



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Daniel: Fiery Furnace

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30TH, 2025

8:15 & 10:30 AM

+ indicates to stand in body or spirit;

***bold print** indicates congregational responses*

✠ GATHERING ✠

PRELUDE “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. Anne Krentz Organ

WORDS OF WELCOME

+ INVOCATION

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

+ LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light the candles
one at a time, burning
like old prophecies
that refuse to go quietly
into long nights still stretching.
Hope has something to say.

+ 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.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



+ 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

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Like those in Babylon, we are asked to bow to powers other than you. Strengthen us to resist conditioned responses. Give us resolve to serve only you even in the face of the fiery furnaces of today. When we feel the heat, help us trust you to walk with and rescue us. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

+ SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ELW #254

The first stanza is sung before the reading of the Gospel.

After the reading, the second stanza is sung.



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv-er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer-it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

+ HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 18:36-37

A reading from the gospel of John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” ³⁷ Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?”

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

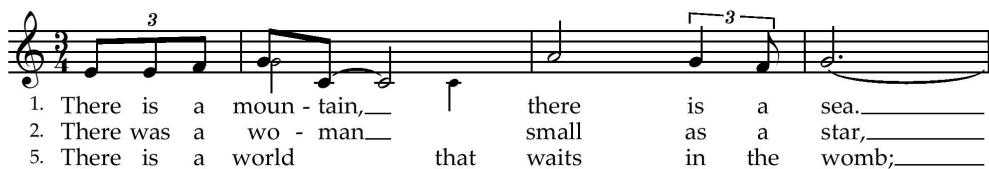
READING DANIEL 3:1-30

The assembly is guided through a special participatory reading of the story of the fiery furnace.

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

HOMILY

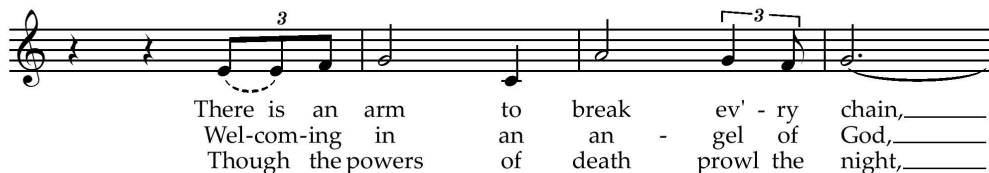
+ HYMN OF THE DAY "I Am for You" Gather #794 stanzas 1, 2, & 5



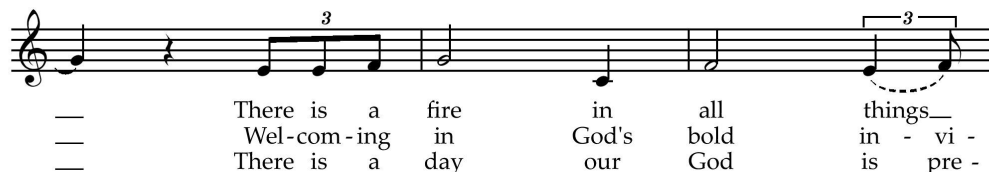
1. There is a moun - tain, there is a sea.
 2. There was a wo - man small as a star,
 5. There is a world that waits in the womb;



— There is a wind with - in all breath-ing,
 — Full of the pa - tient dreams of her na - tion,
 — There is a hope un - born God is bear - ing,



There is an arm to break ev' - ry chain,
 Wel-com-ing in an an - gel of God,
 Though the powers of death prowl the night,



— There is a fire in all things
 — Wel-com-ing in God's bold in - vi -
 — There is a day our God is pre -



liv - ing. There is a voice that speaks from the
 ta - tion. "Let it be done," she sang, "un - to
 par - ing. Sing 'round the fire to wa - ken the



flame: "I am for you, I am for
 me. I am for you, I am for
 dawn: I am for you, I am for



you, I am for you is my name."
 you, I am for you: let it be."
 you, I am for you: We are one."

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 *"What Child is This?"* arr. David W. Moore

+ 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

Humble Lord, you surrendered the riches of heaven's palace
for the poverty of Bethlehem's manger.

As we offer you our gifts in thanksgiving for your gift,
make us imitators of you in generosity and love,
for the sake of the world you love so much, and for your Father's glory. Amen.

