

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Vibrantly open to the spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church serves God and its neighbors by joyfully living and sharing the Good News.

Sunday, December 31, 2017

First Sunday of Christmas (Setting 6)

Aaron Holmgren, Pastor

Jan Smith, Organist

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering Hymn “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” ELW # 288

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.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High. One God, now and forever. Amen

Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Gracious God, **In Christ Jesus you are with us, as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in ☩ Jesus’ name. **Amen**

Kyrie and Cantic of Praise (p. 165)

Rejoicing in God’s grace, we sing our Cantic of Praise (p. 169) **Glory to God...**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray; Incarnate God, keep your servants here in peace, according to your word; having seen your salvation, may our lives reflect this gift for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD

Scripture Reading Isaiah 61:10-62:3 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message “Rituals”

Gospel Acclamation (p. 171) **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?...**

The holy gospel according to Luke the second chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading Luke 2:22-40

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

Sermon “Sacrifices”

Hymn of the Day “Once in Royal David’s City” ELW # 269

Apostles Creed (p. 105)

Prayers of Intercession Lord, in Your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Peace The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offering

We now enter into a time of offering where we joyously share in God's abundance.

Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" ELW # 884

Offertory Prayer

Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here with us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen

MEAL

We now share in Christ's holy meal of forgiveness, love, and grace.

Table Prayer **Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Let these gifts to us be blest. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving (p. 172-173)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you...**

Holy, holy, holy...

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (p. 173)

Invitation to Communion

Distribution Hymns (p. 174) **Lamb of God...**

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" ELW # 272

SENDING

Benediction

May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

Sending Hymn "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" ELW # 282

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

Postlude