



# 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 19, 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.”

## GATHERING

### Prelude

**Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella**, 17th Century French Provençal Carol

### Children's Time

In an upstairs storage room, Bethel has a beautiful set of materials, made of wood and cloth, to tell children the stories of scripture, called Godly Play. We will begin each service from now until Christmas with the Godly Play materials for Advent. Basically, they unfold the Christmas story portion by portion so that children can grasp the story by repetition.

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath *(light four candles)*



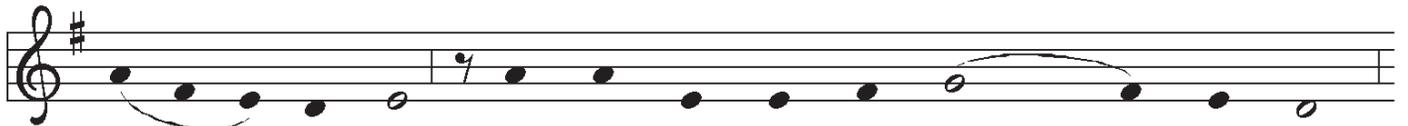
Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. A gender neutral restroom located behind the worship space next to the church office. Please ask the Usher or Greeter for assistance. There is also a rocking chair in the rear of the Sanctuary. Please use it as you wish.

Hymn

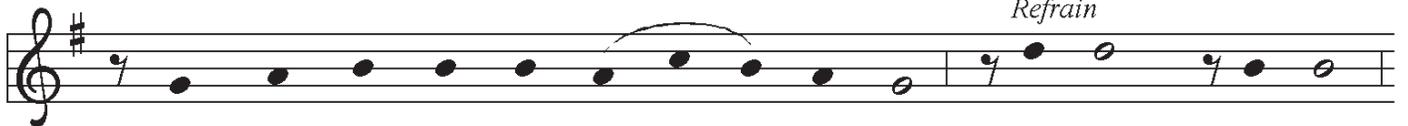
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verse 4



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-joice! Re-joice!  
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.



## Greeting and Call to Worship for Advent (based on Luke 1 & John 1)

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

**To give light to those who sit in darkness and to guide our feet in the way of peace.**

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

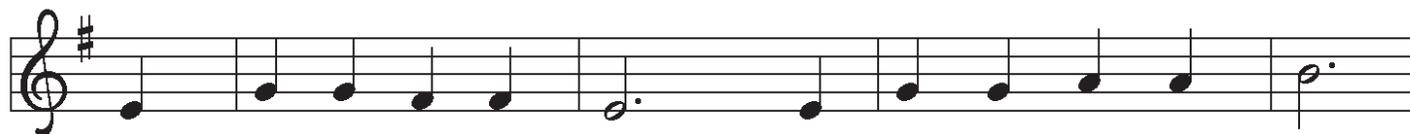
**The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it!**

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

## Have Mercy on Us, Lord



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.

2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.

3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray together:

**Stir up your power, O Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the brokenness and sin that bind us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

# WORD

## Reading

**Micah 5:2-5a**

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Word of God, Word of Life.

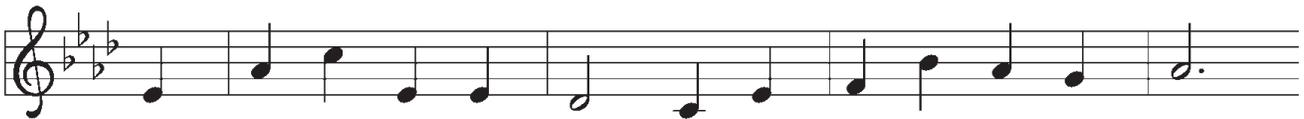
**Thanks be to God!**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers,** verse 4



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
- 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

## Gospel Reading

**Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord!**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## Sermon - Children's Program

***A Tale of Two Trailers***

**Brady Burdick** – Meeting Leader

**Collin Burdick** – Associate Team Leader & David

**Gabe Burghard**– Assistant to the Team Leader

**Harper Foglio**- Technical Assistant

**Hannah Foglio**– Moira & Shepherd

**Miriam Burghard** – Team Person #3

**Mary Bentley**– Alexis

**Ben Cooper** - Johnny

**Lily Burdick** – Assistant to the Technical Assistant

**Grace Cooper** – Mary

**Marion** - Cast member

**Non-Reading Roles:** Solveig/Ruth/Henry/Natalie/Isabelle/Adeline/Maxwell

## Hymn

## *The Seven Rejoices of Mary*, Sung by David Tafone Traditional Carol, version by Loreena Mckennitt

The first good joy that Mary had  
It was the joy of one.  
The first rejoice that Mary had  
Was to see her new born son.

