

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Scott Thompson, Pastor  
Marshall Jones, Director of Music

1st Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2020.



**Give through your congregation by visiting**  
**[ELCA.org/goodgifts](https://www.elca.org/goodgifts)** or by sending a check to  
ELCA Good Gifts, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.  
Please indicate your gift in the memo line of your check.

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary during worship.  
Please ensure they stay with their parents at all times.

# Today's Worship

## Prelude

"My Lord, What a Morning" arr. Chuck Marohnic  
 Please reflect on the words of the hymn ELW#438 or at  
<https://hymnary.org/hymn/ELW2006/438>

## THE GATHERING

*(please stand)*

### Confession and Forgiveness

Presider: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever

**All: Amen.**

Presider: Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

*(silence for reflection)*

Presider: Loving and forgiving God,

**All: we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

Presider: People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free— free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

## "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

ELW#257



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

5 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. *Refrain*

7 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 new. *Refrain*

6 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. *Refrain*

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

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, tr. composite*

*Translation ©1997 Augsburg Fortress*

*Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #A-723873*

## Greeting

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

## Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



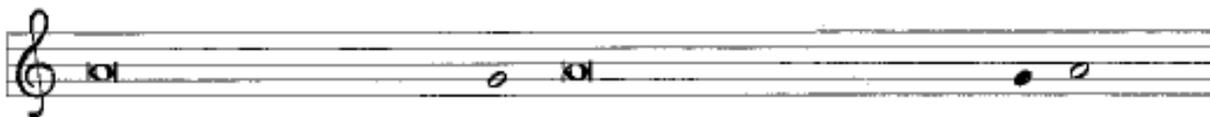
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.





strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



*Refrain*  
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



*Final refrain*  
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen

*(be seated)*

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Our dark - ness is nev - er dark - ness in your sight: the  
*La té - nè - bre n'est point té - nè - bre de - vant toi: la*

deep - est night is clear as the day - light.  
*nuit com - me le jour est lu - miè - re.*

*Last time*

Presider: Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:  
 to you be praise and glory for ever.  
 You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith  
 and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.  
 May we be obedient to your call  
 and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,  
 a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;  
 for you are our light and our salvation.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

## THE WORD

### First Reading

### **Isaiah 64:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
 so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood  
 and the fire causes water to boil—  
 to make your name known to your adversaries,  
 so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
 you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard,  
 no ear has perceived,  
 no eye has seen any God besides you,  
 who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right,  
 those who remember you in your ways.  
 But you were angry, and we sinned;  
 because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean,  
 and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
 We all fade like a leaf,  
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

Re - store us, O God of hosts; let your face  
shine up - on us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph <sup>|</sup> like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- <sup>|</sup> on the cherubim.

<sup>2</sup>In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, <sup>|</sup> and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and <sup>|</sup> come to help us. **R**

<sup>3</sup>Restore <sup>|</sup> us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>|</sup> shall be saved.

<sup>4</sup>O LORD <sup>|</sup> God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume when your <sup>|</sup> people pray?

<sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the <sup>|</sup> bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of <sup>|</sup> tears to drink.

<sup>6</sup>You have made us the derision <sup>|</sup> of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh <sup>|</sup> us to scorn.

- <sup>7</sup>Restore us, O <sup>1</sup> God of hosts;  
 let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>1</sup> shall be saved. **R**
- <sup>17</sup>Let your hand be upon the one at <sup>1</sup> your right hand,  
 the one you have made so strong <sup>1</sup> for yourself.
- <sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn a- <sup>1</sup> way from you;  
 give us life, that we may call up- <sup>1</sup> on your name.
- <sup>19</sup>Restore us, O LORD <sup>1</sup> God of hosts;  
 let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>1</sup> shall be saved. **R**

## Second Reading

## 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*(please stand)*



S 151a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel Reading****Mark 13:24-37**

Presider: The Gospel according to Mark, the 13th chapter.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>"In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Reader- The Gospel of the Lord.

**All- Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day****“My Lord, What A Morning”**

ELW#438

*Refrain*

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,  
2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,  
3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

*Refrain*

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

*(please stand)*

## **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God the Father, creator of the universe,  
who is full of patience, and not afraid of silence,  
who does not need to fill each moment with activity and noise,  
who is beyond bluster and flurry,  
and who does not jostle for attention.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God, the Savior of creation,  
who slipped into Bethlehem one night, mostly unnoticed,  
who lived thirty years without headlines or hurry,  
who frequently took time alone with his patient Father,  
who waited for the right time to become the suffering servant,  
who stood quietly before the noise of his accusers,  
whose silence overpowered their words,  
who died, then rose again on a quiet Sunday morning.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens, empowers, renews and refreshes,  
sometimes arriving with obvious power,  
and sometimes with the quiet breath of a whisper.

