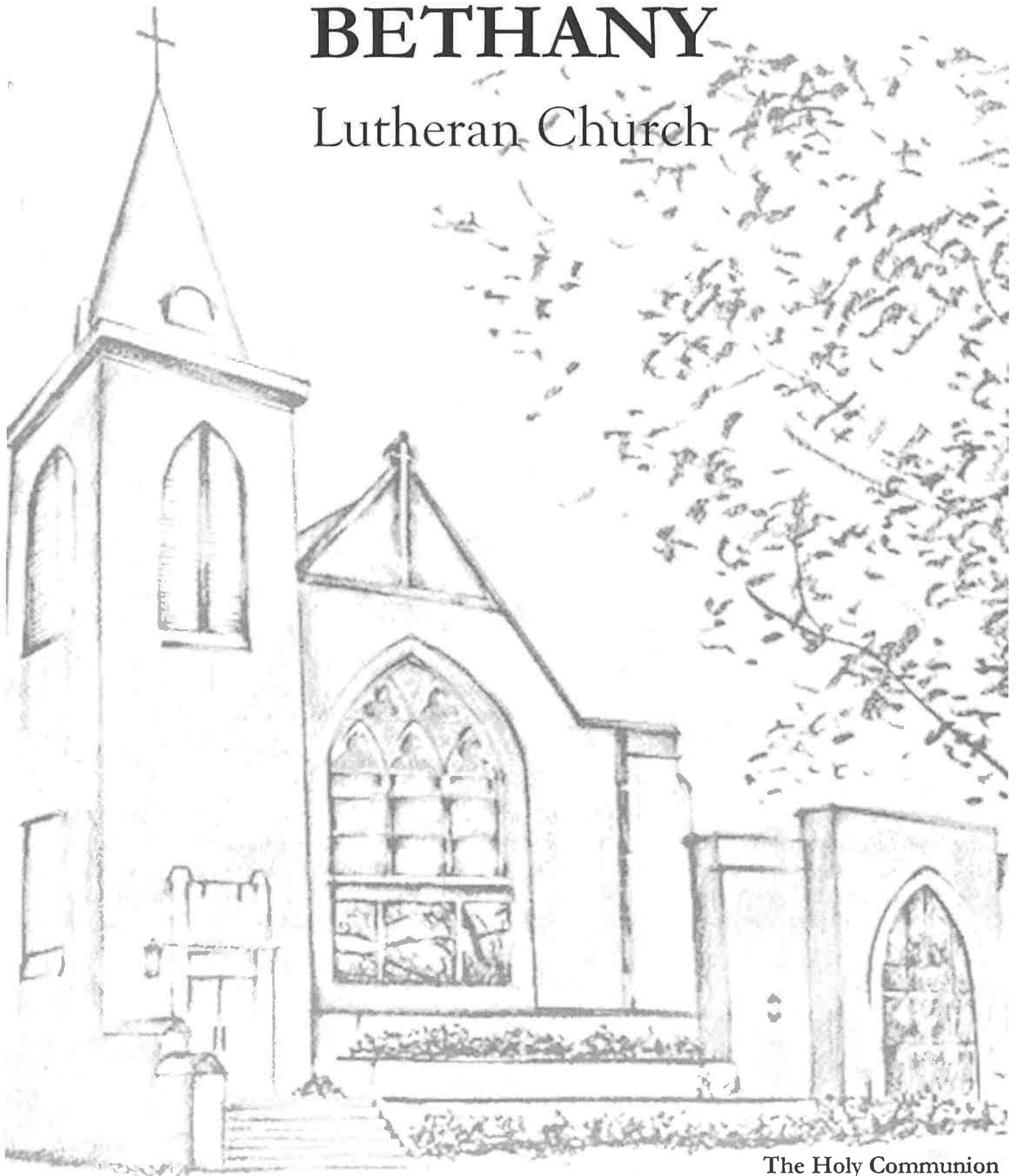


# BETHANY

Lutheran Church



The Holy Communion  
The First Sunday after Christmas  
December 26, 2021

# WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## **Welcome**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome all God's people to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve.

Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Bethany. If you have questions for the pastor or church office, please call at 630.879.3444 or visit our website at [www.bethanybatavia.org](http://www.bethanybatavia.org). Welcome!

## **Assistance in Worship**

For those who find it difficult to stand or prefer to sit during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated.

## **Children's Resources**

Children's worship bulletins are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

## **Nursery**

While not yet staffed, the nursery is open for parents who may find it helpful. The nursery is located on the sanctuary level, where you will find a changing table, rocking chair and some toys. You can still hear the worship service through a speaker in the room. Ask an usher if you need assistance.

## **Cell Phones and Pagers**

Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

## **Holy Communion**

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All baptized Christians are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to the pastor.

## **As We Gather:**

As on the first day of creation, during this Christmas time the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore!

# + GATHERING +

PRELUDE: He Shall Feed His Flock

Messiah-Handel

*We stand.*

GATHERING HYMN Joy to the World

ELW #267



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Music: ANTIOCH. English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

## CALL TO WORSHIP

- A Blessed is he who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord.  
C **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.**  
A I will hear what the Lord God has to say –  
C **a voice that speaks for peace.**  
A Peace for all people and for God's friends  
C **and those who turn to God in their hearts.**  
A Help is near for those who fear the Lord,  
C **and God's glory will live in our land.**  
A Blessed is he who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord.  
C **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW #283



- 1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

### *Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life, the love of God, our Heavenly Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

## + LESSONS AND CAROLS +

*We sit.*

### FIRST LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He 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. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The 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. Then 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.

L Word of God, word of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
 4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
 thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
 and Chris-tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."  
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,  
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep,

he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

HYMN It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

ELW #282



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,  
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,  
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

### THIRD LESSON

Luke 2:21-24

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

### HYMN Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW #276



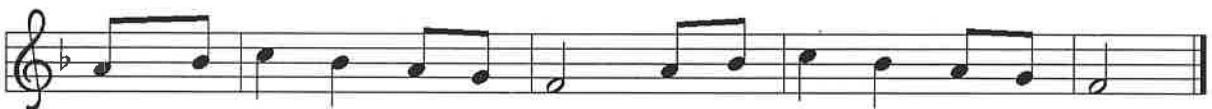
1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

### FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:25-35

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and



said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed--and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN Love Has Come

ELW #292



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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## FIFTH LESSON

## Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage. When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road."

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN We Three Kings of Orient Are



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

*We stand.*

## SIXTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

## HYMN Go Tell It On the Mountain

ELW #290

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- A Glory to God in the highest,  
C **and peace to his people on earth.**  
A Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.  
C **Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**  
A Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.  
C **Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**  
A Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.  
C **Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.**  
A This we pray in the peace of presence in our new-born king, Christ the Lord.  
C **Amen.**

