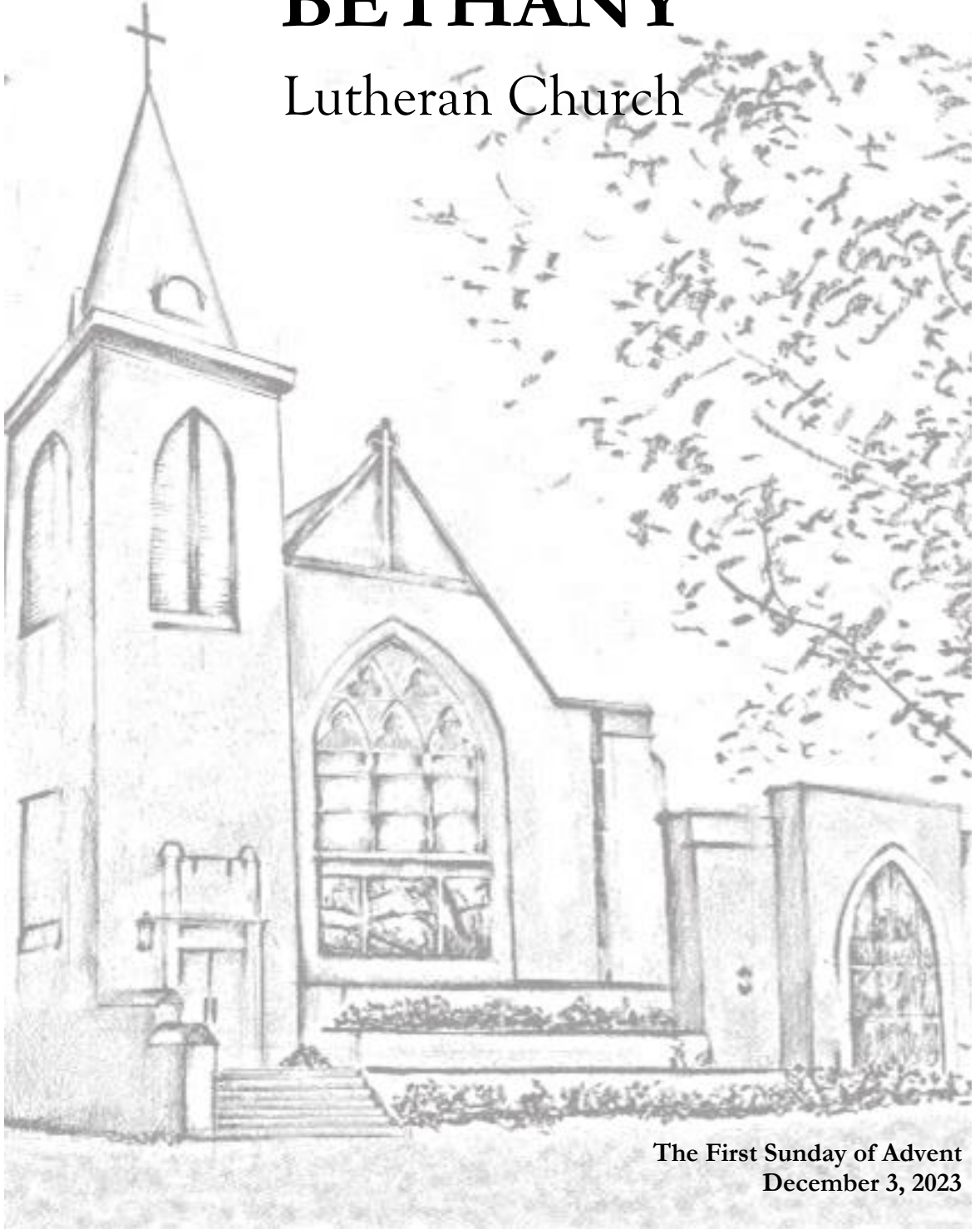


# BETHANY

Lutheran Church



The First Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2023

# 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](http://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 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.

## **Flowers**

Today's Altar Flowers are given by Andrea Gustafson and the Swedish American Children's Choir.

