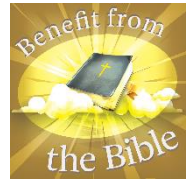




Bethlehem Lutheran Church – 2024

Truth – Forgiveness – Assurance – Peace – Guidance

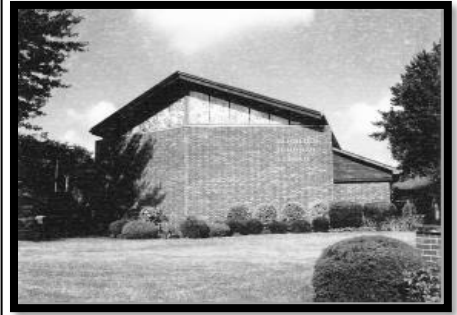
Saturday, 11/16 at 4 pm; Sunday, 11/17 at 9 am



Today We Celebrate Bethlehem's 120th Anniversary, 1904 – 2024



Thanks be to God for temporal blessings, but Bethlehem is focused on people continuing in Christ to the end!



Our first Divine Service was on **November 13, 1904**, in our first building at State and Pleasant Valley!

Since then, God has been working by the Spirit through His Word to show people ♦their sins and ♦their helplessness to save themselves. Then, the Spirit has been calling people to **stop** trusting in their own goodness, **receive** Jesus as their Savior, and **honor** Jesus as the Lord of their lives.

Welcome: "...to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen" (Jude 1:25 NAS-95).

Church Year: 26th Sunday after Pentecost
25th Sunday after Trinity

Divine Service: Setting Three, LSB 184-202.

Today: We are focusing on **God's purpose for the church being in the world!**

- ☺ **Visitors:** Welcome! Please complete an attendance slip and let us know how we can help!
- ☺ **Prayer Request:** Use a "yellow" card (Narthex).
- ☺ **Young Children:** Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex).
- ☺ **All Children:** Children's Message (join us).

- ☺ **Phone:** Please put on silent.
- ☺ **Hearing Assistance:** Available in the Narthex.
- ☺ **Service Folder:** Available on your smartphone: www.BLC7500.com/ServiceFolder
- ☺ **Worship From Your Car:** Receive at our main entrance; then listen from your car (FM 89.9).

BELL and CANDLELIGHTING – Please be seated!

PRELUDE: We listen in silence...

Saturday → Moderato Grieco/Callahan

Sunday → Halle, Hallelujah! Arr. Behnke

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION:

L: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

C: Amen.

L: O almighty God, merciful Father,
A: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

L: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead *[in the place of]* and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Saturday ➔ Hymn

Sunday ➔ Entrance Hymn and Procession

↑ **HYMN:** *To God Be the Glory*

See the words below / TSC 35

To God be the glory Great things He hath done,
 So loved He the world That He gave us His Son,
 Who yielded His life An atonement for sin, And
 opened the Life-gate That all may go in.

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
 Let the earth hear His voice!
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
 Let the people rejoice!
 O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,
 And give Him the glory—
 Great things He hath done.**

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
 To every believer The promise of God;
 The vilest offender Who truly believes,
 That moment from Jesus A pardon receives. **Ref.**

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47

L: O Lord, You covered our sins,
C: have mercy upon us.
 L: O Christ, You opened the gate to heaven,
C: have mercy upon us.
 L: O Lord, You purchased us with Your blood,
C: have mercy upon us.

SALUTATION and COLLECT:

L: The LORD be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray: Almighty God, You have promised to be with Your Church forever. We praise You for Your presence in this place of worship and ask Your ongoing blessing upon those who gather here. Dwell continually among us with Your holy Word and Sacraments, strengthen our fellowship in the bonds of love and peace, and increase our faithful witness to Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. ↓ Children! *Please come forward!*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

What Is the Most Important Thing in Your Life?



OLD TESTAMENT: Daniel 12:1-3

NAS-95

See Below / Pew Bible Page 1393 / Own Bible

¹ **“Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such**

as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.

² “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace *and* everlasting contempt.

³ “Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE: Hebrews 10:14, 19-25 NAS-95
See Below / Pew Bible Page 1873 / Own Bible

Jesus one offering was sufficient for all!

