

Our services are liturgical and Biblical, so they ✦have order and ✦connect to various parts of the Bible. These are some parts of our liturgy and their meanings:

- **Invocation:** “In the name of the Father...” It ✦declares whose service it is, ✦places the congregation under God’s name, and ✦acknowledges God’s prior action to call believers and promise to be present.
- **Confession and Absolution:** We ✦acknowledge our sins, ✦express our sorrow, and ✦profess our trust in Jesus; then we hear the announcement that *God has forgiven us.*
- **Hymns:** They are ✦Bible-based and ✦theologically rich, so, we *think about the words and apply them in our lives.*
- **Kyrie** (Greek for “Lord”): We ask the Lord to show us His mercy by helping us according to our needs.
- **Salutation:** “The Lord be with you.” He is *with the congregation* to enable them to hear, understand, and benefit, and *with the pastor* to enable him to pray, read, preach, etc.
- **Scripture Readings:** The Bible is ✦God’s word and ✦guides our lives in Christ.
- **Creeds:** We use three, which summarize what we believe: *Apostles – Baptism, Nicene – Lord’s Supper, Athanasian – the relationship within the Holy Trinity.*
- **Lord’s Prayer:** Jesus taught it to His followers (**Mt. 6; Lk. 11**). The more we understand each petition, the more we will pray with meaning and richness.

- **Lord’s Supper:** After His sinless living in our place, Jesus gave His body and shed His blood to take away the sin of the world. When we receive with repentance and faith, we receive anew the forgiveness of our sins.
- **Benediction** (Latin for “blessing”): When the words of blessing – from **Numbers 6:24-26** – are spoken upon the people, the LORD has promised to bless them (see **6:27**).

Free Resources

- **Daily Devotions:** Portals, Meditations, and the book, Without Excuse. Help yourself!
- **Relevant Brochures:** By our main entrance, others at: www.BLC7500.com
- **Magazines:** Good News – down the hall on the right, *each covering one topic.*
- **More:** Sermons, topical booklets, Bible class handouts, etc. Help Yourself!

Fellowship Opportunities

- **Before Sunday Bible Classes:** Enjoy the refreshments and get acquainted.
- **Advent and Lent:** Free meals on Wednesdays at 12:00 and 6:00.
- **Easter Breakfast:** About 10:30, right after our Easter celebration at 9:00.
- **Ascension Day:** 40 days after Easter on a Thursday; meal at 6, worship at 7.
- **Food and Fire:** On some Saturdays, using our pavilion and grounds.

Join Us Online

- **Website:** www.BLC7500.com Our site contains years of sermon, studies, and brochures.
- **YouTube and Podcast:** Both are called “Benefit from the Bible” and make it easy to access our sermons – for watching and listening.
- **Facebook:** Bethlehem Parma
- **Weekly Email:** Go to our website, then subscribe through the popup.

Facility and Grounds

- **Handicap Accessible:** No steps from our parking lot to our main level.
- **Grounds:** The Lord has blessed us with 14 acres – outdoor activities, hiking.

Conclusion

Thanks for learning about Bethlehem! I’m glad to visit with you, just let me know. *Pastor*

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Watch Our Video Sermons

<https://www.youtube.com/@benefitfromthebible/videos>

The Scripture references in this brochure are from the New American Standard Bible, the 1995 version.

Connect With Us

Website: www.BLC7500.com

YouTube: “Benefit from the Bible”

Facebook: “Bethlehem Parma”

Saturdays: Class 3:00; Service 4:00

Sundays: Service 9:00; Classes 10:30

7500 State Road, Parma, OH 44134 / 440-845-2230

(Last Update: 5-26)

Welcome!



Learn About Bethlehem

- ➔ Our Preaching & Teaching
- ➔ Our Bible View and Beliefs
- ➔ Our Worship Services
- ➔ Our Lord’s Supper Practice
- ➔ And More...

Introduction

Hi! Welcome to Bethlehem! I’m Rev. Robert Green – most call me “Pastor”

We are blessed and want to be a blessing:

- We believe the Bible is God’s word!
- We trust in Jesus for eternal life!
- We have about 100 active members!
- Many adults, youth, and children attend our classes each week!
- We designate 10% of our budget to reach / help those in need!

