



*Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn  
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*

**THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL**  
**JANUARY 25, 2026**  
**10:15 A.M.**



Rev. Kelly Dean Krieg  
(214) 208-1364  
[PastorKrieg@BethlehemWmPenn.org](mailto:PastorKrieg@BethlehemWmPenn.org)

Secretary  
Janice Pazderny  
(979) 836-7303  
[Office@BethlehemWmPenn.org](mailto:Office@BethlehemWmPenn.org)

Organist  
Ann Sommer

Ushers  
Craig Kankel  
Clinton Kettler  
Caleb Kettler  
Matt Kettler

Acolyte  
Taylor Nowicki

Crucifer  
Winston Krieg

Greeter  
Marilyn Klussmann

## *The Conversion of St. Paul*

January 25, 2026

## Divine Service: Setting I with Holy Communion

Order of Service: *Lutheran Service Book, pp 151-166*

## *Pre-Service Music*

## January Bible Verse

The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

*Psalm 37:23-24*

## *Our Mission Statement*

Representing God's Love to Our Congregation, Community, and the World!





In Light of 1 Cor. 11:23-26, Bethlehem Lutheran Church maintains the historical practice of “closed” communion in the belief that the Sacrament requires faith in Christ’s words that His body and blood are truly present. Furthermore, participation in the Sacrament is a sign of our unity in the faith with all those who join us at the altar. *For that reason, we ask that those visitors desiring to commune be members in good standing of a congregation of the LCMS and speak to the pastor or an elder before the beginning of the service.* Our denial of admission to those who are members of another confession is not a judgment upon their faith but a recognition that we hold to different confessions concerning God, salvation, and the Sacrament itself. Such individuals are invited to speak with the pastor following the service.

## *Ringing of the Church Bell*

*Stand and turn to face the Cross for the Processional Hymn.*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## *By All Your Saints in Warfare*

LSB 517 sts. 1, 12, 3

1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For  
 2 Praise for the light from heav - en, And  
 △ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther, And

all Your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O  
 for the voice of awe; Praise for the glo - rious  
 wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the

Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blest! For  
vi - sion The - per - se - cu - tor saw. O  
Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till

You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the  
Lord, for Paul's con - ver - sion, We bless Your name to -  
all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the

crown; And now they shine in glo - ry  
day; Come shine with - in our dark - ness,  
throne, As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry

Re - flect - ed from Your throne.  
And guide - us on our way.  
And praise to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt. Tune: English; coll. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text: Public domain Tune: Public domain

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

INVOCATION

LSB 151

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.

We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

*Psalm 89:1,5,15-16; antiphon: Psalm 119:46*

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]  
**and shall not be put to shame.**

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;  
**with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.**

Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,  
**your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!**

Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout,

**who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,**  
who exult in your name all the day  
**and in your righteousness are exalted.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**  
**and to the Holy Spirit;**  
**as it was in the beginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]  
**and shall not be put to shame.**

KYRIE

*LSB 152*

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*This Is the Feast*

*Refrain*

*LSB 155*



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

3 Sing - with all the peo - ple of God, and

4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to

5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Stanza 4  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



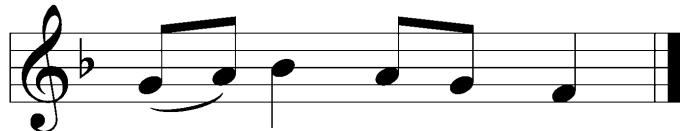
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**C** Almighty God, You turned the heart of him who persecuted the Church and by his preaching caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world. Grant us ever to rejoice in the saving light of Your Gospel and, following the example of the apostle Paul, to spread it to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

FIRST READING

*Acts 9:1-22*

<sup>1</sup>But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” <sup>5</sup>And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” <sup>7</sup>The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup>Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” <sup>11</sup>And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, <sup>12</sup>and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” <sup>13</sup>But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” <sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. <sup>16</sup>For I will show him how much he must suffer for

the sake of my name.”<sup>17</sup>So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”<sup>18</sup>And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized;<sup>19</sup>and taking food, he was strengthened.

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus.<sup>20</sup>And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”<sup>21</sup>And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?”<sup>22</sup>But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

*Ephesians 4:8b,11,12b;2:19a,c*

When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,  
and he gave gifts to men.

He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,  
for building up the body of Christ.

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,  
but members of the household of God.