¹⁴ ...by one offering [Christ] has perfected for all time those who are sanctified....

¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; ²⁴ and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

↑ ALLELUIA and VERSE **LSB 156**
John 6:68

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: Mark 13:1-13 NAS-95
See Below / Pew Bible Page 1577 / Own Bible

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O LORD.

The temple in Jerusalem: ¹ As [Jesus] was going out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, “Teacher, behold what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!” ² And Jesus said to him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left upon another which will not be torn down.”

The disciples compound question: ³ As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew were questioning Him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will these things be, and what *will be* the sign when all these things are going to be fulfilled?”

Signs pointing to Jesus’ return: ⁵ And Jesus began to say to them, “See to it that no one misleads you. ⁶ Many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am *He!*’ and will mislead many. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be frightened; *those things* must take place; but *that is* not yet the end. ⁸ For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will *also* be famines. These things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs. ⁹ But be on your guard; for they will deliver you to *the courts*, and you will be flogged in *the synagogues*, and you will stand before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them. ¹⁰ The gospel must first be preached to all the nations. ¹¹ When they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour; for it is not you who speak, but *it is* the Holy Spirit. ¹² Brother will betray brother to death, and a father *his* child; and children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. ¹³ You will be hated by all because of My name,

but the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ. ↓

HYMN: *The Church's One Foundation*

See the words below / TLH 473 / LSB 644

- 1 The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder
The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

SERMON: God's Purpose for the Church being in the World Daniel 12:1-3 NAS-95

1. **Since 1904:**
2. **The BIG Picture:**
3. **Great Distress:** ¹“Now at that time Michael [that is, **our Lord Jesus Christ**], the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of

distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time....”

4. **Life or Disgrace:** “...and at that time [*when Jesus returns*] your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to **disgrace** [shame] and everlasting **contempt** [disapproval].”
5. **Eternal Blessings:** ³ “Those who have **insight** [understanding] will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”
6. **How Should We Go Forward?**
 - a. **As a Congregation:** ♦Stay true to the Bible, ♦keep “equipping... the saints for the work of service” (Eph. 4:12), and ♦keep inviting others to come and receive!
 - b. **As Individual Believers:** ♦Be open to be equipped, ♦benefit from the Bible every day, ♦memorize some key verses, ♦write a list (family, friends, neighbors, coworkers), ♦pray, and ♦take advantage of each opportunity to *share the knowledge of salvation!*

Get a Full and Sharable Copy of the Sermon

Narthex / Website / YouTube / Facebook / Email

HYMN: *Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling*

See the words below / TLH 496 / LSB 826

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus crying,
“Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting—
Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
“Here am I, send me, send me”?

- 4 Let none hear you idly saying,
 “There is nothing I can do,”
 While the multitudes are dying
 And the Master calls for you.
 Take the task He gives you gladly,
 Let His work your pleasure be;
 Answer quickly when He calleth,
 “Here am I, send me, send me!”

NICENE CREED: See back of either hymnal:
Let’s confess to each other!

Offering: Plates are available in the center aisle.
Thanks for Honoring the LORD!

↑ **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:** *1 Timothy 2:1-4*

Request a Prayer: Complete a PRAYER REQUEST card (available in the Narthex).
Prayer List Procedure: To keep someone on our list, names with a (3) need to be renewed by Wednesday at 3:00. Contact your person to see how he/she is doing; then give Kathy an update (440-845-2230).

After Each Petition: L: LORD, in Your mercy.
 C: Hear our prayer.

Nation

- ➔ **USA:** Dear LORD, thank You for Your goodness despite our many sins; *help us to honor You!*
- ➔ **US Armed Forces and Police:** Chris Sala, Brad Sala, Nick Riviotta, Jacob Smith, Hayden Sweeny, Drew Tenney, and Chris Weseloh.

Congregation

- ➔ **Care:** People who have health issues that prevent them from attending: **Helga B, Doris C, Sandy C, Roger D, Carole G, Hilda K, Edmund & Christl K, Bill M, Regina M, Miriam P, June R, Jean S, Mike & Susanna T.** (They receive regular mailings and visits.)
- ➔ **Stephen Ministry:** Pray for Norma S (leader), Linda B, Alan C, Klara S, Rhonda S, and Bill S (ministers), and their care receivers.