✠ MEAL ✠

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you. **G** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **G** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

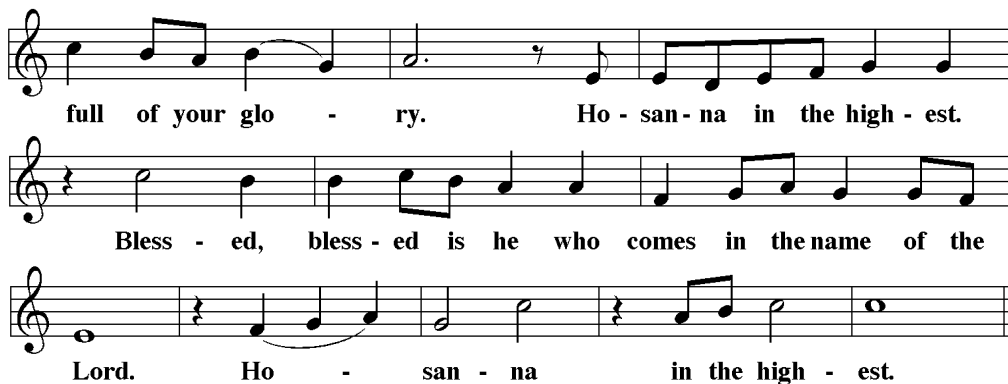
G It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

G Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are



Living God, through this meal strengthen us to be fearless in the face of flames. Vivify our bones. Help us hold fast to how your Word made flesh comes to our deliverance.

The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución

Pour out your Spirit on your church that we might live and be your light shining today for all the people of this needy world. **Amen.**

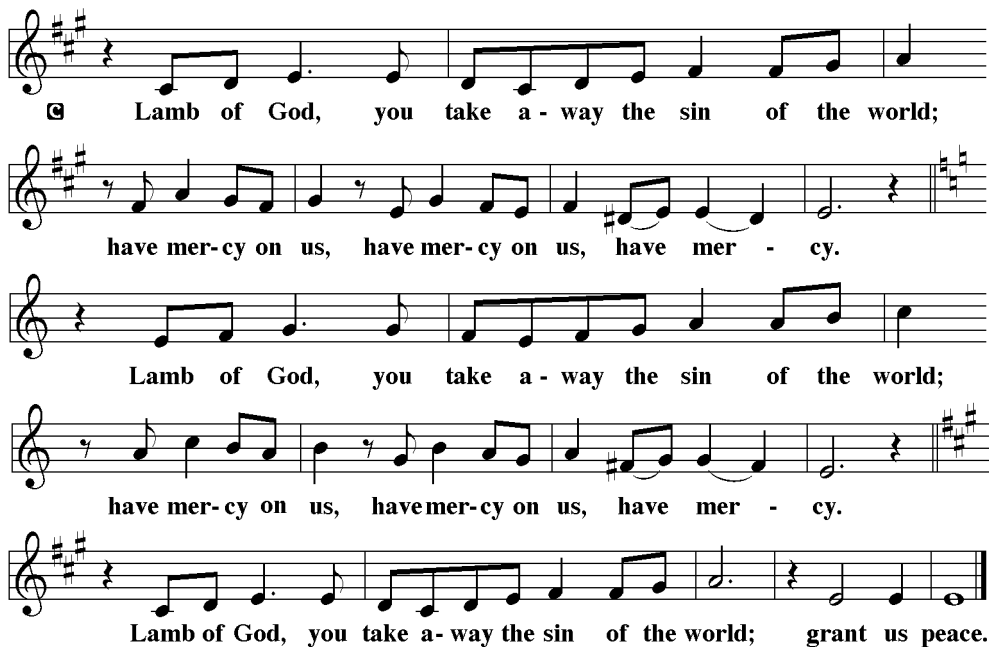
+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

+ PADRE NUESTRO

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
 santificado sea tu nombre.
 Venga tu reino.
 Hágase tu voluntad
 en la tierra como en el cielo.
 Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
 Perdona nuestras ofensas
 como también nosotros
 perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
 No nos dejes caer en tentación
 y líbranos del mal.
 Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es
 el poder y tuya es la gloria,
 ahora y siempre. 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 HYMN "My Lord, What a Morning" ELW #438

+ TABLE BLESSING

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

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, the one who is, who was and who is to come.

