



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Isaiah: A Child is Born

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 16TH, 2025

8:15 AM & 10:30 AM

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

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE “*Christ, Be Our Light*” arr. Mark Hayes

WORDS OF WELCOME

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of the prophets, we confess that we have **demonized anger,**
confining it to an interior prison
instead of granting it time and space to be free,
just like any other piece of our selfhood.

We have not acted in defense of those who’ve needed it.
We have let fear of how we might be perceived keep us
from the truth-telling that others are worthy of,
that we are worthy of.

We have ignored anger in our bodies,
disguising it with whichever mask feels good to us.

We have valued the comfort of the wounder
over the dignity of the wounded.

Have mercy on us for all that suppression has stolen from us.
Forgive us our emotional numbness,
and grant us access to safe rage, collective rage,
a rage that liberates. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, we are made alive together with Christ.
In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
By grace you have been saved, and your anger is a gift—

not an enemy, but a guardian against apathy and injustice.
 Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
 that the Christ who flipped the tables of greed and exclusion
 may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

+ **GATHERING HYMN** *"Sing the World God Imagines"*

Verses



1. Can you im - ag - ine a world filled with peace,___ where
 2. Can we en - vi - sion a plan - et that thrives,___ where
 3. Can we em- bod - y God's love on this earth,___ by



bro - ken are mend - ed and cap - tives re - leased,___ where
 all of crea - a - tion is ful - ly a - live,___ where
 serv - ing our neigh - bor, up - hold - ing their worth,___ by



jus - tice re - plac - es op - pres - sion and greed___ and
 crea - ture and cli - mate are tend - ed with care___ and
 find - ing God's im - age in each one re - vealed?_ With

Refrain



all have what they need?___ Let us
 ac - tion grows from prayer.___
 love, this world is healed.___



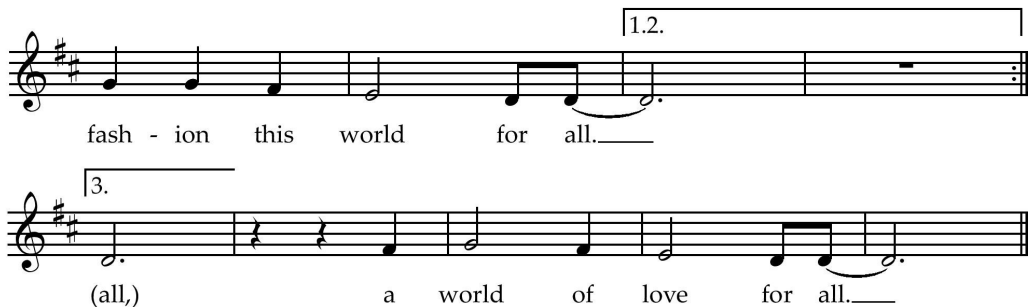
sing the world_ God im - ag - ines, lift this



dream as bea - con and call. May



we, by Love___ im - pas - sioned,



+ 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.**

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

God who breaks the yoke and rod, so much can be muddled in this world, but through
Christ you shine your light and increase joy, and we are grateful for your brilliance.
Fill us with your zeal and light the path to justice and peace. Amen.

✂ WORD ✂

+ SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION "O God of Light, May Our Light Shine" SOG #17

*The first stanza is sung before the reading of the gospel.
After the reading, the second stanza is sung.*



+ HOLY GOSPEL *JOHN 8:12*

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

¹² Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

READING *ISALAH 9:1-7*

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Great will be his authority,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY *“Drawn to the Light”* ELW #593

+ 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

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING



Guests

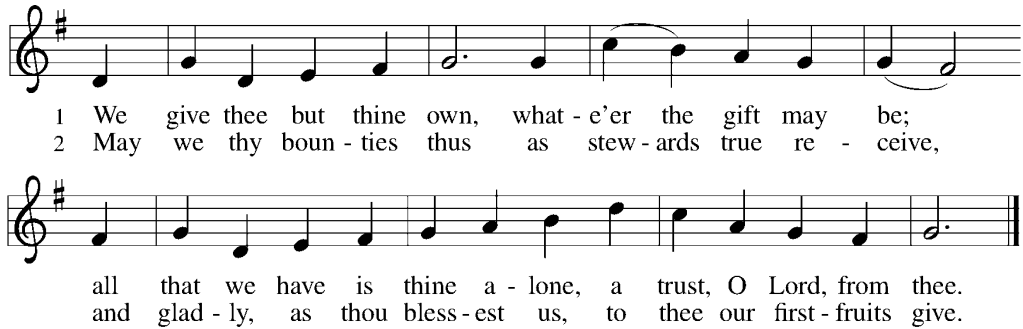
Generosity is part of who we are as God’s people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel’s trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated donation. Online giving cards (at the name tag stations), checks, or cash may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed.



Members

ANTHEM (8:15) *“I Am the Light”* Ralph Johnson
(10:30) *“This is the Day”* Nancy Rawlins

+ **OFFERTORY** “*We Give Thee but Thine Own*” ELW #686 stanzas 1 & 2



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
 all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

✠ **MEAL** ✠

+ **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

+ **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

We are mindful that true thanks and praise is to establish justice in the gate and let goodness flow. Even as we fear the tramping warriors and see all too often garments rolled in blood, we trust that you, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, will once again show us the way.

The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución

You are present in, with and under this bread and wine and through these means of grace, you abide in us and weave us into your plans. Help us seek the welfare of all, and strengthen and sustain us for a future with hope, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

+ **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;

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.

y no nos dejes caer en la tentación;
mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

HOLY COMMUNION HYMN *"Creator of the Stars of Night"* ELW #245

+ TABLE BLESSING

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

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of paradise. Through these gifts, strengthen us to be your body in the world, to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

+ BENEDICTION

God all mighty, God most merciful,
✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

+ SENDING HYMN “*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*” ELW #242

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE “*VI. Intermezzo from Kleine Präludien und Intermezzi, Werk 9*” Hermann Schroeder

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori

Acolytes: (8:15) (10:30) Grace Thompson

Assisting Minister: (8:15) Janice Lehmkuhl (10:30) Christina Schwietz

Ushers: (8:15) Greg Bussler, Bruce Dueffert, Harley Foster, Dale Turnacliff
(10:30) Nancy Sparby, Michael Sparby

Readers: (8:15) Janice Lehmkuhl (10:30) Darlene Broughton

Sacramental Ministers: (8:15) Clark Cary, Judy Code, Yvonne Roesel, Rosemarie Lewis, Phil Ruud
(10:30) Darlene Broughton

Altar Care: (set) and (clean) Linda Zolnosky (cups) Mary Loven

Church Choir Director: Peter Schleif

Singing Shenanigans: Abby Atzinger

Keyboards: Megan Engel

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



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