

Bethel Lutheran Church

Faith as a Way of Life

First Sunday of Advent

November 29th, 2026

8:30 am & 10:30 am

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

✠ Gathering ✠

Prelude *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* arr. Chris de Silva

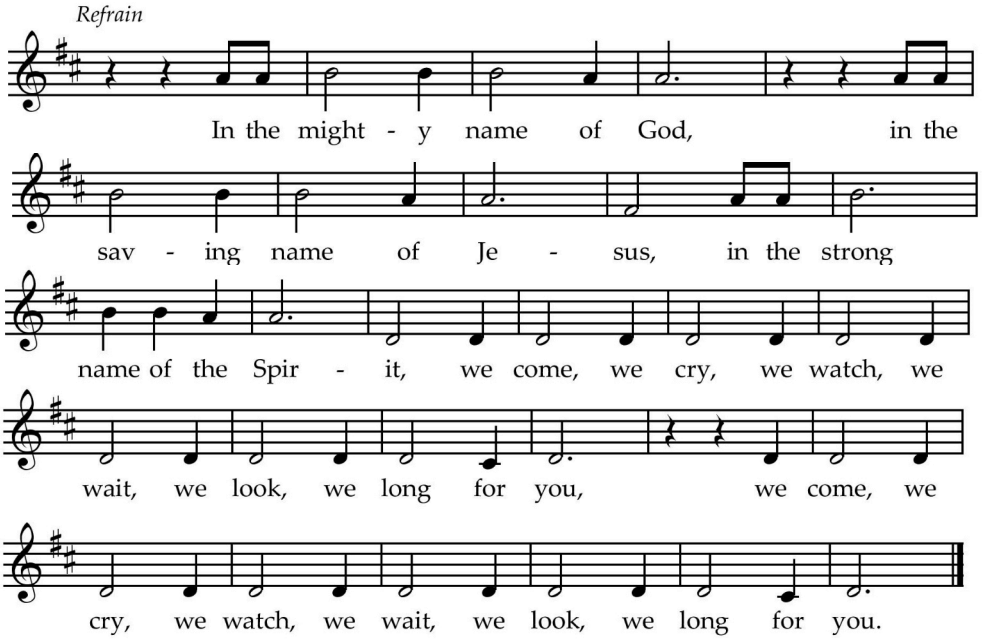
Words of Welcome

+ Invocation

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

+ Lighting of the Advent Wreath *"We Come"* VT #225

1st Candle: We light a candle for hope, hope that you yourself will come again
barren and cold, but for the bold *(to refrain)*



+ 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.**

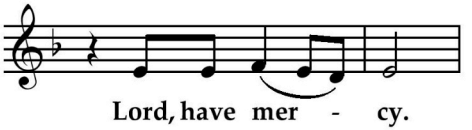
+ Kyrie

In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** *(sung)*

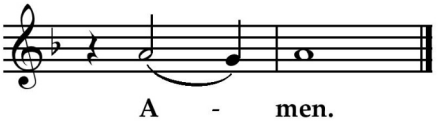
...and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** *(sung)*

...and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** *(sung)*

...their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.** *(sung)*



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



+ Prayer of the Day

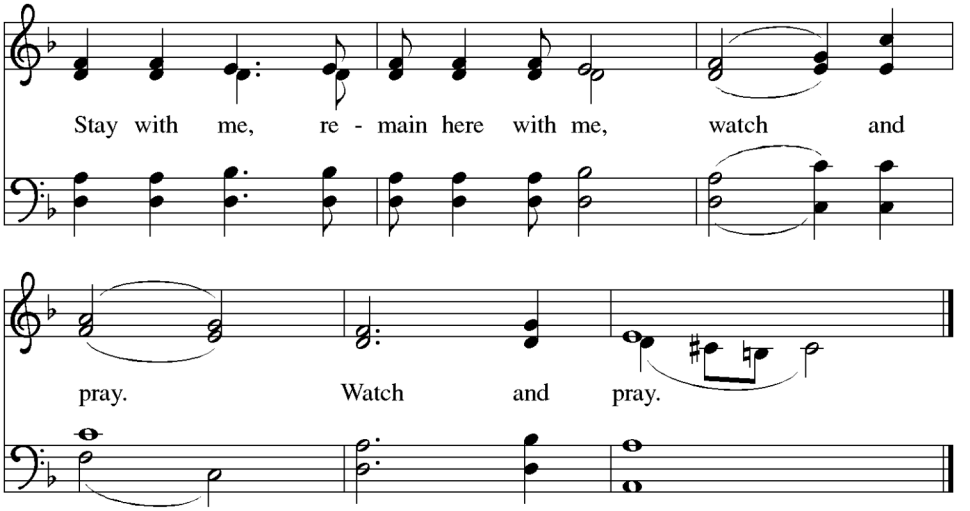
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. Be our strength in distressing times. Like the prophets, we know destruction and violence, strife and contention all too well. Help us hold to your vision until the coming of your appointed time, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