## + MEAL +

*We sit.*

**OFFERING MUSIC** Pastorale Symphony

Messiah Handel

*We stand.*

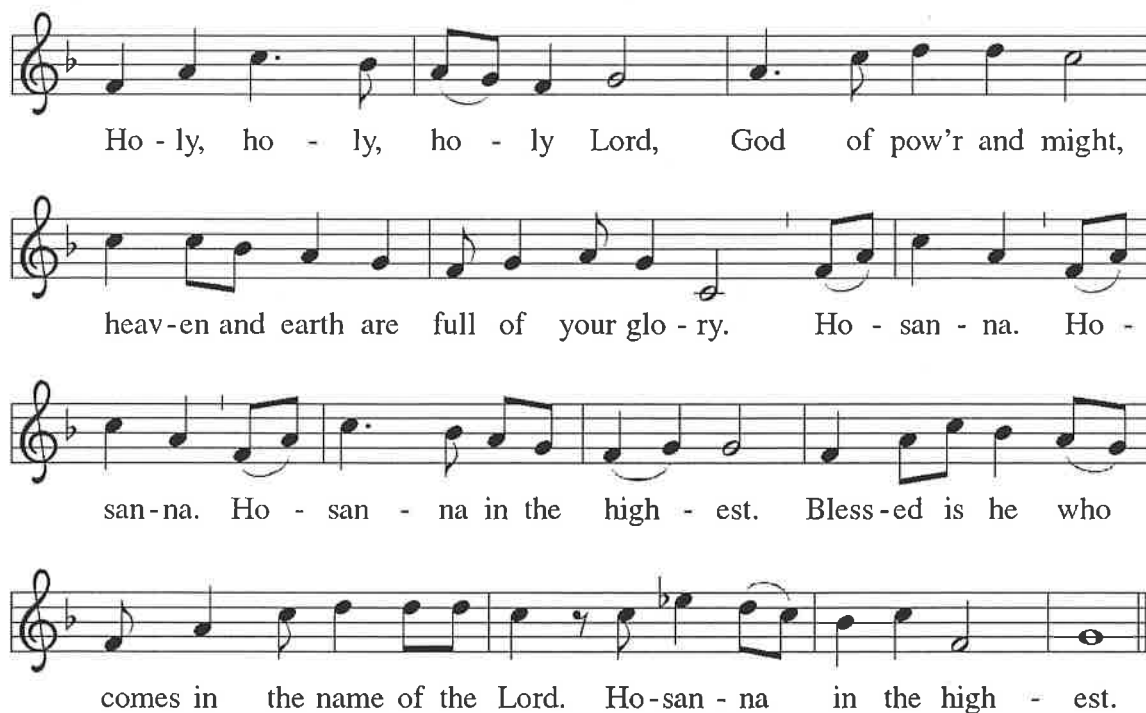
## OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Good and loving God,  
C **we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**  
P Lift up your hearts.  
C **We lift them to the Lord.**  
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
- P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,  
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**P** Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C Amen**

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**C 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.**

**P** The gifts of God for the people of God.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**P** Come, for all is now ready.

*We sit.*

## COMMUNION

*Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.*

*Gluten-FREE rice wafers are available upon request and for those desiring it, non-alcoholic wine cups are in the center of the tray.*

MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION

HYMN: What Child Is This

ELW #296



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

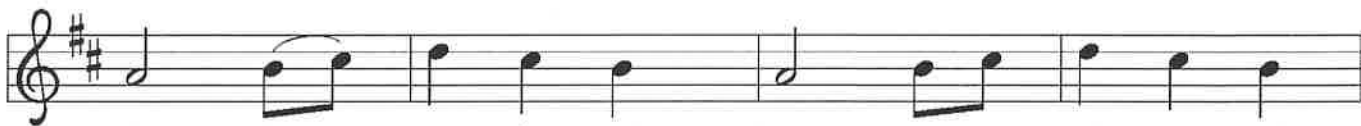




1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .

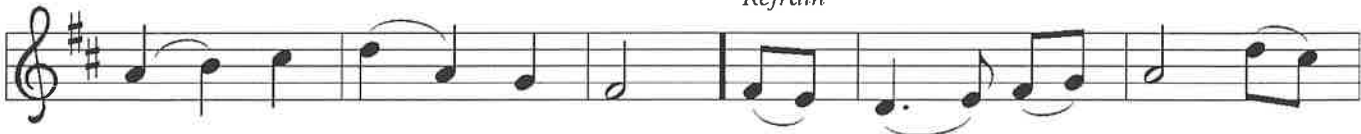


cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

*Refrain*



night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

*We stand.*

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

A Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

+ **SENDING** +

**BENEDICTION**

P May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph,  
the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the determination of the Magi, and the peace of the Christ child.

