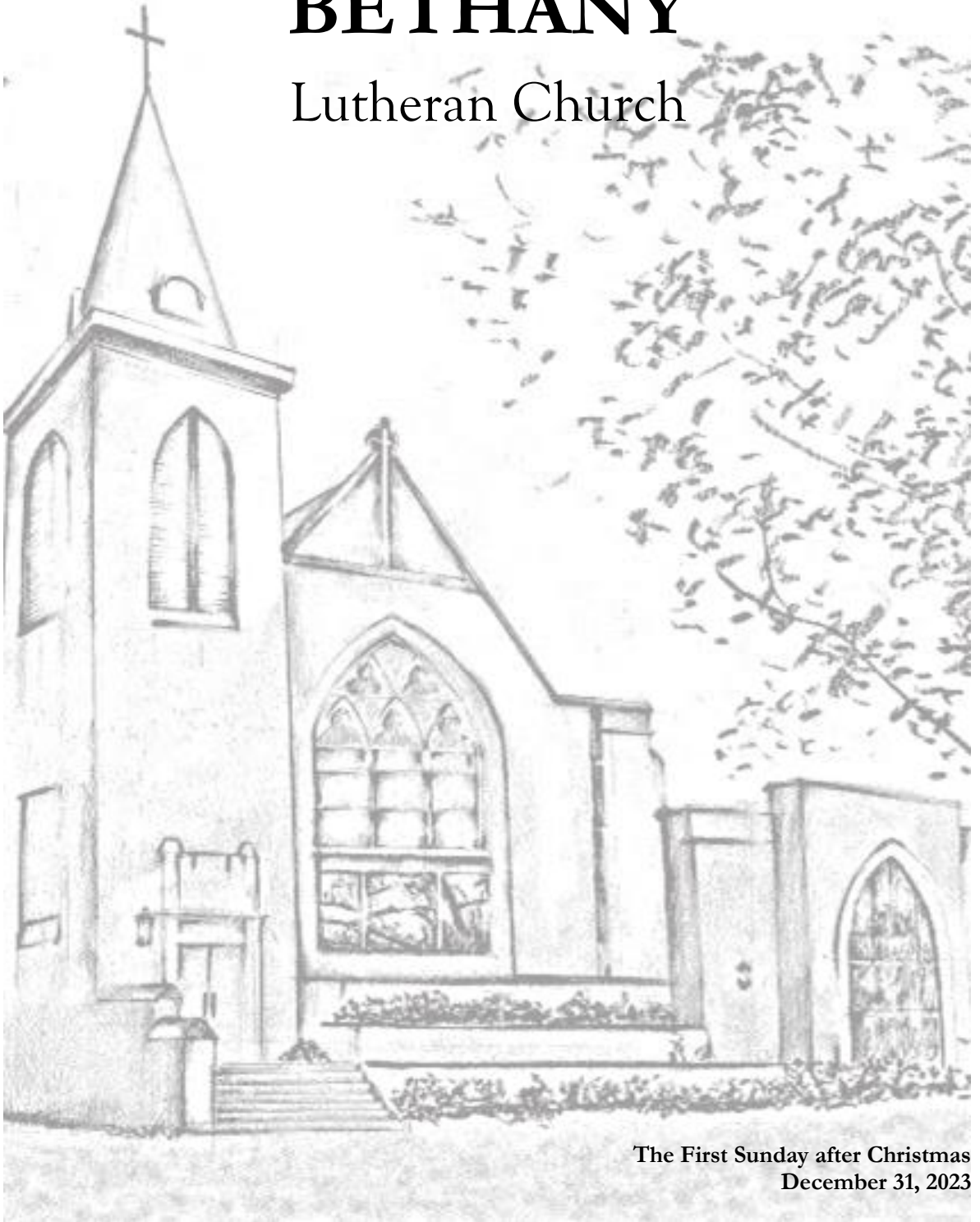


# BETHANY

Lutheran Church



The First Sunday after Christmas  
December 31, 2023

# 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 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 are invited to the table where Christ himself is host.

## **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: Where Shepherds Lately Knel't

Schalk/Callahan

*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

L 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.**

L I will hear what the Lord God has to say –

C **a voice that speaks for peace.**

L Peace for all people

C **and those who turn to God in their hearts.**

L Help is near for those who fear the Lord,

C **and God's glory will live in our land.**

L 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. In his birth as a human child, we have been intimately connected to your divine grace and love. May we look upon this gift with the wonder of a child and the appreciation of Mary. We pray 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."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924  
 Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

## 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.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876

Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

### 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!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.  
Music: W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

### 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

*(Reading continues on the next page.)*

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!