At this time, children age 3 to grade 5 are invited to go to Sunday School.
They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

✠ Word ✠

Scripture Acclamation *"Stay With Me"* ELW #348

We will sing the ostinato twice before the reading and twice after the reading.



+ Holy Gospel *Matthew 26:36-38*

The gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

36 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his
disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." 37 He took with him Peter and the
two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. 38 Then he said to them,
"My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me."

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

Reading *Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; 3:2, 17-19*

A reading from Habakkuk.

1 The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

2 O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?

[3] Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.
[4] So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

…

[1] I will stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.
[2] Then the LORD answered me and said:
Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.
[3] For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end and does not lie.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.
[4] Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

…

[2] O Lord, I have heard of your renown,
and I stand in awe, O Lord, of your work.
In our own time revive it;
in our own time make it known;
in wrath may you remember mercy.

…

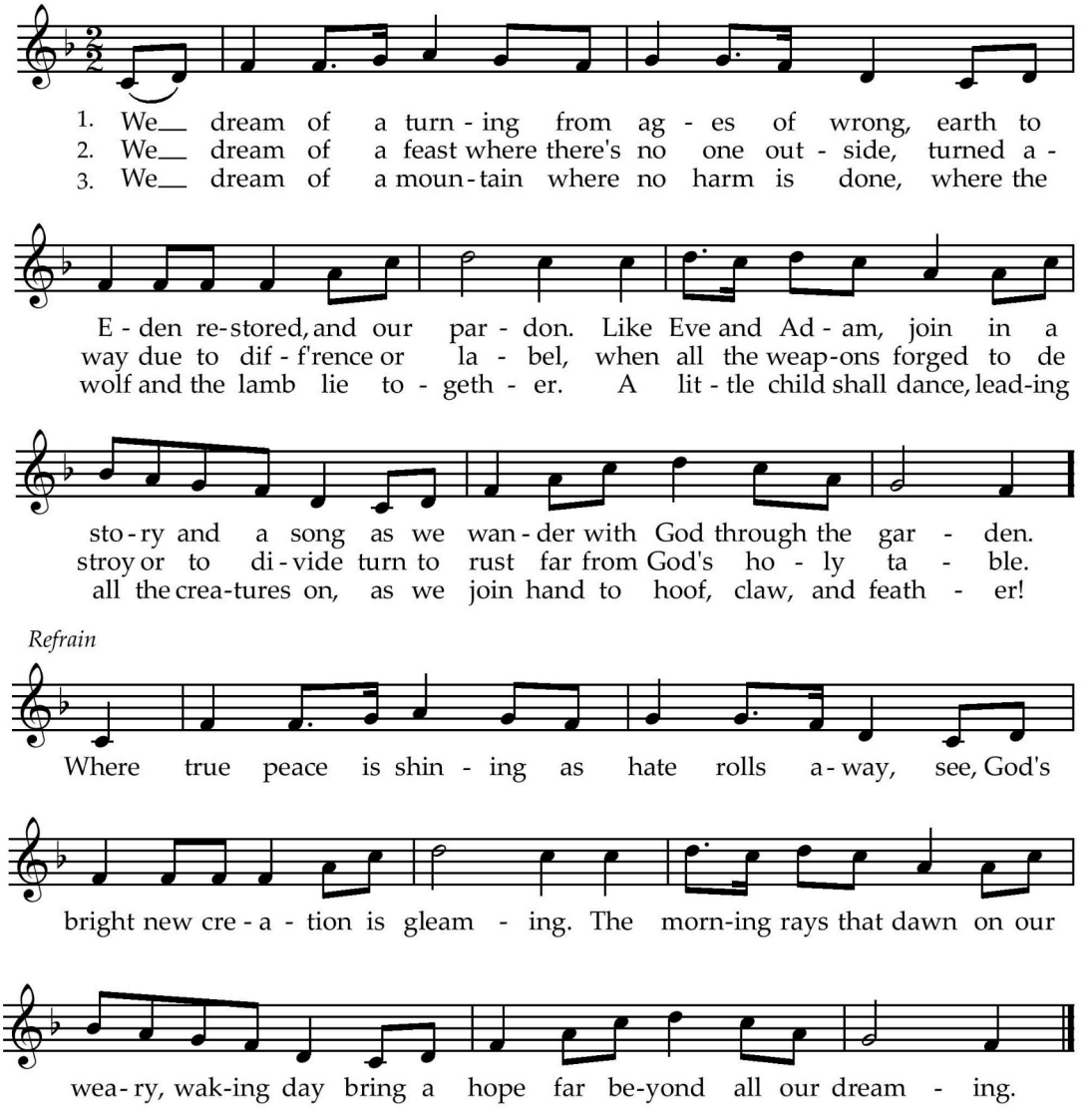
[17] Though the fig tree does not blossom
and no fruit is on the vines;
though the produce of the olive fails
and the fields yield no food;
though the flock is cut off from the fold
and there is no herd in the stalls,
[18] yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will exult in the God of my salvation.

