

First Sunday of Christmas

Readings, Carols and Communion

December 30, 2018

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church

YOUR PASTORS

Pastor Christine Core

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We are glad you are here and we pray God will be real to you as you worship. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Knowing God loves all creation and holds us all, we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We welcome everyone and honor the rich diversity and giftedness that age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships.

Prelude

We Gather Together

Welcome

Gathering Song

Joy to the World



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.

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will, and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

First Reading

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

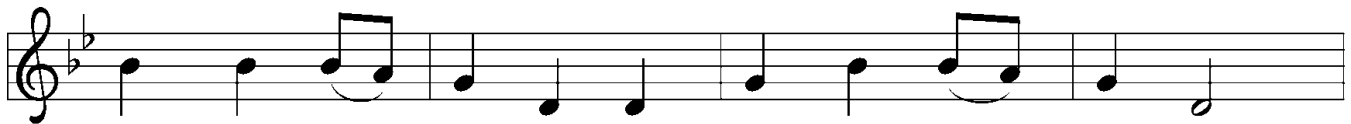
Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

P: Holy wisdom, holy word.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

A Children's Story based on the Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis

Carol:

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Reading from The Christmas Book by Martin Luther

Silence for Reflection

Christmas Poem by Mary Oliver

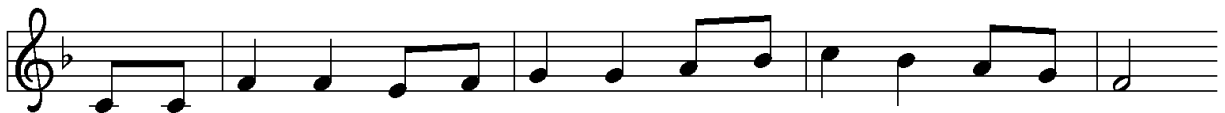
Write an early childhood memory of Christmas here:

Carol:

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



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!

Reading from Night Visions by Jan Richardson

Silence for Reflection

Christmas Poem by Alice Walker

Write a prayer for warmth and peace here:

Carol:

Love Has Come



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!



Reading from Christmas with Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Silence for Reflection

Christmas Poem by Maya Angelou

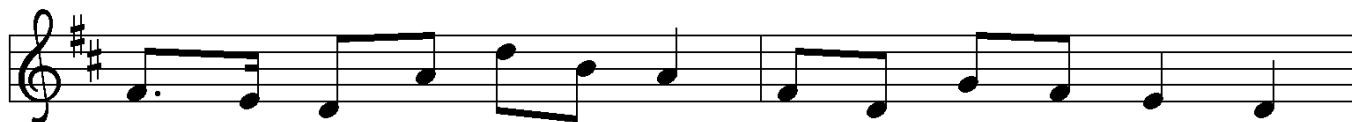
Write a wish or intention for 2019 here:

Carol:

Cold December Flies Away



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.

Prayers of the People (We respond after each petition.)

God of darkness and light, **hear our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you



WE CELEBRATE THE MEAL

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

May God be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them the God of Life

Let us give thanks to the God of all Being.
It is right to give thanks to the Source of All Things.

It is our duty and delight to offer our thanks and praise in this Christmas season as we see the birth of new life and the coming of the life even in the midst of deep winter.
We praise you God of New Life, born in Christ, born in us.

God of John the Baptist's preparing, God of Mary's pondering and Joseph's dreams, God of shepherds' watching and angels' singing we praise you.
Awaken us to your presence in history and in our lives.

Stir up your presence in our lives. Make our hearts mangers of your new life for this thirsty world. Come, Lord Jesus, be born anew in us as we praise and adore you as we sing:
**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

In the night of his betrayal and death, our Lord Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to his friends saying, "Take this and eat it. This is my body given for you. Do this to remember me." (Sing)
**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to them saying, "Take and drink. This cup is the new promise in my blood, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin and the healing of the world. Do this to remember me." (sing)
**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**

Pour out your Holy and life-giving Spirit upon us and upon this meal. Unite us in this Bethlehem place as we gather around the manger of your word and this holy sacrament.

Fill us with the new life of God incarnate, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Join our hearts as we pray as Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer *(alternative version by Parker J. Palmer, 1991)*

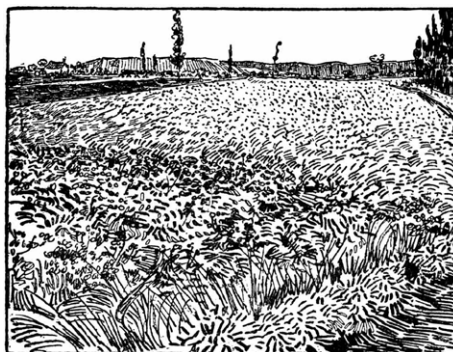
**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
us to holy innocence
Beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen**

Invitation to Communion

Speak to us, O God, in the breaking of the bread and make us one with you.

Communion Distribution

All are welcome to come to the feast.



Our welcome extends to the Communion Table. We recognize that this is Christ's Table and Christ's invitation. Please come forward as you are invited. If you prefer not to receive Communion at this time, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – just fold your arms across your chest so that we know you prefer a blessing. Wine is served from the first chalice; grape juice is served from the second. We also offer gluten-free bread and individual cups of wine.

Communion Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful



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!

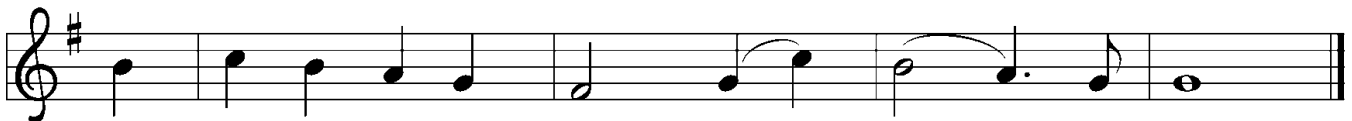


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

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!

