

Worship Notes

WE HOLD IN PRAYER

THOSE WHO ARE SICK, INJURED AND IN NEED OF HEALING:

David Babcock, Pastor Bob & Karalee Bipes, Jen Callen, Leslie Camarata, Brenda DeLong, Don Evers, Don Flatt, Janice Forsythe, Becki Fuhrman, Roberta & Jim Harper, Sharon Haugo, Joan Hohnstadt, Trina Hilke, Greg Hojem, Patty Johnson, Jackie Krebsback, Mary Martin, Kay Monroe, David Robson, Jim & Jane Sagraves, Jerry Shurb, Randy Stensgaard, Dorothy Vietor

THOSE SERVING OR DEPLOYED IN THE MILITARY:

Isabelle & Sam Rick

TODAY’S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Piano: Skip James

Song Leader: Nic Schmit & The Songsters

Scripture Reader: Tasha Gunderson

Worship Support: Karen & Roger Pavlis, Ben Voelker, Will Johnson

Technical Assistants: Patrick Willson, Jonas Andrews, Eli Helm, Rich Harker

Shuttle Bus: Dave Orf



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025
10:30 AM WORSHIP | DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

Chaplain Matt Aubart, Preacher
Pastor Ladd Sonnenberg, Worship Leader

Bethel service’s are livestreamed on Bethel’s website, & Bethel’s YouTube page, and are broadcast on River Channel 15, Wednesday at 7:00pm & 9:00pm, & Thursday at 7:00am, & will be on Radio WEVR (1550 AM/106.3 FM) next Sunday at 8:00am.

“Obedience is an act of faith; disobedience is the result of unbelief.”

—Edwin Louis Cole

Bethel’s Mission to Connect, Grow, and Serve, Continues...

WAYS TO GIVE

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Bethel Lutheran Church
920 3rd Street
Hudson, WI 54016



BETHELHUDSON.ORG
715-386-8821

WELCOME

to Bethel Lutheran Church!

We’re so glad you’re with us today. At Bethel, our mission is to Connect, Grow, and Serve God and others. On this First Sunday of Christmas, we are delighted to welcome back Matt Aubart, our Care Ministry Chaplain here at Bethel. We pray that his message will inspire and encourage you in your walk of faith.

*You are invited to stand, as you are able.

All who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome and encouraged to join us for communion, regardless of church membership or denomination.

The Prelude: Improvisation on “Das alte Jahr vergangen ist” James

The Welcome/Announcements

*The Confession and Forgiveness:

Leader: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

People: Amen.

L : Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: Amen.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Gracious God,

P: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from You and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to You, and uphold us by Your Spirit, so that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

P: Amen.

***The Opening Hymn: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” #773**

*The Responsive Reading:

L: God of wisdom, You speak and invite us to follow You.

P: Give us ears to hear and hearts ready to respond.

L: When obedience leads us into unfamiliar places—

P: Give us courage to trust You.

L: When fear tempts us to turn away—

P: Remind us that You go before us.

L: In choosing obedience, joy is born.

All: Lead us in Your way, O God, and fill us with rejoicing.

*The Prayer of the Day:

L: Faithful God,

P: You guided Joseph by Your word and protected Your Son through obedience and trust. Teach us to listen for Your voice and to follow You even when the path is uncertain. In our choosing to obey, open our hearts to the joy that comes from knowing You are with us. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*The Sharing of God’s Peace:

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always...

P: And also with you!

The Children's Message: Chaplain Matt Aubart

The Music Ministry: “Encore in C” Layton James

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 63:7-9

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God!

The New Testament Lesson: Hebrews 2:10-18

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God!

***The Gospel Acclamation: “O God of Light” #507**
(vs. 1)

*The Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

The Message: “Obedience Can Lead to Rejoicing”
Chaplain Matt Aubart

***The Hymn: “What Child Is This?” #296**

*The Offering Prayer:

L: Generous God,

P: You give us freedom and invite us to follow You in faith. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and trust. Use them to bring hope, protection, and joy to a world longing for Your presence. Amen.

Giving our First and Best to God through our Offering

The Offering Music: Improvisation on “What Child Is This?” James

*The Great Thanksgiving:

L: The Lord is with you.

P: The Lord is with you, too.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right and joyful that we give You thanks and praise. In Jesus Christ, You are Immanuel—God with us—present in our fear, faithful in our obedience, and the source of joy that no darkness can overcome. As we gather at this table, strengthen our trust, renew our joy, and send us out as people who choose obedience—rejoicing not because the journey is easy, but because You walk with us.

*The Words of Institution

*The Lord’s Prayer:

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.

*The Invitation to Communion:

L: This is Christ’s table, where grace is freely given and strength is provided for the journey. Come, not because you are perfect, but because Christ invites you. Come, for all is ready.

The Communion Hymn: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” #631

*The Communion Blessing

*The Prayers of God’s People:

L: Faithful God...

P: Hear our prayer.

*The Closing Blessing

***The Closing Hymn: “In the Bleak Midwinter” #294**

*The Sending:

L: God has guided you by His word and love.

P: We go trusting His lead.

The Postlude: Improvisation on “In the Bleak Midwinter” James