

## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Pastor Eric Hullstrom  
201 4th Street NE  
Buffalo Center, IA  
641-562-2552  
December 1, 2024 @ 9:30AM  
First Sunday of Advent  
Pianist: Mary Ann Olsen



Prelude Music

Greeting and Announcements

The Message

Pastor Eric

Opening Prayer

The Meaning of the Service

**Christmas Hymn: "Oh Come All Ye Faithful"**

*(poinsettias are brought in)*

Reading: The Christmas Poinsettia

**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"**

*(Lighting of altar candles)*

Reading: Light

verses 1&2

**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**

*(Paraments are hung)*

Reading: Wise Men

verses 1&2

**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"**

**Prayers for our Members & Friends**

Ashley Cox	Emmagene Silber
Jaya Fever	Deloris Steffensen
Brian Bashans	Claire Rustemier-Hinz
Christina Coughlin	Carolyn Bartz
Roger Burnside	Joy Albert
Virginia Cooper	Darlene Hofbauer
Darlene Huston	Karen Buss
Penny Mitchell	Harlan Melz

Pastor Mark Neumann (BLC's deployed pastor)