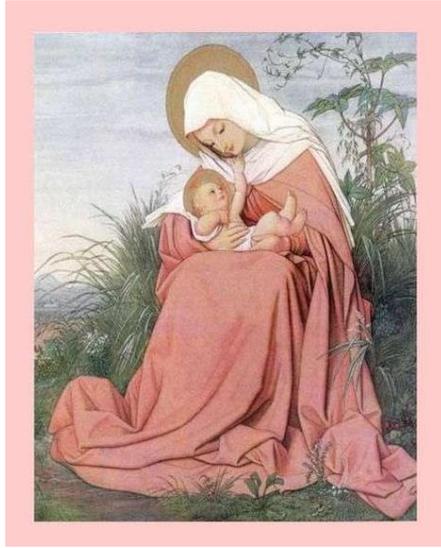


Fourth Sunday in Lent

Laetare – “Rejoice”

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Rejoice with Jerusalem



*This is indeed the Prophet
who is to come into the world!*

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

Pro Nobis means “for us.” We sing in Lent “He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people” (Ps. 32:1). In the Creed we confess Jesus’ incarnation, suffering, death, burial, and resurrection “for us men and for our salvation.” As we gather to worship our God this lent, let us remember God’s great love for us. In the Lord’s Supper we receive this love through the real presence of Jesus’ body and blood. If you are not a member and want to know more about taking Communion at Bethlehem please speak with Pastor Manley.



In our prayers we remember:

Those in need of healing & comfort:

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

Birthdays (03/15-03/21): 03/17 – Kurt Becker, Lonnie Wilson; 03/19 – Anna Manley, Lantz Wills, Robert Grobengieser; 03/20 – Luke Grobengieser; 03/21 – Kysson Koester



Trustee’s Report:

Weekly amount needed for unified budget 2026	\$	8730
Offering collected for <u>General Fund</u> on 03/0	\$	5808

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



Attendance: Sun., 03/01, 9:30am – 112



Bible Study Today: Matthew 7:6-11 | Our Need to Pray

1. What is encouraging about Jesus telling us to ask, seek, and knock?
2. Why does Jesus call us evil in verse 10?
3. What is so good about our need for our prayers and faith to God?



Midweek Lent 4 worship service – Wed., March 18th, 7:00pm at Bethlehem – Healing from Demons (Mark 5:1-13)

Youth Bible Bowl – Practice every Wednesday in February in the Parish Hall from 6–7 p.m. – Topic: “The Gospel according to St. Matthew”

- The Circuit Bible Bowl TODAY, Sunday, March 15th, 2:00pm, at St. John’s, Effingham.
- The CID Bible Bowl is next Sunday, March 22nd at 3:00pm at Camp CILCA.



Tre Ore 2026 – Tre Ore “3 hours” will be held at Bethlehem, Altamont on Good Friday, April 3, 12pm-3pm. All Christians are welcome to remember the 3 hours of darkness Christ hung for us, meditating on the words He spoke from the cross. The service is led by Reverends Manley, Cornelius, Speers, Meyer, Bartens, Hart, Landskroener. You can come for any portion of the service or for its entirety.

Bethlehem Choir members will have their picture taken for the directory today immediately following the worship service. Please assemble in choir robes in front of the church.

Our most recently organized choir, the "MÄNNERCHOR" or MENS CHOIR is singing the anthem today. Church records indicate that the first Mixed Choir was organized in April of 1923 by Mr. C.F. Niewedde who was the teacher at Bethlehem School. Prior to that in the 1880s the "Männerchor" (Mens Choir) sung in the Services. We give thanks that the Lord has again blessed our congregation with musical talent for His edification.

"And He has put a new song, in my mouth, even praise unto our God." Ps. 40:3.

 District & Synod News, Community Items & Acknowledgments 

TODAY - You are invited to the **3rd Annual Zion Pancake and Sausage Breakfast** at Altamont Lutheran School Gym, 7 S Edwards St, Altamont, **Sun., March 15, 2026**. Serving is 9:30AM to 1:00PM. Menu: Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, potatoes and drinks for a free-will donation. A bake sale will be held. Proceeds from the benefit will be divided into thirds to: Altamont Lutheran Interparish School, Lutheran Care Center and Zion Lutheran Church.



ALIS KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION will be held on Thurs., March 19 from 6-6:45pm. Please bring a copy of your child's certified birth certificate. RSVP to the school office by email: alisooffice2@gmail.com or 618-483-6428.

Central Illinois LLL District Convention Join with others at the Central Illinois LLL District at the annual convention on Saturday, March 21 at Christ Lutheran Church in Normal, Illinois. Rev. Dr. Peter J Scaer, Chairman and Professor of Exegetical Theology, Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne Michael Zeigler, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour® will provide the keynote address. Polly Faszholz Gregali, Community Facilitator, LLL will provide a virtual presentation with LHM Updates. The registration fee is \$25.00 per person including lunch. 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.**



Join us in Champaign, IL on Saturday, March 28, to grow as Christian men and women, meet new friends, get to know each other, and have fun. The conference is open to Lutheran young adults,

ages 18-30. Married or single are welcome. Pre- and Post Conference activities are planned for March 27 and March 28. Registration is required, as capacity is limited. More information and registration is available at martinpluskatie.org. Please register no later than Friday, March 20th.

Thrivent clients with Choice Dollars®: Remember to direct before March 31st. If you would like to recommend your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Bethlehem Lutheran, Altamont, IL, contact Thrivent Client Services 800-847-4836 or online, thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Thank you for your consideration!

 **Donation box for non-perishable items for the Altamont Food Pantry is in the narthex.** The Food Pantry had 41 participants on Tuesday, 03/03/2026. 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, March 16

5:30 pm – Adult Instruction Class

Wednesday, March 18

3:30 pm – Kinderchor

6:00 pm – Bible Bowl practice

7:00 pm – Midweek of Lent 3 worship service at Bethlehem

Choir practice following worship service

Sunday, March 22 – Fifth Sunday in Lent - Judica

9:30 am – DSIII with Holy Communion

10:45 am – Adult Bible Class and Youth Sunday School

8:00 am – Pastor Manley's Radio program on KJ Country/102.3FM

5:00 pm – 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