Prayer After Communion

We give you thanks, almighty and all-tender God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Are Sent in Jesus' Love

Announcements

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

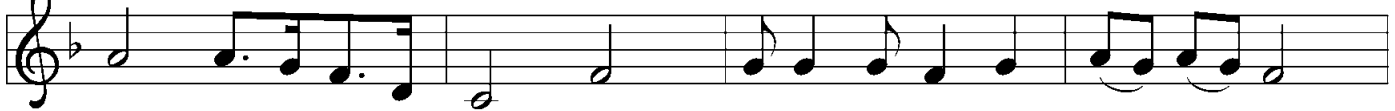
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



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



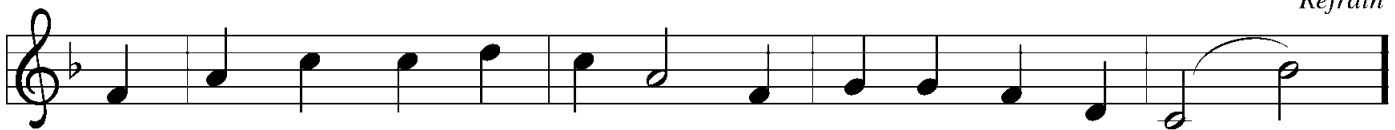
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



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;



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.

Refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer Requested For:	Prayer Concern:	Prayer Contact:
For all people who walk in the darkness, searching for meaning and treasures of the spirit.	Prayers of peace and comfort.	The People of Bethel
Jan Kimble	Prayers for healing and effective treatment for breast cancer.	Tammy Gover
Richard VanDyke	Prayers for healing and peace.	Jim VanDyke
Pepe Rochon	Prayers for healing and comfort.	Faith St. John
Barbara Lynch	Prayers for healing and peace while. Barbara continues recovery at the home of her daughter and you may send your get well greetings to her at 803B NE 166th Ave., Vancouver, WA 08684	Pastor Christine
Barbara Horne	Prayers of healing and comfort.	Tammy Gover
June Hassebroek	Prayers of healing and comfort.	Pastor Christine
Bob Leon	Prayers of thanksgiving. He has healed well.	Pastor Christine
Carl Olson, Ryan Olson's father	Prayers of healing and comfort as Carl recovers from surgery.	Pastor Christine
John Houdeshell	Prayers of comfort for John Houdeshell and his family	Pastor Christine
Our prayers continue for many among us: for Bertha Anderson, Timothy Collins, Elizabeth, Rob, Jacob Bard, Miles Bard, Annalu Lingnau, Ben Lingnau, Jr., Ben Lingnau III, David Lingnau, Mary Rix, Patricia Connor, Bob & Nancy Leon, Lori Fields.		



Stewardship of Service	Today - Dec 30	Next Week - Jan 6
Ministers:	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor:	Pr. Christine Core	Pr. Christine Core
Pastor:	Pr. Terry Moe	Pr. Terry Moe
Musician:	Jamie Vandenburg	LeAnn Michaels
Usher:		Burdicks
Reader:		Brady Burdick
Communion:	Brady Burdick	Mary
Preparation of the Altar:	Brady Burdick	

Bethel News



Coming Up:

- 1/6 | Bethel Choir Practice Resumes, 9 am
- 1/9 | Food Ministry Meeting, 6:30 pm, Fireside Room
- 1/12 | "Confirmation" Class, 1 pm, Pastor Christine's office
- 1/13 | Congregation Informational Meeting on Budget, Parsonage and other questions before us as a congregation – immediately following worship
- 1/20 | Congregational Council Meeting, following Worship
- 1/27 | Congregation Annual Meeting, following Worship

Other News

Pastor Schedule

Pastor Core is away from Bethel 12/26 to 1/5. P Moe will be available during this time for any need that arises.

Budget Update

As you consider your end of the year giving, please consider Bethel Lutheran's General Budget. Although we have been very careful with our expenditures, we are still experiencing a deficit. We appreciate very much the financial stewardship and oversight of our Treasurer, Meghan Cyr. Here is her summary report given to the Congregational Council this month.

As of November 2018, we are at a deficit of approximately \$6,100. Giving (Envelope and Loose) is less than budget by \$8,700 compared to \$7,000 in October. On a positive note, expenses are also less than budget by approximately \$20,000 due to less expense in Property & Management (\$2K), and Personnel (\$18.6K). Although we are still under budget in expenses, our Envelope and Loose income continues to be below expectations causing the shortfall of \$6,100.

For December's financials I will make a final entry to move money from the Fundraising Income line to cover the deficit balance. These will be funds allocated by the Bethel Players, as agreed upon in the annual meeting in January. It doesn't look like we will need to withdraw any money from the Endowment income line at this time.

Congratulations to Bethel!

We have been awarded a Domestic Hunger Grant from the ELCA in support of its programs to feed the hungry in our neighborhood. Starting in February 2019, we will receive the first of three \$5,000 awards!

Hey Kids, Let's go see The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors!

Thanks to a generous gift from a Friend of Bethel you are invited to see the play at the Oregon Children's Theater. Meghan Cyr is the contact.

Step One: Pick a date! Get your parents and grandparents to let Meghan Cyr know which date will work best for you and your family. Saturday, April 6 (2 pm), Sunday, April 7 (2 pm), Saturday, April 13 (11 am or 2 pm), or Sunday, April 14 (2 pm).

Step Two: Buy tickets – we'll do that as soon as we know many kids and chaperones can attend.