EPISTLE

*Galatians 1:11-24*

<sup>11</sup>For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man’s gospel. <sup>12</sup>For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>13</sup>For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it. <sup>14</sup>And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. <sup>15</sup>But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace,<sup>16</sup>was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone;<sup>17</sup>nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

<sup>18</sup>Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days. <sup>19</sup>But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord’s brother. <sup>20</sup>(In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!) <sup>21</sup>Then I went into

the regions of Syria and Cilicia. <sup>22</sup>And I was still unknown in person to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. <sup>23</sup>They only were hearing it said, “He who used to persecute us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.” <sup>24</sup>And they glorified God because of me.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

COMMON ALLELUIA

LSB 156



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 19:27-30

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the nineteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>27</sup>Then Peter said in reply, “See, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?” <sup>28</sup>Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup>And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name’s sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. <sup>30</sup>But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

LSB 158

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*



## HYMN OF THE DAY

### *Chief of Sinners Though I Be*

LSB 611



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His  
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the  
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the  
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in  
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,  
 heav'n's a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,  
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,  
 all to me; All my wants to Him are known,  
 and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is  
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—  
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to  
 All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the  
 Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.  
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.  
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.  
 hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.  
 need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901. Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

### *The Unexpected Road* Acts 9:1-22

*Stand*

OFFERTORY

LSB 159



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to

me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## OFFERING PRAYER

*Sit*

OFFERING

*Stand*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

---

PREFACE

*LSB 160*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

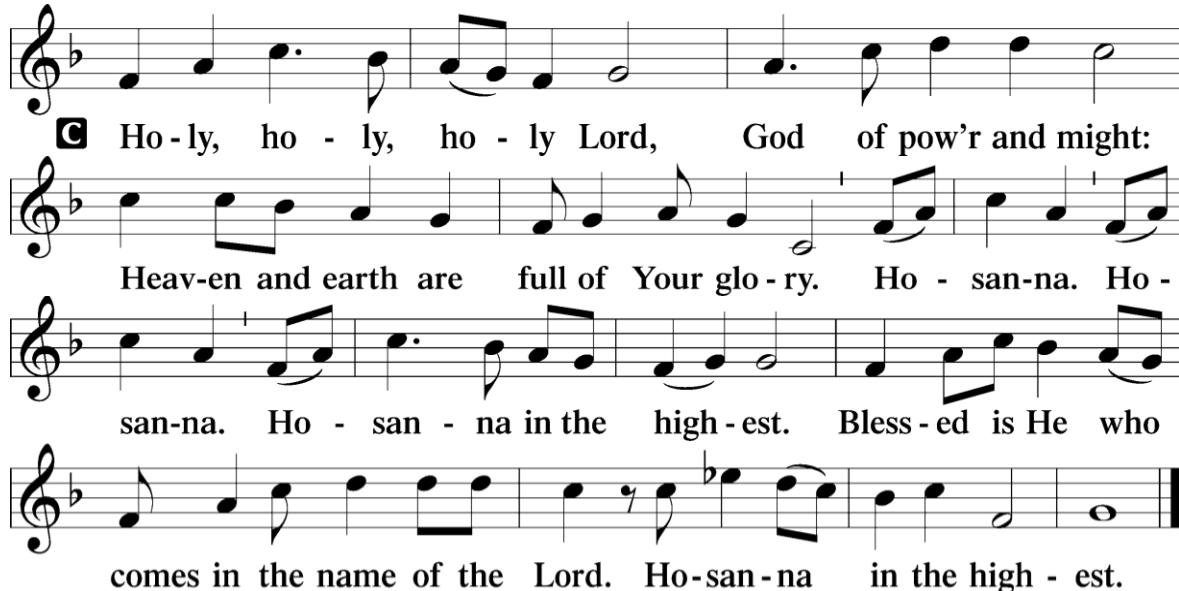
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel.

Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Paul, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth

as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 162

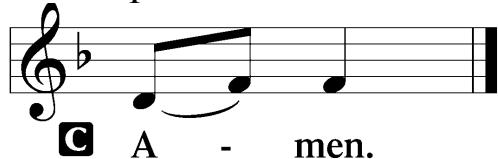
**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\text{\tfrac{X}{\square}}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{\tfrac{X}{\square}}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

