

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025

Bethany Lutheran Church

Welcome Visitors.

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



GATHERING

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are those who follow the ways of the Lord.

God's ways are just and merciful.

Those who follow God's ways are continually nourished in faith.

In all that they do, they prosper.

Come, let us open our hearts to God's compassionate love.

Let us celebrate God's mercy and justice. AMEN. ~ written by Nancy C. Townley,

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
our creator, our protector,
our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine."

In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *We Come to the Hungry Feast--Vs. 1 & 3 (ELW 479)*



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Living God, in **Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

A reading from Jeremiah.

- ⁵ Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD.
⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.
⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.
⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.
⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—
who can understand it? ¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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 6:17-26

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

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the

prophets. ²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

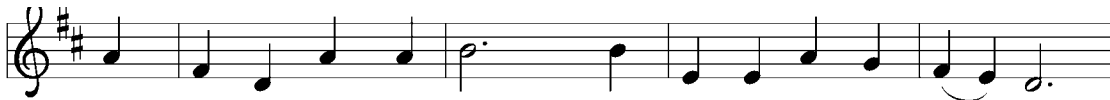
“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

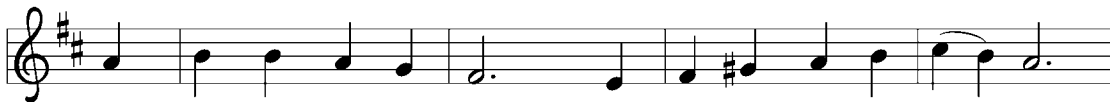
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *O God, My Faithful God—Vs. 1 & 2*



1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
4 When dan-gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth-ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
what - ev - er you com-mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer-less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT, Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629–1701

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition ends: *God of grace, hear our prayer.*

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

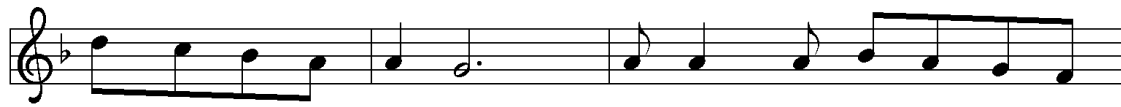
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the



brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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.**

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG *Jesus, the Very Thought of You—Vs. 1&4 (ELW 754)*



- 1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
- 2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
- 3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
- 4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

DISMISSAL (BETHANY MISSION)

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

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. All materials printed and
livestreamed under Augsburg Fortress License: SBT007061 and OneLicense: A-712026

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

Announcements

- February Food Pantry items – SOUPER BOWL – all kinds of soups.
 - CALENDARS FOR SALE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL! They are good for the rest of 2025. If you purchased in December, they were \$10. If you purchase now you can have for \$10. A great price for a great calendar!
 - February 16th – Ticket Toss after Bethany Worship
 - February 17th – March Beacon Articles are due.
 - March 5th – Ash Wednesday Service
 - March 9th – Daylight Savings Time ... Spring ahead
 - March 23rd ---W-ELCA Outing to THE LOONEY LUTHERANS @ the Cal Center in Reedsburg.
 - We are looking for several people to take turns with helping keep our church building clean on the 2nd and 4th weeks of each month. Please sign up on the white board in the narthex if you are able and willing. A list of duties can be found on the wall next to the sign-up.
 - Wednesday 9 am - Quilting
 - Thursday 9 am – Bible Study
 - Tuesday AA meetings 6:30 pm @ East Lemonweir/ Thursday 6:30 pm @ Bethany
-

Prayers of Concern:

Prayers for those who cannot worship with us today.

Prayers for those who recently loss family and/or friends, especially Dawn and John Van Meter on the passing of her Mother.

Prayers for Mary Shattuck, Bert Bigalke, Ken Adams, Jordan Wehman, Tommy Paulson (Vanessa Lucas's Brother) Jordan McGuire & Baby Oliver, Sandy (Gayle Hempel's Daughter), John Preston, Kathy Haske, Wyatt, Garry Olson, Yvonne Olson, Jacob Sorenson, Elwood Syverson, Mickie (Ron & Patti Thompson), Fran Benson, Landon LaBerge, Marilyn Wetley, Jean Morton, and others we silently name.

Prayers for those who serve to protect others.

Bethany/East Lemonweir Parish – www.bethanyeast.com | bethanyeast@mwt.net

Pastor, Rev. Lucy Hardie Parish Secretary, Betty Krotzman

Organist, Michaela Pedersen for Bethany.

Follow Us on Facebook
