

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

Bethany Lutheran Church

Welcome Visitors.

Please sign our visitor book. There activity bags available for small children, located by the entrance of sanctuary.



GATHERING

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

CANDLE LIGHTING

In a weary and worn world,
how do we begin again?

Where do we start?

Let us begin with the good news!

**Let us begin by trusting that we are a
blessing, loved by a gracious God.**

Let us begin with music and singing!

Let us begin with warmth and welcome.

Let us begin with hope.

Yes, let us begin with hope.

Today we light the candle of hope to
shine a light in a worn and weary world.

May this be our foundation.

May this be our fresh start.

May this be our new beginning.

May hope flow forth from here. Let us worship God. Amen!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon. **Amen.**

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

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have turned away from our neighbors.

We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,

we confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:

it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,

in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

receive the grace and forgiveness of God

through ✝ Christ Jesus,

whose day draws near. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *Hark, the Glad sound! (LBW 35)*



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

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



Lord have mer - cy on



Shine your light in - to
Heal all con - flicts be-



Be our strength in times
Show us how to love



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo - ry be to
Love has come to



joy - ful song

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

¹But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth —

⁷everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

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

PSALM: PSALM 25:1-10

¹To ¹you, O LORD,
I lift ¹up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be ¹put to shame,**

nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

³ Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths. R**

⁵ Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have | trusted all | the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting. R**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- |
ness, O LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹ You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

¹⁰ **All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. R**

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid,

Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *In Case No One Ever Told You*

IN CASE NO ONE EVER TOLD YOU

LOBE DEN HERREN 14.14.4.7.8

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024

Music from the *Praxis Pietatis*

In case no one ev - er told you or you have for - got - ten Y
You are the mas - ter-piece born of God's i - ma - gin - a - tion
You are u - nique - ly cre - a - ted for love and be - long - ing F

7

bless - ing and have been since you were be - got - ten Fash - ioned from
parts that are cry - ing out for res - tor - a - tion All that you
self to be some - one you're not is ex - haus - ting You are a

14

Sent to the earth from a - bove You're no - thing short of a god -
Born out of star - dust and scars Re - flects God's per - fect cre - a -
There is no box you must fit Let your be - lov - ed - ness blos -

CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition ends: *Lord, in your mercy, 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

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho -



earth are full of your glor -



is the one who comes

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

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

SENDING OF COMMUNION ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG *When Christmas Morn is Dawning (LBW 59)*



1 When Christ-mas morn is dawn - ing I wish that I could be
2 How kind of you, our Sav - ior, for us to come to earth.
3 We need you, O Lord Je - sus, to be our dear-est friend.



there by the man - ger - cra - dle God's Son, new-born, to see,
Oh, may we not by sin - ning de - spise your low - ly birth.
Your love will guard and guide us and keep us to life's end.



there by the man - ger - cra - dle God's Son, new-born, to see.
Oh, may we not by sin - ning de - spise your low - ly birth.
Your love will guard and guide us and keep us to life's end.

Text: Elisabeth Ehrenborg-Posse, Barnsänger, 19th cent.; tr. Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990
Music: WIR HATTEN GEBAUET, German folk tune, 1823

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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DISMISSAL (Bethany Mission)

We go, renewed and fed to create life-giving relationships **through worship, outreach and service. Thanks be to God.**

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Worship on Sunday morning is recorded on Facebook from the 9AM service.

Announcements

- Please contact Karl Katuin, if you are able to help with snow removal.
- Church Mailboxes: I will be relabeling and moving boxes in the next few weeks. It would be helpful, if you could remove your mail. If you have a relative that is no longer to attend church, would you kindly take their mail to them the next time you visit them. Thank you.
- Please feel free to stay for Coffee Fellowship. If you are able to serve or make treats, please let the office know.
- December 6th – 10 AM WELCA Christmas Brunch. This year it will be potluck, if you are able to bring a dish to pass that would be appreciated. We are using this time to collect food pantry items, if you are able to share, that would be appreciated. If you want to participate in a \$5 gift exchange, please bring something to exchange. Some people opt out of this, and that is fine.
- December 8th – WELCA Meeting after Worship. Are you able to donate a half dozen cookies for the fruit and cookie baskets? We will be organizing those baskets at the meeting. Thank you.
- Silent Christmas Stocking...place your bids. We are also looking for stuffers for the stockings. Let's have some fun with this fundraiser!
- December 4, 11 & 18 Advent Worship at 6:30pm
 - Dinner and fellowship starting at 5:15pm
- December 8 – 3 pm FAMILY Sunday School. A special visitor will be here, too!
- December 15th – Christmas Trivia following worship
- December 24th, 4:30 pm is Bethany's Christmas Eve worship.
- December 25th, 10:30 is East Lemonweir's Christmas Day Worship.
- Wednesday 9 am - Bethany Quilting
- Thursday 9 am – Bible Study
- Tuesday AA meetings 6:30 pm @ East Lemonweir/ Thursday 6:30 pm @ Bethany
- January 25th- Prime Rib Dinner at East Lemonweir. Tickets are \$30/each. Proceeds go to their Outreach Program
- Annual Meeting Reports deadline will be approaching soon.

Prayers of Concern:

Prayers for those who cannot worship with us today.

Prayers for those who recently loss family and/or friends, especially the family and friends of Dennis Stark.

Prayers for Tommy Paulson (Vanessa Lucas's Brother) Jordan McGuire & Baby Oliver, Kalie Lingl Gietner, Sandy (Gayle Hempel's Daughter), John Preston, Kathy Haske, Wyatt, Garry Olson, Yvone Olson, Jacob Sorenson, Elwood Syverson, Mickie (Ron&Patty Thompson), Fran Benson, Landon LaBerge, Marily Wetley, and others we silently name.

Prayers for those who serve to protect others.

Prayers for God's World.

Bethany/East Lemonweir Parish – www.bethanyeast.com

bethanyeast@mwt.net

Pastor, Rev. Lucy Hardie

Parish Secretary, Betty Krotzman

Organist, Michaela Pedersen for Bethany.

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