We believe in one God  
who patiently waits for us,  
and who longs for us to do the same. Amen.

## The Prayers

Assistant: God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

Assistant: Hear us, O God,

**All: Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude:*

Assistant- Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

*(be seated)*

## THE MEAL

### Offering

“My Lord, What a Morning”

arr. Kurt Kaiser

Your offerings are important to the ongoing mission of Bethlehem and it’s mission partners. Please mail your offering to 603 S. Main St. Kalispell, MT 59901 or give online at <https://bethluth.org/give> . Thank you!

*(please stand)*

### **Offertory Prayer**

Assistant: Let us pray.

Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

**All: Amen**

### **The Table is Set**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

*(be seated)*

### **Distribution of Holy Communion**

*All are welcome at the table of Christ. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.*

## Communion Hymns

### “Children of the Heavenly Father”

Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,  
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.  
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

*Children of the Heavenly Father, Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, tr. Ernst W. Olson  
 Text ©1925, 1953 Augsburg Fortress  
 Reprinted with permission under OneLicense # A-723873*

### “We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,  
 2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.  
 3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,

but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,  
 You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.  
 the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.

who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
 The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;  
 No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,

the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.  
 much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.  
 but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

*Refrain*

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.

We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

*(please stand)*

### **Communion Blessing**

Presider: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**All: Amen.**

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Assistant: Let us pray.

Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### **The Benediction**

Presider: May the God of peace make you perfect and holy. May Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory. May the Holy Spirit give you faith that is joyful in hope and constant in love.

**All: Amen.**

Sending Hymn

## "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"

ELW#435



1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,  
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once for our sal - va - tion slain;  
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;  
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed  
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:  
 thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:  
 claim the king - dom as thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!  
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

## **Dismissal**

Assistant: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

“Wachet Auf”

J.S. Bach

*Please reflect on the words of the hymn ELW#436 or at  
<https://hymnary.org/hymn/ELW2006/436>*



## **Prayer Concerns: Illness/surgery:**

Louise Gullick, Beverly Hubbard, Ada John, Maurice Serna, Sandy Kacarka, Jane Beller Carlson, Tonya and Kirk Atlee, Shauna Beccari, Jeff, Natalie, and Jaycee Goheen, Fred Fairchild, Cassandra Garcia and baby, Ari, and Darcy Middlestaedt.

### **A Special Thank You To Our Assisting Ministers:**

Welcome Hosts: Paul Holmgren and Dan Halverson

Cantor:

Reader: Karen Brown

Communion Host:

Video Technician: Elley Alvord

## **Advent Services**

**Wednesday Advent Services-6:30 Holden Evening Prayer**

December 2, 9, 16 and 23

## **Christmas Eve Service**

7:00pm Outdoor Worship Celebration

## **Christmas Day Service**

10:00am Worship

## Announcements



### **Blood Drive at BLC December 8<sup>th</sup>**

Our next Vitalant blood drive here at BLC will be Tuesday, December 8 in the church basement. Appointment times will be from 1:15 to 5:30. Thanks to all of you who have already signed up, but we still have a number of openings available. With so many folks unable to donate because of the current Covid pandemic, the area wide pool of donors has been somewhat reduced, so it's especially important for all able donors to help out. The staff from Vitalant will all be wearing masks during the blood drive, and donors will be required to also be masked. Please call me at 406-698-4138 to make your appointment.  
Gary Aasheim, BLC Vitalant Blood Drive Coordinator

### **This Week at Bethlehem**

#### **SUNDAY**

9:00am

**11/29**

Worship / Communion A-M

#### **MONDAY**

1:00pm

**11/30**

Women on the Go, Zoom

#### **TUESDAY**

4:30pm

**12/01**

Hymn Histories with Marshall, Zoom

#### **WEDNESDAY**

7:00am

9:00am

10:00am

6:30pm

**12/02**

Men's Prayer Breakfast, Zoom

Coffee with Pastor Scott, Zoom

Staff Meeting

Holden Evening Prayer

#### **THURSDAY**

7:00pm

**12/03**

Online Bible Study with Pastor Scott, Zoom and Facebook Live

#### **SUNDAY**

9:00am

**12/06**

Worship / Communion N-Z

*Reprinted from Words for Worship, copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission Augsburg Fortress license #14266-ELW. One License # A-723873.CCLI License #11414428.*

# God's Global Barnyard

An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at the market. With one gift, you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.



## Cow

A cow's milk, meat, fertilizer and calves can quickly strengthen a family's financial security.

\$500



## Chicks

Chicks begin laying eggs at just a few months old, offering nutritious, protein-rich meals for families who are hungry.

\$10



## Goat

Fresh milk from a goat is very nutritious and can be used to make products like yogurt and cheese to sell at the market.

