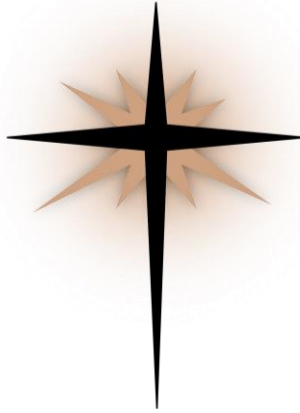




CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH



Welcome to Bethlehem!

A member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod: www.wels.net

If you're new here ...

- Restrooms are located on the left-hand wall outside the sanctuary
- Please sign our guest book
- Ask our councilman for any assistance

A note on Holy Communion ...

Holy Communion is being celebrated today. Through the Apostle Paul, the Lord tells us it is necessary to recognize Jesus' true body and blood in the sacrament. This comes through a belief in the teaching of the Real Presence. Otherwise, the communicant is sinning against that body and blood. "For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself (sins)," 1 Corinthians 11:29.

Joint reception of the Lord's Supper also is an expression of the common faith we declare primarily by unity with other Christians in church membership. Since Scripture tells us to take part in this Sacrament with prepared hearts (1 Corinthians 11:27-28) and unity of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17), we humbly ask visitors from congregations not in our fellowship to delay communing with us until the pastor has a chance to speak with you. We thank you for respecting our communion practice. Members of WELS and ELS, please speak with pastor prior to the service, if possible.

White grape juice is available for those who cannot have alcohol, and gluten-free bread is found in the silver wrapping.

If you have little ones with you today ...

Bethlehem is a family church. Your children are welcome and encouraged to sit in the sanctuary with us (even if they make a little noise). If you must take them out for a moment:

- The sermon is played over speakers in the lobby
- There are changing tables in the restrooms
- Quiet bags are available in the entryway

CONFIRMATION AND GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN – CW# 633 *Speak, O Lord*

PLEASE STAND FOR THE LAST VERSE

The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CONFIRMATION ESSAYS

PSALM HYMN – CW# 804 *I Am Jesus' Little Lamb*, based on Psalm 23

PLEASE STAND

GOSPEL – JOHN 10

Jesus is my great Good Shepherd, and I know his voice.

²² Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. ²⁴ The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

²⁵ Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

APOSTLES CREED

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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 everlasting. Amen.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN – CW# 715 *Let Me Be Yours Forever*

SERMON TEXT *JOHN 10*

²⁷My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

SERMON That Moment When ... You Know His Voice

THE CONFIRMANDS' CONFESSIOIN OF FAITH

EXHORTATION TO PRAY

PRAYER

Gracious Father, in Holy Baptism you created faith in the hearts of these young people and gave them new birth as members of your family. Help them remember their baptisms every day and find comfort in your promise that you will never leave them or forsake them. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Six more prayers follow, each concluding with:

“Lord, in your mercy,”

“**Hear our prayer.**”

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PERSONAL VERSES AND BLESSINGS

