

Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me.
And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple;
and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming.
—Malachi 3:1—



2nd Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday of the month

Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,
Mandi Diver – Choir/New Music Accompanist

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

NURSERY

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

SERVING TODAY

Sunday 8:00AM

Elders: JJ Jones
Comm/Asst. Elder: Mike Bandman
Acolytes: Ashley Plapp, Emma Megerle
Lay Readers: Al Diercks, Warren Regnier
Ushers: Tony Young, Warren Regnier
Greeters: Nichole & Chelsi Todd,
Ted & Margie Tatgenhorst
Fellowship: Kozlik Families
Dec. Altar Guild: Kathy Schwartz
Dec. Counters: Dave Ross

Sunday 10:45AM

Dave Ziegler
Jack Warneke
Ruth Ziegler, Amanda Adams
Kelly Dornier, OPEN
John Schultz, OPEN
Diane Perkins,
The Pipia Family

Sheila Bunnell
Cheryl Ross

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

Bill and Kathy Schwartz to the glory of God and
Maria Kube in memory of her husband, Calvin.

THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE SERVICE

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Luke's Gospel.
Luke is the focus of Year C Gospel readings in the Lectionary.

In Today's Prayers

*If you have something you'd like added,
please go to one of the Prayer Stands,
write down your request, & put in the plastic rack.*



In our weekly Worship Prayers, we lift up praises, thanksgivings, requests, and concerns to our Lord. In order to help us pray to God about the wholeness of our lives in the world, we have a schedule for when we will focus on specific areas for prayer. Any immediate needs will always take priority, but in general, we will follow this schedule. Please note that this means on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, Pastor will speak the names of everyone on our health concerns list, but on other Sundays, this will be lifted up only as a general prayer for health and healing.

2nd Sunday

Our District Partners

Northern Illinois District
Concordia University—Chicago

Walcamp—outdoor ministry
Lutheran Church Charities

Our Seminaries

Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne
and Bethel member, Jacob Stoltzman, who is in his 2nd year
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Congregation: Discipleship

Help us continue to see what it means to have a “heart life,” daily lives for Jesus

Our Loved Ones in the Armed Forces *Let Pastor know if you have someone to add.*

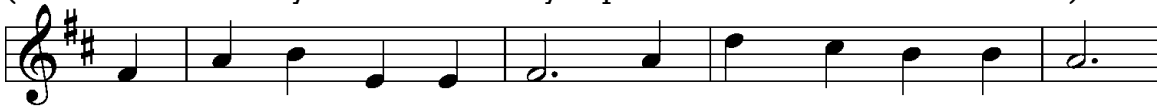
Victoria Wuethrick, Bethel member, Air Force
Lt. Colonel Michael Ridley, USAF, Minot AFB, ND – Steve Best’s brother
Jason Lucker, Navy, had been at Great Lakes, now in school in Virginia
Marshall King, Army—son of Deb Pellettiere’s friend
David Mrnak, Army—Deb Pellettiere’s friend’s future son-in-law
Allison Luzwick, Lt., Navy—Great Lakes
Bradley Abbitt, Army—Susan Squires’ cousin
Steven Furman, Air Force—Margie Tatgenhorst’s nephew
Andrew Waala, Air Force—Brian & Sherri Waala’s son

Opening Hymn

O Bride of Christ, Rejoice

LSB 335

(we introduced this hymn on Wednesday as part of our Advent Midweek series)



1 O bride of Christ, re - joice; Ex - ul - tant raise thy voice
 2 Let shouts of glad - ness rise Tri - um - phant to the skies.
 3 A hum - ble beast He rides, Yet as a King pre - sides;
 4 The weak and tim - id find How meek He is and kind;
 5 Then go thy Lord to meet; Strew palm leaves at His feet;



To hail the day of glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Now comes the King most glo - rious To reign o'er all vic - to - rious.
 Though not ar - rayed in splen - dor, He makes the grave sur - ren - der.
 To them He gives a trea - sure Of bliss be - yond all mea - sure.
 Thy gar - ments spread be - fore Him And hon - or and a - dore Him.

Refrain



Ho - san - na, praise, and glo - ry! Our King, we bow be - fore Thee.

Invocation (Based on Luke 2:14)

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Glory to God in the highest,

C: peace to all the Earth,

P: and goodwill from God in heaven. **C: Amen.**

Confession and Absolution (Based on the Song of Zechariah—Luke 1:68-79) LSB 238

P: John the Baptist was called the prophet of the Most High,
 for He went before the Lord Jesus to prepare His way,
 confronting the people and us with our sin, saying:
 “Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon?
 Produce fruit that shows you have repented.
 Produce actions that show you have changed your hearts and lives.”
 The crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?”
 And we find ourselves asking this same question.