Almighty God: the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.  
 2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.  
 3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders  
 All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.  
 In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the  
 But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en  
 And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the  
 light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est  
 birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.  
 hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.  
 spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Text: Catalonian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953  
 Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalonian carol  
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Let All the Angels of God Worship Him

Messiah-Handel

## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Steven Ritter, Presiding Minister  
Steve Mickelson, Assisting Minister  
Alan Spear, Organist  
Todd Toles, Fred Holch,, AV/Sound  
Debbie Garrison, Nan Phillips,  
Ann Holch, Readers  
Kiera Piccony, Laina Ariola, Acolytes  
Kathy Richmond, Jackie Page, Altar Guild  
Ralph Beck, Jon Habegger, Ushers

## STAFF

Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor  
Mark Waldron, Pastoral Associate  
Director of Worship and Music  
Alan Spear, Organist  
Steven Ritter, Visitation Pastor  
Darlene Hutchens, Office Administrator  
Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant  
Mark Kohlmeier, Financial Secretary  
Allison Mikyska, Deacon Intern  
Mary Stola, Faith Community Nurse

## YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ed Schalk, President	Sharon Cooper	Marty Offutt-Gruber
Todd Toles, Vice President	Brad Hirt	Jackie Page
Doug Boehm, Secretary	Carie Holzl	Marsha Schuster
Karol Clark	Pastor Jeff Mikyska	Owen Stahl

If you have questions or concerns for members of the Church Council you're invited to speak with them personally or via email to [council@bethanybatavia.org](mailto:council@bethanybatavia.org).

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## LET US PRAY

*We pray for all who are hospitalized in our greater community and for those who are serving them.*

### Please pray for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns:

Carlene Altman, Keith Altman, Doug Andrews, Mary Bradtmueller, Bill Dahlman, Rich Franzen, Michelle Golden, Anna Jackson, Karin Johnston, **Luke & Diane Land**, Bill Lechnick, Doug McVey, Mary North, Bob Novy, Hershel Pruitt, Louise Pruitt, Beth Richard, David Richard, Judi Spear, Joyce Stran, Shirley Striedl, Gretchen VanKempema, Marion Youngquist

### Please pray for those who are homebound and those in need of a care facility:

Helen Anderson	Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad
Mark Anderson	Silverado Memory Care, St Charles
Dorothy Carlson	Michealsen Health Center, Holmstad
Nita Chevalier	Michealsen Health Center, Holmstad
Lois Elfstrom	Aurora, IL
Marilyn Georgeson	Park Manor, Holmstad
Pam Klingberg	Heritage Woods
Wanda Krentz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Walt Meinert	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Mildred Miller	Reserve of Geneva, Geneva
Joan Olson	Michealsen Health Center, Holmstad
Pat Quast	Asbury Gardens
Judi Spear	Arden Courts of Geneva, Geneva
Joyce Stran	GreenFields of Geneva, Geneva
Marion Youngquist	Bright Oaks, Aurora

### Please pray for all those serving in the military who are connected to our congregation

#### Please pray for our family and friends:

<b>Sherry &amp; Floyd Anderson</b>	<b>Beth Richard's Parents</b>
<b>Owen</b>	<b>Grandson of Debbie &amp; Bill Garrison</b>
<b>Pastor Paisley LeRoy</b>	<b>Pastor at Bethlehem Church, St. Charles</b>
Bill Garrison	Husband of Debbie Garrison
Pastor Tim Kohlmeier	Brother of Mark Kohlmeier
Charlene Novy	Mother of Bob Novy
Bill Parkhurst	Friend of Bill and Lynn Drymiller
Steve Voss	Friend of Pastor Jeff and Gail
Family friend of the Coopers	
Barbara Garrison	Bill Garrison's mother
Linda Bennett	Friends of Ken and Judy Henschler
Ellen	Shirley Grant's Sister-in-law
David Ohlson	Friend of Kathy Richmond
Paul Mazen	
Lynn & Bob Stroh	Friends of Jackie Page
Baby Thomas	Neighbor of Jan Bristow
Ed Bonnes	Cousin of John & Karol Clark
Bonnie Palshis	Sister-in-Law of Doug Boehm
Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher and family,	Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard
Phil	Lynn Dreymler's brother

