

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 17 and Sunday, January 18, 2026



Bethlehem

LUTHERAN CHURCH

100th Anniversary
1926 - 2026

Proclaiming Christ. Nurturing Faith. Restoring Hope.

Welcome to Worship

We're so glad you're here. For a century, Bethlehem has gathered God's people around His gifts. Rooted in the historic liturgy and the teachings of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, worship here has always centered on what God does for us. We gather around His Word and His Sacraments, where Jesus Himself is present—speaking forgiveness, sustaining life, and giving hope. Worship is not first about what we bring, but about how God serves us, and how we respond with praise, prayer, and thanksgiving.

For one hundred years, this has been our shared calling: Proclaiming Christ. Nurturing Faith. Restoring Hope. Generation after generation, God has been at work here—gathering His people, forming them through His Word and gifts, and sending them into the world. And He is not finished yet. As a Gospel presence in our neighborhood, we trust that the same faithful God who carried us through the past is shaping what is to come. Whether this is your first visit or your spiritual home, you belong here. May this time of worship nurture your faith, fill you with Christ's hope, and send you out ready to proclaim His love in word and deed.

REGARDING THE LORD'S SUPPER

At Bethlehem, we believe that in the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us more than a symbol—He gives us Himself. In, with, and under the bread and wine, we receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, the strengthening of faith, and the unity of His people. This is how Christ continues to proclaim His saving work and nurture our faith today.

As we prepare to receive this gift, we follow the Scriptures and the Small Catechism in examining ourselves: Do I believe I am a sinner in need of God's grace? Do I trust in Jesus as my Savior? Do I believe that Christ is truly present in this meal? Do I desire to turn from sin and live in faith and love? Whoever answers yes to these is truly worthy and well prepared.

Bethlehem is a congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and we ask that all who commune share our confession of faith. If you are not yet instructed in this teaching or have questions, we warmly invite you to come forward for a blessing—simply cross your arms over your chest—or speak with our pastor after the service. We are glad you're here, and we would love to walk with you as we grow in Christ together.

*(Children's Activity bags are available in the Narthex.
Please remember to return them to the rack after the service.)*

+ PREPARATION +

PRESERVICE MUSIC / WELCOME

RINGING OF THE BELLS

HYMN

(tune; TFBF #262 This Is the Day)

THIS IS THE DAY

1

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
We will rejoice, We will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made,
We will rejoice, and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made!

2

Open to us, open to us
the gates of God, the gates of God;
we will go in, we will go in
and praise the Lord, and Praise the Lord.
Open to us the gates of God,
we will go in and praise the Lord.
Open to us, open to us
the gates of God.

3

You are our God, You are our God
we will praise your name, we will praise your name,
we will give thanks, we will give thanks,
for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness
You are our God, we will praise your name,
we will give thanks for your faithfulness.
You are our God, You are our God
we will praise your name.

(Stand)

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor In the name of the Father and of the **☩** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen.**

Pastor I will go to the altar of God,
Congregation **to God my exceeding joy.**

Pastor You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified
Congregation **in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor Called by God “to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”, let us give rightful praise and honor God, who calls sinners to repentance and bestows saving faith in our hearts by His Word and Spirit. Behold, the Lamb of God!

Congregation **Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, mercifully hear our confession. We are sinners and have sinned against You. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors with our whole heart. We cannot free ourselves from our sin. Hear our prayer of confession and let us hear Your call and gift of forgiveness, salvation, and life.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead 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.

Congregation **Amen.**

FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES

Text (sts. 1–2): Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823–97

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln

Text and tune: Public domain

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.

Congregation **And with thy spirit.**

Pastor Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation **Amen.**

(Sit)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:1-7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” ⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God.” ⁵And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him — for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength — ⁶he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” ⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

¹Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

(Stand)

ALLELUIA

A musical score for a single line of a hymn. It consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat. The melody is composed of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "Al-le - lu - ia." are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The first two measures are identical, followed by a third measure where the last note of the first measure and the first note of the second measure are connected by a slur. The fourth measure is identical to the first two.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:29-42a

²⁹The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus.

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

(*Sit*)

HYMN OF THE DAY

LSB #550

LAMB OF GOD

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have

sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a
brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and

sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!

O wash me in His pre- cious blood, My Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text and tune: Twila Paris, 1958

Text and tune: © 1985 Straightway Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001608

SERMON

"Marked by the Blood of the Lamb"

(Stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

LSB pg.192

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life \ddagger everlasting.

Amen.

(Sit)

OFFERING

(Stand)

OFFERTORY

LSB pg. 192



The musical notation consists of five staves of music in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with the first line starting with a square bracketed 'C' and the subsequent lines starting with a square bracketed 'G'. The lyrics are as follows:

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

(Sit)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

(Stand)

PREFACE

Pastor The Lord be with you.

LSB pg. 194

Congregation And with thy spirit.

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

Congregation We lift them up unto the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

Congregation It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

LSB pg. 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

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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 pg. 197

PAX DOMINI

LSB pg. 197

AGNUS DEI

LSB pg. 198

A musical score for a hymn. The score consists of five staves of music in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are written in a black serif font, aligned with the music. The first staff contains the beginning of the hymn. The second staff continues the lyrics. The third staff begins with 'tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.' The fourth staff continues the lyrics. The fifth staff concludes the hymn with 'world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.' The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The lyrics are in a single column, with the final line 'world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.' on a single staff.

(Sit)

DISTRIBUTION

Prayerful Meditation

(Stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB pg. 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - - rael. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A-men.

THANKSGIVING

Pastor O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

Congregation and His mercy endureth forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

BENEDICTION

Pastor 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 upon you and give you peace.

Congregation Amen.

(*Sit*)
HYMN

LSB #809

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;

All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Tune: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

MINISTRY TEAM

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President – John Stafford

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SCHOOLS

Lutheran South Unity School.....lsusfw.org.....744-0459

Concordia Lutheran High School....clhscadets.com.....483-1102

COUNSELING NEEDS

Please talk to Pastor Ben Ahlersmeyer for a referral for counseling to Cross Connections.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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www.bethlehemlcms.org

Church Office, (260) 744-3228 Fax Number, (260) 744-3229

Office Hours: 10:00am – 4:00pm (Monday – Friday)

Our Worship Schedule:

Saturday Afternoon Worship Service at 4:00pm

Sunday Morning Worship Service at 9:00am

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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