



# SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

January 3, 2021

## 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.

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### 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/Christmas

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 (based on Isaiah 60)

Arise, Shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**Nations shall come to this light, and kings to the brightness of this dawn.**

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice.

**A multitude of camels shall come and they shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

*The Advent Wreath and Christ Candle are lit.*



Hymn

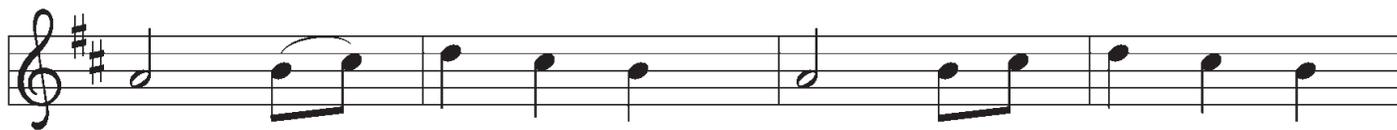
The First Noel, verses 2-5



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

*Refrain*



night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



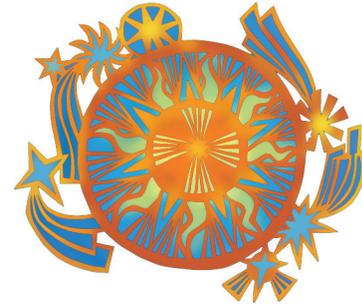
el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

## Contemporary Song

## *A Christmas Alleluia*, Chris Tomlin/Jonas Myrin

Alleluia, alleluia  
Christ, the Savior of the world  
He has come!  
Alleluia, alleluia  
Alleluia, alleluia  
Christ, the Savior of the world  
He has come!  
Alleluia, alleluia

The heavens roar, the angels sing  
All glory to our God and King!  
O night divine forever more  
The heavens roar, the angels sing  
All glory to our God and King!  
O night divine forever more



## WORD

### Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray together:

**O God, you revealed your Word made flesh to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, serve you with our gifts, and come at last to the full vision of your glorious Light and Love, through Jesus Christ, the Bright Morning Star, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

### Reading

### *Revelation 22:16-17*

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

### *We Three Kings*, chorus only

O, Star of wonder, Star of night  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light.

## Reading

## Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord!**

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.

The Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## Children's Time

### Sermon



Hymn

*Brightest and Best of the Stars*

1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
 3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
 5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,

dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 Shall we bring in - cense and of - f'rings di - vine,  
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;  
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.

Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
 rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,

guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.  
 mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.  
 myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?  
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

## Prayers of Intercession

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

## Sharing the Peace

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

## Offering

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

# COMMUNION

## Eucharistic Prayer for Christmas

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

The name of the town where Jesus was born, Bethlehem, means "House of Bread".

**Jesus said, "I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."**

We go to Bethlehem, every time we take the Bread and the Cup!

**Jesus said, "I am the bread come down from heaven, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away."**

And so, 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

**Awake, Awake & Greet The New Morn,** Marty Haugen

# SENDING

## Announcements

### Prayer for the Journey

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Sending Hymn

*As With Gladness men of Old*, verses 1-4



- 1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
- 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
- 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
- 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
- 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

### Blessing

God grant you the joy of the Christmas Angels,  
the audacity of the Shepherds,  
the faith of Mary,  
the courage of Joseph,  
the perseverance of the Magi  
and the love and peace (+) of the Christ Child, now and forevermore.

**Amen.**

Go in peace. Guided by the Bright Morning Star!