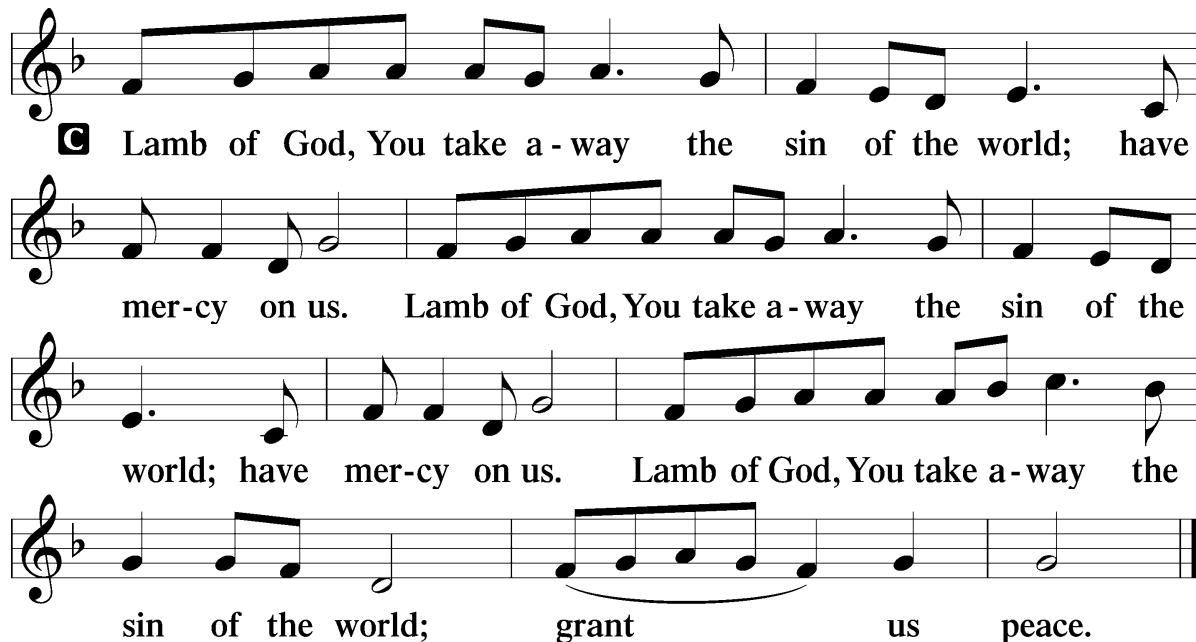
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**C** A - men.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



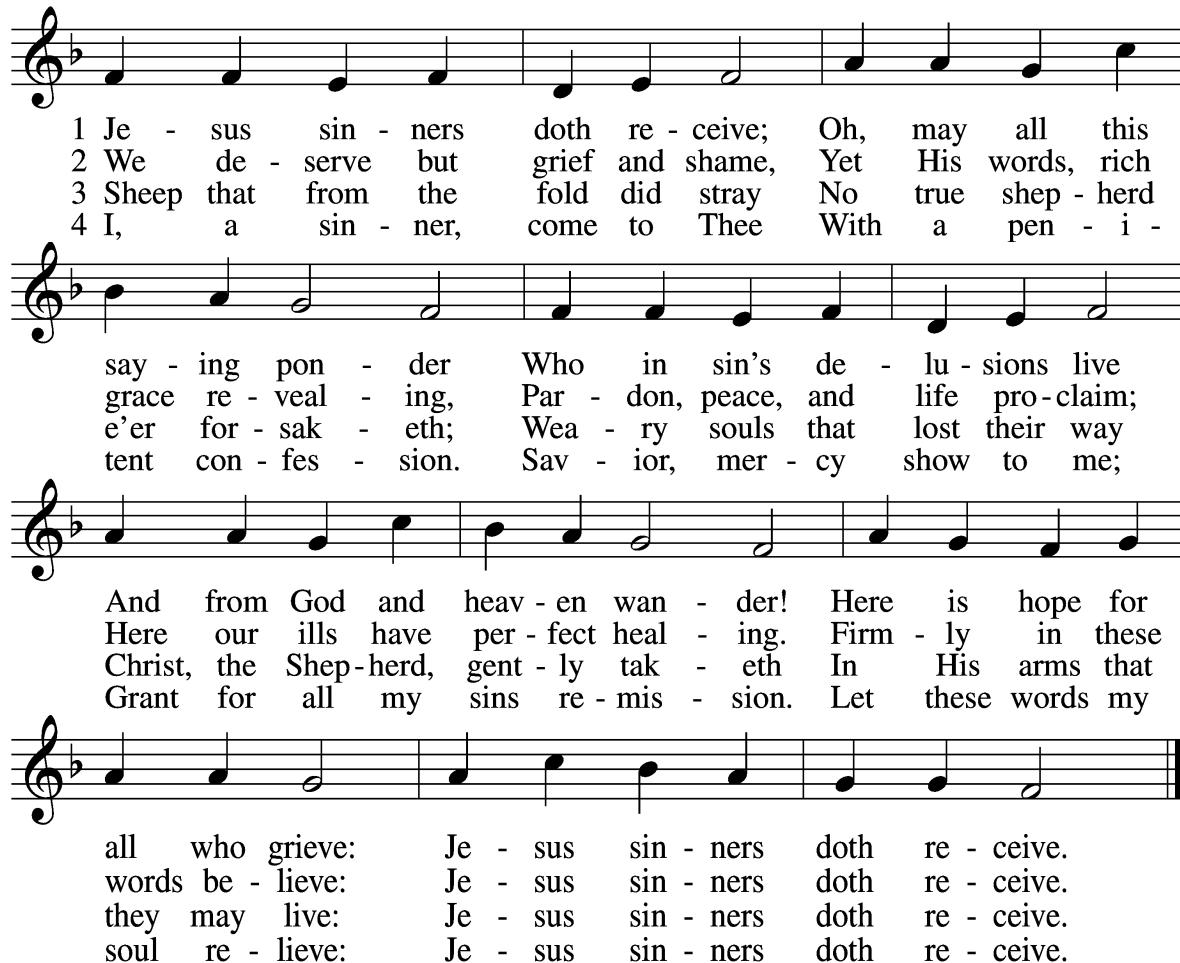
**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*Jesus Sinners Doth Receive*