THE SACRAMENT—WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

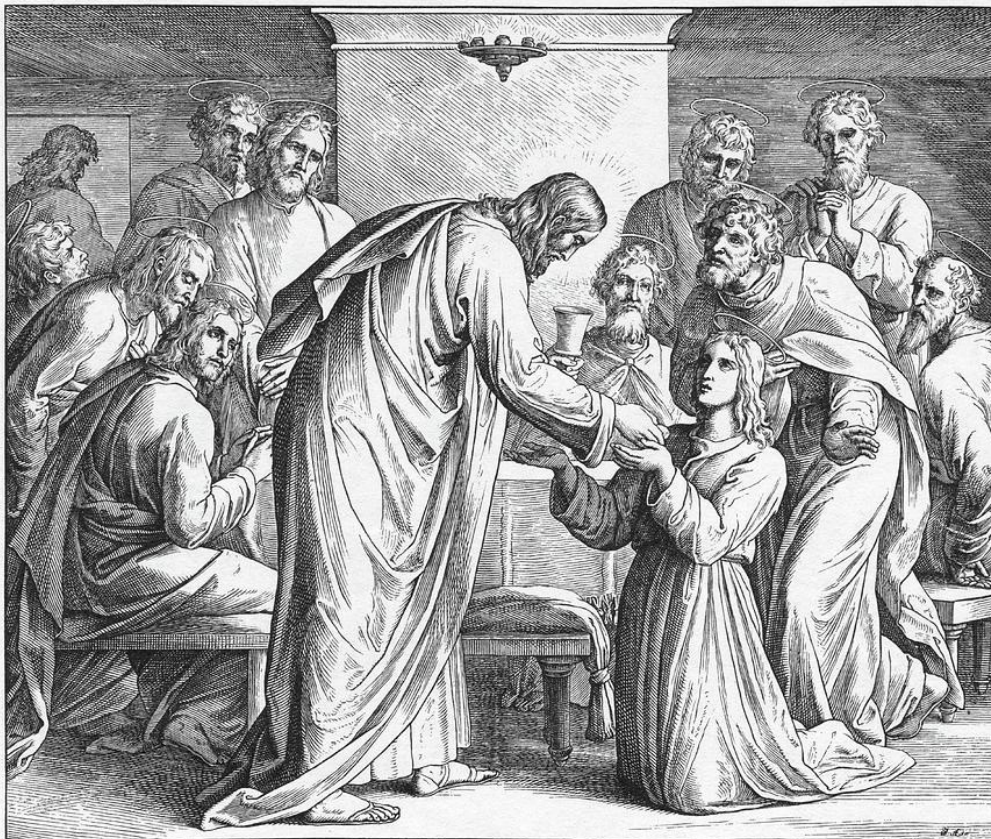
PLEASE BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

Confirmands and confirmation families will commune first.

Please see the note in front page of service folder.

Ushers will excuse us to stand in line in the left and right aisles. We will then approach and stand at the steps. Pastor will walk to us and offer the bread to us personally. The councilman will pass by with individual cups. Common cup will follow, if desired. Pastor will wipe each sip with a different part of the purificator and turn the common cup for the next person. After the normal communion blessing, we will dismiss to the middle aisle, where a table is positioned with receptacles for the individual cup.



DISTRIBUTION HYMN – CW# 675 *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

PLEASE STAND

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
And his mercy endures forever!

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
(spoken) **Amen.**

PLEASE REMAIN STANDING

HYMN – CW# 631 *Speak, O Savior*, st. 3-4

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

A special thank-you goes to our food committee for arranging cake and refreshments.

Thanks to our organist, Ellie Bode.

Next Sunday's lessons: Acts 11:1-18; 1 Corinthians 13; John 13:31-35

The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project.

All rights reserved. www.wartburgproject.org

Christus als guter Hirte (Christ as Good Shepherd) by Lucas Cranach the younger, ca. 1540

The Holy Communion by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld

BLC is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod: www.wels.net

Youth Confirmation Class 2022

Katherine Ann Albrecht

Parents: Kevin and Cheryl Albrecht

Date and Place of Birth: 6/26/08 / Danville, IN

Baptism: 9/14/08

Confirmation Passage: *Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.*
(Revelation 2:10)

Jackson David Clary

Parents: James and Karin Clary

Date and Place of Birth: 3/27/08 / Carmel, IN

Baptism: 3/30/08

Confirmation Passage: *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.*
(Joshua 1:9)

Lux Bredenkamp Foster

Parents: Jason and Courtney Foster

Date and Place of Birth: 7/31/08 / Carmel, IN

Baptism: 8/16/08

Confirmation Passage: *Jesus looked at them and said, "For people, it is impossible, but not for God, because all things are possible for God."*
(Mark 10:27)

Carson Richard Reed

Parents: Aaron and Patti Reed

Date and Place of Birth: 11/14/07 / Carmel, IN

Baptism: 3/2/08

Confirmation Passage: *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*
(Matthew 6:33)

Lydia Ann Sulfridge

Parents: Cory and Sarah Sulfridge

Date and Place of Birth: 9/16/07 / Carmel, IN

Baptism: 10/27/07

Confirmation Passage: *Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.*
(1 Peter 5:7)