

Bethany Lutheran Church

3rd SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 22, 2023

8:00 & 9:30 AM

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are so glad you are here in God's house for worship. Here are some things to remember as we are gathered together today:

Before worship, talk to God! (see inside cover of hymnal for pre-service prayer prompts)

During worship, let God talk to you!

After worship, talk to one another; and if you're a visitor, please stop by the Connections table before you leave today and capture the QR codes for more information.

Parents of Young Children: *We love to have children in worship.* God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to completely suppress it in God's house. We know the presence of children in worship is a gift to the church! It is in the Lord's house that we learn how to listen and speak to our God with our brothers and sisters in faith. Feel free to quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of those leading worship. Children learn how to worship by copying you. If you have a need, we have "worship bags" in the Narthex filled with items to help children and families during worship. There is a **Cry Room** across the courtyard in the office complex, where you as a parent may take your little one needing a break. You will still be able to hear the worship service; and thus be able to continue your worship of the Lord.

Please place cell phones and electronic devices on mute as you join us in worship this morning. Thank you.

PRELUDE:

"Morning Hymn"

~ Flor Peeters

Organ

and

"O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True"

~ Paul Manz

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN:

“Rise, Shine, You People”

LSB 825



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.

Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing.
Tell of the Son, who life and free-dom gave us.

He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
To all the world go out and tell the
Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry

round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
heaven and earth are full of His Glory.

People: **The Glory of the one and only,
full of grace and truth, the Lord Jesus Christ;**

Leader: Who with the Father and the Holy Spirit is one God,
whose nature is love that steadfastly endures forever.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Leader: Let us come before God and admit that sin is part of our make-up, part of fallen human nature.

People: **Most merciful God,**
we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.
We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed;
on both occasions, when we have chosen to disobey Your will,
and those times we have accidentally transgressed Your laws.
Lord, we have failed to love You with our whole heart
and with all our mind,
and we have refused to love others
as much we love ourselves and the stuff of this world.
For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Light of Light,
Very God of Very God, One with You in essence,
who in humility became one with us through His incarnation,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us Lord and give us a heart and an attitude like that of Jesus.
Amen.

Leader: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake, forgives us all our sins.
Through His Holy Spirit, He empowers us to live for Him and others, to share His love and to bear witness to His mighty deeds in Christ, in whose name I forgive you all your sins.
Go delighting in His will and walking in His ways.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Leader: Lord, while Your house is a mighty fortress and a safe harbor it is at the same time a training room and a launching pad; grant us Your Spirit that we might be sent from this place into our own circles and spheres of influence to bring Christ and to be Christ-like to the glory of His holy name and the inclusion of many people into His body.

People: **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Isaiah 9:1-4*

But there will be no more gloom
for the land that is in distress.
God humbled the lands of Zebulun and Naphtali in earlier times.
But in the future He will bring glory to the road by the sea,
to the land across the Jordan River,
to Galilee, where foreigners live.

The people who walk in darkness will see a bright light.
The light will shine on those who live in the land of death's shadow.

You will expand the nation and increase its happiness.
It will be happy in your presence
like those who celebrate the harvest
or rejoice when dividing loot.
You will break the yoke that burdens them,
the bar that is across their shoulders,
and the stick used by their oppressor,
as you did in the battle against Midian. – GW ®

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *I Corinthians 1:10-18*

Brothers and sisters, I encourage all of you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to agree with each other and not to split into opposing groups. I want you to be united in your understanding and opinions. Brothers and sisters, some people from Chloe's family have made it clear to me that you are quarreling among yourselves. This is what I mean: Each of you is saying, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in Paul's name? I thank God that I didn't baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius so that no one can say you were baptized in my name. I also baptized Stephanas and his family. Beyond that, I'm not sure whether I baptized anyone else. Christ didn't send me to baptize. Instead, He sent me to spread the Good News. I didn't use intellectual arguments. That would have made the cross of Christ lose its meaning.

