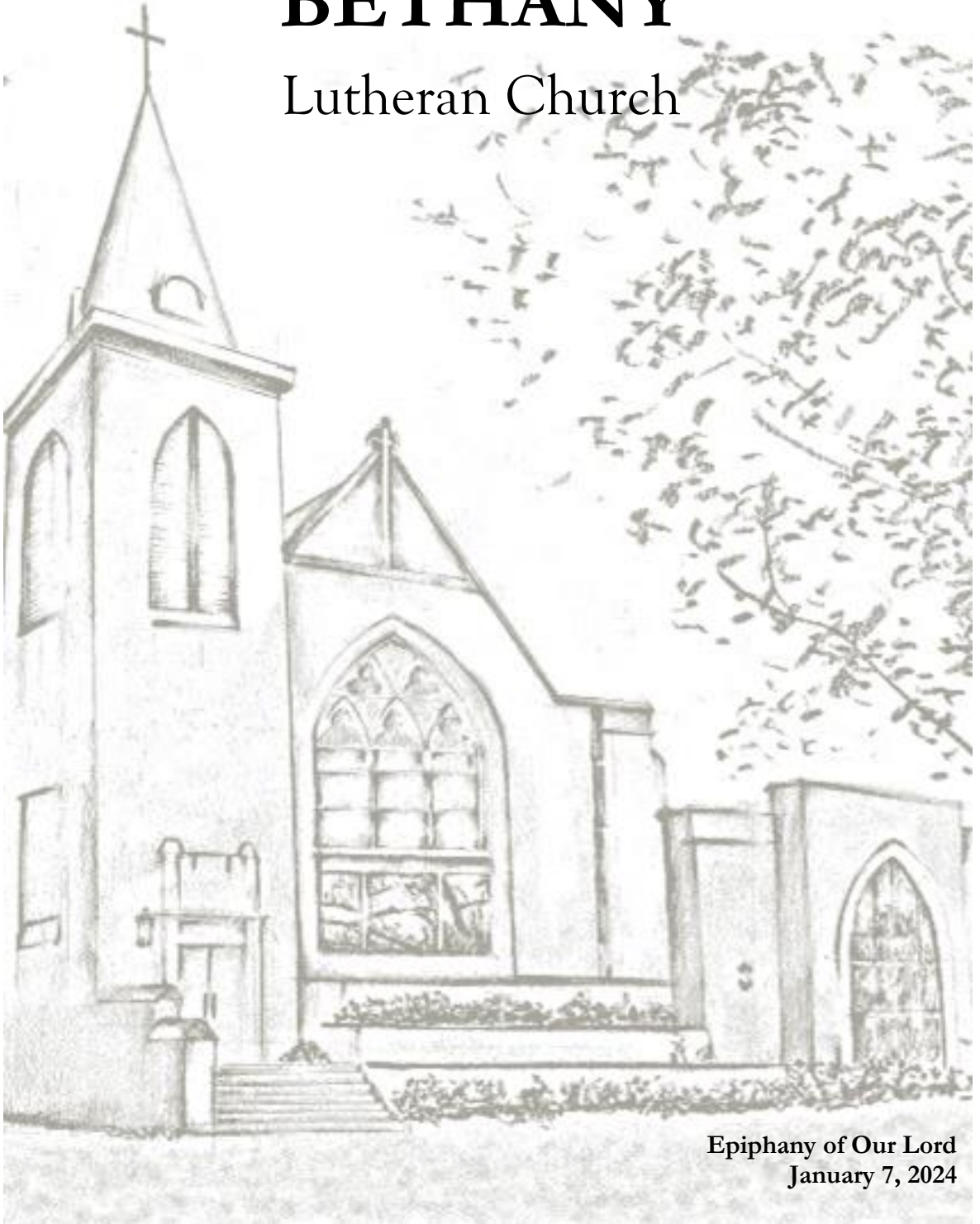


# BETHANY

Lutheran Church



Epiphany of Our Lord  
January 7, 2024

# 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:**

Arise, shine! Matthew tells the familiar story of the wise men who did exactly that, following an evening star in search of the newborn Morning Star. Upon entering the house, they kneel down and pay homage to King Jesus. Gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh are given. Thus, Jesus receives greater reverence from the Magi than King Herod did. These are gifts fit for a king and perhaps are meant to convey allegorical hints about Jesus' identity. But they are gifts without much utility or purpose in the moment. So what shall we give to Jesus? In Jesus, the God who has everything is now the God who has given everything; all God desires in return is for your heart to find faith in Christ.

*Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Lutheran Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.*

*The people's responses are in bold.*

*This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red) – referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.*

## + GATHERING +

**PRELUDE:** Be Thou My Vision

Var. Hopson/Spear

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Confessing our sins and receiving forgiveness prepares us to receive Christ in the proclamation of his Word and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*

*We stand*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just  
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will  
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.  
As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN: As with Gladness Men of Old**

**ELW #302**



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.  
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory Be to God in Heaven



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*The prayer of the day, or collect, is appointed for each Sunday and “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star.  
Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last  
to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*We sit*

## + WORD +

*This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.*

### **FIRST READING:** Isaiah 60:1–6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
<sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
<sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
<sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
<sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
<sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.*

### **SECOND READING:** Ephesians 3:1–12

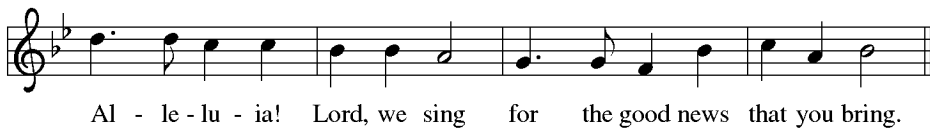
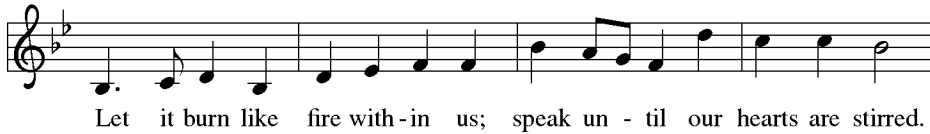
This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — <sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.  
<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given

me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### ALLELUIA VERSE



*This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.*

### HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>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." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet

*(Reading continues on the next page)*

<sup>6</sup>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."

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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." <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the day's scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.*

SERMON

Pastor Jeffrey Mikyska  
Matthew 2:1–12







1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
 3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
 5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 Shall we bring in - cense and of - f'rings di - vine,  
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;  
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
 rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.  
 mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.  
 myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?  
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.  
 Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

*The word “creed” comes from the Latin “credo” for “I believe.” First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity.*

## **NICENE CREED**

L Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C **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.**

*We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church – the Body of Christ.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

L Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

*A brief silence.*

L Humble our hearts, that we seek to be servants of your gospel and witnesses to your mysteries. And embolden our faith, that we make the good news of Christ's birth known to all people. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

L Establish justice on earth for all its inhabitants. Lead us to protect fragile ecosystems and endangered species. Empower the work of all who research, engineer, and make accessible alternative and renewable sources of energy. Make us careful stewards of your creation. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

L Nations shall come to your light and kings to your dawning. Remove corruption and fear from the hearts of leaders and authorities. Lead governments to expand policies and resources that care for refugees and migrants throughout the world. Strengthen the work of resettlement agencies. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

L Defend the cause of all who are in need, all facing poverty, and all who are oppressed. Come quickly to those who feel that their lives and livelihoods are fragile. Give them strength and lead them forth with hope. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

L As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, empower us to give generously. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

L You have redeemed the lives of your faithful departed. Through the love of Christ, gather us into one body with them, and reveal to us the mystery of the One who created all things. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## + MEAL +

*We share Christ's peace with each other as a sign of charity and unity in preparation for the Holy Communion.*

### 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.*

*Having confessed our sins, received forgiveness, listened to the Word of God and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offering we gratefully offer back to God some of what he has given us, symbolically in the gifts of bread and wine prepared at the table and the money we give.*

**OFFERING VOLUNTARY:** Variation on "Eventide"

Hopson/Spear

*We stand.*

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

L Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."*

### 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. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. As the star drew visitors to the Christ child, so too does this meal draw us in today.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.  
 He is your Light, shining in our darkness  
 and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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.