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.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L Glory to God in the highest,

C **and peace to his people on earth.**

L 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.**

L Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

C **Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**

L 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.**

L This we pray in the peace of presence in our new-born king, Christ the Lord.

C **Amen.**

## + MEAL +

### PEACE OF CHRIST

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*We sit.*

**OFFERING/VOLUNTARY:** Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Burkhardt

*We stand.*

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

L 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 forest, the animals of the field, the stars of the sky, and with all the earth and the heavens, 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 work for a world where divine love lives and moves amongst us.

C **Holy God, Lord of all, earth and heaven are filled with your glory.**

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C **Hosanna! in the highest!**

P Our Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed,

C **gathered to eat with his disciples.**

P He took the bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said

take this and eat it, for it is my body which is broken for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

C **Then he took the cup of wine and in the same way after giving thanks, gave it to them, saying:**

P Take this, and drink from it.

This is my blood of the new covenant.

It is shed for you, for the forgiveness of your sins and for the sins of all.

Do this in remembrance of me.

When we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we commemorate Jesus' death and proclaim his resurrection until He comes again.

Lord, 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, forming us to live as your holy people.

C **For it is through him, and with him, and in him, that we find our way to our Heavenly Father, in the joy of the Holy Spirit. 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 These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P All are welcome at the Lord's table. Come, for all is now ready.

## COMMUNION

*Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this sacramental banquet. 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:** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

**ELW #288**

**HYMN:** What Child Is This

**ELW #296**

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray.

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

## DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Go Tell it on the Mountain

Linker

## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister  
Peg Wagenknecht, Organist  
Ann Holch, Carol Thomassen, Altar Guild  
Dorothy Thorsen, Linda Sullivan, Comm Asst's

## STAFF

Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor  
Mark Waldron, Director of Music  
Alan Spear, Organist  
Darlene Hutchens, Church Administrator  
Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant  
Ed McQuillan, Financial Secretary  
Emma Hess, Youth Director

## YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Todd Toles, President  
Alan Spear, Vice President  
Marsha Schuster, Secretary  
Steve Mickelson, Treasurer  
Doug Boehm  
Karol Clark  
Brad Hirt

Dale Howard  
Billy Hutchens  
Rich Kreis  
Pastor Jeff Mikyska  
Kathy Richmond  
Mia Rusev  
Lane 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).

**Bethany's Vision:** We are a Grace-based, people-powered, refuge for all.

**Code of Conduct:** At Bethany, we believe everyone should live a faithful life in service with charity, kindness and integrity, and treat others with respect and understanding, act responsibly, and serve as an example of Christian faith in action.

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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:**

**Alan Spear**, Mary Bradtmueller, Marilyn Cornwell, Bill Dreymler, Diane Garland, Shirley Grant, Anna Jackson, Mike & Deb Hruby, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bob Novy, Louise Pruitt, George & Shirley Striedl, Brigitte Winkler

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

Mark Anderson	Silverado Memory Care, St Charles
Lois Elfstrom	Aurora, IL
Dolores Hoffman	Heritage Woods
Marie Holtz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Bill Keele	Heritage Woods
Pam Klingberg	Heritage Woods
Wanda Krentz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Joan Olson	Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad
Pat Sullivan	Bardwell Residence, Aurora
Jay & Carol Wierz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad

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

Owen Schuster

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

Student at Genoa-Kingston Middle School	
Marcia McDugle	Friend of Bob & Sue Novy
Molly & Mike Updyke	Daughter/Son-in-Law of George & Shirley Streidl
Mary Dunne	Aunt of Amanda Balsan
Jim Anderson	Friend of Bob Nelson
Robert & Vicki Johnson	Brother-in-Law/Sister-in-Law of Val Schalk
Walt Wille	Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler
Bob	Uncle of Darlene Hutchens
Marty	Friend of Hutchens' Family
Wesley Schroeder	Nephew of Gail Mikyska
Bonnie & Jim Hines	Parents of Suzanne Grashorn
Pat	Brother-in-Law of Suzanne Grashorn
Kristen Benakis	Friend of Bob & Sue Novy
Pat Pydo	Friend of John & Laura Peterson/Marty Offutt-Gruber
Todd Streidl	Son of George & Shirley Streidl
Marilyn	Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman
Tracy Clark	Sister of Tara Shannon
Sarah McCarthy	Friend of Jan Bristow & Kathy Richmond
Mary Lawrence	Sister-in-Law of Carole Benson
Steven & Janice Brown & Grace	Friends of Tom & Dee Schuman
Lee Peterson	Friend of Dottie White
Loda George Ricker	Friend of Fred & Ann Holch
Calvin, Diane & Family	Friends of Kathy Richmond
Katie Taylor	Great Niece of Ken & Judy Henschler
Jane Wirth	Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler
Michelle Hartzell	Friend of Beth Richard
Rick Gaston	Friend of Ann Holch
Tina Motter	Sister of Jackie Page
Mary Hughs	Sister of Jackie Page
Dottie	Friend of Paulette Smigo
Lizzie Bork	Friend of Julie Howard