The message about the cross is nonsense to those who are being destroyed, but it is God's power to us who are being saved. – GW ®

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

8:00 AM ***“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*** Trinity Choir
~ arr. Shari Anderson

9:30 AM ***“Shine on Me”*** Troubadour Choir
~ arr. Rollo Dilworth

CHILDREN’S SERMON

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 25:14-30*

“The kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a trip. He called his servants and entrusted some money to them. He gave one man ten thousand dollars, another four thousand dollars, and another two thousand dollars. Each was given money based on his ability. Then the man went on his trip.

“The one who received ten thousand dollars invested the money at once and doubled his money. The one who had four thousand dollars did the same and also doubled his money. But the one who received two thousand dollars went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master’s money.

“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The one who received ten thousand dollars brought the additional ten thousand. He said, ‘Sir, you gave me ten thousand dollars. I’ve doubled the amount.’

“His master replied, ‘Good job! You’re a good and faithful servant! You proved that you could be trusted with a small amount. I will put you in charge of a large amount. Come and share your master’s happiness.’

“The one who received four thousand dollars came and said, ‘Sir, you gave me four thousand dollars. I’ve doubled the amount.’

“His master replied, ‘Good job! You’re a good and faithful servant! You proved that you could be trusted with a small amount. I will put you in charge of a large amount. Come and share your master’s happiness.’

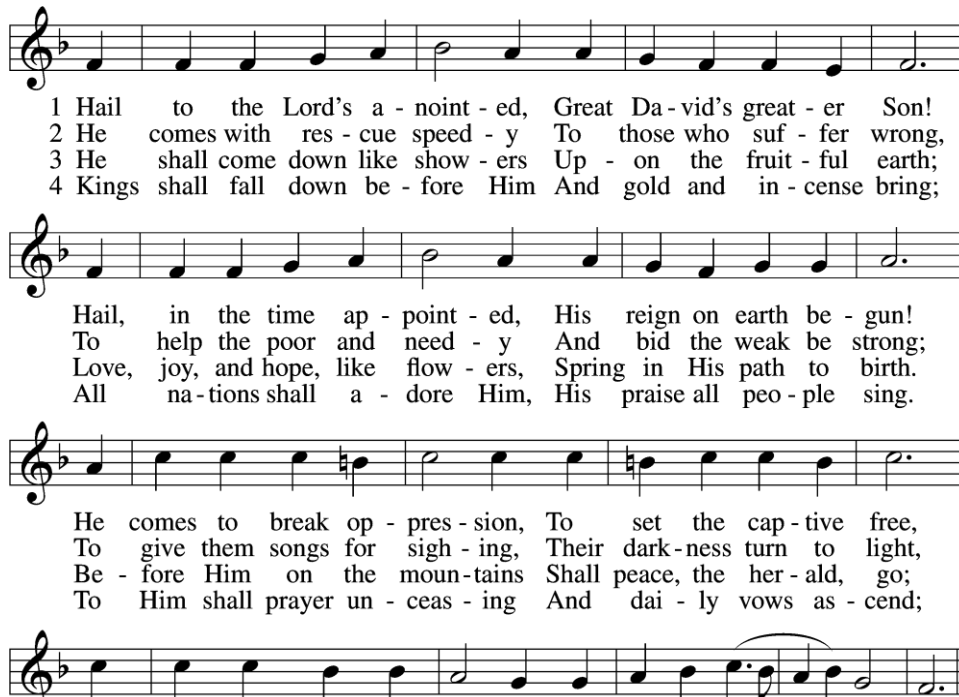
“Then the one who received two thousand dollars came and said, ‘Sir, I knew that you are a hard person to please. You harvest where you haven’t planted and gather where you haven’t scattered any seeds. I was afraid. So I hid your two thousand dollars in the ground. Here’s your money!’