## **Holy Communion**

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All are invited to the table where Christ himself is host.

## **As We Gather:**

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of the people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

*Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Lutheran Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.*

*The people's responses are in bold.*

*This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red) – referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.*

## + GATHERING +

**PRELUDE:** Comfort Ye, My People

G.F. Handel

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Confessing our sins and receiving forgiveness prepares us to receive Christ in the proclamation of his Word and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*

*We stand.*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

C **Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people,  
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.  
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P Gracious God,

C **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.**

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

C Amen.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding**

**ELW #246**



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we  
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age  
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don  
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,  
let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,  
down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,  
wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy  
and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!"  
shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
one and all, to be for - giv'n;  
and with words of love draw near.  
while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878  
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

**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.

*We sit.*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Bernadette Farrell/Joel Raney

### Hope for Those Who Wait

- L Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.

C

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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*We stand.*

## RESPONSIVE LITANY

- L Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time.
- C **How long, O Lord, how Long?**
- L For those waiting for answered prayer:
- C **Grant your steadfast patience.**
- L For those waiting in the face of uncertainty:
- C **Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.**
- L For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign:
- C **Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.**
- L For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come:
- C **Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

## CANDLE LIGHTING

P This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illuminate the areas of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the Psalmist, "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!"

(Psalm 27:14)

C *Congregation repeats refrain*

*The prayer of the day, or collect, is appointed for each Sunday and "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

God of all creation, we declare that you are the Eternal One.

We confess to you, O Lord, that we easily grow impatient when your word to us is to wait.

Ignite within us a new and everlasting hope.

We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## + WORD +

*This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.*

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1–9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence —

<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil —

to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,

who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right,  
 those who remember you in your ways.  
 But you were angry, and we sinned;  
 because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean,  
 and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
 We all fade like a leaf,  
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name,  
 or attempts to take hold of you;  
 for you have hidden your face from us,  
 and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
 we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
 and do not remember iniquity forever.  
 Now consider, we are all your people.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. The biblical book of Psalms is the hymnal of ancient Israel, many written for use in temple worship.*

### PSALM 80:1–7, 16–18

ANTIPHON: Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. Mary David Callahan

L Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;\*  
 shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

C **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,\*  
 stir up your strength and | come to help us.**

L Restore us, O | God of hosts;\*  
 show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.

C **O Lord | God of hosts,\*  
 how long will you be angered despite the prayers | of your people?**

L You have fed them with the | bread of tears;\*  
 you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

C **You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,\*  
 and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**

ANTIPHON

*(Psalm continues on the next page)*

- L Restore us, O | God of hosts;\*  
 show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.
- C **Let your hand be upon the man of | your right hand,\***  
**the son of man you have made so strong | for yourself.**
- L And so will we never turn a- | way from you;\*  
 give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
- C **Restore us, O Lord | God of hosts;\***   
**show the light of your countenance, and we | shall be saved.**

*This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.*

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3–9**

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

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — <sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

*The Gospel acclamation, or sometimes sequence hymn, moves us toward the summit of the Liturgy of the Word – the reading of the Holy Gospel. Gospel means “good news” – specifically the “good news of Jesus.”*

*We stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**ELW #168**

*The choir sings the Alleluia the first time, congregation repeats*



- L Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.  
 C **Repeat Alleluia**



*This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.*

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Mark 13:24–37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the day’s scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.*

*We sit.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Jeff Mikyska

Mark 13:24–37



1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,  
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once for our sal - va - tion slain;  
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;  
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed  
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:  
 thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:  
 claim the king - dom as thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!  
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
 Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799

*The word “creed” comes from the Latin “credo” for “I believe.” First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity.*

## **NICENE CREED**

L 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.**

*We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church – the Body of Christ.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

L With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

*A brief silence.*

L Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief. Deliver all in any need. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

L You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence. Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

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 share Christ's peace with each other as a sign of charity and unity in preparation for the Holy Communion.*

**PEACE OF CHRIST**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*Having confessed our sins, received forgiveness, listened to the Word of God and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offering we gratefully offer back to God some of what he has given us, symbolically in the gifts of bread and wine prepared at the table and the money we give.*

*We sit.*

**OFFERING MUSIC:** Once He Came in Blessing

Michael Praetorius  
Ed. Carl Schalk

Once He came in blessing,  
All our ills redressing;  
Came in likeness lowly,  
Son of God most holy;  
Bore the cross to save us.  
Hope and freedom gave us.

