

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 21, 2024
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Rev. Dr. William Nelsen, Supply Pastor
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Gathering Songs Green Binder #125 "A Song for Joseph"
 Green Binder #131 "I Saw the Light"
 Green Binder #56 "Agnus Dei"
 Green Binder #105 "Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, creator of the 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.

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 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.**

Song of Praise GB #70 "Grace Alone"

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading Jonah 3:1-5, 10 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
Psalm 62:5-12 (read responsively)
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 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 Mark 1:14-20 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**
Sermon "Jonah: The Rest of the Story"
Song of the Day GB #798 "Will You Come and Follow Me"
Apostles Creed (p. 105, ELW)
Prayers of the People God of grace, **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 #86 "Take My Life, And Let It Be"
Offertory 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.

Communion
Words of Institution
Lord's Prayer (p. 112, ELW)
Communion Song GB #2 "Prayer of St. Francis"

Prayer after Communion
Give 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, now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

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

Benediction Song GB #39 "My Peace"
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 GB #37 "To God Be the Glory"
Sending Words Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
Thanks be to God.
Postlude

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—January 21, 2024-Third 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 call 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.

WEDNESDAY (1/24)

- Welcome! Pastor Molly's first day
- Quilting: 1:00-4:30 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

THURSDAY (1/25)

- Newsletter deadline

SUNDAY (1/28)

- Worship: 9:00 am (Pastor Molly Wills/Pastor Troy Pfilbsen) Installation of Pastor Molly Wills, Noisy offering-drop your coins [cash or check] in the tin can on your way out of the sanctuary. (Supports Youth Camperships)
- Annual Congregational Meeting: immediately following worship
- Celebration Dinner: 11:00 am (catered by Longhorn's Burger House)

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

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.

NOTE: Please contact the office if your Contact Information changes! New Church Directories will be available in February.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024. A meal will be served every Wednesday night throughout the Lenten season from 5:00-6:15 pm, followed by a worship service at 6:30 pm. If you have interest in helping and or providing meals, contact Diane Horsman. Ash Wednesday menu: chili, hotdogs, cornbread, bars.

Quilters will meet every Tuesday during Lent, beginning on Tuesday, February 13 through March 26, 1:00-4:30 pm.

The Choir will practice at 5:45 pm during Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday.