

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome all God's people to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve.

Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Bethany. If you have questions for the pastor or church office, please call at 630.879.3444 or visit our website at www.bethanybatavia.org. Welcome!

Assistance in Worship

For those who find it difficult to stand or prefer to sit during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated.

Children's Resources

Children's worship bulletins are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Nursery

While not yet staffed, the nursery is open for parents who may find it helpful. The nursery is located on the sanctuary level, where you will find a changing table, rocking chair and some toys. You can still hear the worship service through a speaker in the room. Ask an usher if you need assistance.

Cell Phones and Pagers

Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

Holy Communion

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All baptized Christians are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to the pastor.

As We Gather:

Because the Epiphany of Our Lord falls during the week this year, January 6, we move the observance to this Sunday. The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE: Prelude on "Lonesome Valley"

Arr. McConnell

We stand.

GATHERING HYMN: Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW #275



- 1 An gels, from the realms of glo ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a bid ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa ges, leave your con tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi sions beam a far;
- 4 All cre a tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa ther, Spir it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light. seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star. ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the • e - ter - nal Three in One.



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.



- which forever will provide us with the light to find our Lord, with the light to find our Lord.
- is the word of God, revealing Christ, the way, the truth, the life, Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- Let us pray.

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We sit.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,

and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,

and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;

they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,

and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;

your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,

the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,

the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72: 1-7, 10-14

Spoken Responsively

- L Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;
- C that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;
- L that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness.
- C He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- L He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
- C He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

(Psalm continues on the following page)

- L In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- C The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- L All kings shall bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.
- C For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, and the oppressed who has no helper.
- L He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- C He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1–12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

- L Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1–12

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

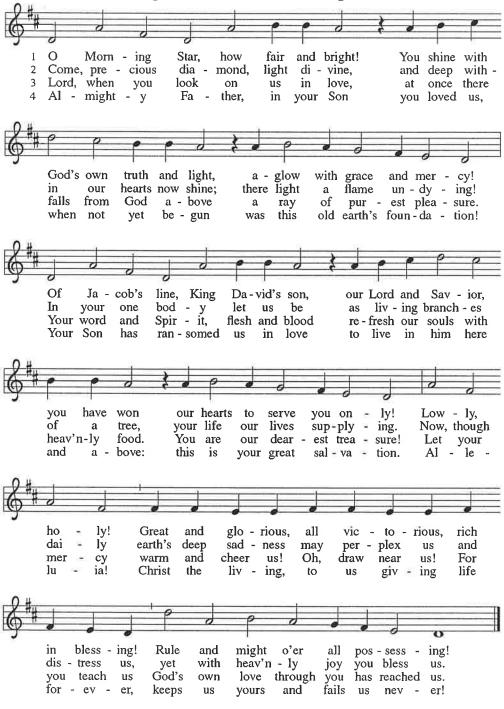
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Mikyska Matthew 2:1–12

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright



5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound! 6 What joy to know, when life is past, Our joy be all with music crowned, our voices gaily blending! For Christ goes with us all the way today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! His love is never ending! Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!

Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!

the Lord we love is first and last, the end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace, transport us to that happy place beyond all tears and sinning! Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning for the day of your returning.

NICENE CREED

A Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

- A God of wanderers, you sent the magi from afar to witness the mystery and majesty of your birth. Send us into the world with your will in our hearts and on our lips. Merciful God,
- C Receive our prayer.
- A You created heaven and earth. Through your Spirit send your all-encompassing love over the cosmos. Bless the stars that guide our way and the night sky that invites the earth into slumber. Merciful God,
- C Receive our prayer.
- A You sent the magi to follow the star into an uncertain future. May all leaders and peoples seek your face, especially when paths are not clear, conflicts rage, tyrants oppress, and fear abounds. Merciful God,
- C Receive our prayer.
- A You sent your Spirit to dwell with Paul in prison. Send your Spirit to those who are imprisoned and enslaved (*especially*). Give courage and wisdom for building roads that lead to justice and freedom. Merciful God,
- C Receive our prayer.
- A You sent the holy family to seek safety in a new land. Protect all who make similar journeys. Send your guiding Spirit to asylum seekers, refugees, and all who journey toward safety. Merciful God,
- C Receive our prayer.
- A Your glory is shown to the saints. We give thanks for those whose earthly journey has ended and now dwell with you forever. Give us signs of your continual presence until that day when we arise in you. Merciful God,
- C Receive our prayer.
- P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, Trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

+ MEAL +

We sit.