Still He comes within us,  
Still His voice would win us  
From the sins that hurt us;  
Would to truth convert us  
From our foolish errors  
Ere He comes in terrors

*We stand.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

L Let us pray. God of abundance,

C **we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

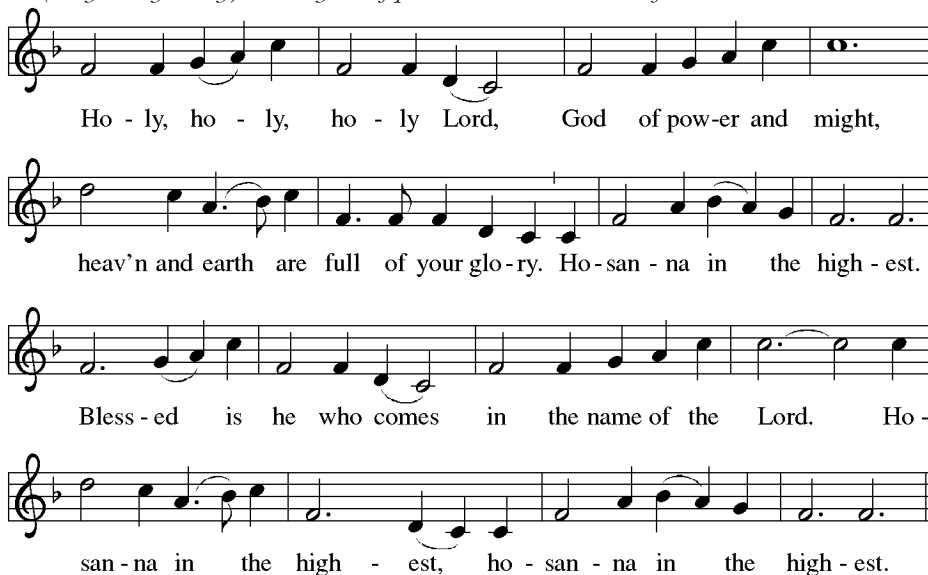
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

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, almighty and ever-living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

*The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy God, You not only sent Your Son into our world,  
But You also sent prophets ahead of him to prepare us for his light.  
We hear their voices as they speak of amazing grace shining upon our hearts.  
There is no greater example of this grace and light than the supper Christ shared  
with his disciples, and now with us.

On 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 life, death, and resurrection,  
we await his coming again  
in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us  
and on this bread and wine that we share:  
strengthen our faith,  
increase our hope,  
and bring to birth the justice and joy 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.**

*We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.*

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 These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P All are welcome to the Lord's table. Come, for all is now ready.

*Echoing both John 1:29 and Revelation 5:6, this song addresses the risen Christ giving himself away at this table as the true Lamb.*

*We sit.*

### LAMB OF GOD

ELW #199



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

### COMMUNION

*Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to his banquet meal. 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

HYMN: My Lord, What a Morning

ELW #438

*Refrain*



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

*Refrain*



look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be - gin to fall.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry  
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's  
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true  
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the  
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his  
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the  
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion  
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows  
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful  
 on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and  
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and  
 Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -  
 Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.  
 wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.  
 a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.  
 praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943

Music: MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*We stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

*Sending reminds us that every Sunday worship gathering is a cycle, existing for a time and then dispersing. We arrive at the “sending” after traveling from the rite of gathering to the word and meal. We heard and proclaimed the Word; we were nourished at the Meal; and now we complete the cycle. We have encountered the living Christ in this place and are empowered for ministry in the world.*

## + SENDING +

### BENEDICTION

P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN: The King Shall Come

ELW #260



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

### DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Prepare the way. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE: Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