**Thanks be to God!**

### Postlude

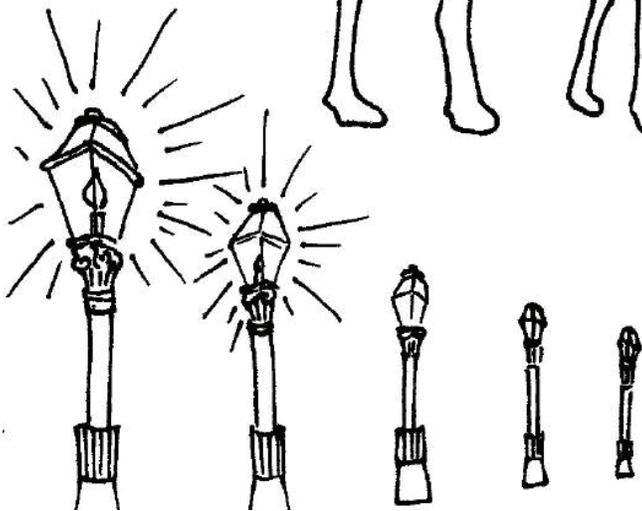
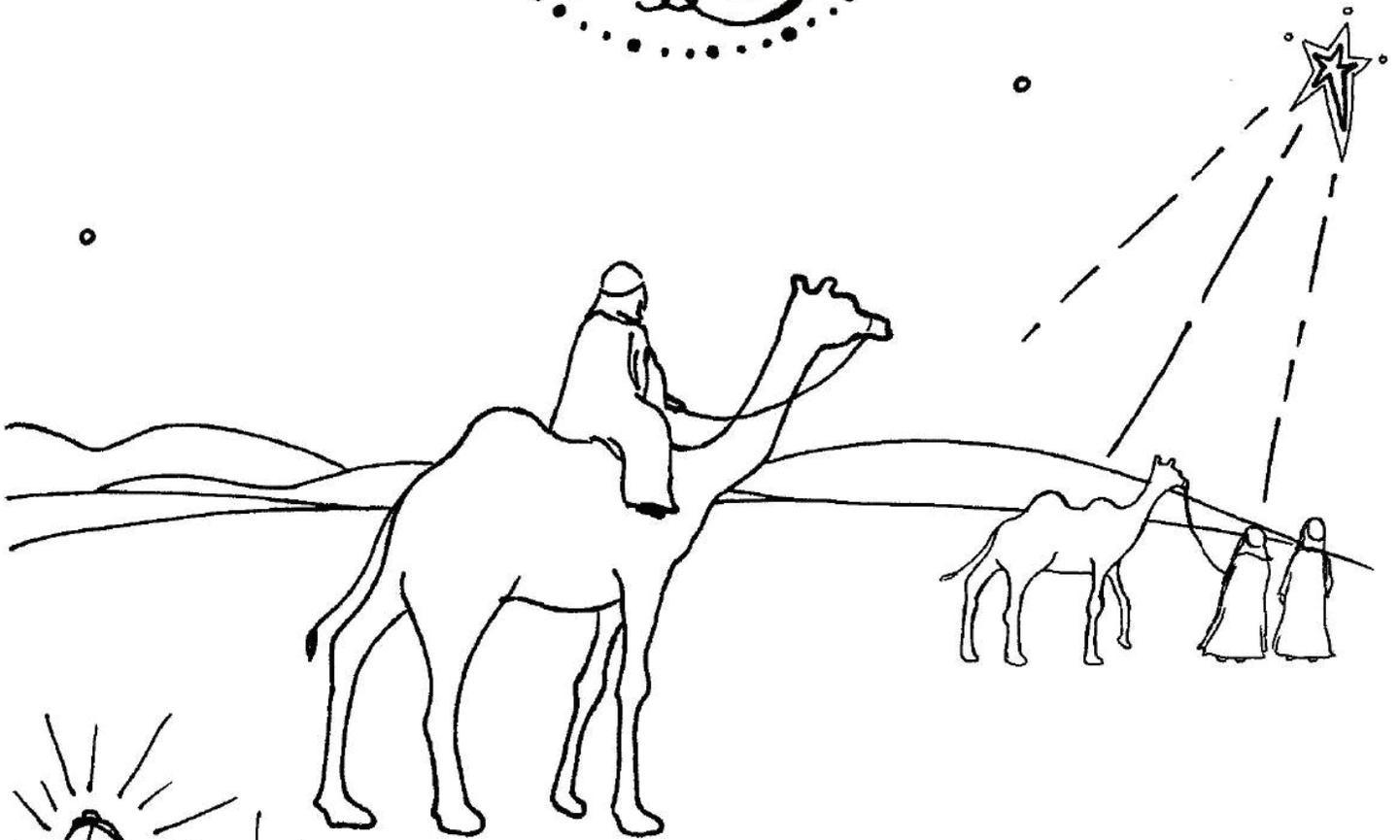
*Joy To The World*, CCC Choir

<b>Prayer Requested For:</b>	<b>Prayer Concern:</b>	<b>Prayer Contact:</b>
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
Faith St. John	Healing & support as she undergoes treatment for cancer.	Staff
David Gyles	Continued prayers for David & 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, especially for Rich Blackwood and Leo.	Joann Noll
Carol and John Knight	Prayers for Carol & John Knight as he's isolated in memory care unit during the pandemic.	Karen Anderson
Pastor Christine and John Core	Prayers for the Cores after they lost their McKenzie River to a wildfire.	Joann Noll
The Griffin Family	Prayer for Harry as he continues physical therapy & chemo, but is in good spirits.	Staff
Jim Van Dyke	Prayers for Jim after his surgery while he waits to find out whether further treatment is needed.	Karen Anderson
Kenya, Joann's neighbor	Prayers of healing after her lung transplant.	Joann Noll
Rob, Joann's brother	Prayers of strength as Rob is experiencing severe back pain, complicated by his Parkinson's.	Joann Noll
Riva, friend of Joann	Prayers for Riva, living in her car in Seattle & supervising homes for people with disabilities; some are Covid positive.	Joann Noll
Pastor Scott Dunfee	Prayers of healing after his gall bladder was removed last week..	Summer Kaplan
June and Wayne Hassebroek	Prayers for June after her emergency trip to the ER while they await further information.	Karen Anderson
Doris Bishop	Prayers of healing while she recovers from a broken leg.	Karen Anderson
<b>Our prayers continue for many among us:</b> for Timothy Collins, Elizabeth, Rob, Jacob Bard, Miles Bard, Annalu Lingnau, Ben Lingnau III, David Lingnau, Patricia Connor.		

<b>Stewardship of Service</b>	<b>This Week - Jan 3 <i>Virtual</i></b>	<b>Next Week - Jan 10 <i>Virtual</i></b>
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
Zoom Host	Summer Kaplan	Ryan Burghard

**View Bethel News:** <https://mailchi.mp/4343c26842a1/happy-new-year>

Jesus  
IS OUR  
Way



Mandy Groce '12

[ministry-to-children.com](http://ministry-to-children.com)