To see her new born son good man,  
And blessed may he be.  
Sing Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
To all eternity.

The next good joy that Mary had  
It was the joy of two.  
To see her son Jesus,  
Make the lame to go.

The next rejoice that Mary had,  
It was the joy of three.  
To see her own son Jesus,  
To make the blind to see.

To make the blind to see good man,  
And blessed may he be.  
Sing Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
To all eternity.

The next good joy our lady had,  
It was the joy of four.  
It was the rejoice of her dear son,  
When he read the bible o'er.

The next good joy that Mary had,  
It was the joy of five.  
To see her own son Jesus,  
To make the dead alive.

To make the dead alive good man,  
And blessed may he be.  
Sing Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
To all eternity.

The next rejoice our lady had,  
It was the rejoice of six.  
To see her own son Jesus,  
To bear the crucifix.

The next good joy that Mary had,  
It was the joy of seven.  
To see her own son Jesus,  
To wear the crown of heaven.

To wear the crown of heaven good man,  
And blessed may he be.  
Sing Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
To all eternity.

And glory may he be,  
And blessed now be she.  
And those who sing the seven long verses,  
In honour of our lady.

## Prayers of Intercession

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

# COMMUNION

## Offering and Musical Offering

## *Lo, How a Rose*

*You many use one of our options for giving online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> or by text using Give Plus: (855) 944-1171. Additionally you may donate by mail or, if worshipping in-person, use the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for supporting the many ministries of Bethel!*

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

**God of our waiting and watching,  
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives  
to the service of all your creation.  
In your generosity, you give us plenty to share,  
and then you meet us at this table,  
through Jesus Christ, our pathway and our peace.  
Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving for Advent

*The presiding minister will guide you when to take bread and cup to eat and drink.*

The Living God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Living God.

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

*The presiding minister continues with the Prayer at the Table . . .*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup . . . We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long . . . Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Lord, teach us to pray:

**Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is 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

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

# SENDING

## Song (Canticle) after Communion

## Prepare the Way (Taizé chant)

Pre - pare the way of the Lord, pre -  
pare the way of the Lord, and all peo - ple will  
see the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre -

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a repeat sign followed by the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff continues the melody for the second line of lyrics, with circled letters B and C marking specific points in the music. The third staff continues the melody for the third line of lyrics, with a circled letter D marking a specific point. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

## Announcements

Bethel's Christmas worship will take place next Sunday, Dec. 26, at 10 AM, with carols and candles and Communion. For worship on Christmas Eve, check the Bethel Blast for links to worship in nearby churches.

## Blessing (from Luke 1:46b-55, one of today's readings)

May the Almighty look on you with favor and fill the hungry with good things.

May the Lord Jesus (+) Christ show you the strength of his way, scattering the high and mighty and lifting up the lowly.

May the Holy Spirit come to your aid, remembering the promise of mercy to you from generation to generation, forever.