Jeffrey Campbell  
Kate and Family  
Damon Schultz  
Sue S.  
Nicole  
Alice Hendrikson  
Maureen Scollon  
Chris Sidler  
Lisa  
Heather  
Gretchen VanKempema  
Ryan Anderson  
Linda Raish  
Lynne Morrow  
Kenzie  
Floyd Anderson  
Paul Mazen  
Bonnie Palshis  
Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher & family,  
Phil  
Kathy Dee's Family  
Mary Jo Benstein's Family  
Susan Sheley  
Bonnie  
Carole W.  
Diane Ekstam Johnson  
Tammy English  
Jerry Martin  
Teri Prokes  
Tony Prokes  
Kelli Robertson  
Ed Stahl

Nephew of Nan Phillips  
Friend of John & Karol Clark  
Son-in-Law of Shyla Carbone  
Friend of Bob & Sue Novy  
Friend of Linda Sullivan  
Friend of Lynn & Bill Dreymler  
Friend of Lois Benson & Dottie White  
Friend of Luke & Diane Land  
Friend of Beth Richard  
Friend of Schuman Family  
Daughter of Ann Holch  
Son of Aaron Anderson  
Friend of Kathy Richmond & Sandy Conn  
Friend and Colleague of Pastor Jeff & Gail  
Friend of Katie Robertson  
Beth Richard's Father  
  
Sister-in-Law of Doug Boehm  
Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard  
Lynn Dreymler's brother  
Teri Figura  
Teri Figura  
Daughter of Louise Pruitt  
Friend of Pastor Jeff  
Friend of Ann & Fred Holch  
Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam  
Daughter of Shirley Streidl  
Father of Nicki McVey  
Sister of Sue & Bob Novy  
Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy  
Daughter of Diane Schalk  
Father of Dan Stahl

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

**Brother of Bob Novy (Sue Novy)**



# JANUARY

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### *January Anniversary*

29 Rich & Nancy Kreis

### *January Birthdays*

1	Ralph Beck	15	Sue DeLong
1	Karen Benson	15	JoAnn Sargent
1	Graham Gustafson	17	Carole Hayes
2	Nate Gustafson	19	Shirley Grant
2	Morgan Haug	19	Bev Waterfield
3	Mark Larson	21	Kathie Spear
4	Henry Haug	23	John Clark
4	Jimmy Haug	23	Drew Freedlund
6	Evan Piccony	25	Linda Hirt
7	Ray Phillips	25	Gregg Hodge
7	Rose Rader	25	William Smigo
8	Christina Couperus	26	Billy Hutchens
10	Josh Hecht	27	Jerry Schuster
10	Nick Klitzkie	27	Eric Solberg
11	Alise Lopez	29	Michael Morrison
12	Kathy Richmond	31	Hayley Offutt
13	Sue Novy	31	Connor Powell
14	Judy Henschler	31	Mia Rusev

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

### Sunday, December 31

9am .....	Worship – Lessons and Carols .....	Sanctuary
10am .....	Coffee Hour .....	Fellowship Hall
10:30am .....	No Sunday School Today .....	Ministry Center

### Monday, January 1

NEW YEAR'S DAY

OFFICE CLOSED

### Tuesday, January 2

8:30am .....	Bethany Walking Group .....	Ministry Center Gym
9am .....	Quilters/Prayer Shawl Ministry .....	Fellowship Hall
10am .....	Property Committee .....	Conference Room
6:30pm .....	Girls BSA Troop 6 .....	Ministry Center Gym
6:30pm .....	Fox Valley Woodworkers .....	Library/Lower Level/M111
7pm .....	Fox Valley Woodworkers .....	Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, January 3

8:30am .....	Bethany Walking Group .....	Ministry Center Gym
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### Thursday, January 4

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

### Friday, January 5

8:30am .....	Bethany Walking Group .....	Ministry Center Gym
1pm .....	Court Watch – TENTATIVE .....	Lower Level or Fellowship Hall

### Saturday, January 6

7:30am .....	Men's Basketball .....	Ministry Center Gym
10am .....	Al-Anon .....	Library
10am .....	Al-Ateen .....	Lower Level
8pm .....	AA .....	Fellowship Hall

### Sunday, January 8

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