

Quinquagesima

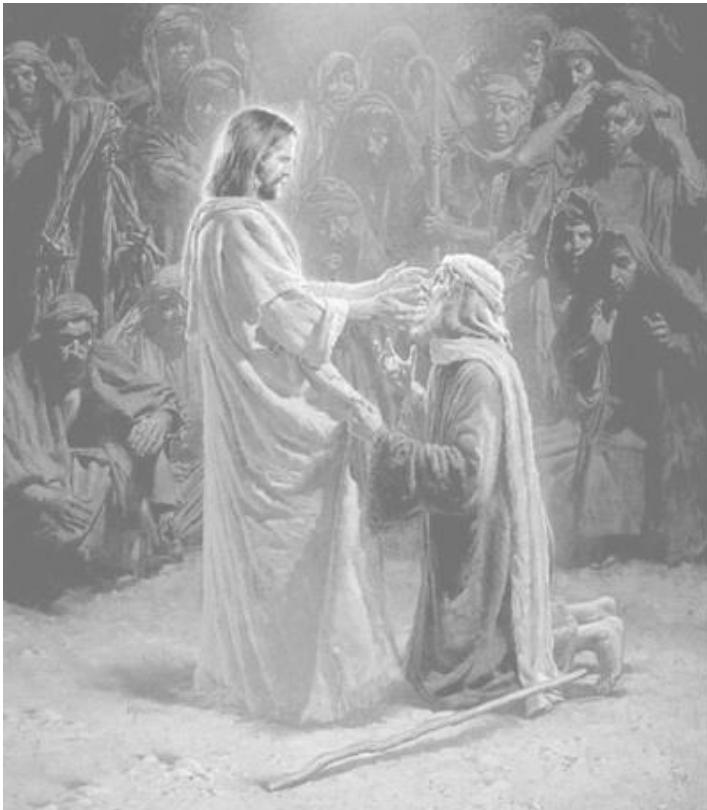
Sunday, February 15, 2026

And Jesus said to him,

“Recover your sight; your faith has made you well.”

And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God.

And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.



DO YOU SEE AS GOD SEES?

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 Gospelly, 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 (02/15-02/21): 02/19 – Bernice Graumenz; 02/19 – Diane Buzzard;
02/20 – Serena Buchanan; 02/21 – David Yagow, Joyce Winter

Anniversaries: 02/17 – Cody & Konnie Heiden
02/21 – Scott & Jo Ellen Wharton

Church News

Trustee's Report:

Weekly amount needed for unified budget 2026	\$ 8730
Offering collected for General Fund on 02/08	\$ 5989

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



Attendance: Sun., 02/08, 9:30am – 135



Bible Study Today: Matthew 6:19-21 - On Treasures

- Is it wrong to treasures on earth at all?
- What always follows treasures on earth?
- How are treasures on earth and in heaven opposed to one another?
- Where earthly treasures are always uncertain, how does Jesus ensure for us heavenly treasures?



Special Emergency Voter's Assembly today, following the worship service. One of the church furnaces is inoperative and requires significant repair, this meeting is called to discuss furnace repair or replacement. In addition, the video camera used for recording our church services has stopped functioning properly and a replacement is needed to continue our televised worship service ministry.

Meals on Wheels – Bethlehem is scheduled to deliver meals on Tuesday & Wednesday, February 17 & 18.

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.

CID Newsletter: Want to know what's going on in our District? Sign up to receive our CID Newsletter by email at:

www.cidlcms.org/news-gatepost-newsletter.html

Or speak with Pastor Manley for assistance. The Gatepost has 5 Issues every year and this latest one features a letter from Acting District President Rev. Mark Eddy.



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.

 **Worship Anew** *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.

Martin + Katie CONFERENCE

Lutheran fellowship for young adults



28 March 2026

Join us in Champaign, IL on Saturday, March 28, 2026 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.



Donation box for non-perishable items for the Altamont Food Pantry

FoodPantry is in the narthex. The Food Pantry had 41 participants on Tuesday, 02/10/2026. 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 16 – Presidents' Day

5:30 pm – Adult Instruction Class

Wednesday, February 18

3:30 pm - Kinderchor

6:00 pm – Bible Bowl practice

7:00 pm – ASH WEDNESDAY Worship Service with Imposition of Ashes

Choir practice following worship service

Thursday, February 19

7:00 pm – Elders' Meeting

Sunday, February 22 – First Sunday in Lent

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