

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Worship with Holy Communion January 19, 2025

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



We are glad you are here, and we pray God will be real to you as you worship with us. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation; therefore, we invite all people, including those of all races, ethnicities, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, ages, economic levels, and abilities. God loves all creation and holds us all, so we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We honor and appreciate the rich diversity of age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity and expression, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships. We commit ourselves to embracing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care.

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

Magnificat
By Jean-François Dandrieu



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 • Website www.bethelpdx.org

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

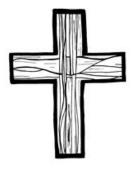
Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.



Gathering Song of Praise

Praise, Praise, Praise, the Lord!



Text: Cameroon traditional, collected by Elaine Hanson Music: CAMEROON PRAISE, Cameroon processional; arr. Ralph M. Johnson Text and music © 1994 earthsongs. Used by permission.

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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn. and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken. and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

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

Scripture Reading

A reading from Corinthians.

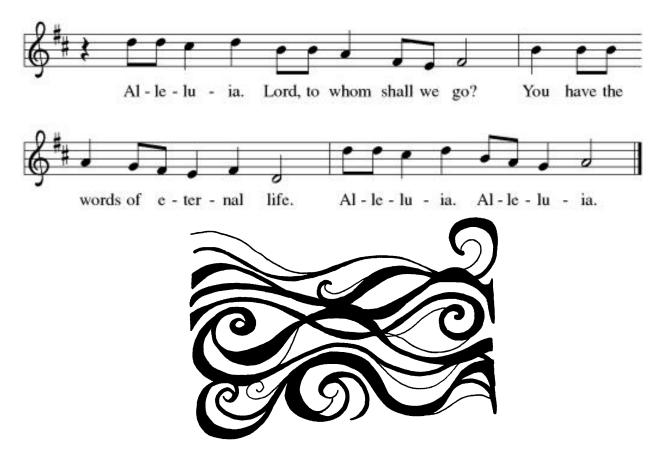
¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit



Gospel Reading

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

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁶ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁶ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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

Please be seated

Children's Time

Sermon



Hymn of the Day

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Please Stand in body or spirit



Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Prayers of Intercession

The response to each prayer is: God of grace, hear 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: The offering plate will be passed by the ushers, Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, PayPal, see our website bethelpdx.org for link, online at: http//bethelpdx.org/donate Additionally you may give by mail. Thank you for supporting the many ministries of Bethel!

Offertory

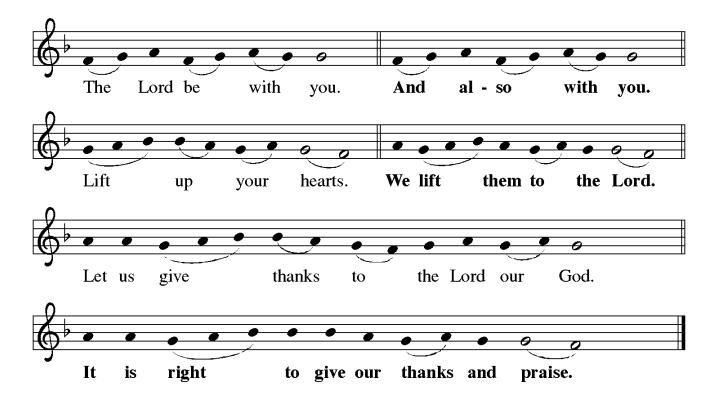
OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

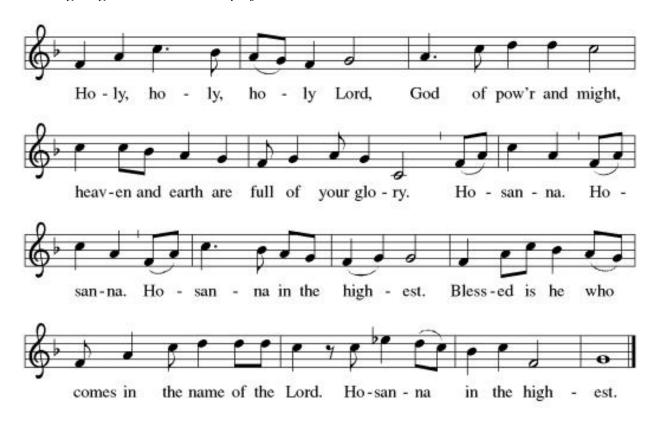
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Pastor will guide you when to take the bread and cup to eat and drink.



