



2nd Sunday of Advent

Worship with Holy Communion
December 4, 2022



Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church

We are glad you are here with us—in person and 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, as well as gathered in person. 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 or grape juice, you may receive Communion without the cup—Christ is present in the bread, as Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life.” (John 6:35)

GATHERING

Prelude

Salut d'Amour

By Edward Elgar



Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. An all gender/l restroom is 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.

Address 5658 North Denver Avenue • **Portland, Oregon** 97217 • **Email** bethel@bethelpdx.org • **Website** www.bethelpdx.org

Children's Time and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Children's Time will conclude with the following prayer as the wreath is lit:

Let us pray:

Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,
we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation.
Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,
and welcome your coming among us.
Amen.

People of God,
a new thing is growing in our midst,
a tender branch,
a living sign.
By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.
You have put on ☩ Christ,
and your sins have been washed away.
Rejoice in the way of the Lord.
Amen.

Gathering Song of Praise

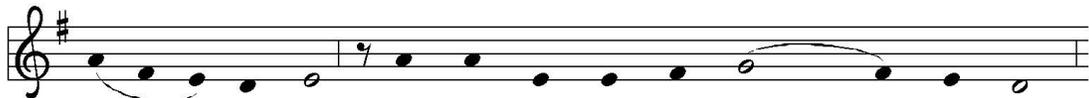
Verses 3 and 4

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

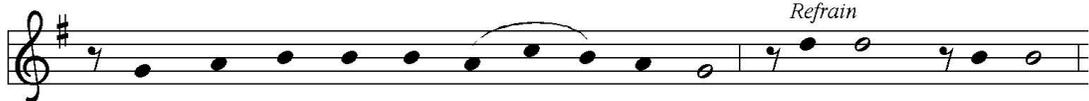
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



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.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from Isaiah

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

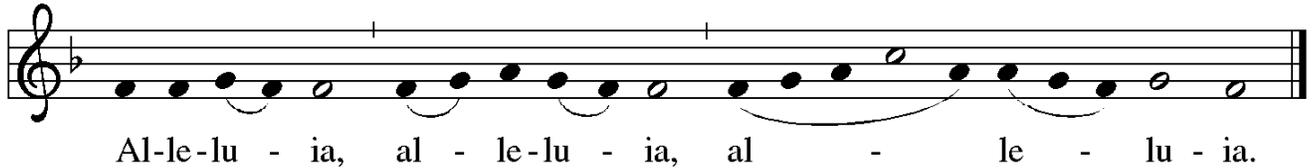
⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit



Repeat alleluia

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

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

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

Please be seated

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit

Prepare the Royal Highway

Prepare the Royal Highway



- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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Prayers of Intercession

The response to each prayer is: God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sharing of Peace — Take time to share the peace on Zoom and in person

Please be seated

COMMUNION MEAL

For those worshiping virtually, please gather your bread and wine to participate in Holy Communion.

Offering

You may use one of our options for giving Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, Paypal, see the website bethelpdx.org for link. Additionally, you may donate by mail or, if worshiping in-person, use the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary, envelopes are located in the pews. Thank you for supporting the many ministries of Bethel!

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

**Holy God, gracious and merciful,
Eternal God,**

**you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.**

**Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,
and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.**

**We ask this through Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Please stand in body or spirit.

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.



The Thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The presiding minister continues with the Thanksgiving at the Table. At the end, all say: **Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

Please be seated

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

Valses Poeticos No. 3

By Enrique Granados

SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song

Go Tell It On The Mountain
Traditional Hymn

The Sending.

Go in peace. Christ is near.
Thanks be to God.



Stewardship of Service	This week – Dec. 4	Next week – Dec. 11
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Music Director	Jenny Peterson	Shlomo Farber
Reader	Stephanie Burdick	Karen Anderson
Zoom Host	Joann Knoll	Volunteer needed!

Hymns shown on this bulletin are licensed via Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number SAS10330

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Please Pray

Pray for the women of Iran that they may speak out in safety and be heard and honored.

Pray for Farid Owji, a cousin to a friend of Pastor Leon, who is a journalist in Iran who was jailed for 27 days. Help him to heal from his trauma and help him as he seeks safety and asylum in other countries.

Let us continue to pray for all victims of gun violence, especially those in Highland Park, Ill, Buffalo, NY, Tulsa, OK and Uvalde, TX.

Pray for Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Seaside, OR. Let us lift them up in the spirit of congeniality, and partnership to live out the gospel message with our neighbors. Especially as they get ready for a new roof and their 75th anniversary.

