

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Rev. Susan Engholm, Supply Pastor | Jan Smith, Accompanist

Second Sunday after Epiphany | Sunday, January 19, 2024

ACS Holy Communion Setting 11

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church seeks to serve God

and its neighbors by joyfully living into the good news of Jesus Christ.

**GATHERING**

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

Meditation time The Light of Christ arr. by Anthony Giamanco

Gracious Spirit, Head Our Pleading arr. by Sylvia Oines

Welcome & Announcements

**GATHERING SONG** All Who Are Thirsty (Green Binder #103)

Confession, Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.** Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults** **and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ’s ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

**SONG OF PRAISE** Draw Me Close (Green Binder # 106)

Greeting (purple ACS p. 12)

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

Prayer of the Day

**Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness, and salvation to his people.  Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**SONG OF PRAISE** Glory to the Love by Larry Olson and Hans Peterson (Insert)

**WORD**

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

FIRST Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

1 For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn and her salvation like a burning torch. 2 The nations shall see your vindication and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. 3 You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the Lord and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. 4 You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her and your land Married, for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. 5 For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 36:5-10 (read responsively)

5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness **|** to the clouds.  
6 **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep;** **you save humankind and animals, O Lord.**   
7 How priceless is your love, O God! All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.  
8 **They feast upon the abundance of your house;** **you give them drink from the river of your delights.**  
9 For with you is the well of life, and in your light we see light.  
10 **Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,** **and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

SECOND Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. 2 You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. 3 Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. 4 Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, 5 and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation Thy Word (Green Binder #11)

Gospel: John 2:1-11

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

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” 4 And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” 5 His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” 6 Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. 8 He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. 9 When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *Open the Eyes of My Heart* **(Green Binder #111)**

apostles’ Creed (purple ACS p. 17-18)

Prayers of Intercession God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

**MEAL**

**God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.**

Offering Bind Us Together (Green Binder #6)

OfferTORY Prayer

**God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

Thanksgiving at the Table (purple ACS p. 21)

…with every breath. **We praise you, O God**…into the future. **We rejoice in you, O God**

**…**with us now. **We thank you, O God**…proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again**…in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Lord’s prayer (purple ACS p. 24)

COMMUNION

Song during communion In This Feast of Love (Purple Hymnal #962)

Prayer after Communion

**SENDING**

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

BENEDICTION SONG *Blessing*

**May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you. May God look upon you with favor and give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace. Amen.**

Blessing

Sending song The Service (Green Binder # 100)

Dismissal Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Redeemed arr. by Carol Tornquist

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**WELCOME TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH! WE’RE GLAD YOU’RE HERE!**

***If you are new to Bethel, here is some helpful worship information****: We use the ELW (red hymnal) and the supplement ACS (purple hymnal), which contain liturgy and hymns. Liturgy pages are at the front of each hymnal, with the page numbers at the bottom and in the bulletin as (red ELW p.) or (purple ACS p.) Hymn pages are in the back two-thirds of the hymnals, with the page numbers at the top and in the bulletin as (red hymnal #) or (purple hymnal #). The songs from the Green Binder are in the bulletin as (green binder #).*

***Hearing assist devices are available;*** *speak to an usher for assistance.*

**THIS WEEK AT BETHEL**

Today, January 19 (Thank you Pastor Susan Enghom, for leading us in worship today!)

* Sunday school, BLTs, fellowship: after worship
* Bethel Breakfast: 10:30 am, Longhorn’s Burger House, LP
* *The Chosen*: 10:15 am

Wednesday, January 22

* Quilting: 1:00 pm-4:30 pm
* Choir practice: 6:30 pm

Sunday, January 26

* Worship: 9:00 am
* Sunday school, Annual Congregational meeting & potluck: after worship

**QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS?** Contact the church office at 320-395-2125 or bethellutheranlp@gmail.com. Call Pastor Molly Wills at 320-339-8169 or email pastor@lpbethel.org for emergency pastoral care needs.

**ADDRESS:** 77 Lincoln AVE N, Lester Prairie, MN 55354, (Mailing USPS: PO Box 207)

**WEBSITE**: [www.lpbethel.org](http://www.lpbethel.org)

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Description automatically generatedFACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/lpbethel

**BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Wednesdays at noon

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** 25th of the month

**ONLINE GIVING:** scan the QR code

**TEXT GIVING:** To give, text dollar amount to 866-298-7547

**SIMPLY GIVING** offers convenience for you and much-needed consistency for Bethel! For more information, contact Stacy Meyer, Financial Secretary, at finsec@lpbethel.org.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

* **NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKING 2025 VOLUNTEERS**: Open positions include: Council positions: President, Secretary, Financial Secretary (all 2-year terms), Finance Board and Education Board (both 2-year terms, they partner with another board member, and only one person from each board needs to attend the council meetings) Committee positions: Cemetery 2-year term, Mission Endowment 3-year term/need two, Audit 3-year term/need one, Nominating 1-year term/need four, Synod Assembly in June/one male & one female. *Contact Peggy Wick, Ron Foust, or Brian Duncan if you want to serve in 2025!*
* **BETHEL’S ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY, JANUARY 26:** The meeting will begin immediately following worship. A potluck meal will follow the meeting.Please make every effort to attend this important meeting for our congregation.
* **THANK YOU** to all who helped organize beforehand and run the Task Force Social on Wed., January 15. The youth created homemade cards to give away and snacked on popcorn!
* **RACHEL KURTZ IN CONCERT** with the SW MN Synod youth band: Wed., January 29, Hutchinson Event Center, pizza will be served from 5:45 pm to 6:15 pm (RSVP by Jan. 27 to pastor@riverofhopehutchinson.org), and the concert will be from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm. Admission is free, and donations will be accepted (checks written to River of Hope).
* **UPCOMING MILESTONE CLASSES:** *Ten Commandments for 4th graders*: February 2 with a blessing during worship on February 9. *Stewardship for 6th graders*: February 9 with a blessing during worship on February 16. The classes will be held after worship.
* **FAITH THAT OVERFLOWS 2025:** Registration for GLLM summer programs is open! By registering early, you will not only reserve your place, but you’ll save money too! The Early Bird Discount ends on February 13, 2025! Every registration received before then will receive $65 off each registered program (some restrictions apply.) GLLM scholarships are available for any program including youth camps, and retreat programs. Bethel also has scholarships available, contact Emily Koehler or Pete Hallberg if you are interested. Visit gllm.org for more information and register today! If you have questions, contact the office at 320-796-2181 or email [camp@gllm.org](mailto:camp@gllm.org).
* **CREATIVE SOULS RETREAT, FEBRUARY 7-9, 2025**: Escape the cold and snow and enjoy a cozy weekend of creating! Crafters of all skills and projects are invited to a weekend of dedicated time for creating and working on projects. No need to think about meals or dishes, because we have those covered. When you need a break, there is space for a walk, reading a book, or even enjoying a nap. Join us for a weekend filled with whatever your creative soul needs! Register before the deadline-Tuesday, January 28! Visit [gllm.org](http://gllm.org/) for more information and register today!
* **SAVE THE DATE- February 15th- Grandparent and Grandchild Valentine Breakfast!**

Children ages 5 and older can attend with their grandparents or other special adults for [free] breakfast and fun activities! More details and registration information are coming soon!

* **BOXES OF SUNSHINE:** The BLTs will be putting together “Boxes of Sunshine” for the college students of Bethel on February 23rd. We will be collecting “yellow” items for approximately 6 students. If you would like to contribute, here are some of the items we are looking for: Juicy Fruit gum, lemonade packets, Velveeta Mac and Cheese cups, Slim Jims, small packages of Peanut M&M’s, yellow highlighters, chicken flavored Ramen Noodles, small packages of Fudge Stripe cookies, small bags of Lay’s Potato Chips, yellow Post-it Notes, boxes of Sour Patch Kids, and any other snacks or treats that have yellow packaging!