“His master responded, ‘You evil and lazy servant! If you knew that I harvest where I haven’t planted and gather where I haven’t scattered, then you should have invested my money with the bankers. When I returned, I would have received my money back with interest. Take the two thousand dollars away from him! Give it to the one who has the ten thousand! To all who have, more will be given, and they will have more than enough. But everything will be taken away from those who don’t have much. Throw this useless servant outside into the darkness. People will cry and be in extreme pain there.’ – GW ®

SERMON HYMN:

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

LSB 398



1 Hail to the Lord's a - nointed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;

Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!
 To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;
 Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.
 All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.

He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,
 To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,
 Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;

To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.
 Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.
 And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.
 His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A kingdom with - out end.

SERMON: “Gospel DNA: Multiplication”

Text: Matthew 25:14-30



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
4 To com - fort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,
5 The cap - tive to re - lease, To God the lost to bring,
6 And we be - lieve Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:

All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
To tend the lone and fa - ther-less Is an - gels' work be - low.
To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.
What-e'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it un - to Thee.

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

APOSTLES' CREED: (** catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

*** *For our 8:00 a.m. worshippers, the service continues on page 12 with Special Announcements.*

*** *For our 9:30 a.m. worshippers, the service continues with the Celebration of Holy Communion:*

+ *Holy Communion* +

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are alcohol free.

The wafers next to the Christ candle side are gluten free;

for those with dietary restrictions, please take a gluten free wafer.

For those wishing to use a self-contained communion chalice, let an usher know.

In our 9:30 a.m. service we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: “Speak, O Lord”



2. Teach us, Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail; Let their truth prevail over unbelief.
3. Speak, O Lord and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glory.

1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver
5 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, Tru - est
8 Je - sus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me

gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is
friend, and dear - est trea - sure, Peace be - yond all un - der -
glad - ly here o - bey You. By Your love I am in -

splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:
stand - ing, Joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing:
vit - ed, Be Your love with love re - quit - ed;

Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing
With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to
Hum - bly now, I bow be - fore You; Love in - car - nate,
By this Sup - per let me mea - sure, Lord, how vast and

ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -
I a - dore You; Wor - thi - ly let me re -
deep love's trea - sure. Through the gift of grace You

ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!
ceive You And, so fa - vored, nev - er leave You.
give me As Your guest in heav'n re - ceive me.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

THE BLESSING

1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing, Nev-er a-lone.
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos-er to Me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy-ful and free. Here My
I the Lord will smile up-on you And give you peace: I the

love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you Mine for-ev-er.
heard My dear Son's sto-ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo-ry.
Spir-it's pow-er filled you; Here His ten-der com-fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and Broth-er.

Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

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“Rise, Shine, You People” LSB 825

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt. Tune: Dale Wood, 1934-2003.

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“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” LSB 398

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt. Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532-c. 1601;
setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Text and Music: Public domain

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB 781

Text: William W. How, 1823-97. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-89. Text and music: Public domain

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness” LSB 636

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978, sts. 1, 4-5; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, sts. 2-3, 6-8, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941.

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“Speak, O Lord”

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“Go, My Children, with My Blessing” LSB 922

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919. Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.; setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958.

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Our sermon series “Gospel DNA” is based on a book called *Gospel DNA – Five Markers of a Flourishing Church* by Michael W. Newman (LCMS Texas District President). This book is available on Amazon, Thriftbook.com, Barnes and Noble and other outlets. We encourage you to get a copy. Our Elders and Board of Discipleship are currently reading it.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR TODAY’S SERMON OR PREVIOUS SERMONS AGAIN...

You can hear them as podcasts on our website www.bethanylutheran.org.

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE BETHANY BULLET?

The *Bethany Bullet* is a weekly capsule of worship highlights, and important information about events taking place at Bethany Lutheran Church. If you would like to receive the *Bethany Bullet* please email Aimee Coleman at acoleman@bethanylutheran.org with your name and email address. Tell a friend about the *Bethany Bullet*!