We want to help everyone:

- ➔ Understand God's word of truth.
- ➔ Turn **from** their sins **to** trust in Jesus for eternal life.
- ➔ Live a life in harmony with the Bible.
- ➔ Live with peace, joy, and purpose!

Our View of the Bible



God moved men, by the Holy Spirit, to write down His very words. Here is the order:

God the Father ➔ God the HS ➔ Prophets and Apostles ➔ the written word of God.

So, the Bible is God's very word to us: God breathed out His word in the languages of Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek.

For important *evidence* about the Bible being true, read this brochure: [The Bible Is True](#)

Some key passages:

- **Isaiah 40:8** The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.
- **Psalms 119:160** The sum of Your word is truth.
- **2 Timothy 3:16** All Scripture is inspired by God [*literally: God-breathed*].
- **2 Peter 1:21** ...no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

How We Interpret the Bible

- **We use the Historical-Grammatical method.** So, we take the Bible to mean what it says. For example: **Genesis 1:1** "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." So that is what we believe: Creation, not evolution.
- **We use Scripture to interpret Scripture.** Much of the Bible is easy to understand; but when a passage is difficult, we use other passages on that same topic to help us rightly understand the one that is difficult. By using that method, **God is telling us the correct meaning.**

Our Basic Beliefs

Old Testament:

- God created a perfect world: Heaven and earth, plants and trees, sun, moon, and stars, birds and fish, animals and people.
- Shortly after the people were created, they sinned – resulting in separation from God, pain, suffering, eventual physical death, and eventual eternal punishment.
- However, *on the same day they sinned*, God promised to send a future descendant of the woman to take away the sin of the world.
- Then, through the prophets, festivals, and sacrifices, God kept reminding the people of His promise to send the Savior.

New Testament:

- At the right time, *which had been set by God*, He sent His Son into the world. He was ✦conceived by the Holy Spirit, ✦born of the Virgin Mary, and ✦given the name of Jesus – *which means, the Lord saves!*
- **How did Jesus save us?** **First**, He lived a sinless life as our perfect substitute.

Second, He received our sins and the eternal punishment we deserve, then He laid down His life on Good Friday (and God raised Him to life on the third day).

God's call to all people – repent: **Acts 17:30-31** "...all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

God's great gift of forgiveness through Jesus: **1 Peter 3:18** "...Christ also died for sins once for all, *the just for the unjust*, so that He might bring us to God..."

God's call to live for Christ: **Colossians 2:6** "...as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him..."

Our Worship & Study Schedule

Saturdays: Bible Class 3:00; Worship 4:00

Sundays: Worship 9:00; refreshments 10:15; Bible classes – adults, youth, and children 10:30

Festival Worship: See our [Join Us](#) brochure.

We want everyone to benefit now and forever, so we attempt to make our preaching and teaching biblical, understandable, and relevant.

Our Lord's Supper Practice

We offer the Lord's Supper – Saturdays, Sundays, and Festival Worship. To learn more about the Lord's Supper, see these brochures:

- Lord's Supper – [Overview](#)
- Lord's Supper – [How to Benefit](#)
- Lord's Supper – [Q & A](#)

Our Worship Services

Jesus told us what is essential: **John 4:23-24** "...the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." // What does that mean?

Dr. Lenski explained:

- "Omit the spirit, and though you have the truth, the worship becomes formalism, mere ritual observance."
- "Omit the truth, and though the whole soul is thrown into the worship, it becomes an abomination" (Jn 4:23-24).

In other words:

- The truth is essential: What is the truth? Jesus prayed to His Father in heaven, "**Your word is truth**" (John 17:17).
- The spirit is essential: Our spirit is the deepest part of us. God wants that part of us to ✦long for His truth, ✦desire to understand, ✦pay attention, ✦believe His word is true, and ✦make application of His word in our lives.

It is vital to hold a proper relationship between truth and emotions: Truth must be at the top, influencing how we feel. For example: **1 John 1:9** "If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." // For all who are ✦sorry for their sins and ✦trusting in Jesus for eternal life, God wants them to know they are forgiven.

