



Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6, 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

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

We Gather Together

Welcome

O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:

The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!

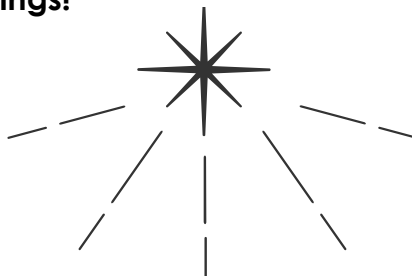
O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:

The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!

O come, let us worship the Lord
and consider what wondrous things God has done:

**The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan,
making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!**

O come, let us worship the Lord,
for God has done wondrous things!



Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. A gender neutral restroom located behind the worship space next to the church office. Please ask the Usher or Greeter for assistance. There is also a rocking chair in the rear of the Sanctuary. Please use it as you wish.

Opening Hymn

Rise, Shine, You People!



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free-dom gave us. Tell how the

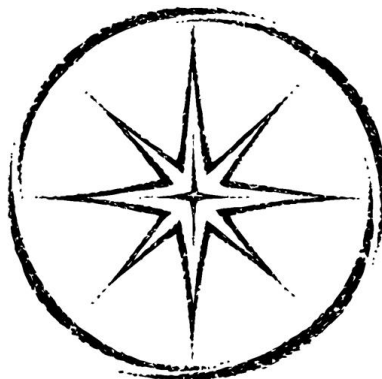


us, by death and sin sur-round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

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.



Kyrie

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord.

For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

mer - cy.

A - men.

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

Refrain

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

Refrain

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

Refrain

God; to make all things new.

Prayer of the Day

God of all good gifts, who gives freely to us, have mercy on us and grant us the peace that only the Prince of Peace can provide. Grant that our lives would be an offering, and that our work would be a good gift, just as the gifts that the magi brought, pleasing to you and fit for the king of all creation. We look to you, our Prophet, Priest and King, to rule the world with justice, and to give salvation to all who call upon you. Amen

We Hear God's Word

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
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.
Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

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.
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.
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.

P: Hear the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

First Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. 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: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

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. 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, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; 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. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

P: Hear the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the second chapter.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: This is the Gospel of the Jesus Christ.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message Sermon



Hymn of the Day

Bright and Glorious is the Sky



1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this
4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions
di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the
with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her



heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.
lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found
him whose praise the ages sound.
We too have a star to guide us,
which forever will provide us
with the light to find our Lord,
with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,
that will never lead astray
with its message so appealing,
is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth, the life,
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.



Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the People *(We respond after each petition.)*
God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Consider sung response: chorus of We Three Kings

**Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide with thy perfect light.**

Sharing of the Peace

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



WE CELEBRATE THE MEAL

Offering

Offering Hymn

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Holy God,

your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to give our thanks and praise ...

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 and End of All Things.

It is our duty and delight to offer our thanks and praise as we celebrate your Epiphany to the magi and to us, your showing forth in the dark of this season.

We praise you God of Light blazing forth like a fire on a hill.

God of the stars and God of candles, God of scientists and God of Astrologers, God of all searchers near and far, God of those who follow their dreams awaken in us our deepest longings for you and grant us grace to follow our dreams.

Send your bright star before us as we seek you today.

Stir up your presence in our lives. Lead us to the manger of Christ. (sing)

**Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide with thy perfect light.**

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."

Come, Lord Jesus, be present to us and to the world in this bread.

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."

Come, Lord Jesus, bring your healing and hope with this cup.

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.

Amen.

Join our hearts as we pray as Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer *(traditional)*

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

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

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
* you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world:
fear: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
peace:
love:

Final time Cong. or assistant:

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Distribution

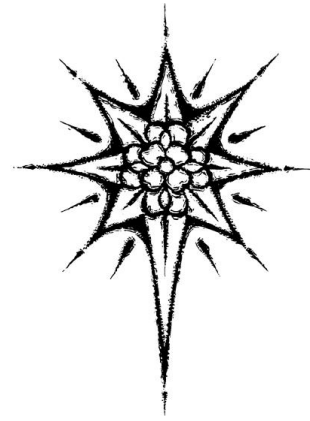
All are welcome to come to the feast.



Communion Hymn

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

- 1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
You shine with God's own truth and light,
aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's line, King David's son,
our Lord and Savior, you have won
our hearts to serve you only!
Lowly, holy!
Great and glorious,
all victorious,
rich in blessing!
Rule and might o'er all possessing!
- 2 Come, precious diamond, light divine,
and deep within our hearts now shine;
there light a flame undying!
In your one body let us be
as living branches of a tree,
your life our lives supplying.
Now, though daily
earth's deep sadness
may perplex us
and distress us,
yet with heav'nly joy you bless us.



What Child Is This - Piano and Trumpet

Prayer After Communion

God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.
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

Shine, Jesus, Shine

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,
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness,
in the midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing;
so our fac - es dis - play your like - ness,
Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
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.
Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.
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 Hassebrook	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 - Jan 6	Next Week - Jan 13
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
Music Director:	LeAnn Michaels	LeAnn Michaels
Musician	Joel Riddell	
Usher:	Burdicks	The Bentleys
Reader:	Brady Burdick	Jeff Landon
Communion:	Mary	Tammy Gover
Preparation of the Altar:		Tammy Gover

Bethel News



Coming Up:

- 1/9 | Bethel Choir Practice, 9 am
- 1/9 | Food Ministry Meeting, 6:30 pm, Fireside Room
- 1/12 | Saturday Hygiene Program
- 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
- 1/26 | Saturday Hygiene Program
- 1/27 | Congregation Annual Meeting, following Worship

Other News

Together We Had a Wonderful Christmas



We look forward sharing another year at Bethel.

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.