Kathy Dee's Family  
Mary Jo Benstein's Family  
Susan Sheley  
Bonnie  
Carole W.  
DeAnne & Gary  
Laura  
Rabbi Margaret Frishklein  
Misty  
Brad Blue  
Megan Campbell  
Diane Ekstam Johnson  
Tammy English  
Marc Giolli  
Jerry Martin  
Jan McGowen  
Tina Motter  
Teri Prokes  
Tony Prokes  
Kelli Robertson  
Wolfgang Smailus  
Ed Stahl

Teri Figura  
Teri Figura  
Daughter of Hershel and Louise Pruitt  
Friend of Pastor Jeff  
Friend of Ann & Fred Holch  
Niece & Nephew of Shirley Grant  
Friend of Pastor Jeff  
Friend of Pastor Jeff  
Sister-in law of Pam Klingberg  
Friend of Lois Benson  
Granddaughter of Scotty & Maureen Scollon  
Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam  
Daughter of Shirley Streidl  
Friend of Pastor Jeff  
Father of Nicki McVey  
Friend of Ann Holch  
Sister of Jackie Page  
Sister of Sue & Bob Novy  
Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy  
Daughter of Diane Schalk  
Brother-in-law of Marty Offutt Gruber  
Father of Dan Stahl

**Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:**

Shirley Fox  
Robert Novy

Father of Bob Novy

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Ralph Beck, Sr	14	Judy Henschler
1	Karen Benson	15	Sue DeLong
1	Graham Gustafson	15	JoAnn Sargent
1	Judi Spear	17	Carole Hayes
2	Morgan Haug	19	Shirley Grant
2	Pat Quast	19	Bev Waterfield
3	Mark Larson	22	Shelley Peterson
4	Henry Haug	23	John Clark
4	Jimmy Haug	23	Drew Freedlund
6	Jayna Koentop	23	Keith Grashorn
6	Evan Piccony	25	Linda Hirt
7	Ray Phillips	25	Gregg Hodge
7	Rose Rader	25	William Smigo
8	Diane Anderson	26	Billy Hutchens
8	Christina Couperus	27	Jerry Schuster
10	Josh Hecht	27	Eric Solberg
10	Nick Klitzkie	27	Joan Summerfield
11	Alise Lopez	29	Michael Morrison
12	Kathy Richmond	31	Hayley Offutt
13	Sue Novy	31	Connor Powell
13	John Peterson	31	Mia Rusey

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

22	Andrew & Madeline Wirtz
29	Rich & Nancy Kreis

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

### Sunday, December 26

9am.....	Worship – Lessons and Carols.....	Sanctuary
10am.....	Coffee Hour.....	Fellowship Hall
2:30pm.....	Hesed House Preparation.....	Kitchen
4:30pm.....	Hesed House Serving.....	Hesed House
	Family Emergency Shelter	
5:30pm.....	Hesed House Serving.....	Hesed House - Aurora

### Monday, December 27

OFFICE CLOSED

8:30am .....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
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### Tuesday, December 28

8:30am .....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
9am.....	Quilters .....	Fellowship Hall
10am.....	Visitation – Shirley Fox .....	Sanctuary
11am.....	Funeral – Shirley Fox.....	Sanctuary

### Wednesday, December 29

8:30am .....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
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### Thursday, December 30

8:30am .....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
7pm .....	Boy Scout Troop 6 .....	Ministry Center Gym/Vlahn Room

### Friday, December 31

OFFICE CLOSED

8:30am .....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
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### Saturday, January 1

8pm .....	AA .....	Fellowship Hall
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### Sunday, January 2

9am.....	Worship .....	Sanctuary
10am.....	Coffee Hour.....	Fellowship Hall