

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
RORATE COELI – “LET THE HEAVENS”

Sunday, December 18, 2022



*My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.  
For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed:  
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.*

**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**

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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:** (12/18-12/24) – 12/19 – Sarah Courson; 12/20 – Brandi Yagow-Harmon, Bryson Hites

**Church News**

**Trustee’s Report:**

Offering collected for Home Purpose General Fund on December 11: \$5,304

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

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

Issues, Etc. collected on 12/04: \$555 (\$1,140 of \$1,000 annual commitment.)

Building Fund donations on 12/11: \$50

*(Please note, per the Voters’ Assembly approval on 12/04/2022, offerings on Christmas Day will go to fulfill all our 2022 mission commitments.)*

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

Sunday School offering has been designated for our Radio Ministry.

Attendance: 12/11 Sunday Advent 2, 9:30am:

*Today in Bible Class Bible Class –*

*Sacred Art and Theology on Luke’s Infancy Narrative:*

- The Swaddling Clothes
- The Manger and Inn
- The Angels and Shepherds



**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!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Hymn</u>	<u>Catechism/Theme</u>	<u>Bible</u>
Dec. 20	900	2 <sup>nd</sup> Commandment	Psalm 9 Matt. 1:18-25
Dec. 27	<i>No Matins</i>		

Giving all Glory to God and thanksgiving for the birth of Jesus our Savior  
we offer celebratory music in the Worship Services.



**This is my Son: Jesus**

**Christmas Eve**

**Saturday, Dec. 24, 7:00 pm**

**Children's Christmas Program**

Kinderchor - "Quempas Carol" Flutist: Amy Manley

Bethlehem Choir - "In Dulce Jublio" Soloist: Easton Caraway

Trumpeter - Brandon Beccue

**This is my Son: Shepherds**

**Christmas Eve**

**Saturday, Dec. 24, 9:00 pm**

**Divine Service with Holy Communion**

Prelude: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" Piano, Organ, Trumpet Trio

Offertory: "What Child is This?" Organ, Trumpet

Anthem: "O Holy Night" Soloist: John Manley

Trumpeter - Brandon Beccue

**This is my Son: The Father**

**Christmas Day - The Nativity of Our Lord**

**Sunday, Dec. 25, 9:30 am**

**Divine Service with Holy Communion**

Prelude: "Joy to the World with Psalm 29 - G.F. Handel and Marcello

Organ - Piano Duet - Megan Shoaf

Anthem: "Birthday of a King" soloist, John Manley

Trumpeter - Brandon Beccue

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

**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.

✠✠✠✠ District & Synod News, Regional Items & Acknowledgments ✠✠✠✠



**Issues, Etc.**  
Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

**Bethlehem has donated**

**\$1,140 of our \$1,000 annual 2022 commitment.**

*Thank you for your support!*

EDUCATION & EDIFICATION... 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 interview topics include: The Movie "Avatar," Marriage Enrichment, Looking Forward to Christmas Sunday, Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

“I don’t know what exactly you expect this Christmas. But I can tell you to set your expectations high as you listen to God’s Advent call. Listen to His promises. Look in the manger. And you’ll find hope and unity now and into eternity.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://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, December 13<sup>th</sup>, the food pantry had 22 participants.*

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

### **This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Tuesday, December 20**

– 9:30 a.m. – **Matins Service – 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment**

**Wednesday, December 21**

– 4:30 p.m. – Kinderchor practice

**Thursday, December 22**

– 7:00 p.m. – Choir practice

**Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

- 7:00 p.m. – **Children’s Christmas Eve Service**

- 9:00 p.m. – **Christmas Eve Divine Service w/ Holy Communion**

**Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day - The Nativity of Our Lord**

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

– *No 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**