C: Lord, we have sinned. What then shall we do?

P: God calls on us to confess our sin and seek His forgiveness and mercy, so that these words from the prodigal son in the parable of Jesus become our own words of confession:

**C: *Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.
I am no longer worthy to be called your child.***

P: John the Baptist, the prophet, went before the Lord Jesus to give His people knowledge of their salvation by the forgiveness of their sin.
In the tender compassion of our God,
the dawn from on high shall break upon us
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**C: *Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
He has come to His people and redeemed them.
He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of His servant David.***

P: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Anthem

“When He Comes”

Adult Choir

- Use the anthem’s music and words to help you to meditate on God’s Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

*When He comes, when He comes, will we know He is the One?
When He comes, when He comes, will we know He is God’s Son?
When He comes to earth will He come as a king,
With fanfare of trumpets and will the angels sing when He comes?*

*When He comes, when He comes, when He leaves His throne above,
When He comes, when He comes, will our hearts reach out in love?
When He comes to earth will He come as a king,
With fanfare of trumpets and will the angels sing when He comes?*

*When He comes will it be at night or day?
And when He comes will He find a place to stay?
When he comes to earth will He come as a king,
With fanfare of trumpets and will the angels sing when He comes?*

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room, in my heart for Thee.

Gloria in Excelsis (based on Luke 2:14)

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Reading from an Advent Prophet**Malachi 1:1,3:1–7b (ESV)**

¹The oracle of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi...: ¹“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

⁶“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle (New Testament Letter)**Philippians 1:2–11 (ESV)**

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I, [Paul], thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Song of Praise

Jesus, Name Above All Names



1. Je - sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful Sav - ior,
2. Je - sus, lov - ing Shep - herd, Vine of the branch - es,



glo - ri - ous Lord. _____ Em - man - u - el, God _____ is
Son _____ of God; _____ Prince of Peace, Won - der - ful



with _____ us, bless - ed Re - deem - er, Liv - ing Word. _____
Coun - se - lor, Lord of the u - ni - verse, Light of the world. _____

3. Jesus, Way of salvation,
King of Kings, Lord of Lords,
The Way, The Truth, and the Life,
Mighty Creator, my Savior and Friend.

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Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-14 (ESV)

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

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

⁵Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

⁷[John] said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: *Thanks be to God.*

Hymn of the Day

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Confession of Faith from Luke 24:26-27,32; 4:21; 24:44-49

We confess that Jesus interpreted for us the things written about Himself in all the Scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets, so that our hearts burn within us when He opens the Scriptures to us by His Holy Spirit to reveal His grace and mercy. —As Jesus declared, “Today these words have been fulfilled in your hearing.—He has opened our minds to understand the Scriptures, and shown us, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you—the Holy Spirit.” Amen.

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory (Based on Mary’s Song—the Magnificat—Luke 1:46-55) LSB 934 sts. 1-2
(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)

1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
 2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -

leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
 maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like

gard, And I am blest for time to come.
 light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Benediction (Blessing) (Based on the Beatitudes—Luke 6:20-23)

P: The Lord Jesus lifts up His eyes on you, His disciples, and says:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you
on account of the Son of Man!

Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy,

for behold, great is your reward in heaven.”

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Acknowledgements

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Luke 3:6-8 used in Confession of Sin and Luke 24:27 used in Confession of Faith are based on Common English Bible (CEB)

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Closing Hymn

We Are Called to Stand Together

LSB 828



1 We are called to stand to- geth - er With the saints of
2 Those whom Je - sus called a - pos - tles Jour - neyed with Him
3 Through the in - ter - ven - ing a - ges Round the world the
4 Now in man - y tongues and cul - tures Songs of cel - e -
5 To each com - ing gen - er - a - tion Tell the truth, per -



a - ges past, With the pa - tri - archs and proph - ets
side by side, Heard His teach - ing, felt His pow - er,
Gos - pel spread: Faith - ful her - als took the mes - sage,
bra - tion ring; Mil - lions who con - fess our Sav - ior
suade, ex - plain, Till the time when time is end - ed,



In the faith they once held fast; Prom - is - es and
Saw the way He lived and died; Then the news of
Guid - ed where the Spir - it led; So the bod - y
Hon - or Him as Lord and King And, for cour - age,
Till the Sav - ior comes a - gain— Till the saints are



hopes they trea - sured Now we find ful - filled at last!
res - ur - rec - tion They de - liv - ered far and wide.
grew in stat - ure, Serv - ing Christ, the liv - ing head.
grace and guid - ance Ev - 'ry day their prayers they bring.
all u - nit - ed Un - der Christ's e - ter - nal reign!

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Announcements