[19] God, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer
and makes me tread upon the heights.

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

HOMILY

+ HYMN OF THE DAY *"We Dream of a Turning"* VT #209



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

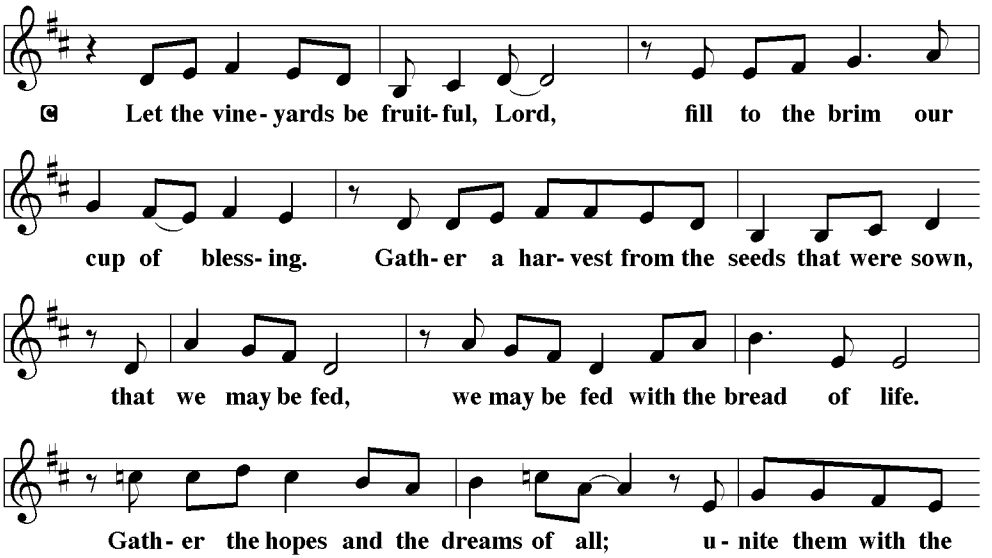
Guests

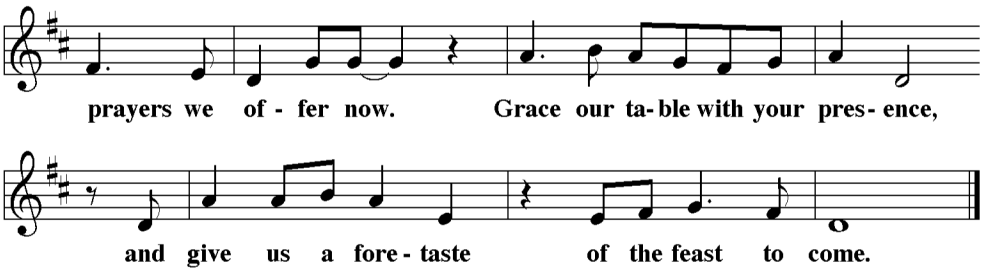
Generosity is part of who we are as God's people. Guests can use their QR code to give via Breeze, Bethel's trusted online giving platform. Select "Member Faith Giving" to give to the general budget. Members can use their QR code to sign into Breeze to give a one-time gift or to schedule an automated 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 *"To the World - Joy!"* arr. Brian Childers

