



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15TH, 2024

8:30 & 10:45 AM

+ indicates to stand in body or spirit;
bold print indicates congregational responses

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE “*An Advent Meditation*” arr. David Lasky

WORDS OF WELCOME

+ ADVENT CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. **Amen.**

As we wait and watch, let us prepare our hearts for Messiah
by confessing our sin in the presence of God and one another.

A brief silence is held.

Emmanuel, God who was, is, and will come to us,
We confess that we have failed, in many ways, to prepare the way of the Lord.

You come to bring us your hope,
But we trust in our own might, wealth, and privilege.

You come to bring us your love,
But we restrict and condition how far our love will reach.

You come to bring us your joy,
**But we grumble and criticize how everything is wrong,
without offering optimism for the future.**

You come to bring us your peace,
**But we point fingers, throw fists, and fire bullets and missiles to right wrongs
and bring our own idea of justice.**

In your compassion forgive our sin,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone.
Prepare us for your coming
and be born anew in our hearts,
that we may better live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God,
Emmanuel is constantly being reborn in our hearts and in this world,
bringing God's forgiveness of sin again and again.
By that grace you have been saved.
In the name of ✝ the coming Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may be born in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

+ KYRIE

In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



HYMN “*What Child is This*” ELW #296 stanza 1

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Scene 2: Jordan & Neighbor

“*Go Tell It on the Mountain*” Sung by the cast

Scene 3: Luke, Lead Shepherd, Shepherds, Sheep, Angels

ANTHEM “*Bethlehem is Calling*” Ruth Kenward Grades K-5

HYMN “*Love Has Come*” ELW #292 stanzas 1 & 2

- 1 Love has come—a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.
- 2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

Scene 4: Jordan, Matthew, Lead Wise Man, Wise Men

“*Twinkle, Twinkle, Christmas Star*” 3-year-olds to grade 1

ANTHEM “*There’s a Star in the Sky*” Judy Lownd Sung by the cast

Scene 5: Jordan & Innkeeper

“*Away in a Manger*” 3-year-olds to Grade 1

Scene 6: Jordan, Mary, Joseph, Sheep

OFFERING

We give thanks for the good news of Jesus as shared by our children, and for all God has done and is doing for and through this congregation. Use this QR code for a one-time gift or to schedule an automatic donation through Simply Giving. Online giving cards (in the back of hymnal), checks or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.



HYMN *Go Tell It on the Mountain*” ELW #290 First Refrain sung by the cast

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

- 1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*
- 2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*
- 3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

+ OFFERTORY

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life.

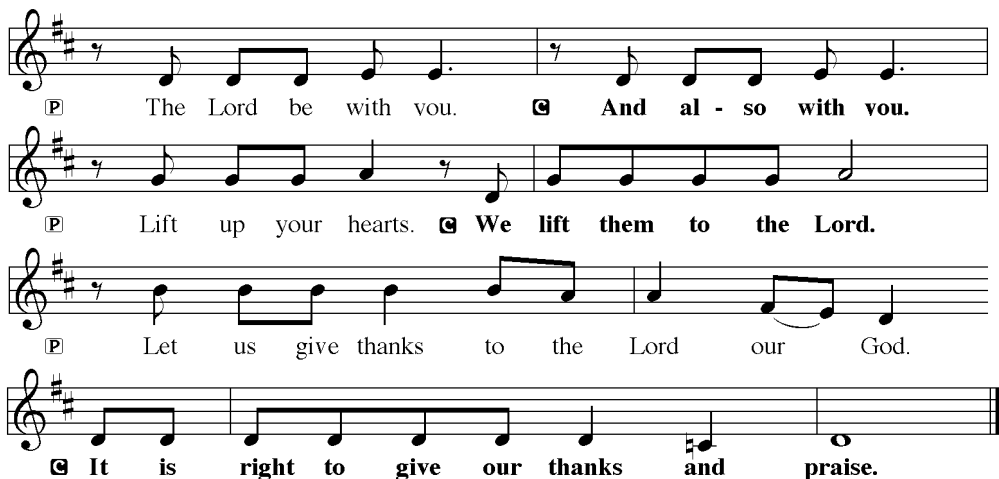


Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

✠ MEAL ✠

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al-so with you.
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

God of mysterious ways, you provide this meal so that we might know you are still with us.
Your love sustains and transforms us.

The Words of Institution

Pour out your Spirit on your church and fill us anew with joy in your grace and truth. **Amen.**

+ 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

+ EL PADRE NUESTRO

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre;
venga a nos tu reino;
hágase tu voluntad,
así en la tierra como en el cielo;
el pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy;
y perdónanos nuestras deudas
así como nosotros perdonamos
a nuestros deudores;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentación;
mas líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION ANTHEM "What Child is This" arr. Robert A. Hobby

+ TABLE BLESSING

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

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

+ BENEDICTION

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light,
God our hope for the journey, ✠ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN *“Joy to the World”* ELW #267

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE *“Joy to the World”* arr. Zach Unke

Join the cast and crew of our Children’s Christmas program in the CLC for a reception between services. There will be cake to celebrate our Savior’s birthday! Merry Christmas!

