



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

God Sent His Son to Take Away Our Sins!

Wednesday, 12/10 at 11 am & 7 pm



Second Wednesday in Advent – 2025

Favorite Hymns of the Season

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Advent Thoughts: Since Jesus was born to die, Advent is a penitential season as we remember and turn from our sins!

Vespers: Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, 229-234

WELCOME: *Let us gladly receive God's gifts!*

- ✦ **Visitors:** Welcome! See our Welcome Table, sign our book, take a bag, and tell us how we can help!
- ✦ **Prayer Request:** Use a “yellow” card (Narthex).
- ✦ **Young Children:** Activity bags (by worship entrance); Little Lamb Room (off Narthex).
- ✦ **Phone:** Please silence.
- ✦ **Hearing Assistance:** Available in the Narthex.
- ✦ **Worship From Your Car:** Receive at our main entrance; then listen from your car (FM 89.9).

CANDLELIGHTING – During the Bell

WELCOME and PRELUDE: Hark the Glad Sound/
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Powell

↑ **PSALM VERSES** (Psalm 51:15; Psalm 70:1):

- L: O Lord, open my lips,
C: **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
L: Make haste, O God, to deliver me; *Ps. 70:1*
C: **Make haste to help me, O Lord.**
A: **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.**

L: Praise to You, O Christ,

C: **Our King who comes to save us.**

HYMN: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Sing to the tune of LSB 409

See the words below / LSB 338

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.
- 2 Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

ADVENT RESPONSORY (Jeremiah 23:5-6):

L: Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord,

C: When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

L: In His day Judah will be saved,

C: And Israel will dwell securely.

A: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

L: This is the name by which He will be called:

C: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

SALUTATION and PRAYER:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray: Father in heaven, You are the originator of Christmas – ♦loving us, ♦planning to save us, and ♦sending Your Son in the fulness of time. Now, *with heartfelt joy*, turn us **from** this fleeting world **to** the eternal blessings of Jesus, the Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. ↓

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

AAT

Isaiah 9:6 A Child will be born for us, a Son will be given to us, and the government will be on His shoulder, and He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful on the hills are the feet of the messenger who brings the news and announces peace, who tells the good news of how people are saved, and tells Zion, “Your God is King!”

Luke 1:78-79 **78** “...our God is merciful and will let a heavenly Sun rise upon us--to shine on those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Luke 2:13-14 Suddenly there was with the angel a large number of the angels of heaven, who were praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest heavens, and on earth peace to those who have His good will!”

HYMN: *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

See the words below / TLH 94

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the_angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
**Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**
- 2 Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the_incarinate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!
**Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

SERMON: *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* TLH 94

Today’s Preacher: Dr. Phillip Giessler

See the hymn words above and below!

HYMN: *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

See the words below / TLH 94

- 3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He leaves His throne on high,
Born that man no more may die,

Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

- 4 Come, Desire of nations, come,
Fix in us Thy humble home;
Oh, to all Thyself impart,
Formed in each believing heart!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
**Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"**

Offering: A plate is available in the center aisle.
Thanks for honoring the Lord with your giving!

↑ KYRIE, LORD'S PRAYER, OTHER PRAYERS:

- L: Let us pray:
L: O Lord, our King who came to save us,
C: have mercy upon us.
L: O Christ, the One in whom we trust,
C: have mercy upon us.
L: O Lord, our helper in every time of need,
C: have mercy upon us.
L: **Today, we are praying an ALTERNATE
VERSION of the Lord's Prayer** (*Small
Catechism*). See below for the words.
**A: Our Father in heaven. Hallowed be Your
name. Your kingdom come. Your will be
done on earth as in heaven. Give us today
our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we
forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not
into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For
the kingdom, the power, and the glory are
Yours now and forever. Amen.**
L: O Lord, hear our prayer.
C: And let our cry come to You.
L: Let us pray for peace: O God, from whom
come ♦all holy desires, ♦all good counsels,
and ♦all just works, give to us, Your servants,

that peace which the world cannot give, that
our hearts may be set to obey Your
commandments and also that we, *being
defended from the fear of our enemies*, may
live in peace and quietness; we pray through
Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

- L: For Matthew, *our church body president*, and
Kevin, *our district president*, for all pastors,
for all who serve in this congregation, and for
all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

- L: For all public servants, and for those who
protect us, that they may be upheld, guided,
and strengthened in every good deed, let us
pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

- L: For those who work to bring peace, justice,
health, and protection in this and every place,
let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

- L: For those who bring offerings, those who do
good works in this congregation, those who
sing, those who pray, and all the people here
present who await from the Lord great and
abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

- L: For favorable weather, for an abundance of
the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times,
let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

- L: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath,
danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

- L: For ongoing spiritual hunger, for daily time in
Bible reading and prayer, and for courage to
live God's truth, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

- L: For the faithful who have gone before us and
are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C: Praise the Lord!

Silence for individual prayer...

L: Since we are looking forward to being together forever with all who know Jesus, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

A: To You, O Lord. Amen! ↓

HYMN: *What Hope! An Eden Prophesied*

Sing to the tune of LSB 366

See the words below / LSB 342

- 1 What hope! An Eden prophesied
Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side,
Led by a little child!
A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem,
A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:
The fruit of God's design.
- 2 As banner of God's love unfurled,
Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world
Would rally to the cross.
Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord,
Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword—
Come, open heaven's door.

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BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION:

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: **Amen.**

POSTLUDE and CANDLE EXTINGUISHING:

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

FREE MEALS DURING ADVENT

Wednesdays at 12:00 and 6:00

Thanks to all who are buying, preparing, bringing, setting up, cleaning up, and participating!

Help Beautify Our Church for Christmas

Order a Poinsettia – Deadline: Sunday, 12/14.

Use the order form on the attendance slip; place your order and money in an envelope marked "poinsettia" (available in narthex). Take it home: 12/24 or 25.

<h2>Christmas</h2>  <p>Merry Christmas</p> <p>Eve at 4:00 Day at 10:00</p>	<h2>New Year's</h2>  <p>We Do Not Know What the Future Holds <i>But We Know the One Who Holds the Future!</i></p> <p>Eve at 4:00 Day at 10:00</p>
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Nice Walkers (with and w/o wheels) – Through a donation, we have some available for free.
If you need one, ask Rand or Michael B to see what is available.

Connect With Us

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

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

Organist: Gayle Powers

Studies: Thurs at 10:00; Sat at 3:00; Sun at 10:30

Address: 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134

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

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

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

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