jan. 17	867	4 <sup>th</sup> Commandment	Ps. 44:1-8, 26      Ruth 1:1-19a
Jan. 24	<i>No Matins</i>		
Jan. 31	430	5 <sup>th</sup> Commandment	Ps. 143    1 Tim. 1:12-20

**Meals on Wheels** – January 9, 10, & 11 – Bethlehem is scheduled to deliver meals on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday this week. Please consider volunteering, contact Janice Heiden.

Bethlehem is scheduled to work at the **LBW Large Print Center** at St. John’s, Effingham, this week on Tuesday, January 10.

**LWML Meeting** – Thursday, January 12, 7:00 p.m.  
– Hostesses: Karen Siddens & Amy Manley

**Council Meeting** – Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 p.m.

**Voters' Assembly** – Sunday, January 22, 1:30 p.m.

**Installation of Church Officers** – Sunday, January 29

**Lutherans for Life Sunday** – Sunday, January 22 – **“BLESSED FOR LIFE”**

*The LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies. Psalm 41:2*

- *Lutherans For Life coloring page and devotion for children is available in the narthex.*
- *Lutherans For Life 2023 Illinois Essay Contest for Students in Grades 6-12 information also available in the narthex.*



For Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, our congregation will be “hosting” a **“Baby Shower”** for the Family Life Center throughout the month of **January**.

*Family Life Center Baby Shower Wish List: (new items only please) Diapers NB-18 months, baby wipes, bottles, clothes NB-18 months, winter clothing, socks, bath towels & washcloths, blankets, pullups, tag blankets (new or homemade), car seat covers, baby thermometers, safety first baby kits, baby laundry detergent, bibs, burp cloths, baby toiletries, sippy cups, baby toys, baby books, illustrated baby first bibles.*

*Donated Items may be placed in the laundry baskets located in the narthex.*

*In 2022, 34 beautiful babies were born with the help of the Family Life Center, Effingham – thanks be to God for the Family Life Center and your support and donations. These families received free education and items such as diapers, wipes, a car seat, and clothing for their babies. The Family Life Center also continues to support these families emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. The Family Life Center also provides free medical-based education to share that could SAVE A HUMAN LIFE! Let’s help them to continue providing these services to these mothers, fathers and babies.*

*Thank you to all who donated poinsettia plants & wreaths to decorate the church sanctuary during Christmas: Eric & Barb Grobengieser, Betty Heiden, Jason & Serena Koester, Dean & Karen Manuel, Dale & Connie Roll, Jeremy & Leigh Ann Ruffner, Allen & Lorene Schultz, Mel & Karen Stuemke, and Gary & Joyce Winter*

**✂✂✂✂ District & Synod News, Regional Items & Acknowledgments ✂✂✂✂**

**PURE GERMANY TOUR-** Mr. Jim Yagow is planning a trip to Pomerania and other sites in Germany Sept. 11-22, 2024. More information can be found on the Trip Handout in the narthex. Or you can contact Mr. Yagow directly: [jimyagow@aol.com](mailto:jimyagow@aol.com).

**Issues, Etc. Bethlehem's annual 2023 commitment is \$1,000**

**EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS...** Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's subjects include: Biblical Archeology's Top Discoveries of 2022, The Secularization of the West, The Wedding at Cana, Jesus Calls the First Disciples and more. You can listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.



Donation box is located in the narthex. Monetary donations and checks, payable to Altamont Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry, are also accepted, please place in the "Church Inbox".

*On Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, the food pantry had 24 participants, on Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> – 18 participants, and on Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 40 participants*

Items in need at the Food Pantry: Canned meals, with meat if possible, Boxed potatoes, Pudding and jello, and Chunky soup.

**This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Tuesday, January 10**

- 9:30 a.m. – Tuesday Matins – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment
- Large Print / Braille Workers @ St. Johns

**Wednesday, January 11**

- 4:30 p.m. – Kinderchor practice
- 7:00 p.m. – Choir practice
- 7:00 p.m. – Elder's Meeting

**Thursday, January 12 – 7:00 p.m. – LWML Meeting**

**Sunday, January 15 – Epiphany 2**

- 9:30 a.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion
- 10:45-11:30 a.m. - Adult Bible Class & Youth Sunday School
- 8:00 a.m. – Pastor Manley's Radio program on KJ Country/102.3FM
- 5:00 p.m. – Sunday morning worship service TV broadcast Ch.81  
(Recording of today's worship service is also available on our YouTube channel - link via our church website)

**TO THE GLORY OF GOD & THE SALVATION OF MAN**