CAST LIST (8:30)

Jordan Abrams - Lucy Santerre

Luke - Violet Christensen

Matthew - Adam Johnson

Mary - Eden Pazos

Joseph - Odin Norvold

Gabriel - Keely Hendershot

Elizabeth - Berit Dee

Neighbor - Suzy Haefner

Innkeeper - Deilianna Shoup

Lead Shepherd - Owen Johnson

Lead Wise Man - Norah Powell

Wise Men: Parker Danielson, Sawyer Danielson

Shepherds: Jackson Ellerbush, Cooper Spitzack, Grady Spitzack, Cora Schwartz,
Henry Schroeder, Rosie Christensen, Maggie Yackel, Emmy Regan

Angels: Estella Engle, Kinsley Ellerbusch, Auggie Lencioni, Veda Schroeder,
Vivian Danielson, Britta Matson

Sheep: Ceircina Shoup, Jack Christensen, Elise Matson

CAST LIST (10:45)

Jordan Abrams - Magdalene Bateza

Luke - Olive Perryman

Matthew - Greta Porath

Mary - Ruthie Perryman

Joseph - Karsten Korynta

Gabriel - Zoey Reddy

Elizabeth - Anna Porath

Neighbor - Kenzie Bastyr

Innkeeper - Jaxson Reddy

Lead Shepherd - Ingrid Jorgensen

Lead Wise Man - Heath Headrick

Wise Men: Addison Blumhoefer, Kohlton Bastyr

Shepherds: Xavier Jenkinson, Jackson Kruchten, Zachary Sauber, Johanna Schori,
Quinn Hemmingsen, Grace Thompson, Ollie Eliason, Teddy Hoskins

Angels: Isla Schori, Edith Eastman, Caroline Blumhoefer,
Rae Rae Rosas, Anika Sauber, Clara Thompson

Sheep: Hattie Martinez, Alex Kruchten, Jack Porath, Owen Thompson, Josie Hoskins

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori

Assisting Ministers: (8:30) Marci Groenewold (10:45) Knight Stanley

Ushers: (8:30) Dale Turnacliff, Larry Narhi, Craig Grunzke, and Harley Foster
(10:45) Michael & Nancy Sparby, and Chad Jenkinson

Sacramental Ministers: (8:30) Colleen Vitek, Rose Turnacliff, Phil Ruud, Wayne Kivell, and Judy Code
(10:45) Kirsten Scott

Altar Care Setup: Linda Zolnosky Altar Care Cleanup: Ruth Hoekstra

Director of Grace Notes: Jill Mahr

Keyboards: Megan Engel

A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Hoekstra, Brent Kivell

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our Confession & Forgiveness was crafted by Pastor Ben Schori.

Our prayer of the day is an adaptation of the ELW collect for the Third Sunday of Advent by Gregory Walter.

The Eucharistic prayer is cobbled from Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher’s
Eucharistic Prayers © 2016 William B. EerdMans Publishing Company

We are using Dan Kallman’s *Light of Christ* liturgy
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SUNDAY ATTENDANCE & FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

December 8th	in person attendance
8:30	219
10:45	101
Total	320

2024 Financial Status
(YTD as of end of Nov)

Revenue	\$ 846,508
Expenses	\$ 869,128
Net Deficit	\$ 22,620

Offering—General Operating Budget	2024 Budget monthly goal: \$80,771
Plate Offering Dec 1st & Dec 8th	\$19,252
December 7th online giving	\$13,408
December 14th online giving	
Plate Offering Dec 15th & Dec 22nd	
December 21st online giving	
Plate Offering Dec 24th & 25th	
December 28th online giving	
Plate Offering Dec 29th	
Current Total	\$32,660

As you consider your year-end charitable contributions, we hope that Bethel will be at the top of your list. Your contributions directly support the various ministries and liturgical life of our congregation.

*A reminder that all **2024 contributions** must be postmarked by December 31, 2024, received in the offering on December 29th or received at the church office prior to December 31, 2024. Any donations post-marked or received January 1, 2025 or thereafter will be considered 2025 donations. Thank you for your continued generosity to Bethel!*

TODAY!

- A staffed nursery for little ones is available during and between worship services.
- 9:45—10:30 am Coffee Fellowship (CLC) and Faith Formation opportunities:
 Sunday School (various classrooms) Youth Sabbath (Youth Room)
 Bible Deep Dive (Fireside Room) Bethel presents... (sanctuary)
- Kids' worship is offered during the 10:45 am worship service (*children grades K-5 are invited to go with Brenda after the Children's Message and will rejoin parents prior to communion.*)

LOOKING AHEAD...



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

3:00 PM

&

4:30 PM (LIVESTREAM)

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP




WITH HOLY COMMUNION

6:00 PM

THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 9 AM - 3 PM





MONDAY

- 12:00 pm  Bible Study @ the Vault (1520 Clinton Lane) with Pastor Inger
- 6:30 pm  Resonance Adult Bell Choir
- 7:00 pm  Sing Boldly! Christmas Carols & Advent Anthems @ the Contented Cow

TUESDAY

- 9:45 am  Staff Meeting (Fireside Room)
- 1:00 pm  Lydia Circle
- 6:30 pm Church Council

WEDNESDAY

- 3:30 pm Limitless
- 4:00 pm Advent Peace and Healing Service (Blue Christmas) St. Peter's Lutheran Homes for God's Children
- 4:30 pm Homes for God's Children
- 4:30 pm Caroling & Cocoa @ the Benedictine (Youth & Adults)
- 4:45 pm  Caroling & Cocoa @ the NRC (Limitless children & chaperones)
- 5:45 pm  Bistro
- 6:15 pm Ring Forth Youth Bell Choir
- 6:30 pm  Advent Evening Prayer
- 7:00 pm  6th Grade Connections // Confirmation for 7th—9th grade // Hangtime Church Choir
- 8:05 pm Brio Youth Bell Choir

THURSDAY

- 8:30 am MoB (Men of Bethel) (Room 62)
- 9:30 am FaB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)

FRIDAY

- 9:30 am  WoW (Women of the Word) *via zoom*

NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day will be **Luke 1:26-49 [47-56]** (Psalm 113).



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