- ➔ **Grief Share:** For our facilitators – *guidance*; for our participants – *comfort and peace.*
- ➔ **Temporary Health Issues:**
 - **Roger Dowell** – hospice: *peace and comfort.*
 - **Cedrick Hilliker** (1) shoulder: *cont. healing.*
 - **Tom Merkle** (2) cancer treatment (**11/18**).
 - **Dennis Montick** (1) neck: *guidance.*
 - **Miriam Putze** (1) very sore back: *healing.*
 - **Lynda Tomasch** (1) surgery: *cont. healing.*

For Others

- ➔ **Temporary Health Issues:**
 - **Darlene Cekanski** (1) (aunt of Tracy L) knee replacement surgery **11/18:** *success.*
 - **Joyce** (1) surgery 10/28: *cont. healing.*
 - **Joshua Blaha** (1) (son of Alan & Linda) eye injections (**11/13**): *success, healing.*
 - **Kim Blaha** (1) (d-in-l of Alan & Linda) kidney surgery (**11/20, 12/3**): *success, healing.*
 - **Charles Burton** (1) lymphoma: *chemo.*
 - **Henry Byham** – brain cancer: *healing.*
 - **Melanie Himmelberger** – bone cancer: *peace to her and her family; healing.*
 - **Dennis Trammell** (1) stage 1 lung cancer, radiation treatments: *peace, healing.*
 - **Roger Wisniewski** (1) stroke, feeding tube: *peace to him and his family; healing.*
 - **Mark Woodward** (2) cancer, herniated disc – severe pain: *relief, healing, strength.*

Celebrate and Give Thanks

Physical Birthdays:

- 11/18 Mark Woodward
- 11/20 Harold Weseloh
- 11/21 Amanda Booth
- 11/23 Nicole Cannonie

Spiritual Birthdays:

- 11/23 Mark Dennison

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

SUPPER PREPARATION HYMN:

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing
See the words below / LSB 633

- 1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side.
Alleluia!
- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

LORD'S SUPPER SELF-EXAMINATION:

"Let a person examine himself" (1Cor. 11:28 ESV).

Should I receive the Lord's Supper today?

Use these 10 questions to examine yourself...

More Info: Read through a Self-Examination Brochure

Part 1 – Basics of Being a Christian:

1. Do I believe the Bible is true? Y N *John 17:17*
2. Am I sorry for my sins? Y N *2 Cor. 7:10*
3. Am I trusting in Jesus for eternal life? Y N *Ac. 4:12*
4. Am I baptized? Y N *Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38-39; Tit. 3:5*
5. Do I desire to live for Christ? Y N *2 Cor. 5:15*

Part 2 – Forgiveness and Reconciliation:

6. Am I forgiving all others? Y N *Mark 11:25*
7. Am I doing my part to reconcile? Y N *Rom. 12:18*

Part 3 – Elements and Benefits of the Lord's Supper:

8. Are the elements of the Lord's Supper bread, body, wine, and blood? Y N *1 Cor. 10:16*
9. Is the main benefit of the Supper the assurance of the forgiveness of sins? Y N *Matt. 26:26-28*

Part 4 – Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS):

10. Do you understand and agree with the basic teachings of the LCMS? Y N *1 Cor. 10:15-22*

↑ PREFACE and PROPER PREFACE:

- L: The Lord be with you. *2 Tim. 4:22*
- C: **And also with you.**
- L: Lift up your hearts.
- C: **We lift them to the Lord.** *[Col. 3:1]*
- L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.** *[Ps. 136]*
- L: It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. But now, risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

LSB 195

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that
cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

LORD'S PRAYER: See the back of either hymnal.

- L: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- A: **Our Father who art in heaven...** *Matt. 6:9-13*

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD:

Combining: Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1Co 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI ~ *Peace of the Lord* John 20:19

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God* **LSB 198**

John 1:29

- O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION INSTRUCTIONS:

- ♦ If you are ready to receive: Come forward now.
- ♦ Receiving at your pew: Please inform an usher.
- ♦ Alcohol-Removed Wine: Center of each tray.
- ♦ Receive. Go in peace. Return via the side aisle.
- ♦ Main dismissal: After everyone has returned.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION:

Saturday ➔ Improvisation on "O Lord I Am Not Worthy" Callahan

Sunday ➔ Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart Arr. Wagner

LORD'S SUPPER DISMISSAL

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT: *Let Us Pray*

L: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary *[spiritually beneficial]* gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and 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.

HYMN: *Listen, God Is Calling*

Please Sing All the Words!

See the words below / LSB 833

Refrain: Listen, listen, God is calling
Through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness,
Comfort, and joy.

- 1 Jesus gave His mandate:
Share the good news
That He came to save us
And set us free. **Refrain**
- 3 Help us to be faithful,
Standing steadfast,
Walking in Your precepts,
Led by Your Word. **Refrain**

© Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100012222.

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS:

L: The Lord be with you. 2 Tim. 4:22

C: **And also with you.**

L: Bless we the Lord. *[Psalm 103:1]*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION ~ *Blessing* Num. 6:24-26

L: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His *countenance* (face) upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CANDLE EXTINGUISHING and POSTLUDE:

Saturday ➔ Lift High the Cross

Sunday ➔ Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Arr. Behnke

Desire a Prayer? See a *Stephen Minister* – Linda B, Alan C, Klara S, Rhonda S, Bill S, or Norma S.

Voter's Meeting TODAY
at 10:30 in the CLR!

November Newsletter – Available in the Narthex

Schedule: 11/17 – 11/24

Sunday

9:00 – Divine Service
10:30 – Voters Meeting

Tuesday

6:30 – GriefShare

Wednesday

11:00 – Stephen Ministry
2:00 – Sisters of Light

Thursday

10:00 – LTL: Preview of Upcoming Readings

Saturday

3:00 – Bible Class
4:00 – Divine Service

Sunday

9:00 – Divine Service
10:45 – Bible Classes and Sunday School

Thanks For Serving on 11/16 & 17

Altar Guild: Nancy B, Heather H

Saturday: Organist: Jim V Usher: Matt K
Pastor Team – Welcome: Alan C
Distribution – Alan C

Sunday: Organist: Gayle P
Pastor Team – Welcome: Matthias M
Distribution – Matthias M
Ushers: Rand S, Nevin S
Refreshments: The Hilliker Family & others
Sunday School: Heather H, Cedrick/Harold

Financial Team: Natalia F, Financial Assistants

Thanks For Serving on 11/23 & 24

Altar Guild: Don & Carol D

Saturday: Organist: Jim V Usher: Matt K
Pastor Team – Welcome: Alan C
Distribution – Alan C

Sunday: Organist: Gayle P
Pastor Team – Welcome: Harold W
Distribution – Cedrick H
Ushers: Rand S, Nevin S
Refreshments: The Hilliker Family & others
Sunday School: Stacey J, Cedrick/Harold

Financial Team: Natalia F, Financial Assistants

Numbers From Last Week

Received God's Gifts – Services:

- Saturday at 4:00 – Inside: **34**; car: **3**
- Sunday at 9:00 – Inside: **73**; car: **0**

Studied God's Word – Classes:

- Saturday at 3:00: **16**
- Sunday at 10:30: **48**
- Thursday at 10: **6**

Supported God's Work:

- Needed Each Week (budget): **5,134**
- Received Last Week (actual): **6,451**
- Gross Surplus YTD – *as of last week:* **26,650**
- Net Surplus YTD – *as 9/30/24:* **18,688**



Thanksgiving Eve Divine Service: Wednesday, 11/27 at 7 PM
Advent Wednesdays (12/4, 11, 18): Service 11 & 7; Meals 12 & 6

Connect With Us

➔ **Website:** BLC7500.com ➔ **YouTube:** Benefit from the Bible ➔ **Facebook:** Bethlehem Parma

Regular Services: Saturdays at 4:00; Sundays at 9:00

Studies: Wed 1; Thurs 10; Sat 3; Sun 10:30

Church Office: Wed & Thu: 9:30-3:30; Sat: 2:00-6:00

Pastor Green: RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915

Festivals: Website > Important Links > Festivals

Address: 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134

Kathy Green: Secretary@blc7500.com; 440-845-2230

Church Body: lcms.org District: oh.lcms.org