



Bethel Lutheran Church

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FRIENDS OF CHRIST ~ ALL OF OUR PEOPLE

The Rev. Zachary Wright ~ *Pastor*

Sylke Bargsten (254-394-0582) ~ *Director of Music*

Hazel Shutt (609-865-7752) ~ *Flower Coordinator*

The Rev. Bill Gohl ~ *Delaware-Maryland Synod Bishop*

***We celebrate the promise that all people are loved
and enough in Jesus Christ as we worship, learn,
and serve together.***

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2025

*In our Lutheran Tradition, liturgy reminds us that we are one in Christ, so we do it together! You are invited to respond in community with the **bold print** and stand in body or spirit when indicated by the asterisks (*).*

WELCOME

CHORAL PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

~time of silent confession~

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN: *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (ELW 308) - verses 1-4*

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.



*KYRIE & CANTICLE OF PRAISE (*Setting Four, page 147*)

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (*in unison*)

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: *Isaiah 62:1-5 (page 536)*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL READING: *Psalm 36:5-10*

⁵ Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep;**

you save humankind and animals, O Lord.

⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸ **They feast upon the abundance of your house;**

you give them drink from the river of your delights.

⁹ For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

¹⁰ **Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

SECOND LESSON: *1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (page 133)*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*
(*ELW 559*) - verses 3 & 4

*GOSPEL LESSON: *John 2:1-11 (page 71)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

~Gospel is read~

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *Jesus, Come! For We Invite You (ELW 312)*

*APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

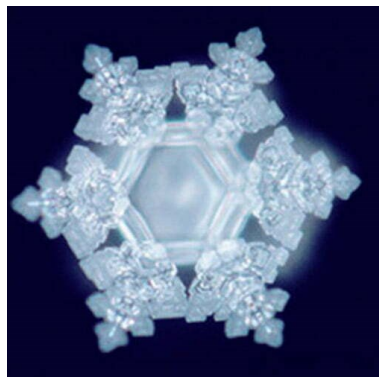
THE PEACE OF THE CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Offerings can be placed in the offering plate on the small table as you walk in the sanctuary.

*The picture to the right is of **Emoto's Water Crystal of Love**. According to Masaru Emoto's research, when water is exposed to positive words like "love," it forms beautiful, symmetrical ice crystals when frozen, while water exposed to negative words creates distorted, incomplete crystal patterns, suggesting that our thoughts and emotions can directly influence the structure of water, with "love" being a particu-*



***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (*Setting Four, page 152*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***SANCTUS** (*page 153*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION & 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

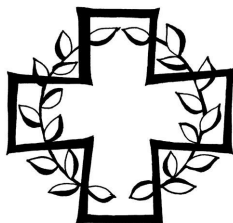
ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING HYMN:** *Now We Join in Celebration (ELW 462)*

***SENDING**

***POSTLUDE**



FLOWERS

The flowers are dedicated to the glory of God, by Cathy Heaps in memory of Christa Fabian.

SERVER SCHEDULE

	Greeter	Reader	Usher	Acolyte
1/19	Ruth Noel	Paul Markkula	Bill Matthews	Mitchell Brown
1/26	Nick Carter	Mitchell Brown	Phil Igo	Nathan Pelino

If you would like to help serve on a Sunday morning, let Pastor Zach know (pastorzach.blcne@gmail.com).

SERVICE NOTES

A **special and warm welcome** to everyone here this morning – seekers, members, and guests. We are glad you are here to join our church family for worship!

For worship, you'll need the bulletin and the cranberry-colored hymnal in the pew back in front of you. The liturgy is indicated by page number and can be found in the front half of the hymnal. The hymns are indicated by hymn number and found in the back half of the hymnal.

If you find yourself needing to leave the worship space for any reason (cough, noisy child, overstimulated, etc.), the service is being livestreamed to the television in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to worship in there and come back into the sanctuary when you're ready.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

The communion table is God's table. Jesus invites all who desire to partake of His body and blood to come forward and receive God's amazing grace in the promises of forgiveness and eternal life. At **communion distribution**, please come forward to the altar rail, filling in the space from right-to-left. Pastor Zach will hand you a wafer to eat. You may then take wine from the tray (center ring is grape juice), drink it, and dispose of your cup in the basket as you return to your seat. If you want a blessing instead, please indicate this by folding your arms across your chest.

All hymns are under Bethel's CCLI license (#11313912) and streaming license (#20849338). All rights reserved, unless otherwise indicated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Per Bethel's Constitution and Bylaws, our Annual Meeting to celebrate our ministry this past year and to dream for the future will be held on Sunday, February 2, 2025 after worship. Please plan to attend!

2025 Flower Sign-Up Sheet is up on the hallway bulletin board. Cost remains the same at \$35 for two vases. You can place a check in the offering plate with "Flowers" in the memo line.

We had a great first Bethel Kids Club on Wednesday afternoon. Want to join the fun? We need two volunteers each week to spend time with u from 1:30-3:30. Even if you can only do one day, that's fine! Sign-up on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

On the first Sunday of every month, we gather for Celebration Sunday Fellowship. Can you bring some snacks, goodies, and drinks? You can even team up with someone to sponsor a fellowship date. Sign-up on the sheet in the back.

The new church directory is on our website. It is password protected. If you wish to view it online, you can use the password: Bethel24.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

January 5	Worship—47	Offering—\$2,536
January 12	Worship—50	Offering—\$2,699

Please fill the wood food basket in the back for the St. Mary Anne's food pantry. Specific needs: **shelf-stable milk, add-water-only pancake mix, canned meat (tuna, chicken, Vienna sausages), peanut butter & jelly, and cereal** *Make sure to check those expiration dates.



You can pick up your 2025 Offering Envelopes from the pew as you leave or enter the sanctuary.

If you would like to give online, you can use the QR, which will redirect you to our giving platform.

Thank you for you for your faithfulness and generosity.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mike Beiter	Ray Weygand	Terry Fuss	Rayanne Lavery
Steve Bird	Kelly Campana	Stacy Igo	Abby Brown
Pastor Zach			

If you have a question, concern, or a new idea, make sure to tell someone!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Blue print indicates a church event.

Regular print indicates an outside community event.

Sunday, January 19th—Second Sunday after Epiphany

- 9:30am Youth Sunday School
- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service
- 11:45am Praise Team Meeting
- 1:00pm Korean Church Bible Study
- 5:00pm Haley Wedding

Monday, January 20th

- 6:30pm Pastor Tom Bible Study
- 7:00pm Sisters of Serenity NA Group

Tuesday, January 21st

- 6:30pm North East AA Group

Wednesday, January 22nd

- 10:30am Korean Church Bible Study
- 1:30pm Bethel Kids Club

Thursday, January 23rd

- 9:00am Men's Bible Study
- 12:00pm Children's Sermon (via Facebook, YouTube, and Beacon)
- 12:30pm Choir Rehearsal
- 4:00pm Nicanor
- 6:30pm Women's AA Group

Friday, January 24th

Saturday, January 25th

Sunday, January 26th—Third Sunday after Epiphany

- 9:30am Youth Sunday School
- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service
- 1:00pm Korean Church Bible Study
- 5:00pm Youtherans Gathering (St. Paul's, Newark)