



# 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Worship with Holy Communion

February 12, 2023



## 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.

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**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** \

**Interlude 2**

**By Teresa Wilhelmi**



*Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. An all gender 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](mailto:bethel@bethelpdx.org) • **Website** [www.bethelpdx.org](http://www.bethelpdx.org)

# Thanksgiving for Baptism

*Please stand in body or spirit and face the baptismal font*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.  
We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**



## You Are Holy

### *Du är helig*

1 \*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,  
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.  
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

\* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945  
Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling  
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## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

**O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## WORD

### Scripture Reading

### 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

A reading from Corinthians

<sup>1</sup>Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

<sup>5</sup>What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. <sup>9</sup>For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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

### Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit*



## Gospel Reading

## Matthew 5:21-37

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>21</sup>"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>27</sup>"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

<sup>31</sup>"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

<sup>33</sup>"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

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

## Children's Time

### Sermon



## Hymn of the Day

## God, When Human Bonds Are Broken

### God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the  
2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our  
3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we  
4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful  
5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,  
world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing  
seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;  
in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:  
be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.  
all the fail - ures we con - fess.  
set us free and grant us peace.  
make us stron - ger, give us faith.  
God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

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## Prayers of Intercession

*The response to each prayer is: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.***

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

# 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 our website [bethelpdx.org](http://bethelpdx.org) for link, online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> Additionally you may donate by mail or, if worshiping 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.

**Liberating God,**

**you break the bonds of injustice**

**and let the oppressed go free.**

**Receive these offerings in thanksgiving**

**for all your works of merciful power,**

**and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.**

**You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,**

**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

The Lord be with you.

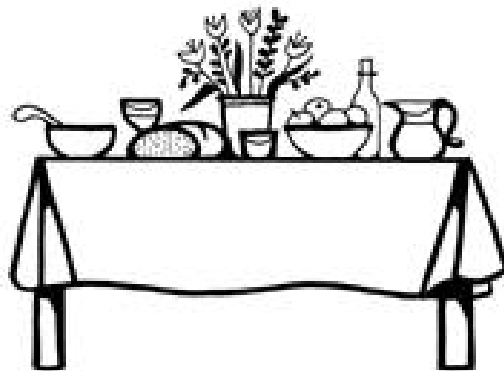
**And also with you.**

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.*



*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**

### ***Blowing in the Wind***

*By Bob Dylan*

# SENDING

## Announcements

### Blessing

The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor's rod  
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,  
today and always.  
**Amen.**

### Sending Song

**Body and Soul**  
*By Johnny Green*

### The Sending.

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.  
**Thanks be to God.**



Stewardship of Service	This week – Feb. 12, 2023	Next week – Feb. 19, 2023
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Pastor	Pastor Leon LaCross	Pastor Leon LaCross
Music Director	Shlomo Farber	Shlomo Farber
Reader	PJ Bentley	Jackie Calder
Zoom Host	<b>Joann Noll</b>	<b>Volunteer needed!</b>

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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.**

**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 work on the 2<sup>nd</sup> half the school year. May they finish out the year with a yearning to learn more.

**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.
- **Faith St. John** for a speedy recovery after surgery

**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 the friends and family of Richard Miller**, father of Lisa Siems, who passed away suddenly.

**Pray for the Hansen family** as John Hansen the son of Warren and Joyce Hansen (who the piano is being given in memory of) has died. Their grandfather, L. Warren Hansen was pastor at Bethel in the 40s-50s so roots go deep. Surviving siblings include Julie (Hansen) Lyons and brothers Paul and Karl.

**Pray for Mike Dundas and family** for the passing of Bertie Dundas.

**Pray for Miles Bard** as he has moved back to Portland.

**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.**

*Stardate 2023*

# *Star Trip: The Wrath of Kazrool*

Dinners:	Feb. 24, Feb. 25	\$25
	Mar. 3, Mar 4	\$25
Desserts:	Feb. 26,, Mar:5	\$20

Bethel Lutheran Church 5658 N Denver

CALL OR EMAIL—TICKETS GO ON SALE FEB.1 — CALL OR EMAIL

503-285-4919 [bethelplayers@bethelpdx.org](mailto:bethelplayers@bethelpdx.org)

To make sure everyone gets a fair chance to buy tickets we're asking that all reserved tickets be prepaid within a week of making the reservation so that unused tickets can be released to folks who might otherwise be turned away. Sorry, we cannot offer refunds for unused tickets.

Are you a Thrivent member? The Drop In Center/Bethel is a registered Choice Dollars Recipient.

We appreciate your support!

**Walk your fingers along the path that Jesus wants us to follow. Write the letters you come to in the blanks below to find Jesus' two commandments. Following Jesus' commandments can help us to grow strong in faith.**



Talk to an older person in your family or someone in your congregation who is strong in their faith. Ask them to share his or her faith story with you.

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**Kids Celebrate**  
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



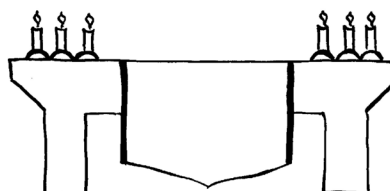
Welcome to worship.

Epiphany is the season of light. How many sources of light can you count in your sanctuary?



Is there a colored cloth on your altar? What color is it?

Is there a symbol (picture) on it? What is it?





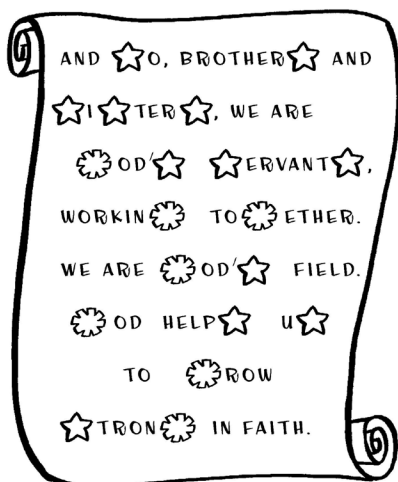
During Epiphany, we read stories about Jesus' teachings, many of them with surprising messages. Hearing these stories helps us to grow strong in faith. Draw your own symbol (picture) for the church season of Epiphany on the altar cloth. Think about the words "light" and "surprising" when you draw your symbol.

## Growing strong in faith

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Paul was one of the first Christian teachers. One way Paul taught people about Jesus' love was by writing letters to the early Christian congregations. Many of Paul's letters are found in the New Testament. The second scripture reading for today comes from Paul's letter to the Corinthians.

To complete Paul's letter write an "s" inside each  and a "g" inside each .



**FUN FACT:** Paul's letters were written on paper made from papyrus or reeds. Baby Moses' basket was probably woven from papyrus.

## Psalm 119

Pick up a Bible. Can you find 1 Corinthians? This is one of Paul's letters. Now close the Bible. Place your fingers right in the middle of the pages and open it again. You are probably turned to the book of Psalms. Psalms are songs. Every Sunday in worship, we sing or say a psalm. The psalm for this Sunday is part of Psalm 119.

**Add or subtract letters to find a verse from Psalm 119.**

- &lt; A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z &gt; +

**J-2   D-3   M+3   T-4   Z-1   E-4   O+1   C+2**

**V-2   E+3   L-7   V+3   Y-2   A+7   P-1**

**S+4   C-2   G+5   M-2   M-4   M+1**

**P+4   K-3   A+4   N-2   H-7   O+8**

**P-1   J-4   7-6   F+2   B+3   U-9   O-0   O+1   H-4**