OFFERING MUSIC: Variations on "Lo, How a Rose"

Alan F. Spear

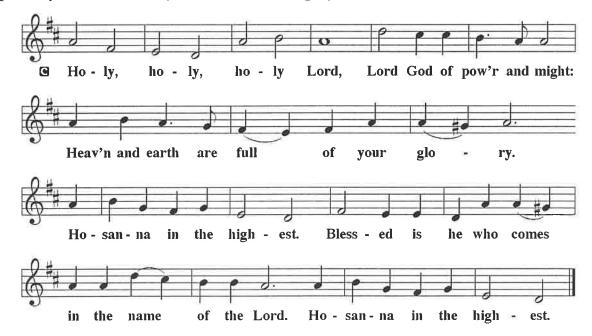
We stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Let us pray. Merciful Father,
- C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,

his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

- C Amen.
- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- C 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;

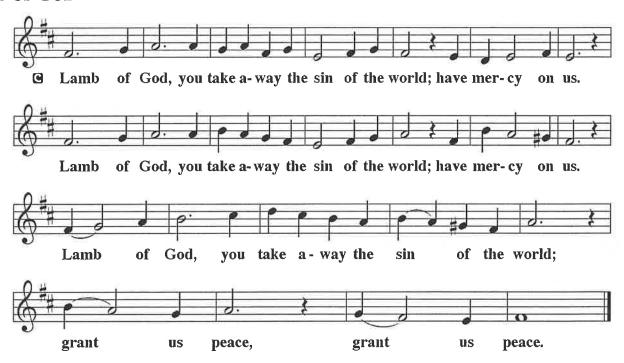
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

- P The gifts of God for the people of God.
- C Thanks be to God.
- P Come, for all is now ready.

We sit.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.

Gluten-FREE rice wafers are available upon request and for those desiring it, non-alcoholic wine cups are in the center of the tray.

MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNION





- 1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be hold;
- 2 As with joy ful steps they sped, Sav ior, to thy low ly bed,
- of fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare, 3 As they Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar-row Ho - lv way;
- 5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright need they no cre a ted light;



joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on - ward, beam-ing bright; with as thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore; there to bend the knee be - fore joy, free from sin's al - loy, we with ho - ly pure and may past, bring our ran - somed souls at when earth-ly things are sun which goes not down; light, its joy, its crown, thou its thou its



ev - er - more be led so, most gra-cious Lord, may we thee. ev - er seek thy mer - cy we with will - ing feet seat. may SO all cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king. to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry where they need no star hide. al - le - lu - ias to for - ev - er we sing king. there may

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.
- A Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

- P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- C Amen.

SENDING HYMN: Arise! Your Light Has Come

ELW #314



DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Let All Things Their Creator Bless

Arr. Fedak

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister Allison Mikyska, Assisting Minister Alan Spear, Organist Ann Niedzwiecki, Reader Kathy Richmond, Jackie Page, Altar Guild Danny Durbin, Addie Herman, Acolytes Ralph Beck, Jon Habegger, Ushers **STAFF**

Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor
Mark Waldron, Pastoral Associate
Director of Worship and Music
Alan Spear, Organist
Steven Ritter, Visitation Pastor
Darlene Hutchens, Office Administrator
Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant
Mark Kohlmeier, Financial Secretary
Allison Mikyska, Deacon Intern
Mary Stola, Faith Community Nurse

YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ed Schalk, President Todd Toles, Vice President Doug Boehm, Secretary Karol Clark Sharon Cooper Brad Hirt Carie Holzl
Pastor Jeff Mikyska
Marty Offutt-Gruber
Jackie Page
Marsha Schuster
Owen Stahl

If you have questions or concerns for members of the Church Council you're invited to speak with them personally or via email to council@bethanybatavia.org.

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LET US PRAY

We pray for all who are hospitalized in our greater community and for those who are serving them.

