

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 14, 2024

Rev. Dr. William Nelsen, Pulpit Supply Pastor

2nd Sunday after Epiphany, ELW Setting 10

Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude "Here I Am, Lord" arr. Douglas Wagner

"Take My Life, That I May Be" setting David Lasky

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

God our rock and refuge, **we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved. **Amen.**

Gathering Song "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. 203) **Have mercy on us, Lord...**

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 204) **Glory be to God in heaven...**

Prayer of the Day

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem "Here I Am, Lord" arr. Jack Schrader

WORD

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

First Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-10 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (read responsively)
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
Children's Sermon
Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 205) **Alleluia! Lord and Savior...**
 The Gospel according to John the first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
Gospel Reading John 1:43-51 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**
Sermon "Come and See, Come and Hear"
Hymn of the Day "Will You Come and Follow Me" ELW #798
Apostles Creed (ELW p. 105)
Prayers of Intercession God of grace, **receive 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 "Oh God, You Search Me" Bernadette Farrell
Offering Prayer
 Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.
Great Thanksgiving (ELW p. 206)
Preface for the Day (ELW p. 207) **Holy, holy, holy Lord...**
Lord's Prayer (ELW p. 208)
Communion **O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away...**
Communion Hymn "In This Feast of Love" ACS #962
Prayer after Communion
 Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
 Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

Blessing
 God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**
Sending Song "Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak" ELW #676
Dismissal Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
 Thanks be to God.
Postlude "Rise Shine Ye People" setting Peggy Bettcher

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—January 14, 2024 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. For emergency pastoral care needs, please contact the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Pastor Susan Engholm at 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

- Thank you Pastor Bill Nelsen for leading us in worship today!
- Hearing assist devices are available: speak to an usher for assistance.
- Sunday School and Adult Education: following worship.

MONDAY

- Office closed

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

- Worship and Music Committee meeting: 12:30 pm

SUNDAY

- Worship: 9:00 am (Pastor Bill Nelsen)
- Sunday School and Adult Education: following worship

SAVE THE DATE—Sunday, January 28, 2024—The Installation of Pastor Molly Wills with Synod Minister Heather Culuris giving the sermon that day. Bethel's Annual Congregational meeting will immediately follow the worship service. Please make every attempt to attend this important meeting for our congregation. A catered dinner from Longhorn's Burger House will follow the meeting at 11:00 am.

A special thank you to all of the Bethel members who helped with the Youth Cocoa Bar event on Wednesday, January 10. It was such a hit and wouldn't have happened without you. *Cathy and Mary Lou*

January Book Club: *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah-Unpredictable. Unforgiving. Untamed. For a family in crisis, the ultimate test of survival.

Discussion date: Wednesday, January 17 at 7:30 pm.

The choir will attend the National Lutheran Choir Tuneup on the 20th of January from 9:00 am to noon at Roseville Lutheran Church. Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome to join us! Please RSVP to Emily Koehler or Jan Smith.

Endowment Bylaws: At our congregational meeting Sunday, January 28, 2024, the Endowment Committee will be seeking approval for the 2023 Endowment Bylaws. The committee has worked hard to bring these bylaws up-to-date. There are copies of the proposed bylaws in the narthex. You are welcome to review the document before our meeting on January 28. If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to Lloyd Wortz, Carolyn Barr, Jean Hallberg, Eric Angvall, or Andria Torry-Carlson.

The Nominating Committee is seeking volunteers for the following positions:

Treasurer: 2 yr. term

Trustee: 2 yr. term

Cemetery Committee: 2 yr. term

Audit Committee: 3 yr. term (once a year)

Please consider your gifts and how you can contribute in the new year. Speak to a Nominating Committee member if you have questions or you are interested, Daved Anderson, Ron Foust, Julie Hanson, Sara Jepsen, or Nancy Krull.

Lector and Altar Guild Sign-up sheets are up by the church offices. Please sign up for Lector and or Altar Guild.

Who wants to go camping? The dates are set for the 2024 Bethel Camp out-Friday, June 21-Sunday, June 23, at Baylor Regional Park near Norwood Young America. Believe it or not, it's time to think about making reservations! Speak to Brian or Jill Duncan if you want to camp or if you have any questions.

NOTE: Please contact the office if your Contact Information changes!