**Amen.**

## Postlude

## Let Us the Infant Greet

Traditional Italian Christmas Carol, version by Loreena Mckennitt

## Sent to Share the Peace

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**

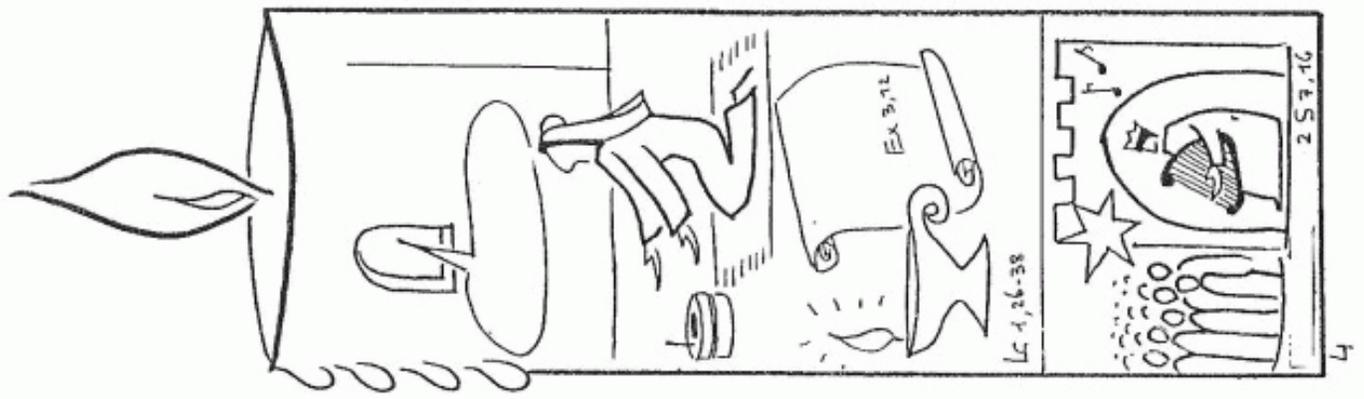
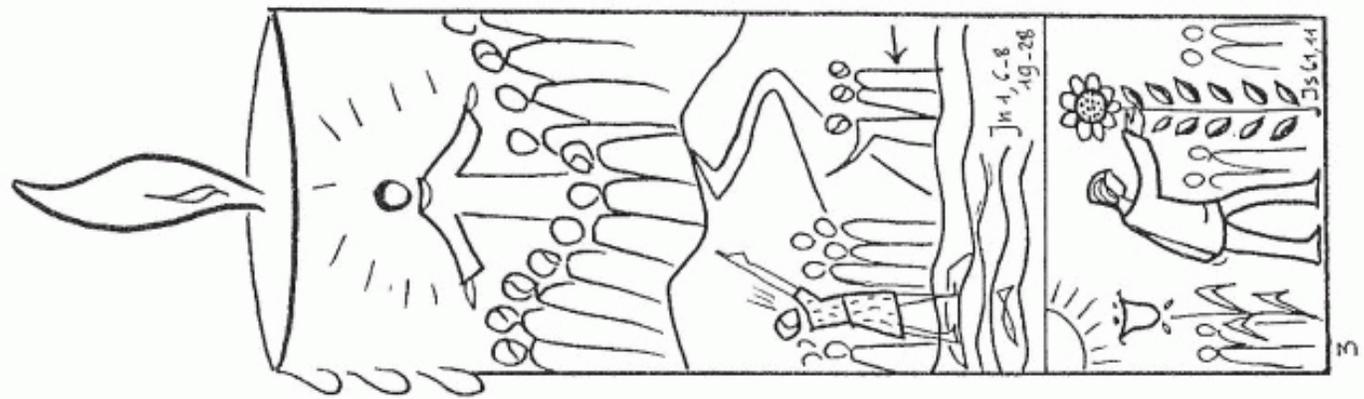
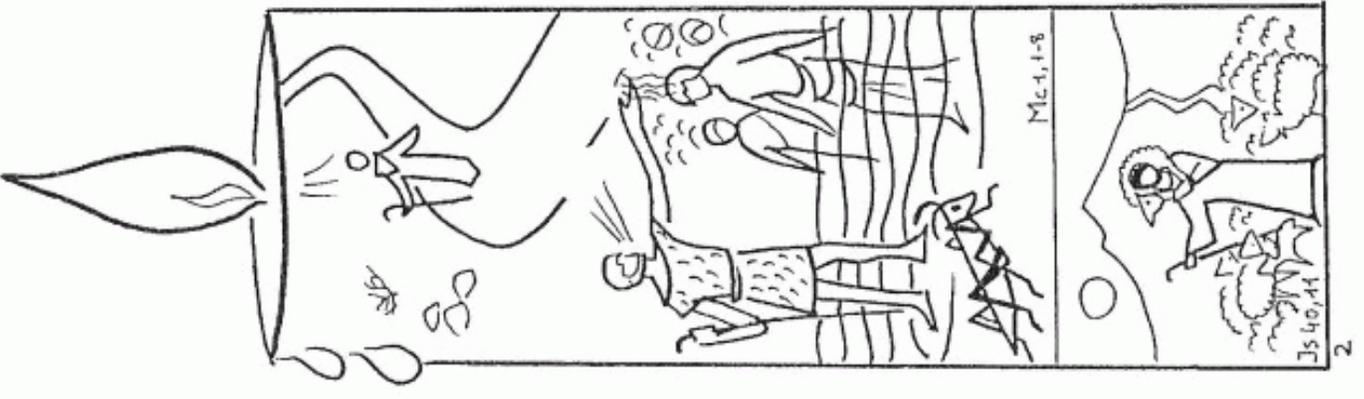
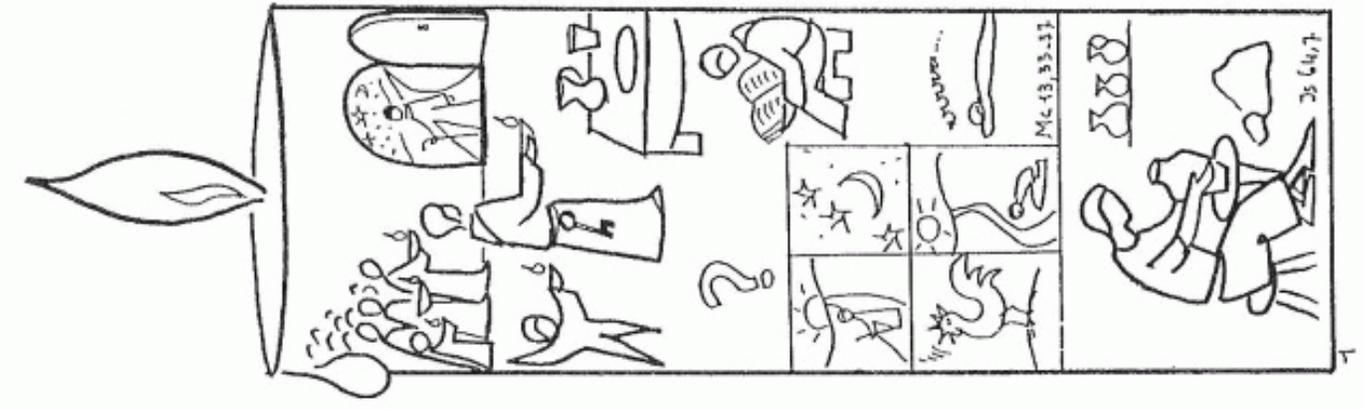
You may remain on Zoom to share the Peace and visit with your Bethel Family.



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 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 all educators, students, families, and supporters!	Pray for health, stamina, well-being, and passion for learning for all educators, students, families, and supporters!	Ronda Bard
David Gyles	Continued prayers for David & Sandy as David continues to struggle with his lung problems	Bethel Care Team
Harry Griffin	Prayers of Joy for the Griffin Family as Harry's good news was delivered on December 1, 2021 that Harry is cancer free.	Tana Bishop
Katie Reitel and her Family	Prayers for peace and comfort as Katie is in hospice care with a long battle with brain cancer. She is at home with her husband Matt, her 7-year-old son Teddy, and her mom Liz. Please keep her and family in your prayers during this difficult time.	The Bentleys
Jim Van Dyke	Prayers for Jim after his surgery while he undergoes further treatment for cancer.	Karen Anderson
Cheyenne and Kent Marx, Pastor Glenn's niece & husband	Prayers for Cheyenne and Kent Marx as they live through the consequences of the accident that killed Glenn's nephew Colton.	Karen Anderson
Rose Marie (Ray Bard's niece)	We can give thanks that Rose Marie's house survived the Caldor Fire and remember those who lost everything to this year's wildfires.	Ronda Bard
Leo Lawrence	Prayers for Leo Lawrence, being treated for kidney cancer.	Karen Anderson
<b>Our prayers continue for many among us:</b> for Timothy Collins, Elizabeth, Rob, Jacob Bard, Miles Bard, Patricia Connor.		

Stewardship of Service	This Week - Dec 19	Next Week - Dec 26
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Joan Beck	Pastor Joan Beck
Music Director	David Tafone	David Tafone
Zoom Host	Summer Kaplan	Joann Noll

**[Bethel News: https://us18.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=de62ac-9195b867478ad8a19cd&id=b3b3a27814](https://us18.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=de62ac-9195b867478ad8a19cd&id=b3b3a27814)**



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# NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Full news online [bethelpdx.org/weekly news](http://bethelpdx.org/weekly%20news)

## **Bethel Has a New Pastor, 12/17/21**

With a Unanimous Vote, Bethel Congregation Voted to Select Scott "Leon" La Cross as Our New Pastor - Whoooooohooooo!!!!!! Start date, as well as ordination and installation date(s) to be determined, but Pastor Leon is ready to start and we are ready to have him in our midst!

