

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.*

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023

Setting 7

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

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.

Gathering Hymn "Dearest Jesus, at Your Word" ELW #520

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 (ELW p. 175)

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 176) **Gloria, gloria, gloria...**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray,

**Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the
lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and
perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may
see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Bethel Choir

"His Love Still Shines" Arr. by Keith Christopher

WORD

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

First Reading Micah 6:1-8 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 15 (read responsively)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 179) **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!...**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the fifth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" ELW #324

Apostles Creed

Prayers of Intercession God of grace. **Hear our prayer.**

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 Prayer

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 180)

Words of Institution

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God....until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore,...holy church, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (ELW p. 182)

Communion

Communion Hymns (ELW p. 182) **O Lamb of God...**

"O Master, Let Me Walk with You" ELW #818

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Blessing

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

Amen.

Sending Hymn "To Be Your Presence" ELW #546

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow in the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—January 29, 2023, Fourth 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 or 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. Bulletin submissions due: Wednesdays at noon. Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month.

TODAY

- **Hearing assist devices are available**: Speak to an usher for assistance.
- **Sunday school and Confirmation class**: 10:15 am
- **The Chosen video series-Season 2**: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm (Everyone is welcome to join! Stream the episodes you missed or view them on your phone app.)

MONDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

- **Choir practice**: 6:30 pm
- **WELCA meeting**: 7:30 pm

SUNDAY (5 Epiphany)

- **Worship** at 9:00 am
- **Mission Assessment Kick-off Potluck**: Bethel's Mission Assessment Team will host a Potluck brunch after the worship service. Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share, join together in fellowship, participate in a time of reflection, discussion, and dreaming together about the future of Bethel Lutheran Church.
- **The Chosen video series-Season 2**: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Tamie will be out of the office from Jan. 30-Feb. 3. If you have announcements during that week, please, contact Vicar Stefan so he can announce them.

Has your contact information changed? If so, please let Tamie know by Monday, February 6! Look for the sign-up sheet, for a hard copy of the 2023 Church Directory, in the narthex.

2022 Advent Mission Project Report: Thank you to everyone who donated to the collection of items on the McLeod Alliance Wish List! Items from every category were received, with more than 50 individual items collected. In addition, money from our Thrivent Action Team grant allowed us to purchase office supplies, including reams of copy paper, legal pads, business window envelopes, paper clips, highlighters, white-out, accordion files, and postage stamps. Delivered to the McLeod Alliance, Hutchinson, the items were received with appreciation. Thank you for helping to support the work of this worthy organization!

February Book Club: *Uninvited: Living Loved When You Feel Less Than, Left Out, and Lonely* by Lysa Terkeurst, **Discussion date:** Wednesday, February 15, 7:30 pm
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.

Green Lake Bible Camp Early Bird Discount ends February 16. For more info. go to **camp@gllm.org**, call 320-796-2181, or pick up a brochure in the narthex.

Kitchen Declutter: The kitchen has been cleaned up and organized! We found several miscellaneous items. If they are yours, please, take them home. Unclaimed items are free for the taking. Check the cart in the Narthex. Everything leftover will be donated in a few weeks. Thank you!

Ash Wednesday—Lent Begins February 22—Ash Wednesday service: 6:30 pm
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29—Lenten supper: 5:15 pm; Lenten worship service: 6:30 pm, Choir practice: 6:00 pm during Lent

On the fourth Sunday of the month the “Noisy” offering supports camperships for Bethel youth attending Green Lake Bible Camp. 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! (2/26)

Volunteer sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board. Please consider how you can serve here at Bethel in 2023! If you have questions contact the chairperson listed at the top of the sign-up sheet. *Experience is not necessary-you will have help!*