Arr. Walther

## LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister  
Mark Waldron, Worship Leader  
Alan Spear, Organist  
Ann Niedzwiecki, Reader  
Todd Toles, Ben Toles, A/V  
Karol Clark, Kathy Richmond, Altar Guild  
Jackson Carter, Michael Goro, Acolytes  
Ralph Beck, Jon Habegger, Leonard Wray, Ushers  
Mark Waldron, Tara Shannon, Sue Colella,  
Debbie Garrison, Comm Asst's  
Emma Hess, Morgan Hutchens, Flute  
Festival Choir  
Grace Notes Bell Choir

## STAFF

Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor  
Mark Waldron, Director of Music  
Alan Spear, Organist  
Darlene Hutchens, Church Administrator  
Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant  
Emma Hess, Youth Director  
Ed McQuillan, Financial Secretary

## YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Todd Toles, President  
Alan Spear, Vice President  
Marsha Schuster, Secretary  
Steve Mickelson, Treasurer  
Doug Boehm  
Karol Clark  
Brad Hirt

Dale Howard  
Billy Hutchens  
Rich Kreis  
Pastor Jeff Mikyska  
Kathy Richmond  
Mia Rusev  
Lane 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](mailto:council@bethanybatavia.org).

**Bethany's Vision:** We are a Grace-based, people-powered, refuge for all.

**Code of Conduct:** At Bethany, we believe everyone should live a faithful life in service with charity, kindness and integrity, and treat others with respect and understanding, act responsibly, and serve as an example of Christian faith in action.

## Liturgy Credits

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## LET US PRAY

### Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Blessings to those receiving their First Communion today.

Blessings and congratulations to Ruth and Jordan Paquin on their wedding Friday, December 1.

*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:

Mary Bradtmueller, Marilyn Cornwell, Bill Dreymler, Diane Garland, Shirley Grant, Anna Jackson, Mike & Deb Hruby, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bob Novy, Louise Pruitt, George & Shirley Striedl, Brigitte Winkler

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

Mark Anderson	Silverado Memory Care, St Charles
Lois Elfstrom	Aurora, IL
Dolores Hoffman	Heritage Woods
Marie Holtz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Bill Keele	Heritage Woods
Pam Klingberg	Heritage Woods
Wanda Krentz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Joan Olson	Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad
Pat Sullivan	Bardwell Residence, Aurora
Jay & Carol Wierz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad

### Please pray for all those serving in the military, especially those who are connected to our congregation.

Owen Schuster

### Please pray for our family and friends:

#### **Marcia McDugle**

Chuck Novy  
Molly & Mike Updyke  
Mary Dunne  
Jim Anderson  
Robert & Vicki Johnson  
Walt Wille  
Bob  
Marty  
Bonnie & Jim Hines  
Pat  
Kristen Benakis  
Pat Pydo  
Todd Streidl  
Marilyn  
Tracy Clark  
Sarah McCarthy  
Mary Lawrence  
Steven & Janice Brown & Grace  
Lee Peterson  
Loda George Ricker  
Calvin, Diane & Family  
Katie Taylor  
Jane Wirth

#### **Friend of Bob & Sue Novy**

Brother of Bob Novy  
Daughter/Son-in-Law of George & Shirley Streidl  
Aunt of Amanda Balsan  
Friend of Bob Nelson  
Brother-in-Law/Sister-in-Law of Val Schalk  
Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler  
Uncle of Darlene Hutchens  
Friend of Hutchens' Family  
Parents of Suzanne Grashorn  
Brother-in-Law of Suzanne Grashorn  
Friend of Bob & Sue Novy  
Friend of John & Laura Peterson/Marty Offutt-Gruber  
Son of George & Shirley Streidl  
Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman  
Sister of Tara Shannon  
Friend of Jan Bristow & Kathy Richmond  
Sister-in-Law of Carole Benson  
Friends of Tom & Dee Schuman  
Friend of Dottie White  
Friend of Fred & Ann Holch  
Friends of Kathy Richmond  
Great Niece of Ken & Judy Henschler  
Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler

Michelle Hartzell  
Rick Gaston  
Tina Motter  
Mary Hughs  
Dottie  
Lizzie Bork  
Nancy  
Jeffrey Campbell  
Kate and Family  
Damon Schultz  
Sue S.  
Nicole  
Alice Hendrikson  
Maureen Scollon  
Chris Sidler  
Lisa  
Heather  
Gretchen VanKempema  
Ryan Anderson  
Linda Raish  
Lynne Morrow  
Kenzie  
Floyd Anderson  
Paul Mazen  
Bonnie Palshis  
Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher & family,  
Phil  
Kathy Dee's Family  
Mary Jo Benstein's Family  
Susan Sheley  
Bonnie  
Carole W.  
Diane Ekstam Johnson  
Tammy English  
Jerry Martin  
Teri Prokes  
Tony Prokes  
Kelli Robertson  
Ed Stahl

Friend of Beth Richard  
Friend of Ann Holch  
Sister of Jackie Page  
Sister of Jackie Page  
Friend of Paulette Smigo  
Friend of Julie Howard  
Sister of Karol Clark  
Nephew of Nan Phillips  
Friend of John & Karol Clark  
Son-in-Law of Shyla Carbone  
Friend of Bob & Sue Novy  
Friend of Linda Sullivan  
Friend of Lynn & Bill Dreymiller  
Friend of Lois Benson & Dottie White  
Friend of Luke & Diane Land  
Friend of Beth Richard  
Friend of Schuman Family  
Daughter of Ann Holch  
Son of Aaron Anderson  
Friend of Kathy Richmond & Sandy Conn  
Friend and Colleague of Pastor Jeff & Gail  
Friend of Katie Robertson  
Beth Richard's Father

Sister-in-Law of Doug Boehm  
Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard  
Lynn Dreymiller's brother  
Teri Figura  
Teri Figura  
Daughter of Louise Pruitt  
Friend of Pastor Jeff  
Friend of Ann & Fred Holch  
Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam  
Daughter of Shirley Streidl  
Father of Nicki McVey  
Sister of Sue & Bob Novy  
Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy  
Daughter of Diane Schalk  
Father of Dan Stahl

**Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:**

**Natalie Jenne**  
**Bob Gustafson**

Wolfgang Smailus  
Bill Lechnick  
Pat Boscher  
Brad Blue

**Friend of Mark Waldron**  
**Husband of Cindy Gustafson/**  
**Father to Nate Gustafson & Janna Stahl**  
Brother-in-Law of Marty Offutt-Gruber

Cousin of Sue & Bob Novy  
Friend of Lois Benson

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

### Sunday, December 3

9am	Worship – First Communion	Sanctuary
10am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
10:30am	Advent Discussion Group	Chapel
10:30am	Sunday School	Ministry Center
	Practice for Christmas Program	

### Monday, December 4

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
9am	Counters	Conference Room

### Tuesday, December 5

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
9am	Quilters/Prayer Shawl Ministry	Fellowship Hall
10am	Property Committee	Conference Room
6:30pm	Girls BSA Troop 606	Vlahn Room/Gym
6:30pm	Fox Valley Woodworkers	Library/Lower Level/M111
7pm	Fox Valley Woodworkers	Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, December 6

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
6pm	Youth Bells	Balcony
6pm	Confirmation	Youth Room/Chapel
7pm	Men's Basketball	Ministry Center Gym
7pm	Advent Mid-Week Worship Service	Chapel

### Thursday, December 7

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
6pm	Bell Choir	Choir Room
6:30pm	Boy Scout Troop 6	Gym/Vlahn Room
7pm	Festival Choir	Sanctuary

### Friday, December 8

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
9:45am	Food Pantry Serving	Batavia Food Pantry

### Saturday, December 9

7:30am	Men's Basketball	Ministry Center Gym
10am	Al-Anon	Library
10am	Al-Ateen	Lower Level
4pm	Live Nativity/Christmas Program	Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
8pm	AA	Fellowship Hall

### Sunday, December 10

9am	Worship	Sanctuary
10am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
10:30am	Advent Discussion Group	Chapel
10:30am	Sunday School	Ministry Center, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor