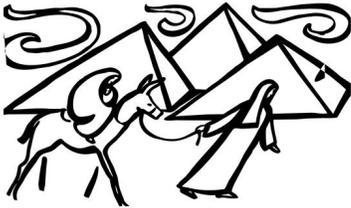




FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

December 29, 2019

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



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.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship, Anonymous Christian author, from sometime during the 3rd to 6th century.

May none of God's wonderful works keep silence,
night or morning.

**Bright stars,
high mountains,
the depths of the seas,
sources of rushing rivers;
may all these break into song
as we sing to Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

May all the angels in the heavens reply
Amen! Amen! Amen!

**Power, praise, honor, eternal glory to God,
the only giver of grace.**

Amen! Amen! Amen!

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

Angels, From the Realms of Glory



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Greeting

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



Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Salutation

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 63:7-9

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.
For he said, "Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely";
and he became their savior
in all their distress.
It was no messenger or angel
but his presence that saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

P: Hear the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Hebrews 2:10-18

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again,

"Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

P: Hear the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

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

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 2nd chapter.

The people respond: **Glory to you, O God.**

Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The people respond: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon



Hymn of the Day

O Little Town of Bethlehem



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



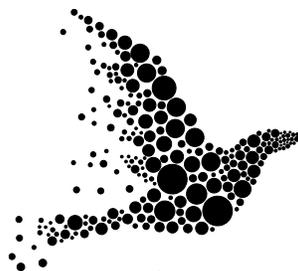
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

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



WE CELEBRATE THE MEAL

Offering

Offertory Hymn

What Child Is This, verses 1 and 3



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Offering Prayer

Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others.

Help us to be good steward of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger.

Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... join their unending hymn:

Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.



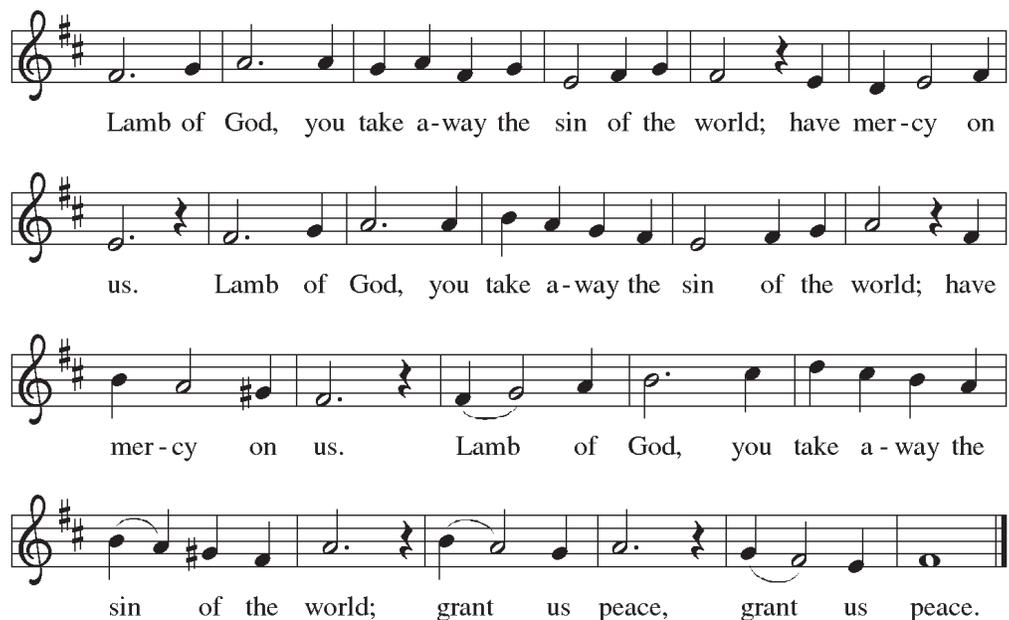
Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: San - to e - res Se - ñor.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.
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.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

God keeps adding places to the table. Come to the banquet that has no end!

Communion Distribution

Communion Hymn

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 nigh.
and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Prayer After Communion

God of abundance, we give you thanks that in this holy meal, you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words and our work in your name invite others into your bountiful grace. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior.

WE ARE SENT IN JESUS' LOVE

Announcements

Blessing

May God, who gathers us in love, lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice.
May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom.

May God, who fills us with good things, lead you in pathways of equity and abundance.