At this table you fill us with good things. May these gifts strengthen us to share with the hungry and all those in need, as we wait and watch for your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 “*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*” ELW #244

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE “*People, Look East*” arr. Adrian Mann

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori
Acolytes: (8:15) Connor Dahl (10:30)
Assisting Ministers: (8:15) Anton Armstrong (10:30) Ellen Haefner
Ushers: (8:15) Dale Turnacliff, Harley Foster, Bruce Dueffert, Charlie Dahl
(10:30) Lucy Santerre, Cora Santerre
Readers: (8:15) Anton Armstrong (10:30) Elizabeth McCormick
Sacramental Ministers: (8:15) Rose Turnacliff, Yvonne Roesel, Marci Groenewold, Carol Cole, Judy Code
(10:30) Elizabeth McCormick
Altar Care: (set) and (clean) Lois Cary ,(cups) Michelle Vosejpka and Dwayne Vosejpka
Recorder & Trumpet: Gerry Hoekstra
Keyboards: Megan Engel
A/V Technicians: Sam Dwyer, Asher Engle, Nathan Broughton, Nathan Hoekstra

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our prayer for lighting of the Advent Wreath was written by Meta Herrick Carlson
for “*The Way of the Manger: An Advent Liturgy*”. © 2023 Rev. Meta Herrick Carlson.

Our prayer of the day and the Eucharist Prayer was written for this, drawing from this year’s Narrative Lectionary
Advent texts by Rev. Inger Hanson.

“*I Am for You*” Text and Music by Rory Cooney, b. 1952. © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.

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**Bethel's 17th annual ALTERNATIVE GIVING FAIR
is underway in the church narthex
today, December 7 and 14!**

If you haven't already, challenge yourself to a different way of giving this year—**alternative giving**.

Instead of the latest technological gadget or another holiday sweater,
honor your loved ones with a gift that helps those in desperate need around the world.

An Alternative Giving Fair booklet and shopping list giving form, designed especially for Bethel,
is available to help you “shop” amongst a variety of organizations through which you can give
tax deductible donations such as medicine, books, clean water, and food
to those around the world who need it desperately.

The ever-popular fair-trade Divine Chocolate from Ghana is also be available for purchase.

Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity
to make a difference in the world and the lives of others.

“Be the change you want to see in the world.” –Mahatma Gandhi



SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

November 23	in person attendance
9:00 am	268

NEXT SUNDAY...

The text of the day will be
Ezekiel 37:1-14 with John 11:25-26



Christmas Poinsettia Orders

Honor a loved one by helping beautify
our sanctuary for Christmas!

Order forms are available in the Narthex. Orders are due December 9.

Christmas Cards

This year, help Bethel share love and joy with the residents of our local care facilities by writing a holiday card.

This year, we hope to provide more than 610 cards so that every resident receives a Christmas greeting. Free cards are available just outside the CLC. Personalize the card by adding a phrase or two, sign your first name or "a friend," and then return it to the "mailbox" on the counter. Your cards will be delivered to the care homes about 10 days before Christmas. Thank you!

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

**6:30 pm Wednesdays in Advent
(December 3, 10 and 17)**

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

**Sunday, December 14
8:15 and 10:30 am**

TODAY!

- A staffed nursery for little ones is available during and between worship services.
- 9:30—10:15 am Coffee Fellowship (CLC) and Faith Formation opportunities:

Kids' Fellowship (sanctuary—Christmas program rehearsal)

Bethel presents... (East Pod—see below!)

Preaching! Passions & Preparations - Reflections from Pastor Inger & Pastor Ben

What does it mean to preach the good news? Join us in the East Pod (taking advantage of our technology updates!) to learn more about what your pastors hope will happen through a sermon, and how they each prepare. Perhaps you will find your ears opening in a new way!

- **Sunday School** is offered during the 10:30 am worship service (*children grades K-5 are invited to go with Kristi after the special reading and will rejoin families prior to communion.*)

THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY 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

TUESDAY

9:00 am



Quilting

9:45 am

Staff Meeting (Fireside Room)

2:00 pm

Grief Support Group

5:00 pm

Personnel

7:00 pm

Endowment

WEDNESDAY

3:30 pm

Limitless

5:30 pm



Bistro

6:15 pm

Ring Forth Youth Bell Choir

6:30 pm



Advent Evening Prayer

7:00 pm

Church Choir Rehearsal



Confirmation for 7th—9th grades

Hangtime

8:05 pm



Brio Youth Bell Choir

THURSDAY

8:30 am

Men of Bethel (Room 54)

9:30 am

FAB (Faith & Books) (Youth Room)

10:45 am



OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans) (Classroom 61 A & B)

2:00 pm

Monthly Movie— “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” (Youth Room)

7:00 pm

Vision Seekers @ Tanzenwald Brewing Co. (103 Water Street)

FRIDAY

9:30 am



WoW (Women of the Word) (via Zoom)



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