



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT & FESTIVAL OF ST. NICHOLAS, BISHOP OF MYRA, C 342



December 6, 2020

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church

We are glad you are here with us via Zoom 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. 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.

Communion

We will celebrate Holy Communion together via zoom -- a temporary practice during this time of forced social distancing. Please have bread/cracker(s) and a cup of wine/grape juice ready, if you and those with you would like to participate. If you do not have access to wine/grape juice, you may receive Communion without the cup – Christ is present in the bread, as Jesus said, "I am the bread of Life.

Advent

Please have your Advent Wreath nearby, if you have one, or the appropriate number of candles, or at least one candle if you are able, for lighting during the service when instructed.

GATHERING

Call to Worship (Psalm 23)

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters;

God restores my soul and leads me in right paths for the sake of the name of the Lord.

Even though I walk through the darkest places, I will fear no evil; For you are with me, O Lord; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

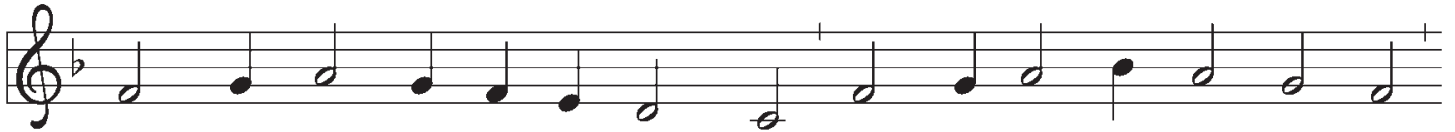


Hymn

Comfort, Comfort Now My People verses 1 & 3



1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.



Contemporary Hymn

Joy To The World/Unspeakable Joy, Chris Tomlin

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let earth receive her king
Let every heart prepare Him room

And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven, and Heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns
That all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

Joy, unspeakable joy
An overflowing well
No tongue can tell
Joy, unspeakable joy
Rises in my soul, never let's me go

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

Joy, unspeakable joy
And overflowing well
No tongue can tell
Joy, unspeakable joy
Rises in my soul, never let's me go



WORD

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare for the coming of Christ. And by the hope of this coming, shepherd and strengthen us to share your saving love with all the world; through Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel: prophesy, and say to them—to the shepherds: Thus says the Lord God: Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep. You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd; and scattered, they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep were scattered, they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill; my sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with no one to search or seek for them. Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: As I live, says the Lord God, because my sheep have become a prey, and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd; and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep; therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: Thus says the Lord God, I am against the shepherds; and I will demand my sheep at their hand, and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them. For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath *(light two candles)*



Advent Proclamation

The True Light, which enlightens everyone, is coming into the world.

The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verse 2



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Reading

Luke 2:8-18a

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord!

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Children's Time

Sermon

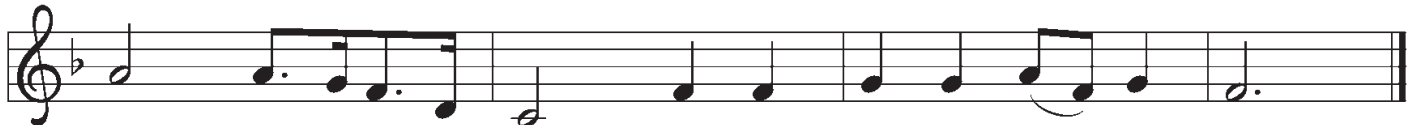
Hymn

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.

Prayers of Intercession

The response to each prayer will be: Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ's advent be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Please Donate to Bethel using Give Plus, donate by text: (855) 944-1171 or one of our other options online <http://bethelpdx.org/donate/>

COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer for Advent

The pastor will guide you when to take the bread & cup and eat & drink

We give you thanks, O God, for all the ways you come to us.

We welcome your advent now in Bread and Cup.

As your Spirit overshadowed Mary, and she gave birth to your Light and Love made flesh,

We cry out, Come Holy Spirit, that Christ may be born anew in our hearts this Christmas.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to disciples, saying, Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, and gave thanks; and gave it for all to drink, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all people, that sins may be forgiven. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Sharing the Bread and Cup



Communion Music, sung by Holly Redfern

Each Winter as the Year Grows Older

SENDING

Announcements

Sending Hymn

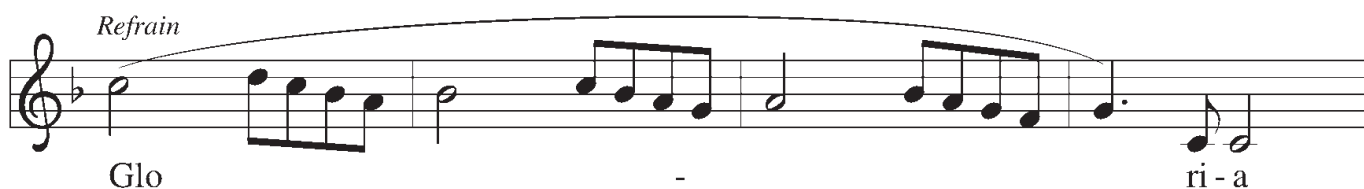
Angels We Have Heard on High, verses 1 & 2



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Blessing

God, who sent angels to shepherds out in the fields,
where the glory of the Lord shone all around them,
and they heard good news of great joy,
Fill (+) your ordinary, work-a-day world, with divine glory
and give you peace.

Amen.

Go in the joy of the shepherds. Make known the things that have been told to you concerning the Christ-child!

Thanks be to God

Postlude sung by Holly Redfern

Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn

Prayer Requested For:	Prayer Concern:	Prayer Contact:
For the world	Prayers for assurance of God's love and healing as we work together during this global pandemic.	Staff
For all those affected by wildfires	Prayers of strength and counsel for the thousands of people affected by the wildfires.	Staff
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
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.	Staff
David Gyles	Continued prayers for David and Sandy as David continues to struggle with his lung problems	Bethel Care Team
Joan Barber	Peace and comfort and freedom from discomfort as she begins palliative care.	Pastor Core
Bethel's guests and volunteers	Peace and safety for Bethel's guests and volunteers who we cannot be with at this time, and especially for Rich Blackwood and Leo.	Joann Noll
Carol and John Knight	Prayers for Carol and John Knight as he's isolated in memory care unit during the pandemic.	Karen Anderson
Pastor Christine and John Core	Prayers of strength and courage for them after the loss of their home along the McKenzie River to a wildfire.	Joann Noll
The Griffin Family	Harry is back at home after a successful surgery. He will need to continue physical therapy and chemo, but is in good spirits. Your prayers are appreciated.	Staff
Jim Van Dyke	Prayers of healing and support as Jim Van Dyke will have cancer surgery some time in December.	Karen Anderson
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	Next Week - Dec 6 Virtual	Next Week - Dec 13 Virtual
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Rev. Dr. Scott Dunfee	Rev. Dr. Scott Dunfee
Music Director	Dr. Kathleen Hollingsworth	Dr. Kathleen Hollingsworth
Musician		Jamie Vandenberg
Cantor	Holly Redfern	

View Bethel News: <https://mailchi.mp/ad036eb175b2/bethel-news-12-04-20>