Please pray for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns:

Carlene Altman, Keith Altman, Doug Andrews, Mary Bradtmueller, Bill Dahlman, Rich Franzen, Michelle Golden, Anna Jackson, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bill Lechnick, Doug McVey, Mary North, Bob Novy, Hershel Pruitt, Louise Pruitt, Beth Richard, David Richard, Judi Spear, Joyce Stran, Shirley Striedl, Gretchen VanKempema, Marion Youngquist

Please pray for those who are homebound and those in need of a care facility:

Helen Anderson Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad Mark Anderson Silverado Memory Care, St Charles Dorothy Carlson Michealsen Health Center, Holmstad Nita Chevalier Michealsen Health Center, Holmstad

Lois Elfstrom Aurora, IL

Marilyn Georgeson Park Manor, Holmstad Pam Klingberg Heritage Woods

Wanda Krentz

Walt Meinert

Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad

Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad

Mildred Miller

Reserve of Geneva, Geneva

Joan Olson Michealsen Health Center, Holmstad

Pat Quast Asbury Gardens

Judi SpearArden Courts of Geneva, GenevaJoyce StranGreenFields of Geneva, Geneva

Marion Youngquist Bright Oaks, Aurora

Please pray for all those serving in the military who are connected to our congregation

Please pray for our family and friends:

Sherry & Floyd Anderson Beth Richard's Parents

Owen Garrison Grandson of Debbie & Bill Garrison

Tracey Garrison
Pastor Paisley LeRoy
Daughter-in-Law of Debbie & Bill Garrison
Pastor at Bethlehem Church, St. Charles

Bill Garrison

Pastor Tim Kohlmeier

Husband of Debbie Garrison

Brother of Mark Kohlmeier

Charlene Novy Mother of Bob Novy

Bill Parkhurst Friend of Bill and Lynn Drymiller Steve Voss Friend of Pastor Jeff and Gail

Family friend of the Coopers

Barbara Garrison Bill Garrison's mother

Linda Bennett Friends of Ken and Judy Henschler

David Ohlson Friend of Kathy Richmond

Paul Mazen

Lynn & Bob Stroh

Baby Thomas

Ed Bonnes

Cousin of John & Karol Clark

Bonnie Palshis

Sister-in-Law of Doug Boehm

Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher and family, Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard

Phil Lynn Dreymiller's brother

Kathy Dee's Family

Teri Figura

Mary Jo Benstein's Family

Susan Sheley Bonnie

Carole W. DeAnne & Gary

Laura

Rabbi Margaret Frishklein

Misty Brad Blue

Megan Campbell

Diane Ekstam Johnson Tammy English Marc Giolli Jerry Martin Jan McGowen Tina Motter Teri Prokes

Tony Prokes
Kelli Robertson

Wolfgang Smailus

Ed Stahl

Teri Figura

Daughter of Hershel and Louise Pruitt

Friend of Pastor Jeff

Friend of Ann & Fred Holch Niece & Nephew of Shirley Grant

Friend of Pastor Jeff Friend of Pastor Jeff

Sister-in law of Pam Klingberg

Friend of Lois Benson

Granddaughter of Scotty & Maureen Scollon

Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam Daughter of Shirley Streidl Friend of Pastor Jeff Father of Nicki McVey Friend of Ann Holch Sister of Jackie Page

Sister of Sue & Bob Novy

Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy

Daughter of Diane Schalk

Brother-in-law of Marty Offutt Gruber

Father of Dan Stahl

Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:

Ellen Tucker

Shirley Fox

Robert Novy

Shirley Grant's Sister-in-Law

Father of Bob Novy



Bethany Lutheran Church 8 S Lincoln St Batavia, IL Ph. 630-879-3444 office@bethanybatavia.org www.bethanybatavia.org

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

	Worship	
	Bethany Walking Group Property Committee	
9am	Bethany Walking Group Quilters Fox Valley Woodworkers	Fellowship Hall
7pm	Fox Valley Woodworkers	
Wednesday, January 5 8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
	Bethany Walking Group Boy Scout Troop 6	
Friday, January 7 8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
10am 11am 12pm	Men's Basketball Visitation – Sherry Carlson Funeral – Sherry Carlson Funeral Luncheon – Sherry Carlson AA	Sanctuary Sanctuary Fellowship Hall
10am	Worship	Fellowship HallMinistry Center, 2 nd FloorFellowship Hall/KitchenSanctuary/Fellowship Hall