

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, November 19, 2023
Christ the King

Rev. Susan Engholm, Interim Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Gathering Songs Green Binder #46 "Awesome God"
 Green Binder #35 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
 Green Binder #21 "Seek Ye First"
 Green Binder #108 "How Great is Our God"

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, in whose image we are made, who
claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Holy One, **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in
using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your
beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your
beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see
you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ☩ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are
called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the
foundation of the world.

Amen.

Song of Praise GB #83 "Glorify Thy Name"

Prayer of the Day

WORD

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

First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 95:1-7a (read responsively)

Second Reading Ephesians 1:15-23 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

Gospel Song GB #63 "Pass Me Not"

Gospel Reading Matthew 25:31-46 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon

Song of the Day GB #79 "Bring Forth the Kingdom"

Apostles Creed

Prayers of the People Merciful God, **receive 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 #26 "Give Thanks"

Offertory Prayer

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

Communion

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (p. 191, ELW)

Communion Song GB #69 "Feed My Lambs"

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Benediction Song GB #39 "My Peace"

Blessing

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

Amen.

Sending Song GB #16 "Great is the Lord"

Sending Words Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—November 19, 2023—Christ the King

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. For emergency pastoral care needs, please call the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Interim Pastor Susan Engholm 320-293-1811. Bulletin submissions due: Wednesdays at noon.

Newsletter deadline: 25th of the month. **GivePlus Text 866-298-7547**

SIMPLY GIVING offers convenience for you and much needed consistency for Bethel! Try it this summer! If you have questions contact Stacy Meyer, Financial Secretary, at finsec@lpbethel.org.

TODAY (Christ the King)

- Sunday School/Confirmation class/Adult Education: following worship
- Thanksgiving worship service: 6:30 pm
- Pie Social: following the Thanksgiving worship service

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- Bible Study: 9:00 am-Join us as review the sermon from the day before and look at the Gospel for the coming week.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm-Quilters will meet every Wednesday in November.
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23 (Thanksgiving Day)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26 (Advent I)

- Worship: 9:00 am (Noisy offering)
- Sunday school & Confirmation class: following worship
- Breakfast with Bethel: 10:30 am, Longhorn's Burger House

During the month of November WELCA will collect a cash offering for the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf. Special envelopes are available from an usher. Please put your offering in the envelope and place it in the offering plate any Sunday during November. Thank you for your generosity!

The Chosen Bible study group will NOT meet TODAY. We will view the final Episode 8 of Season 3 on November 26. Because it is a longer episode, we will meet at 5:30 pm instead of 6:00 pm. Attendees are invited to bring a potluck dish to share together that evening.

WELCA is offering the Holiday Secret Pal experience to women within the congregation again this year. It is a simple and inexpensive way to build community by remembering your assigned Secret Pal with cards, notes, and small gifts throughout the Advent Season, then revealing your identity at Christmas or before the new year. **Sign up TODAY! Assignments will be made by November 26.**

“Light of the World” Evening Prayer: Wednesday, November 29 at 6:30 pm. Please stay after the service to help put up Christmas decorations. Evening Prayer services will continue on Wednesdays, December 6, 13, and 20. The choir will practice at 5:45 pm during Advent. Christmas Eve worship will be at 5:00 pm. There will not be a 9:00 worship service that day.

Endowment Fund grants: We will accept Endowment Grant application forms through Thursday, November 30. Application forms are on the wall in the narthex. Please place completed applications in the Endowment Committee mailbox.

A Call for a Congregational meeting: Sunday, December 3, immediately following the worship service. **Topic:** The Call Committee will be recommending Bethel's new pastor. A vote will take place at this congregational meeting. If you have questions, contact Ron Foust, Council President at 612-201-2351.

Next WELCA meeting: Tues., Dec. 5, 6:30 pm at church. This is a change from the normal schedule. Meetings are always open to any women who wish to attend.

Treat bags for the youth will be given out on December 17; if you would like to **give a monetary donation** toward the bags, contact Diane Horsman. Thank you!

You're invited to the WELCA's upcoming Advent project: “A Birthday Party for Jesus”! Bethel will be sponsoring three families through the Lester Prairie School Outreach Program. We have a Giving Tree in the narthex with various items to purchase for our families. Go shopping and bring your items back for the **“Birthday Party for Jesus” on Sunday, December 17,** where we will wrap the gifts, play some games, enjoy treats and make some crafts.