

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.

Baptism of Our Lord
January 8, 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

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father and Mother...and all living things.

Blessed be God now and forever.

By the waters of the flood...freedom of the promised land.

Blessed be God now and forever.

In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized...cleansing and rebirth.

Blessed be God now and forever.

To you be given praise and honor...unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn "This Is the Spirit's Entry Now" ELW #448

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,

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem "Come, Follow that Star" by Don Besig and Nancy Price

WORD

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

First Reading Isaiah 42:1-9 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 29 (read responsively)

Second Reading Acts 10:34-43 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 third chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Matthew 3:13-17 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Shall We Gather at the River" ELW #423

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...**

"Spirit of Gentleness" ELW #396

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 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" ACS #942

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow in the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—January 8, 2023, Baptism of Our Lord

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
- **Family Game Night:** 5:00 pm-8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin with a pot-luck supper and games following. The night will end with Bingo and prizes! Please bring your favorite hot dish or salad to share and, of course, your favorite game! All ages are welcome!

MONDAY

- **Coffee hour:** 8:30 am-9:30 am
- **Worship & Music Committee meeting:** 4:00 pm
- **Council meeting:** 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY

- **Quilting:** 1:30 pm-4:00 pm, more information on the other side
- **Choir practice:** 6:30 pm

THURSDAY

- **MEFS Mobile Outreach:** Bethel's parking lot, 1:30 pm-3:00 pm

SUNDAY (2 Epiphany)

- **Worship** at 9:00 am
- **Sunday school and Confirmation class:** 10:15 am
- **The Chosen video series resumes-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. **The Annual Congregational** meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, Jan. 22**, following worship.

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)
- Jenna Pariseau (320-420-0531) or jenna.foust@gmail.com)
- Lloyd Wortz (612-501-8770) or 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.)

January Book Club: Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai

Inspired by the author's childhood experience as a refugee—fleeing Vietnam after the fall of Saigon and immigrating to Alabama—this coming of age debut novel told in verse has been celebrated for its touching child's eye view of family and immigration. This moving story of one girl's year of change, dreams, grief, and healing received four starred reviews, including one from Kirkus which proclaimed it “enlightening, poignant, and unexpectedly funny.”

Discussion: Wednesday, January 18, 6:30 pm

Green Lake Bible Camp online and paper camp registration is open. Early Bird Discount ends Feb. 16. For more information go to 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. 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 2nd and 4th 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).