LSB 609



5 Oh, how blest it is to know:

Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow

By Thy blood and bitter passion;  
For these words I now believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;

From the Law I stand acquitted.  
Christ hath purchased my release  
And my ev'ry sin remitted.

Naught remains my soul to grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;

Also I have been forgiven;  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text and tune: Public domain

*“Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake*

LSB 688



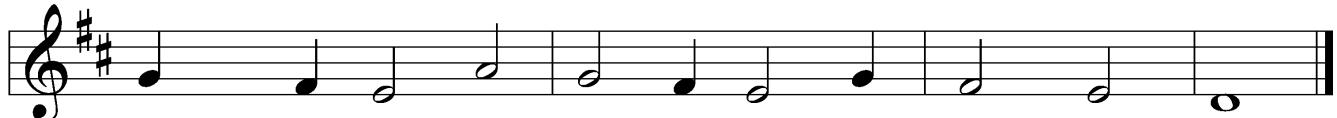
1 “Come, fol - low Me,” the Sav - ior spake, “All in My  
2 “I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly  
3 “My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with  
4 “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your  
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your - selves, the world for - sake,  
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;  
love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex - press,  
soul's sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,  
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -  
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and  
With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My  
From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge  
In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.  
well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.  
strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.  
of the soul And lead you to your heav'n - ly goal.”  
bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Tune and text: Public domain



Take up your cross and  
*follow Jesus*

MATTHEW 16:24

aheartforgod

*O Christ, Who Called the Twelve*

LSB 856



1 O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and fol - low You, For -  
2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for a - ges sealed, Whose  
3 O Christ, who led the Twelve A - mong the des - o - late And  
4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve On roads they'd nev - er trod To  
5 O Christ, th'a - pos - tles' Lord, The mar - tyrs' strength and song, The



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways For ven - tures bold and new:  
words and works a - wak - ened faith, The ways of God re - vealed:  
broke as bread of life for all Your love com - pas - sion - ate:  
serve, to suf - fer, teach, pro - claim The near - er reign of God:  
cru - ci - fied and ris - en King To whom the saints be - long:



Grant us to hear Your call To risk se - cu - ri - ty And,  
In - struct us now, we pray, By Your em - pow'r - ing Word. True  
Lead us a - long the ways Where hope has near - ly died And  
Send us on ways where faith Tran - scends ti - mid - i - ty, Where  
Though gen - er - a - tions pass, Our trib - ute still we bring, Our



bound in heart and will to You, Find per - fect lib - er - ty.  
teach - er, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.  
help us climb the lone - ly hills Where love is cru - ci - fied.  
love in - forms and hope sus - tains Both life and min - is - try.  
hymns a sac - ri - fice of praise, Our lives an of - fer - ing.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007. Tune: English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930. Text: © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: Public domain



*By Grace I'm Saved*

LSB 566



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and  
2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer-it; Our works and con-duct  
3 By grace God's Son, our on-ly Sav-ior, Came down to earth to  
4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer-tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag-ger at this word of prom-ise?  
have no worth. God in His love sent our Re-deem-er,  
bear our sin. Was it be-cause of your own mer-it  
true, it stands. What saints have penned by in-spi-ra-tion,



Has Scrip-ture ev-er false-hood taught? No! Then this word must  
Christ Je-sus, to this sin-ful earth; His death did for our  
That Je-sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and  
What in His Word our God com-mands, Our faith in what our



true re-main: By grace you too will life ob-tain.  
sins a-tone, And we are saved by grace a-lone.  
grace a-lone, That brought Him from His heav'n-ly throne.  
God has done De-pends on grace— grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,  
In tribulation's furnace tried,  
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,  
The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength  
secure  
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;  
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
For though I know my heart's  
condition,  
I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown  
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775. Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

