

## BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Vibrantly open to the spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.*

Sunday, January 15, 2023

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Praise Service

Stefan Swanson, Interim Vicar

Jan Smith, Accompanist

GivePlus Text 866-298-7547

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

Prelude

Gathering Songs

Green Binder #95 "I Wonder if He Knew"

Green Binder #105 "Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

Green Binder #35 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God,  
who makes all things new,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**We confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of +Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

Entrance Song

GB #70 "Grace Alone"

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray,

**Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1-7

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 40:1-11 (read responsively)  
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Gospel Song GB #98 "Lord, Add Your Blessing to This Word"

Gospel Reading John 1:29-42

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Song of the Day GB #49 "Come Holy Spirit"

Apostles Creed

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

Offering

Offertory Song GB #86 "Take My Life, and Let It Be"

Communion

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion Song GB #2 "Prayer of St. Francis"

Prayer after Communion

### SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Benediction Song GB #39 "My Peace"

Blessing

The God who faithfully brings justice and breaks the oppressor's rod +bless,  
strengthen, and uphold you, today, and always.

**Amen.**

Sending Song GB #37 "To God Be the Glory"

Sending Words

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

# WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—January 15, 2023, Second Sunday after Epiphany

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT** Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.

**QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS?** Please contact the church office at 320-395-2125 at [bethellutheranlp@gmail.com](mailto:bethellutheranlp@gmail.com) or [pastor@lpbethel.org](mailto:pastor@lpbethel.org). For emergency pastoral care needs, please call the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Vicar Stefan at 320-434-7113.

## TODAY

- **Hearing assist devices are available:** Speak to an usher for assistance.
- **Sunday school and Confirmation class:** 10:15 am
- **The Chosen video series resumes-Season 2:** 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

## MONDAY

- **Coffee hour:** 8:30 am-9:30 am

## WEDNESDAY

- **Choir practice:** 6:30 pm
- **Book club:** 7:30 pm

## SUNDAY (3 Epiphany)

- **Worship** at 9:00 am
- **Annual Congregational meeting:** following worship
- **No Sunday school and Confirmation class**
- **The Chosen video series-Season 2:** 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

**Contact information:** Please let the office know if your contact information has changed!  
Watch for a sign-up sheet in the narthex for a hard copy of the 2023 Church Directory.

**Thank you** to our Worship Team for leading us in song today! If you have a favorite song you would like included next time, talk to Lloyd Wortz.

**February Book Club:** *Uninvited: Living Loved When You Feel Less Than, Left Out, and Lonely* by Lysa Terkeurst

Do you ever feel left out, lonely, or less than? Today, learn the secret of belonging which will help you keep rejections in perspective and be better equipped to foster healthy connections in your relationships. In *Uninvited*, Lysa shares her own deeply personal experiences of rejection from the perceived judgment of the perfectly toned women one elliptical over to the incredibly painful childhood abandonment by her father. She leans in to honestly examine the roots of rejection, as well as rejection's ability to poison relationships from the inside out, including our relationship with God.

**The Nomination Committee seeks volunteers** for open council and committee positions for 2023! If you are interested in serving contact one of the committee members.

- Katie Anderson (763-244-9182) or [kjpeten@gmail.com](mailto:kjpeten@gmail.com))
- Jenna Pariseau (320-420-0531) or [jenna.foust@gmail.com](mailto:jenna.foust@gmail.com))
- Lloyd Wortz (612-501-8770) or [landcwortz@hotmail.com](mailto:landcwortz@hotmail.com))

Finance Board (2-year term)

Education Board (2-year term)

Nomination Committee (1 year position-need 5 people)

Synod Assembly Representatives (1 female/1 male) (The assembly will be in-person at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter on June 9-10, 2023.)

**Green Lake Bible Camp** online and paper camp registration is open. Early Bird Discount ends February 16. For more information go to [camp@gllm.org](mailto:camp@gllm.org), call 320-796-2181, or pick up a brochure in the narthex.

**A second "Noisy" offering** is taken every 4th Sunday of the month. The proceeds go toward Bethel Youth Camperships at Green Lake Bible Camp. For On your way out of the sanctuary, drop your loose change into the metal can with a clang! Although paper bills and checks won't have the same "noisy" effect, they will be accepted and appreciated!

**Bethel Quilting Group** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month. Come and go anytime from 1:30 pm-4:30 pm. All levels of experience are welcome and encouraged to join! We will work on quilts for our baptized babies, our graduates, and our donations to GLLM Quilt Auction and Don't Cry I'm Here (homeless shelter).