

# *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

May 7, 2023



*"And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning  
sin and righteousness and judgment"*

**BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
6409 N. 200<sup>TH</sup> St. 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: *Butch Bahrns, Linda Crain, Bernice Graumenz, Arlin & Lillian Grobengieser, Dennis Guffey, Zoe Hoehler, Marybeth Potts (Patti Wolff’s mother), Luella Rubin, Debra Sloan-Shirley (aunt of Alysia Wills), Steve Voelker, and Gene Wharton.*

Those celebrating Birthdays this week (04/30 – 05/06): 05/12 – Chet Stuemke  
 Anniversary: 05/07 – Mark & Jennifer Berg (12)

*Prayers for the family & friends of Rev. Jerry Bagwell, who joined the church triumphant on May 02, 2023.*

**Church News**

**Trustee’s Report:**

Offering collected for <u>Home Purpose General Fund</u> on 04/30/2023.....	\$ 4,228
<i>Weekly amount needed for unified budget:</i> .....	<i>\$ 7,400</i>
Donations to Steeple Fund.....	\$ 5,000
Donation to Steeple Fund – Hilma Berg life insurance additional benefit.....	\$ 1,189
Donation to Steeple Fund – Pie of the Week .....	\$ 130
<u><i>Steeple &amp; Roof Project Fund (goal of \$100,000) – \$41,872 collected</i></u>	

Building Fund Donations:.....\$ 350.00

*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, 04/30, 9:30am – 88

*Today in Bible Class – Judges 10-11 Tola, Jair, and Jephthah*

- Why doesn't the Bible tell us more about these judges?
- Which pagans and false gods this time?
- How does knowing your history help in a fight?

**Homemade Pie** baked by Janice Heiden - One pie will be offered for silent bid auction every Sunday, during Bible Class – highest bidder will take home the pie – all proceeds will go towards the church steeple project.

**Matins - Wednesdays - 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 Wednesday mornings for our Matins worship service.

Date	Hymn	Psalm	Text
05/10 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Article	914	Ps. 104:1-18	John 1:1-15
05/17 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Article	578	Ps. 104:19-35	Proverbs 8:22-36
05/24 – Christ’s Priestly Office	583	Ps. 110: 2-7 ant. 1	Hebrews 1
05/31 – Christ’s Priestly Office	624	Ps. 40	Hebrews 9

## **Part-time Bethlehem Church & Parish Hall Custodian position**

- ❖ A Special Voters' Assembly Meeting is scheduled **TODAY**, following the worship service, to discuss the Part-time Church & Parish Hall Custodian position.
- ❖ The Church Trustees are also asking for any volunteers who would like to help clean the church & parish hall during the interim hiring period.
- ❖ *Thank you to Lorene Schultz for her many years of service to the church as custodian.*

**BLC will be recognizing our 2023 graduates on May 14<sup>th</sup>.** If you are graduating this year or have graduated this year from grade school, high school, college, vocational or other, please contact Pastor or the church office.

**Ascension Day** Worship Service at Bethlehem – Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

**Prayer Cards-** CID office and Life Coordinator Mr. David Ward have produced Prayer Cards for Wednesday's Child. These cards are intended for you to take and pray each Wednesday for God's gift of life and protection of the helpless against danger. You may also take more to give to friends and neighbors. Prayer cards are in the narthex.

**ENTRANCE CANOPY – DOORS** – The arrival of the siding for the canopy is delayed until mid-May. This project was approved by the voters and is funded by a member donor.

**Steeple Project** - A display in the church hall has been created to show the progress of funds toward the goal of \$100,000. The down payment for the project has been sent to INSPIRED HEIGHTS STEEPLE JACKS. It is hoped that the steeple reroofing will be completed this fall. Donations for this project should be designated “**Steeple Project**”.

*May the Lord Bless this endeavor as our church continues to  
“Lift High the Cross”.*



Save the Date:

**Bethlehem's VBS - Zoomerang**

Sunday-Thursday, June 11-15, 6-8pm.

Please mark your calendars and speak with Jennifer Berg if you'd like to help.



**ALIS positions available** - ALIS will soon be interviewing for an assistant cook position for the 2023-2024 school year, and a part-time summer janitor for the summer of 2023. Job descriptions available in the church narthex. For more information and to apply contact ALIS. Please submit completed applications to Robi Flach at [robiflach@alisrockets.com](mailto:robiflach@alisrockets.com).

**Bells In Motion**, an advanced, auditioned community handbell ensemble, based in Springfield, IL, will be on tour in June. They will be making their final stop at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Altamont on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. They have an exciting line up planned. If you like jazz, there will be something for you. If you like classics from the 50's, 60s, 70s, and 80s, there will be something for you. If you like Broadway, there will be something for you too. This family friendly concert has music for everyone. So mark your calendar and tell all your friends. You won't want to miss this! Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm, 203 E. Division Street, Altamont, in the upper Parish Hall. Immanuel mixed choir director, Chris, rings with this ensemble. A free-will offering will be taken for Bells in Motion.



Donation box for non-perishable items 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".

Since the kids will soon be out of school, the pantry could use some kid friendly foods that they can grab and eat with little preparation.

Items in need: Hamburger Helpers, Ramen Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce and Noodles, Cereal Bars or pop tarts, Hot Dogs

*Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, the food pantry had a total of 39 participants.*

**This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Tuesday, May 9**

– BLC & Zion workers @ Lg Print/Braille Center @ St. John's, Effingham

**Wednesday, May 10**

– **9:30 a.m. - Matins**

– 4:30 p.m. – Kinderchor practice

– 7:00 p.m. – Choir Practice

**Thursday, May 11**

– 7:00 p.m. – LWML / Ladies' Aid Meeting

**Sunday, May 14 – Sixth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day**

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

– 10:45-11:00 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)