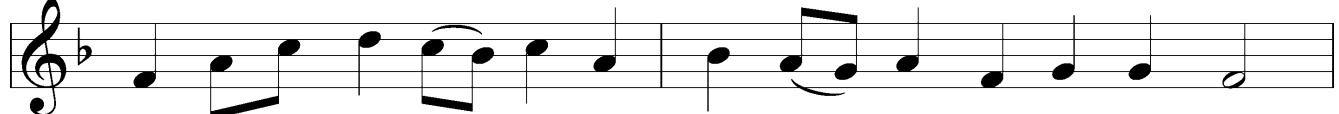
## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

*Thank the Lord*

LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is-es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB 166

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

LSB 166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{†}$  give you peace.



**C** A - men.

*Face the cross for the Closing Hymn.*

## CLOSING HYMN

### *Jesus Shall Reign*

LSB 832

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -  
 2 To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And end - less  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His  
 4 Bless-ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners  
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -

ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from  
 prais - es crown His head; His name like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es  
 leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -  
 cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scand with

shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.  
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Tune and text: Public domain



## POSTLUDE

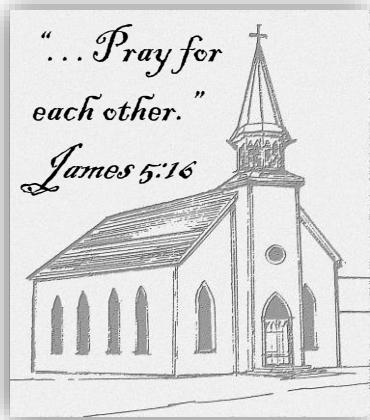
*Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, where we worship in the name of the crucified and risen Lamb of God, Jesus Christ our Lord. Blessings to you as you worship with us today.*

**Congregation:** Prayers for Peggy McDonald and her family, healing for Lillian Hayden from knee surgery; for Edith Erwin recovery and healing from surgery; for Tom Hayden's recovery after surgery and continued healing; for Becky Lueckemeyer recovery; for Adeline Platt's health; for health and healing for Lathel Norris; and Deloris Griffin; for our shut-in members: Renee Brinkmann, Mildred Holle, Lathel Norris, Elvera Schroeder, and others who are unable to come to church.

**Community:** for Grace Lutheran School, that they may continue to be a place for the children of our community and congregation to learn and grow in their faith and knowledge of God's world; may our Lord continue to deliver to us favorable weather; for Brenham Pregnancy Center and those whose lives they touched; Faith Mission; families and individuals cared for by Child Protective Services.

**World:** for all those suffering through war, may God watch over and protect His children, and by His Holy Spirit, may they all come to know Christ as their Savior and thus enjoy eternity with Him, for those who have been led astray into false belief; for those facing crisis pregnancies, that they would find the strength to choose life for their unborn child; for the leaders of the nations, that they would make godly decisions for their people and countries.

### Bethlehem at Prayer



Prayer is a vital part of our life together in Christ. To that end, *Bethlehem at Prayer* is a means to encourage more intentional prayer for one another. This is an opportunity for us to support one another in faith, lifting up each household by name before our gracious God. While members can always request prayers at any time, this effort ensures that every family at Bethlehem is prayed for regularly. We invite you to join us in encouragement and intercession, praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ each week.

*Please remember these families in your prayers this week:*

- Ashorn – Brian, Heather, Blane, Weston
- Ashorn – Jason, Wendy, Kaisen
- Hinze – Tyler, Michael, Taylor
- Hinze – Lester
- Meyers – Charles
- Minar – Billy, Lenice

*May the Lord bless and strengthen them in faith and life.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### This Week's Schedule January 25 – February 1



##### **Today: The Conversion of St. Paul**

**9:00 AM**

Sunday School, Adult Bible Class

**10:15 AM**

Divine Worship: Setting I with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Taylor Nowicki

Crucifer: Winston Krieg

Greeter: Marilyn Klussmann

Ushers: Craig Kankel Clinton Kettler

Caleb Kettler Matt Kettler



**Wednesday:**  
**4:30PM**

Confirmation Class 7th/8<sup>th</sup> Grades



**7:30 PM**

Voter's Meeting



**Thursday:**  
**6:30 PM**

Ladies' Bible Study



**7:00 PM**

Men's Club Meeting



**Saturday:**  
**8:30 AM**

Sisters in Christ (The meeting was rescheduled from January 24<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather)



