

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

POPULUS ZION – “PEOPLE OF ZION”

Sunday, December 04, 2022

May the **GOD** of
Hope fill you with all **Joy**
& **Peace** in believing, so
that by the **Power** of the
Holy Spirit you may
abound in **Hope**. *Romans 15:13*

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



6351 N. 200TH St. (Church address)

6409 N. 200TH St. (Parish Hall & Office address)

Altamont, IL 62411

Rev. Marcus Manley, Pastor

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“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: (12/04-12/10) – 12/06: John Putnam; 12/08: Alyson Alwardt, Scott Wharton; 12/10: Addy Putnam

Church News

Trustee’s Report:

Offering collected for Home Purpose General Fund on November 27: \$7,893.⁹⁰
Offering collected for Home Purpose General Fund on Thanksgiving Day: \$1,540
Zion Dual Parish payment: \$2,051.⁸⁵

<i>Weekly amount needed for Bethlehem’s tuition students to ALIS</i>	\$3,238.46
<i>Weekly budgeted for salary and home purpose in addition to tuition</i>	\$2,733.54
<i>Weekly total</i>	\$5,972.00

Missions as of 11/30/2022 - \$8,760 of \$8,000 annual commitment.

Issues, Etc. collected on 11/13: \$50 (\$495 of \$1,000 annual commitment.)

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

Sunday School offering has been designated for our Radio Ministry.

Attendance: 11/24, Thanksgiving Day, 9:30am: 59

11/27 Sunday Advent 1, 9:30 am: 113

11/30 Wed., Mid-week, 7:00pm: 50

Today in Bible Class Bible Class -- "Call me Ishmael"

1. What are the events that precede Ishmael's birth?
2. Why does God protect Ishmael and Hagar?
3. What does the Quran say about Ishmael?
4. What does the Bible tell us to learn from Ishmael?



Matins every Tuesday at 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. Every service is themed around a part of the Small Catechism. Join us!

Date	Hymn	Catechism/Theme	Bible	
Dec. 6	700	St. Nicholas	Psalm 89	Heb. 13:7-17
Dec. 13	411	St. Lucia	Psalm 119:95-96	Matt. 13:44-52
Dec. 20	900	2 nd Commandment	Psalm 9	Matt. 1:18-25
Dec. 27	<i>No Matins</i>			



Children's Christmas Eve Service practice TODAY.
Parents may pick up their children at church at noon.

Mid-week Advent 1- Vespers Service at Zion on Wednesday, December 7th at Zion at 7:00 p.m. – This year our Mid-week Advent Service and Children's Christmas Program are collectively themed: *This Is My Son*.

Voters' Assembly TODAY– Sun., Dec. 4 at 1:30 p.m. – Election of church officers, approval for unified church budget & dual parish agreement 2022. Anyone interested in serving in a church elected office should contact the nominating committee (Dennis Guffey, Dean Manuel, & Pastor Manley).


Christmas Cookies – Ladies' Aid/LWML group will be packing and delivering Christmas Cookies to our senior members on Mon., Dec. 12 at 1:00 p.m. Donation of Christmas cookies would be much appreciated. Thank you.

Christmas Caroling – The Annual Christmas Caroling will take place on Friday, December 16. Choir members and anyone who would like to participate are welcome. Park and meet at Tim & Jane Laatsch's home in time for departure at 3:30pm. A Christmas dinner party is planned following the caroling. Ham will be provided, please bring your favorite side dish or Christmas treats to share. RSVP to Dean Manuel (call or text: 618-267-7914) or call the church office. The members who are visited sure enjoy this annual event as we once again sing of our Savior's birth.

Old Church Windows – The old church windows are still available to members, please contact Dennis Guffey, 618-267-5595, by the end of the year.

Advent Devotion Books - a limited number of Advent devotion books are available to members, copies are located in the narthex.

 District & Synod News, Regional Items & Acknowledgments 

 **Issues, Etc.** *Bethlehem has donated \$495 of our \$1,000 annual 2022 commitment.*
For your convenience, we have specially marked Issues, Etc. donation envelopes located in the narthex. Thank you for your support!

Salem Lutheran to Offer Christmas Cantata: *The Adult Choir and Children's Choir of Salem Lutheran Church have been practicing hard for their upcoming Christmas cantata entitled "Christmas Changes Everything." There will be two performances. The first will be on Saturday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m. The second one will take place the following morning, December 18 that 10:15. The public is cordially invited and encouraged to attend this very special presentation that will feature both traditional selections and contemporary ones that are sure to become among your favorites.*



Altamont High School National Honor Society are hosting a **blood drive** on Wednesday, December 7 from 8:15 am- 2:00 pm in the high school gym.

“Christmas is also a time to contemplate the gift of mortal LIFE through the miracle of birth. Christmas is the gift of LOVE that moms and dads shower on their children by saying yes to life—sometimes under very difficult circumstances. Regardless of the challenges, God has a perfect plan for each life that He brings into the world, and His will for them is to out-sparkle and out-shine any ornament.” *Bradley Mattes, president of Life Issues Institute – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



Altamont Ministerial Alliance **Food Pantry** provides local families in need with grocery items and various living expense vouchers (for utilities, fuel, temp. housing, etc.) – Bethlehem Church will be collecting non-perishable items for the Food Pantry. 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 Tuesday, November 29th, the food pantry had a total of 23 participants.

Items in need at the Food Pantry: canned spam, canned chicken, pudding cups, jello cups, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste

This Week at Bethlehem:

Monday, December 5

– 7:00 p.m. – Elder’s Meeting

Tuesday, December 6

– 9:30 a.m. – **Matins Service – St. Nicholas**

Wednesday, December 7

– 4:30 p.m. – Kinderchor practice

– 5:30 p.m. – Youth Meeting

– **7:00 p.m. – Mid-week Advent 2 Vespers Worship Service @ Zion**

– Choir practice following worship service

Sunday, December 11 – **Advent 3**

– 9:30 a.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion

– 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. – Adult Bible Class & Youth Sunday School

– Children’s Christmas Eve Service Rehearsal

– 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