

Sexagesima

Sunday, February 08, 2026



*So shall my word be that
goes out from my mouth:
it shall not return to me empty.*

Isaiah 55:11

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
6409 N. 200TH St. Altamont, IL 62411



Rev. Marcus Manley, Pastor

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“Let us go to Bethlehem...” Luke 2:15

Greetings in Christ. It's Gesima-time! Gesima (days) is a time when we focus on God's grace and gift of salvation to us. With a family member or friend, you could circle all the Gospels, graceful, gift words in the readings. The Lord's Supper is a celebration of God's grace in the giving of Jesus' body and blood for our forgiveness. All those in altar fellowship and good standing in the LC-MS are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament with us. Please speak with Pastor Manley if you'd like to learn more about our confession and practice of the Lord's Supper and altar fellowship in our church.

Prayers

In our prayers we remember:

Those in need of healing & comfort:

Annette Altman	Bernice Graumenz	Brad Suckow – back
Lucille Beccue- LCC	Lillian Grobengieser	Steve Voelker
Karly Brummer - leukemia	Janice Heiden	Catherine Zumwalt – cancer
Heather Davis - cancer	Judy Stuemke – LCC	

Birthdays (02/08 – 02/14): 02/08 – Heather Webb; 02/10 – Kerigan Phillips, Mike Wolff;
02/14 – Sherri Strullmyer

Anniversary: 02/14 – Harry & Sandra Braasch

Church News

Trustee's Report:

Weekly amount needed for unified budget 2026	\$ 8730
Offering collected for <u>General Fund</u> on 02/01	\$ 15092

Loose change in the offering plate is designated for LWML Mites for Missions



Attendance: Sun., 02/01, 9:30am – 116



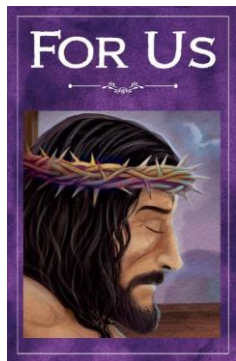
Bible Study Today Matthew 6:19-24 What is the object of faith?

- Christian discussion on the state of the church?
- What are the treasures of heaven?
- What does it mean to lay up our treasures?
- What is the eye of faith?
- What is the first idol?

Adult Instruction Class – Monday at 5:30 pm. All are welcome. Talk with Pastor if you or anyone you know is interested.

Youth Bible Bowl – Practice every Wednesday in February in the Parish Hall from 6–7 p.m. The CID Bible Bowl is on March 22 at 3 p.m. at Camp CILCA.

Bethlehem is scheduled to work at the LBW Center, St. John's, Effingham – Tuesday, February 10th. Volunteer to help produce Christian materials and Bibles in specialized large print which are provided freely to people who are visually impaired. Please contact Mary Schmidt.



LENT, HOLY WEEK, & EASTER SCHEDULE 2026

02/18 - 7pm - Ash Wednesday & Imposition of Ashes – BLC
02/25 – 7pm – Midweek of Lent 1 – Zion
03/04 – 7pm – Midweek of Lent 2 - Bethlehem
03/11 – 7pm – Midweek of Lent 3 – Zion
03/18 – 7pm – Midweek of Lent 4 – Bethlehem
03/25 – 7pm – Midweek of Lent 5 – Zion
03/29 – 9:30am – Bethlehem Palm Sunday / Confirmation Sunday
04/02 – 7pm – Maundy Thursday service at Zion
04/04 – 7pm – Good Friday Tenebrae Service at Bethlehem
04/05 – 6:30am – Bethlehem Easter Sunrise Service
04/05 – 9:30am – Bethlehem Easter Festival

For Us: Daily Devotions will be available by Ash Wednesday.

✿✿✿✿✿ District & Synod News, Community Items & Acknowledgments ✿✿✿✿✿

St. Clare Catholic Church in Altamont, IL will be hosting a **Sausage Breakfast** on Sunday, February 15th from 7:30am -12:00pm. The menu includes sausage patties, ham, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, sweet rolls, sweet breads, milk, juice and coffee. St. Clare is located at 216 N. 9th Street, Altamont, IL 62411. Free-will donation accepted.



ALIS Annual PTL Dinner Auction – Saturday, February 28th

Carriage House Event Center – Social hour begins at 4:30p.m., dinner starts serving at 6:00p.m. Silent Auction begins at 4:30p.m., Live Auction at 6:30p.m.

Cost: \$25/person or reserve a table for 8 for \$300. RSVP by February 13th. To donate an auction item please click on the QR code to submit form, and drop off item by February 20th, (special arrangements can be made for baked goods and large items.) PTL Dinner Auction RSVP forms and donation forms are also located in the narthex.



Do you know that the way Christian's go about their day and connect with members in their household is a critical aspect of spiritual growth? When the households of your church are spiritually vibrant, your church is more effective at faith formation, outreach, and community engagement. Come to learn more at the **Central Illinois LLL District Convention** hosted at Christ Lutheran Church in Normal on Saturday, March 21, 2026. All are welcome to attend. Rev. Dr. Peter J Scaer, Chairman and Professor of Exegetical Theology, Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne Indiana is the guest speaker.

Presentation Topics:

- Rev. Dr. Scaer's presentation topic: "Act Like Men: Be Strong in Christ"
- Polly Faszholz Gregali, Community Facilitator, LLL Virtual Presentation LHM Update

Doors open at 9:00 a.m. and the convention will conclude by 3:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$25 per person and includes the lunch meal. Please complete the registration form and mail with your registration fee to Deloris Blessman, 20204 CR 1850N, Topeka, IL 61567. Please make checks payable to CID LLL District. For more information you can contact Deloris by phone 309.361,1461 or by email delorisblessman@yahoo.com. Registration deadline is March 16, 2026.



If there are Sunday mornings when you or someone you know can't make it to church, consider this free resource from Ft. Wayne Seminary: Worship Anew. Services are prepared for every Sunday and can be viewed in four different ways: on their website (worshipanew.org), Local TV stations and TCT Network, DVD, and through their Mobile App. You can also find it by searching on your TV for Worship Anew. (The Winter Olympics begin this Friday, February 6, and run through Sunday, February 22. Just a reminder that some regular television programming may be disrupted during this time period, including Worship Anew.)



Camp CILCA flyers with information on upcoming events and Summer Camp 2026 are available in the narthex.



Donation box for non-perishable items for the Altamont Food Pantry is in the narthex.

*The Food Pantry had **62** participants on Tuesday, 02/03/2026.*

Jesus said, I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Mt. 25:35). The Altamont Ministerial Alliance does this by caring for the poor in our community. The Altamont Food pantry is open at First United Methodist Church every Tuesday, 1-3pm for citizens with an Altamont address. When available, other funds are given to the poor with an Altamont address to help with their needs. The Altamont Ministerial Alliance has checks and balances to properly steward all donations to those who are living in our community and follow Jesus' words to care for the poor.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Monday, February 9

5:30 pm – Adult Instruction Class

Wednesday, February 11

3:30 pm - Kinderchor

6:00 pm – Bible Bowl practice

7:00 pm – Choir

Sunday, February 15 – Quinquagesima

9:30 a.m. – DSIII with Holy Communion

10:45 a.m. – Adult Bible Class and 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