

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 28, 2024
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
ELW Setting 10

Rev. Molly Wills, Bethel Pastor
Rev. Heather Culuris, Synod Minister
Jan Smith, Accompanist

GATHERING

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

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

"Worthy, You Are Worthy" arr. by Patricia Sanders Cota (Chime Choir)

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness (p. 94)

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation...Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess...Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God...and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Gathering Song "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" ELW #519

Greeting (p. 203)

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

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. Inspire all pastors to proclaim your word diligently and your people to receive it willingly, that finally we may receive the crown of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Bethel Choir "Shine, Jesus Shine" arr. by Mark Hayes

WORD

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

First Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 111 (read responsively)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 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 Mark the first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading Mark 1:21-28 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Rise, Shine, You People!" ELW #665

Apostles Creed (ELW p. 105)

Installation of Pastor Molly B. Wills

Prayers of Intercession Lord, in your mercy, **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 "The Summons" arr. by Jeremy Bankson

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) **Our Father, who art in heaven...**

Communion **O Lamb of God...**

Communion Hymn "Healer of Our Every Ill" ELW #612

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

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

Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Sending Song "Let the Whole Creation Cry" ELW 876

Dismissal Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude "There Is a Balm in Gilead" arr. by Mark Hayes

WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—January 28, 2024, 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. For emergency pastoral care needs, please contact the church office first, and if nobody answers, call Pastor Molly Wills at 320-339-8169. 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

- Welcome Pastor Heather Culuris and Pastor Molly Wills! Thank you for leading our worship service today!
- Hearing assist devices are available: speak to an usher for assistance
- Noisy offering: drop your coins [cash or check] in the tin can on your way out of the sanctuary. (Supports Bethel Youth Camperships)
- Annual Congregational Meeting: immediately following worship
- Celebration dinner: 11:00 am (catered by Longhorn's)

WEDNESDAY (1/31)

- Community Garden planning meeting: 5:30 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

SUNDAY (2/5)

- Worship: 9:00 am
- Sunday School /Confirmation class/Adult Education: following worship

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.

Seeking Lenten worship service volunteers: Pastor Molly wants to get to know the people from the congregation! One way to do this is for her to interview people during the Wednesday night Lenten services or have people speak during the service. She wrote up a set of questions people can choose from to answer in an interview or to speak about for 5-10 minutes. If you are willing to be interviewed or speak please email Pastor Molly (pastor@lpbethel.org) so she can get you on the schedule and send you the questions to look through!
Wednesday night services available: 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20

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.

February Book Club: *Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult

A startling and poignant story about the devastating aftermath of a small-town tragedy. A copy of the book will be available in Bethel's library. Discussion date: Wednesday, February 21, 7:30 pm.

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.

Community Garden: a planning meeting for the community garden will take place on January 31 at 5:30 pm. Anyone interested in helping with the garden or who has ideas or input on the garden are welcome to come!

Creative Souls Retreat: February 9-11, 2024-Green Lake Bible Camp
Whatever your hobby may be, bring your supplies and join us for a great week-end of crafting at Green Lake Bible Camp. You will enjoy fellowship, a supportive Christian atmosphere in the company of other creative women. You will also have time for devotions, taking a walk, or even a nap. Register before the deadline, Tuesday, January 30! Visit gllm.org for more information and to register today!