The blessings of the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

Sending Hymn

Go Tell It On the Mountain

Refrain



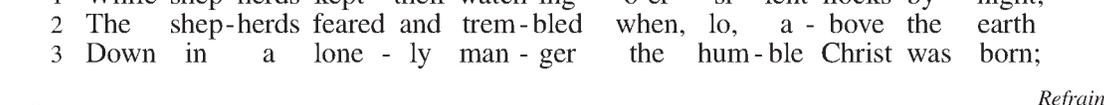
Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



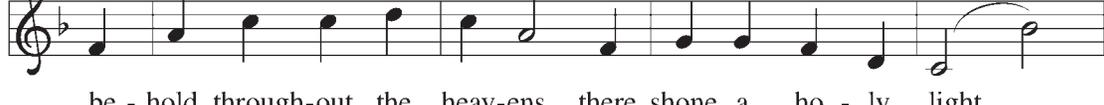
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



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

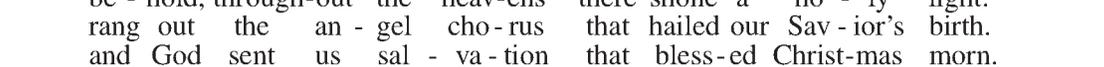


3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

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.

Dismissal

Go in peace, Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prayer Requested For:	Prayer Concern:	Prayer Contact:
For the People of Bethel Lutheran	May the wisdom and counsel of the Holy Spirit abide within the people of Bethel during this time of change and transition.	Staff
For the environment and all those working to bring about live-giving change	Grant us wisdom to care for earth and energy to act now for the good of future generations	Staff
Steve Stoner	Prayers of healing and comfort.	Staff
Katie Reitel & Family	Prayers for peace & assurance of God's love.	The Bentleys
Faith St. John	Healing and support as she undergoes treatment for cancer.	Pastor Core
Jennifer Nevills, former YDIC director	Struggling with heart disease.	Karen Anderson
Family and friends of Bob Haggard	Prayers of peace after Bob Haggard's death Tuesday morning. We pray God may wipe all tears from their eyes.	Becky McAllister
Willie Torrey and his family	Prayers of thanksgiving for a good turn of events in his life; prayers for his son and for peace in his family.	Willie Torrey
Christy Runyan	Prayers of healing following surgery and prayers of comfort as she prepares for another procedure.	Karen Anderson
David Gyles	Peace, assurance of God's presence and comfort; freedom from pain. Prayers of comfort for his companion Sandy Morris.	Pastor Core
Joan Barber	Peace and comfort and freedom from discomfort as she begins palliative care.	Pastor Core
Michael Barber	Prayers of thanksgiving for a good recovery.	Pastor Core
June and Wayne Hasselbroke	Prayers healing and comfort as June recovers from surgery	Bethel Care Team
Our prayers continue for many among us: for Timothy Collins, Elizabeth, Rob, Jacob Bard, Miles Bard, Annalu Lingnau, Ben Lingnau III, David Lingnau, Patricia Connor.		



Stewardship of Service	Today - Dec 29	Next Week - Jan 5
Ministers:	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor:	Pr. Tom Hiller	Pr. Joan Beck
Music Director	Jamie Webster	Jamie Webster
Musician		
Usher:		Rhonda Bard
Reader:	Marlo Edman	Marlo Edman
Communion:		
Preparation of the Altar:		

BETHEL NEWS



COMING UP:

- **Jan 4 | Women's Spirituality Group**, Sat 8:30 am at the Edman's home
- **Jan 5 | Taking Down Bethel Tree**, after worship



SERVICE SCHEDULE:

- **1/5 | Pastor Joan Beck**
- **1/12 | Pastor Tom Hiller**

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Sept. 11-13 | Inviting all Bethelites & FOB's to the 2020 Annual Bethel Campout** at Milo McIver State Park. This year we changed sites from Chinook to Steelhead, which is- more open IF the sun comes out. Question! Contact Scott Burris, Tana Bishop or one of the other Campers Extraordinaire.

OTHER NEWS

Taking Down the Bethel Tree | 1/5, Sunday after worship

Please lend a hand after worship to help us take down Bethel's tree.

Food Ministry Sign-up Changes | Starting in January 2020

Say Goodbye to Sign-up Genius

Starting in January 2020, the sign up for volunteering at the Bethel Breakfast and Lunches will be on paper. We will have the sign-up available in the kitchen. See you there, and thank you!

Women's Spirituality Group | 1/04, Saturday, 8:30 am at the Edman's home

We will be exploring the new church year as we will be in the Advent season, the beginning of the new church year. There will be time to start at the beginning of "In Wisdom's Path", to share stories, and to pray for and with each other.

We will also discuss the possibility of changing the routine of alternating with Thursday evening as they have been poorly attended. Please share your opinions and desires about timing for our gatherings.

Blessings! JulieAnn Edman 503 984-7930 | jedman999@gmail.com