\$50



## Honeybees

Bees pollinate plants and boost crop growth — helping the wider community. Soaps and candles can be made from their wax and sold at the local market.

\$20



## Pig

Within months after birth, piglets grow to weigh over 200 pounds — bringing a big payoff at the market.

\$30



## Fish Farm

A fish farm and training in good business economics can provide a lifetime of meals for a community.

\$250

**Give through your congregation by visiting [ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://ELCA.org/goodgifts) or by sending a check to ELCA Good Gifts, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Please indicate your gift in the memo line of your check.**



**ELCA Good Gifts \$20 Donation– Cow**

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

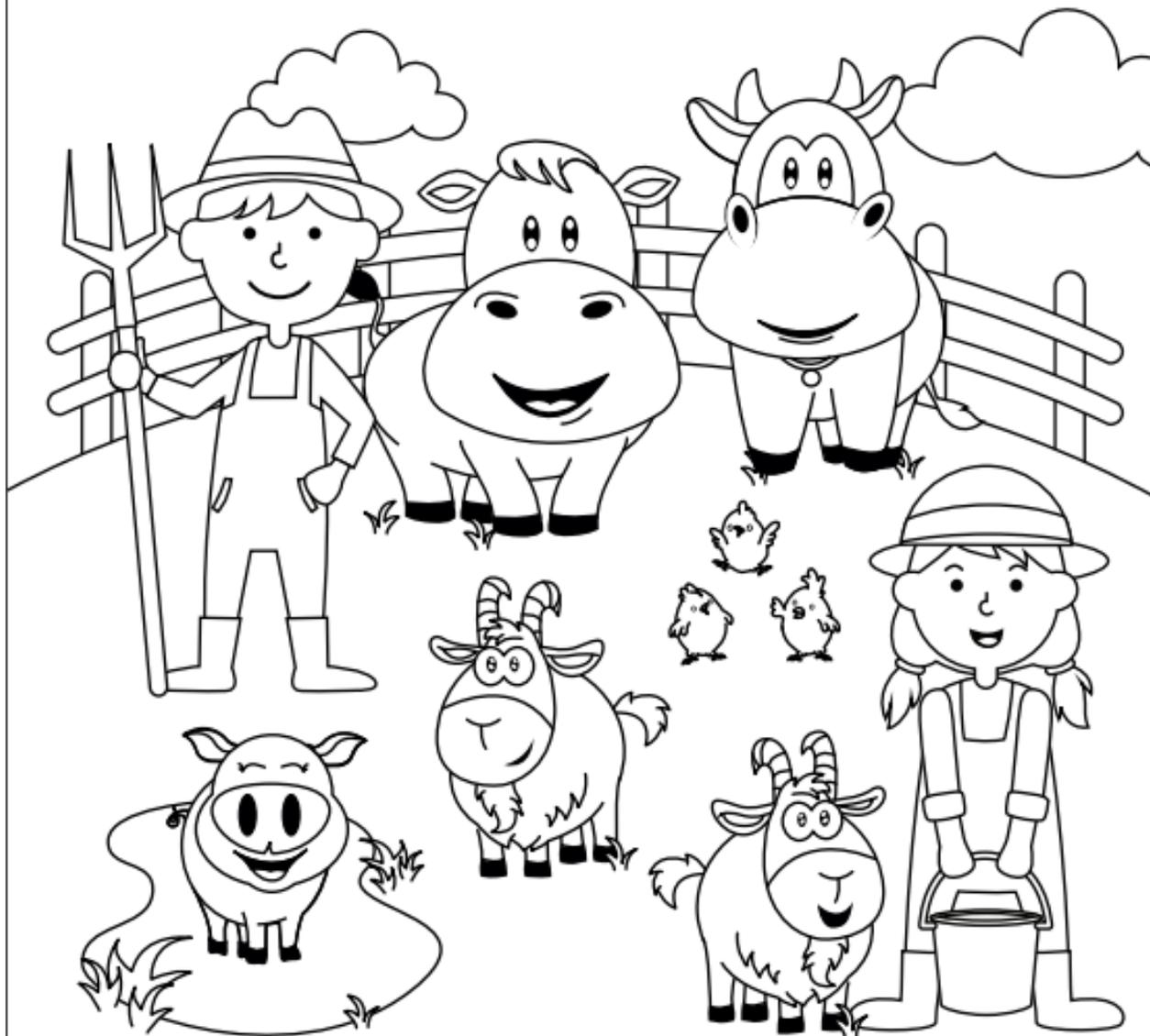
**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Given in memory of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Given in honor of** \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU!**

# GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD



Animals can be a big help to people who are hungry. Some animals lay eggs. Others provide milk. How does each animal in this picture help a family in need?



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

[ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://ELCA.org/goodgifts)