So many thanks to the Call Committee for all of their diligence, prayerful discerning, and commitment to Bethel's future that helped us reach the decision!! Thanks to Juan Carlos Puento, assistant to the Bishop for shepherding us through the voting process and keeping us on task! Thanks to the technical committee (Ryan Burghard) for making sure the connections stayed up for the vote.

I know I am forgetting people, and as we know - it takes the entire congregation to get these tasks done!

With much gratitude for the work done!  
*Your Bethel Council*

## **Thank You Pastor Dunfee!, 12/17/21**

As the transition to a new pastor continues, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you for Pastor Scott Dunfee, who shepherded Bethel for nearly two years as our interim. Thank you for your guidance, your wisdom with the Call Committee, your patience, and your flexibility as COVID brought a new and different way of worshiping. Thanks also to Suzie, who became Bethel's technical guru for Sunday morning service set-up!! We wish you both well on the next 'adventure', and hope you'll come visit from time to time!!

From the entire Bethel community, Thank you!!

## **Transitions Continue**

12/10/21

Our dear Admin Assistant and Communication Coordinator, Summer Kaplan, tendered her resignation this week. She has been a faithful disciple during these nearly two years of COVID and chaos and we greatly appreciate her work on Bethel's behalf. Be sure to greet her if you see her on Zoom and let her know that just because she is no longer working for Bethel, doesn't mean that she leave us completely! We will hopefully continue to see Summer and her family on Zoom (or in-person) for services. From the bottom of the congregation's heart, thanks beyond measure for the work you have done!

From Summer

I appreciate the warm welcome, support and encouragement, I've received from the Bethel community over the past three and half years. At this time, as my daughter transitions to adulthood there is a tremendous demand on my time and energy. I have taken a virtual position with fewer hours that will better meet my family's needs. My last day will be on Christmas Eve.

I am excited for Bethel on the cusp of a calling a new pastor with a new music director starting next week. Having a fresh team is fitting for beginning the next chapter at Bethel.

Warm wishes,  
Summer Kaplan

## Update on Bethel Angel Project 2021, December 17

We are in the home stretch with the Angel Project and Neighbors Helping Neighbors. It's still not too late to lend a hand.

### REMAINING "TO DO'S" FOR ANGEL PROJECT:

- We need to deliver to five families after church on Sunday (ideally after Council meeting).
- We are putting together bags for the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Project on Monday at about 2 p.m.

Thanks for the many donations, family sponsorship and food shopping to make this project a success for 10 families and 100 neighbors.

Please contact Joann if you would like to help: 314-680-1257, joann.noll@gmail.com

## Bethel Christmas Eve Service IsCancelled

We were unable to fill all positions necessary to run the Christmas Eve service so we will not be holding one this year. However, we be celebrating Christmas at the 12/26 service the day after Christmas. The service will include carols, candlelight, and Communion, much like it would have if it had been held on the 24th.

### NEARBY SISTER-CHURCH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

**First Immanuel Lutheran Church**, 1816 NW Irving, Portland. [www.firstimmanuelluth.org](http://www.firstimmanuelluth.org)

- Dec. 24 worship at 7 PM. In-person (up to 50 vaccinated, masked, distanced worshipers can be accommodated) and on Zoom (click on link from website or enter Zoom meeting 733 824 909, password 891242).

**Augustana Lutheran Church**, 2710 NE 14th Ave., Portland. [www.augustana.org](http://www.augustana.org)

- Dec. 24 worship at 7 PM (jazz-Gospel) and 9 PM (traditional music). In-person and livestream (click on link from website)
- Dec. 25 Christmas concert 10 AM, online only (click on link from website).

**Trinity Episcopal Cathedral**, 147 NW 19th Ave., Portland. [www.trinity-episcopal.org](http://www.trinity-episcopal.org)

- Dec. 24 All-Come (impromptu) Christmas Pageant and Family Service at 4:30 PM (music starting at 4 PM). In-person or livestream (click on link from website).
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Festive Worship at 8 PM and 11 PM (music starting a half hour before). In-person or livestream (click on link from website).
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day Eucharist at 10 AM. In-person or livestream (click on link from website).



### December Birthdays

- 02** JulieAnn Edman
- 14** Andrew Van Dyke
- 15** Lily Burdick
- 19** Don Worthington