Pray for peace and justice in Russia and Ukraine. Pray for the people of both countries, the diplomats and negotiators, and the leaders of all the nations involved. Pray that all refugees and displaced persons are safe and warm and fed. Bring healing and comfort to the injured and grieving. Pray that the warfare ceases.

Pray for peace and justice and safety among our houseless neighbors. Help us understand how we can share your love with them.

Pray for Bethel leaders, including Pastor Leon LaCross, Music Director Shlomo Farber, Admin Assistant Kerry Czuba, the 2022 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

Pray for those going through our confirmation program that they grow in faith and have a deeper understanding of Jesus as someone who is a guiding, loving force in their lives.

Pray for our children, as they get ready for winter break, that they remain healthy, happy and bursting with joy. Let us continue to welcome their noisy, (mostly!) joyful participation in online and in-person gatherings!

Pray for those who are ill:

- **Neil Marshall** (Nash's Portland family) as Neil undergoes treatment for a brain tumor while newly returned to his home base
- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) and all her family who are caregiving and traveling and dealing with plumbing adventures in Faith's older home.
- **David Gyles** for his improved lung health
- **Leo Lawrence** as he continues treatment for cancer
- **Shirley Kolpin and family** as Shirley recovers from hip surgery and faces life's challenges with humor, stubbornness, and joy
- **John Knight and family** as John continues in memory care
- **Laura Day**, mother of Natalie Peterson, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer
- **Donald Gibler**, grandson of Laverne Atkins, who has experienced a set back due to a previous injury.
- **Clarence Montgomery and his family**, cousin of Karen Anderson, who has been recently diagnosed with Parkinson's disease that has progressed rapidly.
- **Gary Andeen** as he receives treatments for lung cancer.
- **Amy Bishop McDonald** for her diagnosis and surgery for breast cancer.

Pray for those enduring family loss and anguish, we continue to pray for the **Marx Family**.

Pray for all those who have passed away that they experience the loving embrace of God's love.

Pray for Carolyn Tamer's (friend of Marjorie) friends and family as they mourn Carolyn's passing.

Pray for Miles Bard as he continues transitional housing in Minneapolis.

Pray for Cedar, nephew of P.J. & Dorian Bentley, that he receives caring and effective mental health treatment during a very difficult time for him and his family.

Continuing prayers for well-being for our loved ones **Timothy, Elizabeth, Faith, Jim, Rob, Jacob, Miles, Andrew, Nash,** and **Patricia**--may they walk in light and peace.

Pray in thanksgiving for all the blessings received this week.

Pray we know that God is close and we are open to receiving and sharing God's love.

Pray for Bethel Lutheran Church.

Join Bethel Lutheran
Church for

A Christmas Jazz Concert

Music by Northwest Tempo

At Bethel Lutheran Church
5658 N. Denver Ave.

When: Sunday,
December 11
at 4:00 PM



All are welcome!
Donations accepted



Bethel Angel Project 2022



It's that time of year! Last year the Bethel Angel Project helped 9 families with gifts and food for the holidays. We also helped 3 individuals with specific needs that let them know that others care. We plan to work again with Terrance Moses of Neighbors Helping Neighbors in Kenton by preparing 110 bags with hygiene products, Hot Hands, hats and gloves for those living in tents and RVs.

Recently I met a woman at Renaissance Commons where the Bethel Bees helped to serve a meal for a great program called "Community Dinners" <https://communitydinnerspdx.com/>. I asked if she had some needs that we could help with. She asked for a waterproof coat and some boots or shoes. She had come to Renaissance Commons with little and had received help from Community Warehouse and the North Portland Urban League office. The social worker there would love for us to support one or more of their families as well.

I will also be contacting those we served last year. Please let me know if you know of others' needs.

How you can help:

Donating to the Bethel Angel Project. Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church, phone # digits 6064 or paypal (go to bethelpdx.org) or by mail. Please specify for Angel Project.

Donating items for the Neighbors Helping Neighbors bags.

Adopting a family or individual, or the needs of one child for some clothing and a toy.

Purchasing \$25 Fred Meyer gift cards to supplement holiday meals.

Offering to shop for a family with Angel Project funds.

Offering to deliver gifts and food on December 17 and 18.

Items most needed for 12 or so families (and not covered by food stamps):

Laundry detergent

Paper products

Hygiene products

Cleaning products

Please Contact the office at

bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org or

joann.noll@gmail.com for more information or to donate.