The Thanksgiving continues with the preface.



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.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

French Suite IV: Allemande

By J.S. Bach



SENDING

Announcements

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

Amen.

Sending Song

All of Me By John Legend

The Sending.

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.



Stewardship of Service	This week – Jan. 19, 2025	Next week – Jan. 26, 2025
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	TBD	TBD
Zoom Host	Joann Noll	Volunteer needed!

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Pray For:

Pray for the people in Israel, Palestine, all of the Middle East, Ukraine, and Georgia as they suffer war, violence, terror, and retribution. Show the world a path to peace and justice.

Let us continue to pray for all victims of gun violence.

Pray for peace and justice in Ukraine, Holy Land, and Yemen.

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 2024 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

Pray for the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center Board as we begin our search for a director and staff.

Pray for Shlomo Farber, that his family and friends in Israel may be safe.

Pray for Julia Rankin in her seminary journey.

Pray for Sean Fitzgerald (Nikki Bucholz), Kim Bucholz's son-in-law who has been deployed to Iraq.

Pray for our children, as they return back to school after break.

Pray for the teachers, school staff, parents, guardians, and grandparents who care for our children.

Pray for the following:

- Mark Sjostrom, Svea's uncle, as he recovers from cancer treatments and health complications
- Faith Moser (mother of Joann Noll) and her daughters as Faith moves into assisted living.
- **David Giles** as he discontinues treatment for lung cancer.
- Leo Lawrence for recovery from neuropathy surgery.
- John Knight and family as John continues in memory care.
- Laura Day, mother of Natalie Peterson, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- Chuck Huntley, brother of Marjorie Strieff, for his ongoing health.
- Glenn Chase, in thanks for his continued good health.
- Jackie Calder, in thanks for healing and health that allows her to travel and to accomplish loving volunteer work.
- Lorraine Griffey for health, stamina, and joy.
- **Rick Van Dyke**, brother to Jim Van Dyke, as Rick lives with the uncertainty of his illness and works with his medical team to prepare for treatment.
- Darin Schmidt, a former Bethelite, and his wife Jessica, as they navigate a diagnosis of liver cancer.
- Bob Enke, cousin of JulieAnn Edman, for healing from a fall and for getting the care he needs.
- **Denny Hepp**, for treatment & care as he battles brain cancer.
- Miles Bard for health and stamina.
- Pam Coffman as she navigates treatment for lung cancer.

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

Especially for the family of **Rhonda Pedersen** at her passing. For the friends and family of **Lee Clingman** at this passing. For the friends and family of synod council member **Violet Thetford** who passed away unexpectedly.

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

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

Pray for Bethel Lutheran Church.

What's Up This Week at Bethel!

01/19 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

01/19 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom

01/19 11:15 AM Council Meeting

01/21 Final Deadline for Ministry/Committee Reports

01/22 5:30 PM Girl Scouts in Hall

01/22 7:00 PM New Horizons Band Practice

01/23 2:00 PM Bethel Bees Prep & Serve for Renaissance Commons

01/23 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Bethel Happy Hour

01/26 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom

01/26 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom

01/26 4:00 PM Jazz at Bethel



Bethel Lutheran's nnual Congregational M

Annual Congregational Meeting 11:15 AM Sunday, February 2, 2025

Alternative date is February 9, 2025

Please plan to attend online or in person. If you plan to join in person, bring a dish to share!



Need Help with Taxes?

Cash Oregon is coming back at Bethel Beginning February 5! https://cashoregon.org/get-tax-help/in-person-tax-preparation