Remembering the light that leads us to the  
Christ Child and your grace incarnate,  
we await that day when all the universe  
will rejoice in the illumination of your holy presence.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,  
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,  
we may be light for the world,  
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.*

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus has first 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.**

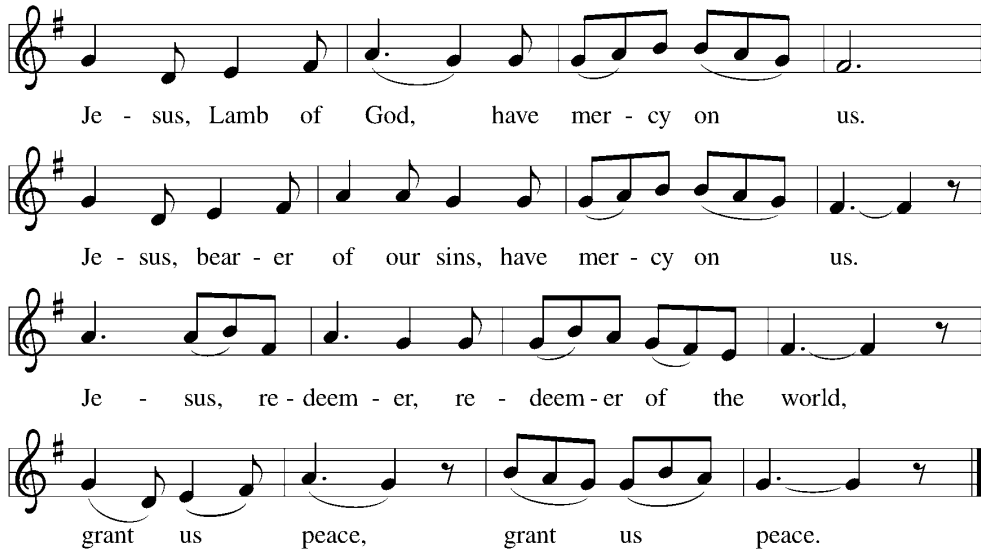
P All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Come, for all is now ready.

*We sit.*



*Echoing both John 1:29 and Revelation 5:6, this song addresses the risen Christ giving himself away at this table as the true Lamb.*

## AGNUS DEI



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

*Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to his holy 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: The First Noel

ELW #300



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.

Text: English traditional  
 Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional



*Refrain*



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the



2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark-ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free, by the truth you now bring us.



mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

*Refrain*



Shine on me, shine on me:



Shine on me, shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin, Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE  
9 9 10 10 3 3 and refrain

*We stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

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

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart,

and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ.

Now send us forth to be your light in our world today, drawing others to the Grace and Peace of the Christ child. We pray through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

*Sending reminds us that every Sunday worship gathering is a cycle, existing for a time and then dispersing. We arrive at the “sending” after traveling from the rite of gathering to the word and meal. We heard and proclaimed the Word; we were nourished at the Meal; and now we complete the cycle. We have encountered the living Christ in this place and are empowered for ministry in the world.*

## + SENDING +

### BENEDICTION

P Almighty God: Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forevermore.

C **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN: Arise, Your Light Has Come

ELW #314



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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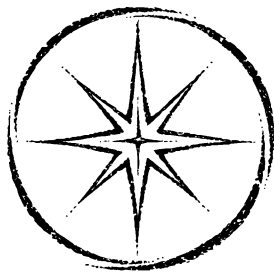
**DISMISSAL**

L Go in peace. Be a beacon of light. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE:** Variation on “All Creatures’ of our God and King”

