Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Pastor Eric Hullstrom
201 4th Street NE
Buffalo Center, IA
641-562-2552
November 29, 2026 @ 9:30AM
First Sunday of Advent
Pianist: Mary Ann Olsen



Prelude Music

Greeting and Announcements
The Message — Pastor Eric Hullstrom
Opening Prayer

The Meaning of the Service

Christmas Hymn: "Oh Come All Ye Faithful"

Reading: The Christmas Poinsettia
(poinsettias are brought in)

The Call to Celebration

Responsive Reading **Please Stand**

Leader: For the time is coming; says the Lord when I will place a righteous branch upon King David's throne.

Congregation: **He shall be a King who shall rule with wisdom and justice, and cause righteousness to prevail everywhere throughout the earth.**

Leader: For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder.

Congregation: **These will be His royal titles: Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.**

Leader: His ever-expanding, peaceful government will never end. He will rule with perfect fairness and justice from the throne of His Father.

Congregation: He will bring true justice and peace to all the nations of the world. This is going to happen because the Lord of Heaven has dedicated Himself to do it!

Leader: And Christ became a human being and lived here on Earth among us and was full of loving faithfulness and truth.

All: **Let us praise God that the light of Christ shines on in the darkness, which has never overcome it. To God be the glory in Jesus Christ and in the church forever and ever. Amen.**

Invocation (in unison)

Gracious God, Ruler of the Universe, Author of Life, we come into Your presence today to make our preparations for the birth of the Christ Child. Fill us with Your love and open our hearts so we may behold the wonder of Your great gift of salvation. Amen.

Christmas Hymn: "Go Tell it on the Mountain"
(Greens are hung in sanctuary)
Reading: The Sanctuary Evergreens

THE PROPHECY

Scripture: Mark 1:1-3
(*Lighting of the Advent Candle)*
Reading: Advent Wreath
Advent Hymn: "Come thou Long Expected Jesus" verses 1&2

THE ANNUNCIATION

Scripture Reader: Luke 1:26-35
Christmas Hymn: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" verses 1&2
(Lighting of altar candles)
Reading: Light

THE BIRTH

Scripture Reader: Luke 2:1-7
Christmas Hymn: "Silent Night, Holy Night"
(Nativity scene is set up)
Reading: Nativity Scene

THE SHEPHERD'S STORY

Scripture Reader: Luke 2:8-15
Christmas Hymn: "The First Noel" verses 1& 2

Reading: Christmas Caroling
Christmas Hymn: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"
(Angels placed on trees)
Reading: Angels

Noisy Offering/Children's Message

THE ADORATION

Scripture Reader: Luke 2:16-20
Christmas hymn: "Away in a Manger"
(Tree is lit)
Reading: Christmas tree and lights

THE COMING OF THE MAGI

Scripture Reader: Matthew 2:1-9
Christmas Hymn: We Three Kings verses 1&2
(Paraments are hung)
Reading: Wise Men

OUR GIFTS

Scripture Reader: Matthew 2:10-11
(Gifts are placed under tree)
Reading: Gifts

Offering
Offertory: ***"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"***
Reading
Christmas Hymn: "What Child is This"
(Baby Jesus is placed in the manger)

Prayer
The Blessing
Christmas Hymn: "Joy to the World"
Please stand

Prayers for our Members & Friends

Mark Beenken	Emmagene Silber
Linda Abels	Deloris Steffensen
Brian Bashans	Claire Rustemier-Hinz
Dean Swenson	Carolyn Bartz
Nancy Scalisi	Joy Albert
Ruth Noren	Karen Buss
Dawn Jensvold	Harlan Melz
Penny Mitchell	LeRoy Weaver
Monica Tyler	Frances Ostermann
Jason Christensen	Delores Griffin
Susan Jensen	Marge Becker
Virginia Cooper	Kim Davids
Doug Hofbauer	Berneice Maass
Dave Kakacek	DeWayne Maass
Randy Holstad	Harvey Rossmiller