

## 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 7, 2024

Baptism of Our Lord, ELW Setting 10

Rev. Donna Olsen, Supply Pastor

Jan Smith, Accompanist

### GATHERING

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

Prelude "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright" arr. Kenneth T. Kosche

"As With Gladness Men of Old" arr. Robert A. Hobby

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 "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized" ELW #304

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

**Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### WORD

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

First Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 29 (read responsively)

Second Reading Acts 19:1-7 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 1:4-11 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Down Galilee's Slow Roadways" ACS #916

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 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" arr. Michael Larkin

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 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" ACS #942

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 "God, Whose Almighty Word" ELW #673

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

# WELCOME

Bethel Lutheran Church—January 7, 2024 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](mailto: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: 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:finsec@lpbethel.org).

## TODAY

- Thank you Pastor Donna Olsen for leading us in worship today!
- Hearing assist devices are available: speak to an usher for assistance.
- Sunday School and Adult Education will resume following worship.
- Please take your poinsettias home today.
- Please stay after coffee to help take down the Christmas tree in the narthex.

## WEDNESDAY (Jan. 10)

- Annual Financial reports are due today.
- Youth Task Force Social: 12:45-1:10 pm (HS), 1:15-1:40 pm (JH) fellowship hall
- Quilting: 1:45-4:30 pm
- Choir practice: 6:30 pm

## SUNDAY (Jan. 14) 2 Epiphany

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

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

**Ordination of Molly Wills:** TODAY, January 7, 2024, at noon, Atonement Lutheran Church, 1144 29th AVE N, St. Cloud, MN 56303. There will be a get together with refreshments following the service. Pastor Molly will begin at Bethel on 1/24/24.

**Bethel to host the Youth Task Force Social** on Wednesday, January 10, 2024. This is an opportunity for area youth to get to know supportive adults in the community. Students will arrive at 12:45 pm to enjoy a Hot Chocolate Bar and activities. If you are willing to help with this event contact Mary Lou Teubert. Adult helpers please arrive at church by 12:30 pm. All are welcome!

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 our 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.

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