Alan F. Spear



## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister  
Morgan Hutchens, Worship Leader  
Alan Spear, Organist  
Lynn Dreymler, Reader  
Todd Toles, A/V  
Dorothy Thorsen, Kathy Richmond, Altar Guild  
Grace Rusev, Michael Goro, Acolytes  
Ralph Beck, Jon Habegger, Steve Deller, Ushers  
Morgan Hutchens, Emma Hess, Margie Schuett,  
Comm Asst's

## STAFF

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

## 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:**

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

#### **Mary Dunne & Family**

Student at Genoa-Kingston Middle School  
Marcia McDugle  
Molly & Mike Updyke  
Jim Anderson  
Robert & Vicki Johnson  
Walt Wille  
Bob  
Marty  
Wesley Schroeder  
Bonnie & Jim Hines  
Pat  
Kristen Benakis  
Pat Pydo  
Todd Streidl  
Marilyn  
Tracy Clark  
Sarah McCarthy  
Mary Lawrence  
Steven & Janice Brown & Grace  
Lee Peterson  
Loda George Ricker  
Calvin, Diane & Family  
Katie Taylor  
Jane Wirth  
Michelle Hartzell  
Rick Gaston  
Tina Motter  
Mary Hughs  
Dottie  
Lizzie Bork

#### **Aunt of Amanda Balsan**

Friend of Bob & Sue Novy  
Daughter/Son-in-Law of George & Shirley Streidl  
Friend of Bob Nelson  
Brother-in-Law/Sister-in-Law of Val Schalk  
Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler  
Uncle of Darlene Hutchens  
Friend of Hutchens' Family  
Nephew of Gail Mikyska  
Parents of Suzanne Grashorn  
Brother-in-Law of Suzanne Grashorn  
Friend of Bob & Sue Novy  
Friend of John & Laura Peterson/Marty Offutt-Gruber  
Son of George & Shirley Streidl  
Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman  
Sister of Tara Shannon  
Friend of Jan Bristow & Kathy Richmond  
Sister-in-Law of Carole Benson  
Friends of Tom & Dee Schuman  
Friend of Dottie White  
Friend of Fred & Ann Holch  
Friends of Kathy Richmond  
Great Niece of Ken & Judy Henschler  
Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler  
Friend of Beth Richard  
Friend of Ann Holch  
Sister of Jackie Page  
Sister of Jackie Page  
Friend of Paulette Smigo  
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)

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

### Sunday, January 7

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

### Monday, January 8

8:30am ..... Bethany Walking Group ..... Ministry Center Gym  
 9am ..... Counters ..... Conference Room  
 12pm ..... Hope Circle ..... Adult Lounge/Library  
 12:30pm ..... Staff Meeting ..... Conference Room  
 7pm ..... Council Budget Meeting ..... Library  
 7pm ..... Marketing Team/Zoom Meeting ..... Fellowship Hall/Via Zoom

### Tuesday, January 9

8:30am ..... Bethany Walking Group ..... Ministry Center Gym  
 9am ..... Quilters/Prayer Shawl Ministry ..... Fellowship Hall  
 5:30pm ..... Executive Team ..... Conference Room  
 6:30pm ..... Girls BSA Troop 6 ..... Ministry Center Gym  
 7pm ..... Fox River Radio League ..... Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, January 10

8:30am ..... Bethany Walking Group ..... Ministry Center Gym  
 10am ..... Senior Advocacy Group ..... Fellowship Hall/Library  
 5:30pm ..... Youth Bells ..... Sanctuary/Balcony  
 6pm ..... Confirmation ..... Youth Room/Chapel  
 7pm ..... Youth Group ..... Youth Room/Chapel

### Thursday, January 11

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

### Friday, January 12

8:30am ..... Bethany Walking Group ..... Ministry Center Gym  
 9:45am ..... Food Pantry Serving ..... Batavia Food Pantry

### Saturday, January 13

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

### Sunday, January 14

9am ..... Worship ..... Sanctuary  
 10am ..... Coffee Hour ..... Fellowship Hall  
 10:30am ..... Sunday School NEW LOCATION ..... Main Building/2nd Floor

**The Argyle Sweater** By Scott Hillburn



**Bliss** By Harry Bliss