



# Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center



## Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

### Worship Services

9:00 am Indoor | 10:30 am Outdoor

# GATHERING

WELCOME

RESPONSIVE LITANY “Hope for Those Who Are Weary” – Rev. Rich Davis

L: The Light shines in the darkness,

**C: But the darkness has not overcome it.**

L: During Advent our weary souls seek God’s daily strength.

**C: The Lord gives strength to the weary, and increases the power of the weak.**

L: We grow weary when fear overshadows faith.

**C: The Lord gives strength to the weary, and increases the power of the weak.**

L: We grow weary when destructive actions erupt in the world around us.

**C: The Lord gives strength to the weary, and increases the power of the weak.**

L: For all of us feeling weary this Advent season:

**C: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Christ, Be Our Light – ELW 715

Cantors sing verses, congregation sings refrain



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

## ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Today we light two candles. The first candle illuminates patience in the areas of our lives where God has called us to wait. The second candle extends the promise of strength to all who feel weary and weak in the shadows of this world. As we continue our Advent journey, may our hope be kindled as the light grows brighter.

## HYMN

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah – ELW 240

One verse per week



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of mercy and compassion,

**C: Scripture says that if we draw near to you, you will draw near to us. In a shadowy world where human weakness and weariness reside, we ask for you to draw near and dispel the darkness around us. May the light of this season illuminate our hope, strength, and steadfast endurance as we await the coming Savior. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

# WORD

## SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Prepare the Royal Highway – ELW 264



2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!



Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!



God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!

*Refrain*



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Laura Ziehl

# HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry – ELW 249

Verses 1, 2, & 4



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
way for God with - in, and let us all our  
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

## THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always, C: And also with you!

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

# OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242 – One verse per week



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

# MEAL

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you,

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts,

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

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 112

**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.**

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel – ELW 257  
One verse per week

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

3. O come, O Dayspring, come and  
cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw  
near. Disperse the gloomy clouds of  
night, and death's dark shadow put  
to flight.

2. O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on  
high, and close the path to misery.

4. O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

# COMMUNION HYMN

“Peace Child” – Murray and Glover

World Music Ensemble sings verses, congregation sings refrain

Peace Child, Peace Child.

The musical notation is on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two phrases: 'Peace Child,' and 'Peace Child.' Each phrase is followed by a double bar line with repeat dots. The melody is simple, using quarter and half notes.

## SENDING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

### SENDING HYMN

Jesus, What a Wonderful Child – ELW 297

Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.

The first line of the musical notation is on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It contains the first three measures of the hymn, with lyrics 'Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.' The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes.

Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and

The second line of the musical notation is on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It contains the next three measures of the hymn, with lyrics 'Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and'. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.

The third line of the musical notation is on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It contains the next three measures of the hymn, with lyrics 'mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.' The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: “Glo - ry, glo - ry,

The fourth line of the musical notation is on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It contains the next three measures of the hymn, with lyrics 'Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: “Glo - ry, glo - ry,'. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes.

glo - ry,” let the heav - ens ring!

The fifth line of the musical notation is on a single staff in G major and 4/4 time. It contains the final three measures of the hymn, with lyrics 'glo - ry,” let the heav - ens ring!'. The melody concludes with a half note and a whole note.

### DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Christ is near!

C: Thanks be to God!

# ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Today! @ 2 pm**

Join us on the lawn to hear some wonderful Christmas music from the different musical ensembles here at Bethlehem.

## COMFORT AT CHRISTMAS SERVICE

**Wed, December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm**

We know that Christmas is not just a season of joy and good cheer. For many it can be a difficult time, especially for those who have lost loved ones. Join us in the sanctuary for a service of hope, healing, and Holden Evening Prayer.

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

**Sun, December 19<sup>th</sup> @ 4 pm**

Back after a brief hiatus due to COVID, we will gather in the church parking lot before heading off in groups to sing carols to members at their homes. Social distancing and safe COVID protocols will be followed as we spread cheer (not germs) in this Christmas season.

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

**Fri, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

10 am – Indoor service that will also be livestreamed.

6 & 8 pm – Outdoors on the grass. Please bring a chair and a blanket!

## NO CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

## ONE WORSHIP SERVICE

**Sun, December 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am**

We will have one worship service on the Sunday after Christmas this year. It will be outdoors and livestreamed.



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
& Early Childhood Center**

## **Electronic Giving Options Update**

- Our Give Plus+ App has been replaced by **Vanco Mobile App!** **Vanco Mobile App** will be your new mobile means of financially supporting Bethlehem. To begin using it:
  - Download the “**Vanco Mobile**” app from your App Store using your smartphone or tablet
  - Search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church **Encinitas** by name
  - If you already have an account, your Username and Password remain the same. And your prior online account information and recurring gifts will automatically carry over
  - If you don’t have an account, follow the app’s “Sign Up” prompts
- BLC Website
  - Go to BLCENC.org and select the “Contribute” tab from the top menu as before
  - Click the “Give Now” button to go to our new and improved Vanco Online page.

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- With either option you can:
  - Use a checking account, or credit & debit cards
  - Choose to cover the credit card transaction fee
  - Make recurring, or one-time donations
  - Give to the general or various special funds
  - All donations appear on your giving statements

**Thank You for Supporting Bethlehem!**

# All Are Welcome!

We live in a diverse world. We are hurting, broken and heavy hearted. We are loving, celebrating, and above all — we are welcoming. Regardless of the color of your skin or the color of your hair, regardless of your gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, or political affiliation — you are welcome here.

If you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker after Christ — you have a place here.

If you own, rent, or have nothing at all — you are welcome here.

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person of differing abilities, if you have regrets, fears, addictions, or afflictions — you have a place here.

All who are wise and all who are confused, all who have found love and all who have lost it, all who celebrate this welcome statement and all who fear it — are welcome here.

For these are all of the things that make you who you are: the person God loves. Come as you are and be celebrated for who you are. The time is now. Your place is here.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church is an all-inclusive church.



Reconciling in Christ



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Offering gifts can be made electronically, either on our website at [www.blcenc.org](http://www.blcenc.org) by clicking on the contribute tab, or by using the **Vanco Mobile App**. There are options for one-time donations, as well as recurring gifts and special offerings.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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