**Next Sunday:**  
**9:00 AM**  
**9:00 AM**  
**10:15 AM**

***Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany***

Sunday School, Adult Bible Class

Youth League Meeting & Bible Study

Divine Worship: Setting III with Communion

Acolyte: Michael Hinze

Greeter: Ann Koester

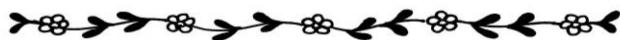
Ushers: JR Kettler Michael Kettler

Robert Kettler Wayne Klussmann

**Serving in January:** Elder – Clinton Kettler / Trustee – Doyle Dahmann

**Serving in February:** Elder – Brad Molitor / Trustee – Robert Kettler

*If you have a question or thought concerning spiritual care or the church property, please contact the appropriate elder or trustee.*



*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Marilyn Klussmann*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Quiz Night to Support the Youth League Summer Trip



The Bethlehem Lutheran Church Youth League, in conjunction with the Grace Lutheran Church Youth League of Brenham, would like to invite you to the **3rd Annual Quiz Night on Friday, February 20th, at the Sons of Hermann hall in Brenham, from 5:30 to 9:00 pm**. The evening consists of 10 rounds of trivia. Questions are answered by teams, and after each round, team standings are announced. Each team consists of six members; please RSVP to Pastor Krieg [pastorkrieg@bethlehemwmpenn.org](mailto:pastorkrieg@bethlehemwmpenn.org) with your team by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Each round will have a different focus to test your overall trivia knowledge. Prizes are awarded to the winners throughout the night. At the end of the evening, a Quiz Night Champion is crowned. Will your team be proven the smartest in Washington County? Will the trophy stay here at Bethlehem or will Grace take it home? Sign up to find out!



There will be a quarterly **Voters' Meeting this Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM**. Please refer to the information printed at the end of the bulletin.



There will be a **Men's Club Meeting this Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**.



### **Soup for the Group Fundraiser – February 8**

Please join us after church on **Sunday, February 8**, for *Soup for the Group*, a fundraiser hosted by our Youth League. Warm up with a bowl of homemade tortilla soup and enjoy fellowship while supporting our youth and their upcoming activities. The price of \$10.00 per bowl will go directly to the Youth League. Come hungry, stay awhile, or take a bowl to go, and help encourage our young people in Christ!



**Spotlight On Life 2026: The Battle Still Rages**  
Join us for our fourth annual Spotlight On Life. Politics and technology have shifted the focus of protecting the unborn from the national stage to individual states and from abortion clinics to homes. We will explore how this affects the pro-life efforts.

**Speakers:** Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske (Director, Lutherans For Life)

Pastor Robert Paul (Memorial Lutheran Church, Houston)

Pastor Michael Salemink (Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry  
And Missions, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne)

Mrs. Carol Tobias (President, National Right To Life, Washington, DC)

Pastor Laurence White (Our Savior Lutheran Church, Houston)

Freewill Event for **February 21, 2026**

**8:30 AM Check-in • 4:30 PM Wrap-up**

Light Breakfast • Intriguing Speakers • Delicious Lunch • Round Table  
Q&A • Sanctuary & Bell Tower Tour (optional)

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
5000 W. Tidwell Rd.  
Houston, TX 77091

Register here: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/spotlight-on-life-2026-the-battle-still-rages>



**Sisters In Christ** will meet **this Saturday, the 31st at 8:30 AM.**  
(The meeting was rescheduled due to inclement weather)

### **FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR**



The 2026 Flower Chart is posted in the Parish Hall foyer. Please sign up that special occasion such as anniversaries, birthdays, or other remembrances. The church secretary will remind you of your upcoming commitment via email or phone call. The Bethlehem LWML appreciates your support.

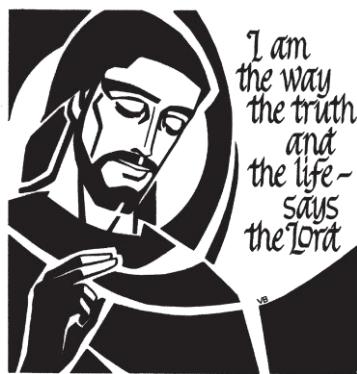


## LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

**January 25 (Epiphany 3)** – Abortion and assisted suicide are often followed by crushing amounts of guilt and shame. While the Church rightly teaches that these are sins against God and neighbor, may we never forget that Christ

has sent us to preach the Gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation (1 Corinthians 1:17-18). In Christ, “there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish,” (Isaiah 9:1), for He has come in the fulfillment of His promises, bringing the Kingdom of God near to us (Matthew 4:14-17), that all who repent and believe in Him can take shelter in the Lord (Psalm 27:5).

### Sunday School Corner



In our Winter unit, we continue our study of the New Testament, beginning with the account of Mary and Martha and continuing through Jesus appearing to Thomas. This morning, the kids studied the lesson “The Kingdom of Children – Jesus Blesses the Children.” The disciples try to prevent the people from bringing their children to Jesus. Jesus rebukes the disciples and draws the children near to Himself, using a child as an example of how believers receive the

kingdom of God. To reinforce this lesson with your kids, as a family, discuss: What did Jesus do for the children in Mark 10:16? How does Jesus do the same for us? What would it feel like to get a hug from Jesus? Is Jesus saying we should always be children and not grow up? If you were holding a baby, what song would you sing to teach him or her about Jesus? Which song do you like to sing to remind you about how much Jesus loves you? Also, parents, you can join Pastor Krieg in the adult Sunday School class. See you next week!

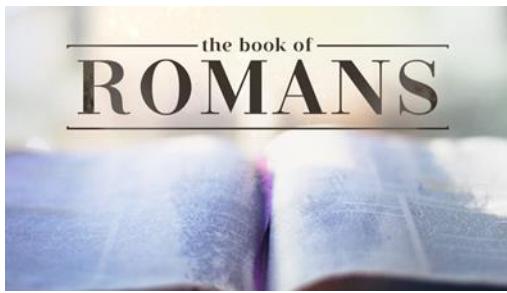
### High School Lesson

Our High School Sunday School class is beginning a new study series using Not-So-Nice Bible Stories: Master Criminals. In this engaging and thought-provoking study, students will explore the stories of some of Scripture’s most notorious wrongdoers, and discover how God’s mercy and grace still shine through even the darkest human deeds. Each lesson points us to Christ, who took the punishment for all sin upon Himself and gives us forgiveness, life, and salvation. Join us as we dig into God’s Word, wrestle with tough questions, and see how even “master criminals” reveal our need for the one true Savior, Jesus Christ.

#### **Lesson 8 – What’s Yours Is Mine (2 Samuel 11-12)**

In this week's lesson, our High School class explored King David's sin with Bathsheba and the murder of Uriah in "What's Yours Is Mine." Students confronted how power, desire, and self-justification led David to take what was not his and to cover sin with even greater sin. Through Nathan's confrontation, we saw how God's Law exposes the heart and calls sin what it is. Yet this account does not end in despair. We also discussed how God's mercy met David in repentance and forgiveness, pointing us to Christ, the true King, who took our guilt upon Himself and restores sinners through His grace.

## Adult Sunday School Lesson



St. Paul's letter to the Romans is often called the "chief part of the New Testament." Romans clearly lays out the heart of the Christian faith: we are justified by grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone. In this rich epistle, Paul teaches on sin and righteousness, law and Gospel, baptism, the struggle against the old Adam, and life lived in the

freedom of the Gospel. Whether you've been attending or have yet to join us, this is a wonderful time to dig into God's Word together and grow in our understanding of His mercy in Christ. Come and be strengthened in the faith that saves and learn how the Gospel shapes our daily lives. We look forward to studying this treasure of Scripture with you! If you could not attend today, please join us next Sunday during the Adult Bible Study hour before church, starting at 9 a.m. Now is the time to commit yourself to a deeper and more meaningful understanding of God's Word and your relationship with Him. I hope to see you all next Sunday as we continue our studies.



### Online Giving

You may give tithes and offerings online by clicking the "Give" tab on our website (<https://www.bethlehemwmpenn.org/>), or just scan the QR code to the left.

## Last Week at Bethlehem

DATE	SERVICE	ATTENDANCE	GIFTS IN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL
Jan. 18	Sunday School	12	\$91.40
	Youth Bible Class	2	
	Adult Bible Class	22	
Jan. 18	Worship Service	99	\$3,307.72 Doreen Selman Memorial \$25.00 Youth Fundraiser-February \$150.00

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
Church Council  
January 28, 2026**

**Call to Order**

**Devotion**

**Roll Call**

**Reception of New Members and Release of Members**

**Minutes**

**Pastor's Message and Report**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Board of Elders**

**Board of Trustees**

**Board of Education**

**Old Business**

**New Business**

1. The start time for week day worship services from 7:00 to 6:30.
2. From the Trustees, to approve the purchase of an office safe to store documents. Cost is approximately \$1,000.00.
3. Increasing the Trustees spending limits of \$750.00 to \$1,000.00.

**Announcements**

**Pastor has been nominated for Pastoral Counselor for Texas District LWML. If elected, the office term is for four years.**

**Adjournment with the Lord's Prayer**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
**Treasurer's Report - Operating Funds**  
**January - December 2025**

**CASH RECEIPTS**

	<b>Building</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Total</b>
Contributions	\$ 27,433.44	\$ 244,897.75	\$ 272,331.19
Interest	\$ -	\$ 14.58	\$ 14.58
Thrivent - Building Fund	\$ 9,097.00	\$ -	\$ 9,097.00
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL INFLOW</b>	<b>\$ 36,530.44</b>	<b>\$ 244,912.33</b>	<b>\$ 281,442.77</b>

**CASH DISBURSEMENTS**

Pastor's Expenses			
Salary	\$ 50,810.04	\$ 50,810.04	
Travel Expenses (mileage, meals, etc.)	\$ 1,002.40	\$ 1,002.40	
Cell Phone	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	
Retirement	\$ 7,699.32	\$ 7,699.32	
Health Savings Acct	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	
Health	\$ 33,123.96	\$ 33,123.96	
Disability/Accident/Life	\$ 1,840.56	\$ 1,840.56	
Continuing Education	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	
Subtotal	\$ 102,876.28	\$ 102,876.28	

Property:

Property Insurance	\$ 14,967.00	\$ 14,967.00	
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 16,635.51	\$ 16,635.51	
Cleaning	\$ 6,831.05	\$ 6,831.05	
Mowing	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	
Utilities - Sanctuary	\$ 10,185.33	\$ 10,185.33	
Utilities - Parsonage	\$ 3,175.46	\$ 3,175.46	

Office:

Accounting	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 8,100.00	
A/V staff payroll	\$ 2,475.92	\$ 2,475.92	
Secretary Salary	\$ 9,400.88	\$ 9,400.88	
Payroll Taxes	\$ 14,657.68	\$ 14,657.68	
Computer	\$ 428.97	\$ 428.97	
Copier	\$ 7,260.00	\$ 7,260.00	
Postage	\$ 1,042.30	\$ 1,042.30	
Office Supplies	\$ 3,888.62	\$ 3,888.62	
Board of Missions	\$ 1,907.10	\$ 1,907.10	
District Convention/Assessment	\$ 367.20	\$ 367.20	
Lutheran Witness	\$ 200.25	\$ 200.25	
Misc - 165th Anniversary Lunch	\$ 1,277.42	\$ 1,277.42	
Missions - TX District	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 10,200.00	
Missions - Local	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	
Organist	\$ 9,315.00	\$ 9,315.00	
Sunday School/VBS	\$ 2,276.76	\$ 2,276.76	
Worship Supplies	\$ 4,360.65	\$ 4,360.65	

<b>TOTAL OUTFLOW</b>	<b>\$ 31,602.51</b>	<b>\$ 205,926.87</b>	<b>\$ 237,529.38</b>
<b>NET CASH FLOW</b>	<b>\$ 4,927.93</b>	<b>\$ 38,985.46</b>	<b>\$ 43,913.39</b>
<b>1/1/2025 Balance</b>	<b>\$ 23,942.14</b>	<b>\$ 114,430.58</b>	<b>\$ 138,372.72</b>
<b>12/31/2025 Balance</b>	<b>\$ 28,870.07</b>	<b>\$ 153,416.04</b>	<b>\$ 182,286.11</b>

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
**Treasurer's Report - Special Fund**  
**January - December 2025**

	Balance 9/30/2025	Gifts Received	Transfers Out	Balance 12/31/2025
Cemetery Fund	\$ 17,733.21	\$ 242.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ 17,675.21
Cemetery Road repair donation	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ (6,340.00)	\$ 1,160.00
Flags & Stands	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Interest	\$ 404.65	\$ 8.45	\$ -	\$ 413.10
LYL	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ -
Memorials	\$ 22,999.66	\$ 968.00	\$ -	\$ 23,967.66
Missions	\$ -	\$ 320.00	\$ -	\$ 320.00
New Pew Project	\$ 1,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,250.00
Pancake Supper	\$ 12,823.81	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,823.81
Paraments	\$ 2,572.81	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,572.81
Poinsettias	\$ -	\$ 273.00	\$ (273.00)	\$ -
Security	\$ 825.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 825.00
Shepherd's Helping Hands	\$ 4,504.77	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,504.77
Veteran's Plaque	\$ 572.70	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 572.70
Special Fund Bank Balance	\$ 71,486.61	\$ 2,111.45	\$ (7,213.00)	\$ 66,385.06

**Cash on Hand**  
**12/31/2025**

General Checking Acct:			
Operating Fund	\$ 153,416.04		
Building Fund	<u>\$ 28,870.07</u>	\$ 182,286.11	
Special Checking Acct:			
Specific Funds	\$ 42,417.40		
Unspecified Memorials	<u>\$ 23,967.66</u>	\$ 66,385.06	
12/31/2025		<u>\$ 248,671.17</u>	