+ Offertory *"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"*



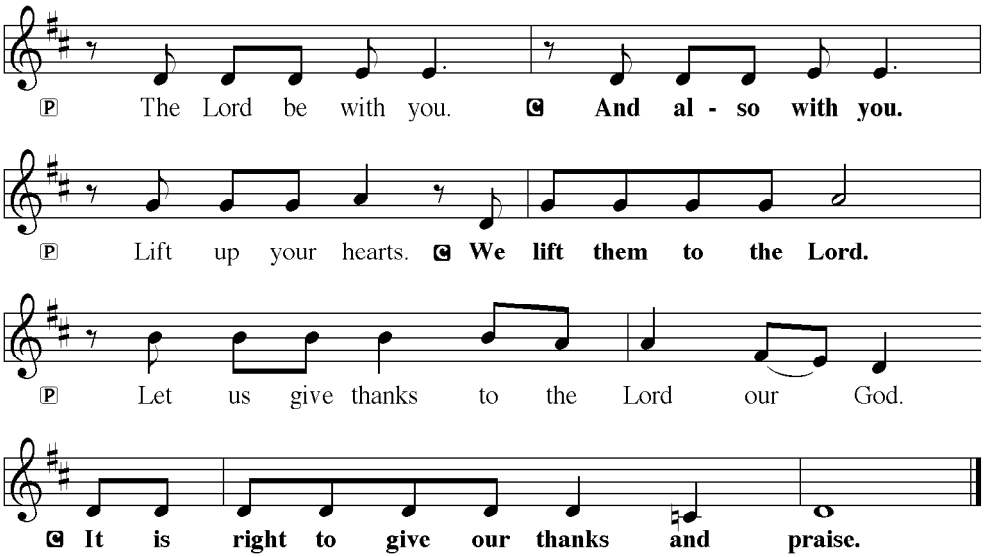


+ Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ Meal ✠

+ Great Thanksgiving



+ 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, because you, O God, bring light from darkness and life from death.

We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us.
We thank you for the new world to come
and for the love that will rule all in all.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, who came into the world to fulfill for us
your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

The Words of Institution / Las Palabras de la Institución

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us, and may your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

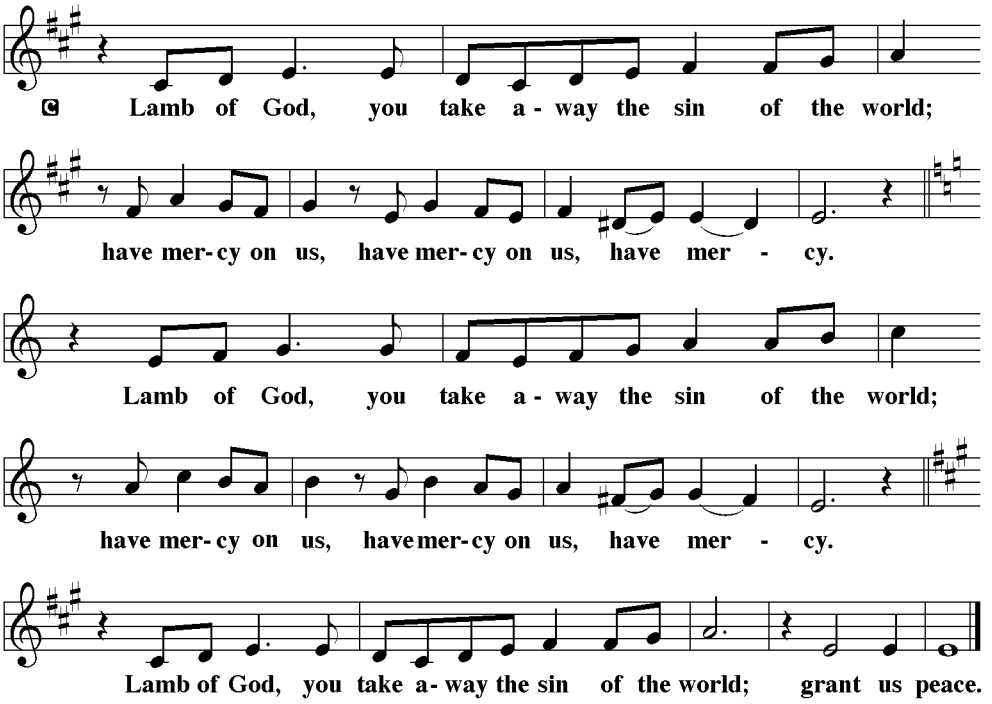
+ The Lord's Prayer

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



Holy Communion Hymn *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"* ELW #490

+ Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **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** *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* ELW #257 stanzas 1-3, 7

+ Dismissal

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

Postlude *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* arr. Craig Phillips

Worship Leaders

Pastor Inger Hanson & Pastor Ben Schori
Assisting Minister: (8:30) Anton Armstrong (10:30) Rebecca Nystuen

Acknowledgments

"We Come", Text: verses by Jim Croegaert (with modifications by Rev. Inger Hanson), Refrain by David Adam. Music: Jim Croegaert. ©1997 Rough Stones Music.

The Prayer of the Day was cobbled from ELW Advent 1 prayers and the text of the day by Rev. Inger Hanson.

"We Dream of a Turning" Text: Adam M. L. Tice, © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.
Music: Scottich traditional; arr. Kathryn Harsha, © 2019 Kathryn Harsha.

We are using Dan Kallman's *Light of Christ* liturgy, including the Offertory Prayer. Reprinted from *With One Voice*, copyright © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

The Eucharistic Prayer blends the Eucharistic Prayer II in *With One Voice* and Eucharistic Prayer IV in the ELW.

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Bethel Staff

Inger Hanson, *Senior Pastor* she/her
Ben Schori, *Associate Pastor* he/him
Phil Ruud, *Visitation Pastor* he/him

Megan (Mee-gan) Engel, *Director of Music & Worship* she/her
Peter Schleif, *Church Choir Director* he/him
Jill Mahr, *Youth Handbell Director* she/her
Cindy Carlson, *Resonance Bell Director* she/her
Ian Schleif, *Director of Children's Choirs* he/him

Megan Shoup, *Director of CYF* she/her
Juley Jenkinson, *Nursery Coordinator* she/her

Kate Dreier, *Office Manager* she/her
Caroline Smith, *Financial Assistant* she/her

Marv Farmer, *Custodian* he/him
Blair Fowler, *Building Manager* he/him

Sam Dwyer, *Audio/Visual Manager* he/him

Audio/Visual Technicians
Asher Engle he/him
Nathan Hoekstra he/him
Nathan Broughton he/him

Bethel's 18th annual Alternative Giving is underway in the church narthex today, December 6 and 13!

Challenge yourself to **alternative giving** this year!
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.

A shopping list, 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.
This year we even have olive oil sourced from Palestine 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

Holden Evening Prayer

6:30 pm Wednesdays in Advent
(December 2, 9, 16, and 23)

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 13
8:30 and 10:30 am



Christmas Poinsettia Orders

Honor a loved one helping beautify
our sanctuary for Christmas!
Order forms are available in the Narthex. Orders are due December 9.

Sunday Attendance

November 22	in person attendance
9:00 am	**236**

Next Sunday…

The text of the day will be **Isaiah 42:1-9**
with **Matthew 12:15-21.**
Pastor Phil preaches.

This Week —November 30 - December 5

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 am - 3 pm

Monday

noon	**Bible Text Study @ the Vault**
6:30 pm	**Resonance Bell Choir**

Tuesday

2:00 pm	**Grief & Loss Support**

Wednesday

noon	**NAIA (Northfield Area InterFaith Alliance)**
3:30 pm	**SPARK**
5:30 pm	**Bistro** (Pulled Pork, Mac n' Cheese, Chips and Salad)
6:15 pm	**Ring Forth**
6:30 pm	**Advent Evening Prayer** (Sanctuary)
7:00 pm	**6th Grade Connections**
	7-8-9 Confirmation
	HangTime
	Church Choir rehearsal
8:05 pm	**Brio**

Thursday

9:00 am	**FaB (Faith & Books)** (Youth Room)
9:00 am	**MoB (Men of Bethel)** (Room 54)
10:15 am	**OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans)**
2:00 pm	**Bethel Monthly Movie** (*The Ultimate Gift (2007)*)
4:30 pm	**Endowment Committee**
7:00 pm	**Bethel Vision Seekers** @ George's Vineyard

Friday

9:15 am	**WoW (Women of the Word) via zoom**

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Bethel
LUTHERAN CHURCH